

# Probus Club of Burlington



## *Newsletter*

December 2022

### *President's message*

I know it's been said many times before, but this is the time of year to spend as much time as you can with family and friends. Of course, we will all overeat (and a few will sip a few too many). Bottom line, It's a time of reflection and joy.

Unfortunately, the Covid concerns seem to be rearing its ugly head again, and costs have gone through the roof for many. Even through these trials and tribulations, we all have years of experience as witnessed through our grey hair, and will work through them, successfully.

I think we should all be happy to see our club slowly returning to its former self. This has everything to do with you and your efforts to attend meetings, bring new members, and reach out to each other socially. 2023 will continue this trend.

Please have a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Robert English, President Probus Men's club of Burlington

**"Rumour has it that 15 of us are going to the Christmas Luncheon. Chris Walker and Dave Rokosh and spouses are going and would like to sit with other Burlington Club members and spouses. Please let Chris or Dave know if you'd like to sit with us! Our emails are listed in the management committee list elsewhere in this newsletter."**

### *Upcoming Speakers*

As there is no regular PROBUS meeting in December, the speaker program will recommence on 19 January when Tim Speed from the Canadian Warplane Heritage will speak to us in person about the development and demise of Canada's famous Avro Arrow fighter jet.

In February, long-time member Tom Bochsler has arranged to have a presentation made about his career as an esteemed professional photographer

## **REMINDER - 2023 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL AND DUES**

A reminder that 2023 membership renewals were due on December 1<sup>st</sup>, thank you to those of you who have already renewed.

The speakers and activities that you enjoy are budgeted on membership numbers, so the sooner we know who is returning, the sooner we can plan.

Please send a \$50 cheque payable to Probus Club of Burlington to:

Probus Club of Burlington  
Membership Committee Chair  
PO Box 91562 Roseland Plaza  
Burlington, On  
L7R 4L6

**OR** you can pay by eTransfer by sending your renewal fee to:

Email address: [mbinder@cogeco.ca](mailto:mbinder@cogeco.ca)

Message: Membership Fee – “Your Name”

If a security question is requested it is “**Membership Fee**”  
and the answer is “**Yearly**”

Should you need an application form for friends who would like to join us this year, you can visit our website at <https://www.probusclubofburlington.ca/> or email [kdobson1257@gmail.com](mailto:kdobson1257@gmail.com)

**“ANNUAL PARKING PASSES** – *Are you tired of using the parking meter then consider purchasing an Annual Probus Meeting parking pass. These passes are \$33.00 and you can get them from Bob Dickison (will be at the ZOOM desk). You can pay by cash (exact change strongly preferred) or a cheque made out to the ‘Probus Club of Burlington’. If you attend the vast majority of meetings this will save you money and the inconvenience of having to use that parking meter.” Last chance to purchase these through the club will be at the January meeting.*

## Welcome to new members



### **Robert Bernais**

*Education:* Chemistry - University of Toronto, Brock University

As a teenager Bob has had an affection for automobiles new and old and anything related to them. He has spent the better part of his life involved on the analytical side of products pertaining to the oil industry.

After his education he was involved with a company manufacturing engine oil additives. That led to a position at Research and Development, British American Oil where his life really got interesting. BA eventually was taken over by Gulf, then Petro Canada and eventually Suncor.

Initially he was involved in the creation of automotive dynamometer exhaust gas analysis. This was important because lubricant candidates had to pass difficult sets of specifications. With Gulf Oil he had the opportunity to meet a Formula 1 driver by the name of Peter Revson when he and his car arrived at the Center. To this day he is still a fan of F1.

Going forward he created and monitored oxygenated gasoline fuel fleet studies whose results were ultimately used in product offerings. He was involved in development of procedures for Mass Spectrometer, Chromatography, and GPC hydrocarbon analysis. Helped create and test the fuel for the Olympic Torch relay.

Member of SAP Development team for converting almost all computer programs company wide to one system.

Transferred to Marketing to become Product Line Coordinator. He was the liaison between Research and Development, Manufacturing, Sales and Marketing.

He has been involved in coaching minor league baseball and was president of the Burlington Swim Club. Still a golf fan .....



**Bob Ritchie** was born in Dundee, Scotland. He graduated with a B.Sc. and Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of St. Andrews. In 1962, a week after marrying Doreen, also from Dundee, they sailed for Canada where Bob had been awarded a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in the Division of Pure Physics at NRC in Ottawa. Afterwards, he left academia, returned to the UK, and started a career in industrial research, mostly in the petroleum industry, starting at Esso Research Limited in Oxfordshire.

Three years later, in 1967, the family decided to return to Canada when Bob received a job offer from Gulf Canada's Sheridan Park Research Centre in Mississauga. The family settled in Burlington and have lived here ever since. Bob was with Gulf Canada Research for 25 years, latterly in some senior management positions, and then spent two years with Barringer

Research (detection of concealed narcotics and explosives), before going out on his own as a science consultant. Even now, he still does some occasional consulting.

Bob and Doreen recently celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They have three daughters: Fiona in Washago, Pamela in Burlington, and Alison in Toronto.

Bob is interested in all things Scottish, particularly the bagpipes which he has played since his early teens.

### **List of Your Probus Club Executive**

President	Robert English <a href="mailto:renglish6@bell.net">renglish6@bell.net</a>	
1st VP	Chris Walker <a href="mailto:mcdwalkers@sympatico.ca">mcdwalkers@sympatico.ca</a>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	(vacant)	
Past President	Jim Anas <a href="mailto:james.s.anas@gmail.com">james.s.anas@gmail.com</a>	
Secretaries	Tom Evans <a href="mailto:tomevans1933@gmail.com">tomevans1933@gmail.com</a>	John Bembenek <a href="mailto:jb1@cogeco.ca">jb1@cogeco.ca</a>
Treasurer	Mike Binder <a href="mailto:mbinder@cogeco.ca">mbinder@cogeco.ca</a>	
Communication Chair	Gary Hindley <a href="mailto:GHindley1@gmail.com">GHindley1@gmail.com</a>	Website Bill Valcour <a href="mailto:bvalcour@bell.net">bvalcour@bell.net</a>
Membership Chair	Keith Dobson <a href="mailto:kdobson1257@gmail.com">kdobson1257@gmail.com</a>	
House Chair	Bob Dickison <a href="mailto:rgdickison@gmail.com">rgdickison@gmail.com</a>	
Events Chair	Dave Rokosh <a href="mailto:rokoshda@gmail.com">rokoshda@gmail.com</a>	
Golf Chair	Tom Evans <a href="mailto:tomevans1933@gmail.com">tomevans1933@gmail.com</a>	
Speakers	Chris Walker <a href="mailto:mcdwalkers@sympatico.ca">mcdwalkers@sympatico.ca</a>	

### **Future events**

Golf Tournament Friday May 26, 2023 at the Flamborough Hills Golf Club.

## Computer Interest Group



We are a joint, Burlington and Lakeshore Probus Club group, who get together to discuss current developments in the computer fields and help solve each others computer related issues. We meet the 4th Thursday of the month at 10 am (one week after our regular Probus meeting). Currently we meet via Zoom but plan to get back to live meetings later in the Spring. The cost is free until we go to live meetings. If you would like to join us please email Bob Dickison at [rgdickison@gmail.com](mailto:rgdickison@gmail.com) and he will add you to our email list.

## Do you have a major milestone to share?

If you have a major milestone birthday, anniversary or some other major event you would like to share with our members send them to Gary Hindley at [Ghindley1@gmail.com](mailto:Ghindley1@gmail.com) to get them published in the next newsletter.

## Do you enjoy being a member of Probus?



If you do, then, no doubt you have friends who would also like Probus. Do them a favor and invite them to join you as a guest at one of our meetings. We have many interesting speakers over the next few months!

Should they decide to become a member, the process is easy and straightforward. It starts by sending an email to Keith Dobson. ( [kdobson1257@gmail.com](mailto:kdobson1257@gmail.com) )

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