

Probus July 2023 Newsletter
By George Garrett

There were 42 people in attendance at the regular monthly meeting of the Probus Club of South Surrey/White Rock held July 14th at the Rotary Field House in Surrey.

President Barry Gaynor called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM welcoming members and guests.

Sales of barbecue tickets for July 16th picked up in the last week or so with 58 now sold. President Barry said there had been kickback about the price of \$55 but pointed out the true price is slightly higher (\$72) because the club is kicking in a subsidy. Barry pointed out food prices have risen at virtually all restaurants. The ticket price included not only a variety of food but there are others costs including entertainment, taxes and gratuities. Those extras constitute 23% of the total cost.

Treasurer Bruce Sinclair reported we have \$14,640 on hand but that includes money collected for the barbecue. When all costs are paid our money on hand is normally about \$9600.

President Barry has asked that all members be informed of the following:

“In an effort to give members more information regarding the Management Committee or any other item or questions regarding the club please send an e-mail to Barry at bsdl@shaw.ca and we will get back to you with info or an answer.

Thanks”

Membership Chair Bob Pedersen welcomed new members Brian Wilson and Lee Chadwick as well as guest John Cullen. Bob reported we now have 97 members.

Activities Chair John Payne reported a club visit to Centra Windows, arranged with the help of Shell Busey turned out very well with about 20 members in attendance. John is now looking for a place for wine tasting but is finding there is nothing available under \$25 per person.

Reminder that our Christmas lunch will be held Wednesday, December 13th in a restaurant at the former Peace Portal Golf Course, now called the Hills at Portal Golf Club.

Jim Newsman volunteered to be this month's Whose That Man? Jim told a fascinating story of his life beginning in his father's poolroom in Kamloops where he was also the shoeshine boy. A venture at UBC did not go well so Jim set off hitch-hiking to San Francisco, Los Angeles, New Orleans and Texas. One of his favourite tricks was to keep his hitch-hiking arm extended so truckers could see him in their mirrors. Jim found his way to the ocean and on his way to Kingston, Jamaica, the Canary Islands and Bridgetown, Barbados. Somehow he managed to talk a ship's captain into taking him to Montreal. From there he hitch-hiked to New York and took in a Broadway show. Jim made it back to Kamloops but the wanderlust continued with stops in Haynes, Alaska and Whitehorse (a party town) where he saw the Northern Lights. Jim tried different careers along the way including taking a securities course but his favourite job was in sales where he did well at meeting people. He spent years with Lever Brothers winding up with BC and Alberta as his territories.

Interesting guy!

As Speakers Chair Jim had the pleasure of introducing our guest speaker Michael Kouznetsoff, who joined our club a few months ago.

Normally we limit guest speakers to about 25 minutes with a few extra minutes for Q&A. But not this time! We were off on an hour long journey into the world of Bitcoin and something many of us had never heard of “Blockchain”, a series of nodules connected by computer in which you can operate an account. Michael said it was a technology different than the Internet and includes such names as Ripple and Solana. Account transactions take place in a “wallet” that can only be opened by a private key accessible only to the owner. It cannot be accessed by anyone else unless it is done through a court order.

Why would anyone get involved? Michael said, “For fun, profit or loss.”

Next month’s guest speaker Joanne Marlow who will be talking about the challenges with having up to five generations of employees in the workforce at the same time.

Appies Social Group.

The club has initiated a monthly co-ed "Appies Social Group". Both couples and singles are welcome to participate. Both couples and singles are welcome to participate. Time: xxx/2023 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Where: To be announced Food: You must bring one shareable appetizer, enough for 10 or 12 people. Bring your own plates and cutlery. Drinks: BYOB including glasses. Rules: 1) Take your leftover food and drinks home. 2) Meet people. 3) Have fun! Anyone wishing to take part should reply to Bob Pedersen at bob_pedersen@shaw.ca or by phone at 604-535-0272. Please also advise if you are willing to host an event and, if so, how many people you can accommodate. Where: Members' homes, gardens, patios, back yards, common rooms, etc. Suggested sizes of groups: 10, 12, and/or 20, depending on the size of the venue and the total number of guests attending. Hosts: Hosting is optional, but encouraged. Hosts will be given ample notice of who their guests will be. Signing up: There will be a sign-up sheet for the upcoming event at each monthly Probus meeting. You will be notified by phone four or five days before the event as to whose home you will be attending. Rules: 1) No "trading" of houses is allowed. 2) Take your leftover food and drinks home with you. 3) Meet people. 4) Have fun! Please advise which month you are willing to host, and also an alternate month.

Bridge Groups

Dick Baker, Coordinator 604-536-4734

Al Zemrau, Assistant Coordinator

Calling all bridge players. The Bridge group is starting up with a new option. See below for details on how to participate. BRIDGE – TUESDAY EVENINGS – Coordinator Dick Baker DICK BAKER wishes to inform all interested Tuesday Evening bridge players the games have resumed at the Peninsula. Dick advises the following rules will be in place: Games start at 6:30pm Masks are mandatory Sign in procedures at the front door are in effect As a guest of Peninsula, you will be joined in the game by 8-10 Peninsula residents Beverages and snacks will be available following the game Contact Dick directly at (604) 536-4734 if you are planning to attend. BRIDGE – MONDAY AFTERNOONS – Coordinators Al Zemrau and Henry Lazar We are initiating a Monday Afternoon Bridge game every Monday.. Bridge players must pre-register their firm commitment to play on a certain day by emailing either Al or Henry. The following rules will be in place: Maximum 2 tables will be available (ie: 8 players) Players must pre-register their

firm commitment to play Entry fee of \$2 Location of game will be announced to registered players prior to game day Masks optional
Thanks, Al Zemrau azemrau@shaw.ca Henry Lazar 44orca@gmail.com

Walking Groups

1) Probus Walking Group

The Probus Walking Group welcomes all levels of walking ability.

Our Probus Walking Group is the longest running, consecutive weekly, Probus Men's walking group in all of Canada!

You can expect a variety of enjoyable walks once a week. Walks start at 9:30am in the summer and 10:00am in the winter. Walks are generally rated 'easy' to 'moderate' and typically, last 45 to 75 minutes (4-6km). We believe there is "No bad weather, just bad clothing" we walk regardless of weather - rain, wind, snow, or blistering sun!

Walks incorporate a strong social element with great comradely during the walk and again over coffee at the end of our walk ... where we discuss and resolve many of the world's most pressing problems .

- Benefits of Walking – recent multi-year studies have shown that walking **contributes significantly to physical and mental well-being**. People who walk regularly often see noticeable improvement to arthritic, problematic knees and hips, and dementia. In addition to the obvious fitness component, walkers live longer and have a more positive outlook on life and retain a feeling of well-being. Walking boosts the immune system!

Monthly walking schedules are issued to "registered members" of the Probus Walking Group – please email Al Zemrau, Coordinator directly to join our group and have your name added to the distribution list.

Cheers 🚶♂,

Al Zemrau, Coordinator

2) Wanderers Walking Group (WWG)

This Walking Group is designed to accommodate the “fitter” walker - those individuals who can walk 10+ km, navigate the occasional hill, and elevations up to 500 feet. More challenging walks, selected by the group, take us throughout the lower Mainland.

Routes, dates, and times vary.

Contact Al Zemrau, Coordinator directly to have your name added to the distribution list.

3) Mixed Walking Group

Coordinator: Ted Cartier tedcartier@gmail.com Check with Ted for upcoming walks.

In view of the season and the potential for inclement weather, please check your emails on Sunday mornings prior to the walk. Based on the weather at that time, the walking portion of the outing may be cancelled or delayed. An opportunity to still gather together for coffee and conversation will be offered including the meeting place.

All walks begin at 10:00 am

Investment Group

The Probus Investment Group members who have an interest in managing money and understanding investments – primarily cash, stocks, bonds, and real estate. The IDG meets the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00am. Coffee and donuts make the conversations easy, friendly, and educational. This group will be of particular interest to those who manage their own investments. Sharing our collective knowledge with each other is the cornerstone of the IDG. Current macroeconomic and investment conditions are discussed as well as Hypothetical RIF and TFSA portfolios reviewed and analyzed. Individual asset Buy Sell and Hold discussions follow as does an educational segment.

- Group discussion leaders include Gerry Burns, Damon Bowman, and Ken Maycock. Over the last several years, our group earned excellent “gold medal” returns on our hypothetical portfolios, easily outperforming our benchmarks. If you have an interest and wish to join the IDG, please contact Al Zemrau, Coordinator.

Book Club Group

We meet twice a every second Tuesday a month in each other’s homes; we take turns.

Once a month we review a book. Once a month we choose a topic for discussion. We take turns assigning the topic.

Book Club Group Looking for members. We meet every second Tuesday a month in each other’s homes; we take turns. Once a month we review a book. Once a month we choose a topic for discussion. We take turns assigning the topic. A sample of topics we have discussed:

1. If you did not have commitments to others, how would you live your life?
2. What are three things that you are optimistic about?
3. What are three things that you are pessimistic about?

4. What is something you truly appreciate or enjoy doing that most others probably do not care for?
5. What are five things you are grateful for?
6. What public figure has inspired you?
7. What is your most treasured memory?
8. What is daily activity do you treasure more than any other?
9. Do you enjoy reminiscing about the past?
10. How much do you care about your personal space?

We are 8 at the moment. If new members join us we will divide into 2 groups and meet separately. Because of space in our homes we have agreed to try and keep the group around 6. (also gives us more air time) The Book Club meets bi-weekly on Tuesdays at 10:00am in the homes of the members. Both non-fiction and novels covering a wide range of subjects are discussed interspersed with general topics of interest to the members. To join us contact Harry White or Bill Jones. bjones17@shaw.ca 604-328-5360.

Wednesday Morning Coffee Hour:

Wednesday Morning Coffee Hour – The Roadhouse

Coffee hour has moved to the private room at the Roadhouse House. 1781 King George Blvd. Call to get set up. 604-531-3167

Bill Jones

Monday Evening Coffee Chat:

We decided future meetings will consist of one member giving a sketch of their personal history; early beginnings, work history, family etc. Half the hour will be devoted to personal histories and the other half; who knows? We start at seven and finish around eight. Everyone's Welcome. If you can't find your invitation please contact Bill Carlson. wacinbc@gmail.com Time: Every week on Mon, Bill Carlson

sends the Zoom invite out each Sunday Join Zoom Meeting
<mailto:https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81994169612?pwd=eWx2N0cxbThlR3p5Z296dGp4dHUwdz09> Meeting ID: 819 9416 9612 Passcode: 906667

Golf Group

PROBUS GOLF GROUP:

The Golf Group is a Probus Club sanctioned activity for any members interested in the game of golf and involves getting out several times [usually 6] each year with your Probus friends for a very informal 9-hole round on a very 'user-friendly' course, followed by some food and/or refreshments at the course.

- No cost to belong, simply pay your green fees when you come out to play.
- All you need is a set of golf clubs, some golf balls and be appropriately attired.
- Regular involvement not required – come out whenever you can.
- We usually play on 4th Thursday of the month, starting at approx. 3:00 PM.
- Our 'go-to' course has become Nico Wynd Golf Course, Crescent Rd., South Surrey; other courses are played occasionally, suggestions for courses to play are welcomed.
- Season starts in April, ends in September/October [weather permitting].
- No official scorekeeping, no handicaps are required, no prizes are awarded.
- Course booking and tee time arrangements require advance notice of intention to play.
- Members of the golf group receive regular email notices from the coordinator as to upcoming golf outings and requests for sign-ups for specific golf activities.
- Group members also receive via email from the coordinator, notice of player pairings and tee times in advance of the date of play.

If you have an interest in participating or simply want to be added to the mailing list in order to know what golf activity is going on and/or when, contact the Golf Coordinator, FRANK PALMER, at email frank@fgpalmer.com or phone # 604-535-8300. Your involvement is welcomed!

Pub Social

PUB NIGHT – July 20 [Thursday] 6:00 PM - OCEAN PARK VILLAGE PUB.

Pub Night is a Probus Club sanctioned activity for any members who would like to get out once a month for a social pub gathering to enjoy some good food, a refreshment or two and pleasant surroundings with like-minded Probus Club members for an early evening of fellowship and camaraderie.

- No cost to belong to the group, just pay for your food and refreshments before you leave.
- Regular attendance is not required, come out with the guys whenever you can.
- Pub Night is regularly on the 3rd Thursday of each month, year-round, starting at 6:00 PM.
- Our 'go-to' pub has become the Ocean Park Village Pub on 16th Ave., Ocean Park. We have tried other locations but always come back to the O.P. due to its location, service, and food quality.
- Pub reservations to ensure there is adequate seating availability and wait staff available require advance notice of intention to attend.
- Members of the group receive regular email notifications from the coordinator as to upcoming Pub Night outings and requests for notices of intention as to attendance.

If you are interested in participating in Pub Night activities or you simply want to be aware of when and where the events are taking place, get your name on the mailing list by contacting the Pub Night Coordinator, FRANK PALMER, at email frank@fgpalmer.com or phone # 604-535-8300. We would love to have you join us

Jim's Funnies are taking a break this month