



# The PROBUS Pilot



Probus Club of Western Ottawa – serving the western half of the National Capital Region

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## Getting to know the birds in the Ottawa region

For our first meeting in the fall we are delighted to have renowned birding expert Bruce Di Labio talk to us about the birds we can find in the Ottawa region.

A native of Ottawa, Bruce Di Labio's passion for birds and birding began at the young age of 7, when he hand-tamed a Black-capped Chickadee at his family cottage at Constance Bay. From these simple beginnings emerged both a life-long passion and career in the field of birding.

Bruce has traveled extensively in North America and specializes in

birding tours throughout Canada and internationally.

Over the decades Bruce has authored numerous articles for *Nature Canada*, *Ontario Birds*, *OFNCs Trail and Landscape*, *Canadian Field-Naturalist*, *Birders Journal*, American Birding Association's journal *Birding*, *Ontario Birding News* and formerly wrote as a weekly columnist on birding in the *Ottawa Citizen*.

Bruce was a member of the championship Kowa Birding Team that successfully won three World Series of Birding titles in New Jersey.



Bruce Di Labio

## The new Prez Sez

Summer brought us rain and lots of it! September brings us the anticipation of another Probos year of new social events, lunches, guest speakers, new friends.

Sadly we mourn the deaths of two of our members over the summer. We will miss Pat Thompson, our Publicity Chair and enthusiastic, active member since 2004. Bertie Coombs, wife of Jim Coombs, both long standing Probos members, will especially be missed at our Probos Euchre club.

I am grateful that many of our Executive members have agreed to remain for another year, including Martha Maslen, Secretary; Maureen Donaghy, Treasurer; Ron & Marie Armstrong coordinating lunches; Bill & Jean Eng, Membership and Marg Demers as Social/Trip coordinator. Thanks especially to Beth Sweetnam for a very successful year as

President, especially a year where we hosted a Spring Fling! I am fortunate to have Beth as Past President and Peter Doyle, as Policy Advisor, to turn to for assistance as I assume the role of President.

**However a key position remains unfilled.**

We are still in need of a Program Chair or Chairs. Without someone to coordinate speakers, we will not have an education component. Please give this considerable thought, or speak to someone you feel could volunteer. We thank Gordon and Heather Watt who have programs lined up through January and are very willing to work with the next Coordinator. I'm also pleased to have new faces joining us. Alison Green and Ruth Wakeford will assist Marg Demers with social events. Mark Darroch, a relatively new member to our club will fill the

position of Vice President, and Mary Jones will be responsible for publicity. As an aside, Mary preceded Pat Thompson as Publicity Chair. Mary is also one of our Past Presidents.

Thanks to Bill and Linda Johnston who have agreed to provide us with coffee again this year, and to Betty Jean Bone who, behind the scenes, sends out cards on our behalf to those in need. We are fortunate to have a talented, creative Webmaster, Peter van Boeschoten who keeps our website informative and up to date, as well as publishing our monthly newsletter, The PROBUS Pilot.

Finally, thanks to all our members who attend meetings and join in on our various activities. I look forward to serving as President of our Western Ottawa Probos Club this year.

**Barbara Bole Stafford  
President**



**PAT THOMPSON**

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Pat Thompson. Pat joined Probus in 2004 and has been a member of our Executive Team for more than 10 years. She will be missed.



## Join us for monthly Euchre

Probus has an active euchre group. They meet monthly at the Bells Corners United Church, 3955 Old Richmond Road (at Moodie). Meetings are usually held on the first Friday of the month at 1 p.m. (But see below for exceptions).

This is mostly a casual and social occasion and some players play both euchre and bridge and fill in where needed.

Following are the dates for our upcoming meetings:

- Friday, 8 September**
- Friday, 6 October**
- Friday, 3 November**
- Friday, 1 December**

(Note that the December meeting is the Christmas potluck starting at 11:30)

For further information call Pat Stoate at 613-820-0174

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**You can't help getting older,  
but you don't have to get old.**  
George Burns

### Dues are due

# Bring your cheque book

It's time to renew your membership. Dues are unchanged from last year and remain at \$20 per member.

Payment may be made either by cheque or with cash. Cheques should be made out to Probus

Western Ottawa. Treasurer Maureen Donaghy will be there before and after the meeting to accept your donation.

This is also a good time to update your email address and other particulars.



MosaiCanada 150 visit is scheduled for Tuesday 26 September.

## Exciting fall activities planned

### Tuesday 26 September

#### MosaiCanada 150

A bus has been chartered for September 26, so sign up and keep that day free. We will be gathering at The Parkway and go to Gatineau to Jacques Cartier Park to see the horticultural sculptures. Getting back on the bus we will go to Papaya Verde aka The Green Papaya for our noon meal. We will be back in Kanata no later than 2:00 p.m. The charge for the 26 passenger bus is \$30.00 per person.

(More information at the sign up desk at the September meeting.)

### Wednesday 20 September

#### Kanata Theatre

This is the first play of the season. We are planning on attending the second night. More information at the September sign-up. Tickets \$23.

[www.kanatatheatre.com](http://www.kanatatheatre.com)



### Thursday 26 October

#### Pumpkininferno

There will be an info sheet at the travel desk. Book directly with Ottawa Valley Tours.

[www.uppercanadavillage.com/events/pumpkininferno/](http://www.uppercanadavillage.com/events/pumpkininferno/)







**New Management Board.** (front) Martha Maslen, Ruth Wakeford, Mary Jones, Marg Demers, Barbara Bole Stafford, Maureen Donaghy, Jean Eng, Marie Armstrong, (rear), Peter van Boeschoten, Peter Doyle, Alison Green, Beth Sweetnam, Mark Darroch, Bill Eng, Ron Armstrong

## Management Board for 2015-16

<b>President</b>	Barbara Bole Stafford	<b>Past President</b>	Beth Sweetnam
<b>Vice President</b>	Mark Darroch	<b>Policy Advisor</b>	Peter Doyle
<b>Secretary</b>	Martha Maslen	<b>Publicity</b>	Mary Jones
<b>Treasurer</b>	Maureen Donaghy		
<b>Membership</b>	Bill Eng Jean Eng	<b>Newsletter</b>	Peter van Boeschoten
<b>Social Hospitality</b>	Marie Armstrong Ron Armstrong	<b>Activities/Travel</b>	Marg Demers Alison Green Ruth Wakeford
<b>Speaker Program</b>	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>Web site</b>	Peter van Boeschoten



At our June meeting **Brock Godfrey** provided an informative talk on scams targeted at seniors.

### Group travel insurance available

Did you know that as a member of Probud you are eligible for Group Travel insurance through the MEDOC program from Johnson Inc.

For the month of September members can join without providing evidence of good health.

Find out more by going to our club web page and click on links or go directly to <http://www.probus.org/instrvl2.pdf>

The Probud Club of Western Ottawa is part of the international organization of Probud Clubs designed to serve retired and semi-retired professional, business and like-minded people. The morning begins at 10:00 am with a time for coffee and socialization followed by a guest speaker.

Western Ottawa Probud meets at Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Dr., Kanata

### After the meeting

## Join us for lunch

Join us for lunch after our meetings and often our speaker agrees to join us. This month we will be at:

### The Brew Table

NW corner of Robertson and Moodie.

## Probud has a web site

Our club has a web site to keep you up to date on speakers, activities, photos, our organization and other information. It can be found at:

[www.probuswesternottawa.ca](http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca)

Make sure that you bookmark this location so that you don't have to keep typing it in.

The left side menu lets you go to any of the featured pages.



## Scary walk set for Monday 30 October

Join us for a haunted walk from Sparks St. to the Bytown Museum. A spooky tale or two will be told enroute and at the museum. Dress for the weather and assemble at 46½ Sparks St. The cost will be between \$20-25 and we expect to begin our walk about 8 p.m. Parking is available at the World Exchange Plaza, City hall and the NAC.

More information will be available at the sign up desk at the September meeting.



# Join us for an upcoming lunch-out

**Tuesday 26 September**

## Green Papaya Restaurant

256 Preston Street, meet there at noon

A wide range of authentic Thai dishes

(This is part of the MosaiCanada tour but members may wish to sign up to attend individually.)



**Wednesday 18 October**

## Pocopazzo Restaurant

854 March Road (in the Sobey's mall)

Chef Emanuele is crazy obsessed with bringing the true flavours of Italy to each of his dishes.

sign up at the Sept. meeting.



# Fall speaker lineup shows variety

**September:**

Bruce Di Labio

"Birds of the Ottawa Region"

**October:**

David Smith

"Einstein – His Life and Works"

**November:**

Greg Matte, BGen (Rtd)

"Helmets to Hardhats"

**December:**

Charlotte Gray, Author

"The Promise of Canada"

**Note:** This program has been set up by Gordon and Heather Watt.

We very much need someone to do a handover and replace them.

# Probus had another successful financial year

Our Club had a very successful financial year last year with a net income of just over \$1,000.

As a result the Management Committee has decided to keep both membership and name tag fees the same for the coming year.

This leaves us with a balance and carry over of just over \$3,500. This represents 80% of our operating budget and is in keeping with good accounting practice for clubs and not –for-profit organizations.

Treasurer Maureen Donaghy was pleased with the results which continue to be positive. She cautioned that a small decrease in membership or unforeseen

expenditures could affect our financial situation in the future.



The Chateau Laurier was the venue for our June outing featuring "high tea" and a tour of the hotel.

PROBUS CLUB OF WESTERN OTTAWA		
Financial summary		
For Fiscal Year ending August 31 2017		
Bank Balance 31 August 2016		\$ 2,594.30
<b>Income</b>		
Membership Fees	3,440.00	
Name Badges	150.00	
Euchre	120.80	
Spring Fling/Lunch overage	1,695.24	
Total Income		\$ 5,406.04
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 8,000.34</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Donations (in lieu Hall Rentals)	1,150.00	
Web hosting and domain name	209.05	
Citizen ads	238.43	
Insurance & Probus Canada	724.00	
Name Badges	184.13	
Speaker honoraria, lunches	634.94	
Conference attendance/pins	207.28	
Coffee & snacks	251.42	
Bank fees/misc.	42.10	
Office supplies	118.66	
Projector purchase	641.76	
Total Expenditures		\$ 4,401.77
<b>Total funds carried over to 2017-18</b>		<b>\$ 3,598.57</b>

# Chuckle Corner

## "Automatic light"

An elderly man visited the doctor for a checkup. "Mr. Smith, you're in great shape," said the doctor afterwards. "How do you do it?"

"Well," said Mr. Smith, "I don't drink, I don't smoke, and the good Lord looks out for me. For weeks now, every time I go to the bathroom in the middle of the night, he turns the light on for me."

Concerned, the doctor found Mrs. Smith in the waiting room and told her what her husband had said.

"I don't think that's anything to worry about," she said. "And on the bright side, it does explain who's been peeing in the fridge."