



# The PROBUS Pilot



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

February 2020

Vol: 11 No: 6

**Tuesday, February 11, 10am, Kanata United Church**

## ***The Homespun Textile Economy of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Southern Louisiana - Dr. Judith Rygiel***

Dr. Judith Rygiel, who lives in Heart's Desire near Barrhaven, is a maker of cloth, a teacher of weaving and a researcher of hand-woven textiles. She earned a Master Weaver certificate in the late 1970's. In subsequent years she earned an Honours B.A. in history (1996), an MA in Canadian History (1998) and a PHD in Canadian History (2004). A Post Doctoral Fellowship led to two years of funded research on Acadian textiles in the three Maritime Provinces. This research culminated in curating an exhibition on textiles found in Acadian wedding trousseaus in the Maritime Provinces in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



Judith Rygiel has run a home weaving studio for the past forty five years. In her studio she applies dye to silk threads and then weaves them into sumptuous shawls and scarves. The multitude of colours blend and flow to resemble those found in sea shells, sunsets, and northern lights. She sells her work through five stores and three shows including the Grotto in Merrickville.

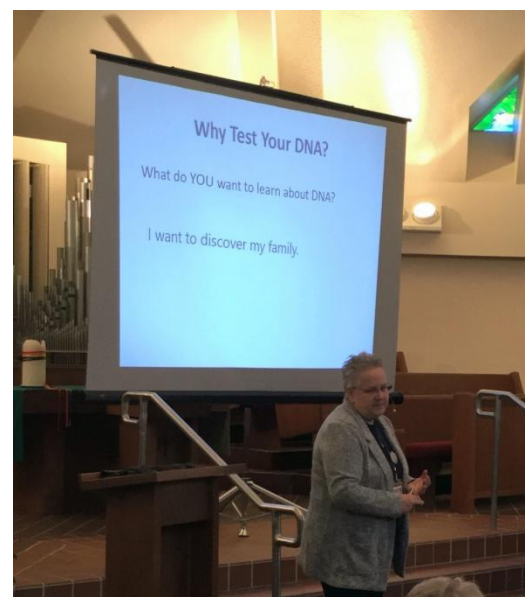
Judith Rygiel's presentation will focus on how two patrons of Acadian weavers promoted Acadian homespun textiles to a large public through both public expositions and sales over more than 30 years. She will also bring samples and reproductions of the typical types of cloth woven by these Acadian weavers in Louisiana. More information about Judith can be found at [www.thegrottoartworks.com/judith-rygiel](http://www.thegrottoartworks.com/judith-rygiel)

### **At our January Meeting – Mags Gaulden**

Mags is a Professional Genealogist specializing in Genetic Genealogy as founder of Grandma's Genes in Ottawa.

Her topic, "The Power of DNA", gave us an introduction to DNA and direct-to-consumer DNA testing. She explored with us how it has impacted health awareness and medical research. She looked at the growth of Genetic Genealogy and the ethics and privacy issues connected to researching family histories via DNA testing.

For more information go to [www.GrandmasGenes.com](http://www.GrandmasGenes.com)



# The Prez Sez



In the midst of Winter, and rather than focus on Valentines' Day, I want to focus on the members of the executive who give of their time for us as a club.

Martha Maslen is our secretary. She uses a unique short hand and then turns the discussion and conversation into understandable points and sends them back to us. She sorts and edits our incoming communication and forwards to me anything pertinent to the tasks at hand. The secretary is the backbone of the club. Thank you, Martha.

Desna Sulway and often her husband as well, playing chauffeur, make uncountable trips to the bank, verifying accounts, balancing funds, keeping track of our income and expenditures, in and out, through the months. I would hate this job. I am so glad someone else enjoys it. I could do it, ( insert my laughing husband here) but I would hate it and it would never be correct (insert my husband's nodding head here). Thank you Desna and the chauffeur too.

Now, I'm thinking of Marie Armstrong and Ruth MacKenzie; these two ladies who choose our great restaurants for our meals out. Do you know that almost every site is checked out by them? Accompanied by our Vice- President, Ron, almost all restaurants receive a visit before the location is even suggested to the board. They do not have to do this. It is dollars out of their own pocket, but in order to be sure we have a positive experience, they try out the menu and the service. Thank you.

Having couples serving on the board gives us two heads instead of one. Ruth and Brian Wakeford are an example of how that really benefits our club. It truly works. They have come up with some amazing activities that all our members enjoy and they seem to do it effortlessly. Having done this job, I can verify it isn't as easy as it seems. Many phone calls, emails, discussions and clarifications occur before an activity is announced. We are the recipients of their organizational skills. We are grateful.

Today, smile at someone you don't know, hug someone you do, play music you have never heard before, be courageous, and live your day with laughter.

I may not be the most important person in your life... I just hope when you hear my name, you smile and say, "That's my friend." Marg.

## Chuckle Corner



"I admit, I didn't handle that well, but I don't want this to discourage you from being honest with me in the future."

### Husbands are husbands

A man was sitting reading his papers when his wife hit him round the head with a frying pan.

'What was that for?' the man asked.

The wife replied, 'That was for the piece of paper with the name Betty on it that I found in your trouser pocket.'

The man then said 'When I was at the races last week, Betty was the name of the horse I bet on.'

The wife apologized and went on with the housework.

Three days later the man is watching TV when his wife bashes him on the head with an even bigger frying pan, knocking him unconscious.

Upon re-gaining consciousness the man asked why she had hit him again.

The wife replied, 'Your horse phoned!'

## Lunches (email: Marie Armstrong & Ruth Mackenzie via [lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca))

### January Luncheon Event

On January 16, 21 members showed up to enjoy a good Vietnamese lunch at Chez Lam in Kanata.



### Coming Up

Sign up at the February meeting or via [lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca)



**Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at noon**

*A pub style restaurant a notch above the ordinary.*

**Address:** 1170 Carling Ave, opposite the Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre

**Phone:** 613-680-9339

**Website:** <http://carling.bowmansbarandgrill.ca/>



**Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at noon**

*A special seniors day with music and entertainment*

**Address:** 2452 York's Corners Rd, Edwards

**Phone:** 613-821-2751

**Website:** <https://stanleysfarm.com/>

**ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE LUNCH - \$18**



Welcome to the following new member who joined in January

**Ruth Brydon**

*As of January 14 we have 163 paid members.*



*After each meeting*

**Join us for lunch at The Brew Table**

In Bells Corners

NW corner of Robertson and Moodie

### Quote of the Month

"Along about the beginning of February, when the days of winter seem endless and no amount of wistful recollecting can bring back any air of summer, I caught one of those colds which last for two days in the children and two weeks with me."

- Shirley Jackson

**Outings** (email: Ruth & Bryan Wakeford  
via [outings@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:outings@probuswesternottawa.ca))

## Coming Up

### February 12 - Lee Valley Corporate Offices

On **Wednesday, February 12 at 10:00 am** we tour **Lee Valley, 1090 Morrison Drive**, the site of their Corporate Offices. Their free 1 hour tour will include viewing of some assembly areas, the photography section and product development. Meet at the front entrance.



**Sign up via email before February 5!**

Lunch after will be at the [Big Rig Restaurant](#), 2750 Iris Street (before the Ikea Mall).

### March 4 - Ottawa Valley Grain Products

On **Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am** we have a guided tour of [Ottawa Valley Grain Products](#), 405 Donald B. Munro Drive, Carp. OVGP is a fourth-generation custom grain mill, operating now for 90 years, and using classic milling techniques, stones and screens. The grain that is milled here is from farms in and around the Ottawa Valley, often directly from the local farmer.

Lunch, following the tour, will be at the [Ridge Rock Brew Pub](#), 421 Donald B. Munro Drive, also in Carp.

Presently we have only 1 spot left for this tour although there will be a cancellation list.

**Sign-up for this outing at the February meeting.**

### January Outing

On Thursday, January 23, 18 members were welcomed warmly by the Ottawa Traffic Operations staff. We enjoyed a very informative tour which focused on control, signage and signals. What was to be a 1 hour tour grew to 2 hours as members had many questions as to how traffic is organized and controlled throughout the city.



## Our lineup of future speakers

Please pass ideas on to Charlie Boole via [program@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:program@probuswesternottawa.ca).

**March 10** - Sue Williams - *Adventure at Sea & the Journey Within*

**April 14** - Geneviève LeDuc. - *Risk Management*

**May 12** – Paul Allen - *When Tobacco Was King*

**June 9** – Rachel Boere - *The Ottawa Tool Library*



Our Probus Euchre\* group meets monthly at Bells Corners United Church, 3955 Old Richmond Road (at Moodie). Meetings are usually held on the **first Friday of the month**.

This is mostly a casual and social occasion, starting at **12:30 pm\*** for refreshments and conversation followed by cards at 1 pm. Games usually last until 3:30 pm.

Following are the dates for future meetings:

<b>Feb. 7</b>	<b>Mar. 6</b>	<b>Apr. 3</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>Jun. 5</b>
<b>Sep. 4</b>	<b>Oct. 2</b>	<b>Nov. 6</b>	<b>Dec. 4</b>	

(\* Members are welcome to play Bridge if preferred.)

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

## Anniversary Spring Fling

The Probus Club of Cornwall and Area invites you to their **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in the Friendly Seaway City on Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup>**.

**Mark it on your calendar !**

Ramada Inn, 805 Brookdale Ave., Cornwall. ON

**More info to follow in future newsletters.**

Probus Western Ottawa meets at 10 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Kanata United Church, 33 Leacock Dr.

**Visitors are welcome.**

Our Web site is:

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