



The PROBUS Pilot



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

January 2020

Vol: 11 No: 5

Tuesday, January 14, 10am, Kanata United Church

The Power of DNA – Mags Gauden

Mags is a Professional Genealogist specializing in Genetic Genealogy as founder of Grandma's Genes in Ottawa. Growing up in a family full of family historians, Mags was primed to become a Genealogist.

After earning her Bachelors Degree from Columbia College, she began to work her own Genealogy as a "hobby". This 30-year "hobby" eventually led her to a Leader role with WikiTree, where she currently leads *The DNA Innovators Project*, *The United Empire Loyalist Project* and *The British Home Children Project*. She also leads the *Templeton and McElmoyle Name Studies* and *The McElmoyle DNA Project*. Work with WikiTree led to Mags starting *Grandma's Genes* in 2016.

She is CEO and Chair of mitoYDNA Ltd. a non-profit company that has developed and implemented a Y-DNA and mitochondrial DNA database that is free and accessible to the Genealogy community.

Mags is an international Genetic Genealogy Lecturer, Blogger and a Social Media Maven. She serves as Administrator for Facebook groups including the ISOGG Facebook Group. She is a former member of the Canadian Casualty Identification Team.

Her topic, "The Power of DNA", will give us an introduction to DNA and direct-to-consumer DNA testing. She will explore with us how it has impacted health awareness and medical research. She will look 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



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

Visitors are welcome.

Our Web site is:
www.probuswesternottawa.ca

Quote of the Month

"Life is too short to wake up in the morning with regrets.

So, Love the people who treat you right and forget about the ones who don't.

And believe that everything happens for a reason...

If you get a chance – take it;

If it changes your life – let it.

Nobody said that it would be easy...

They just promised it would be worth it."

– Winston Churchill

The Prez Sez

Hello everyone;

As we begin a new year, may I take this opportunity to wish you all, happiness, energy and good health in 2020. Probus is great!

Probus has provided me with wonderful new friends, interesting outings, exciting restaurants and, of course, the opportunity to listen to great speakers. More than that, it has given me the opportunity to be useful to others and work with amazing people.

I am especially focused today, on our “technical crew”. Bill and Jean Eng always have the roster accurate and complete, making all the information the management committee needs available on a moment’s notice. Ray Jones publishes our newsletter and manages somehow to stylishly organize all the information, photographs and articles in an easy to find and easy to read format. The website tasks are a complete mystery to me, but somehow Bill Johnston makes sense of all the technology. He makes it look so good. Working at these behind the scenes tasks takes time and skill and I, like all our members, do appreciate their efforts.

Some of you may not know exactly who these folks are, but I personally am so grateful to have such knowledgeable people helping me this year. Next month I’ll commend to your attention other members of the management team but right now, having just gotten my computer back from the repair shop, Bill J., Ray J., Bill E. and Jean E. are “on my radar”. How they do what they do mystifies me, but I am so glad they do it.

Thanks to all and HAPPY NEW YEAR! Marg



At our December Meeting – Brian Hull

Brian started by stating that the depth and intensity of relationships determines the height of a group’s accomplishment. For example, in the 1940’s, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) demonstrated that poor communities can become self-sufficient without outside help or interference if allowed to determine their own future.

In 1976/77 it was realized that no one had any idea how many people in the world were poor or hungry. There are two causes of hunger: disasters (e.g. natural, war) and hunger due to poverty. In fact, 90% of global hunger is due to poverty. This leads to poor nutrition for mothers which, in turn, leads to high infant mortality rates. Thirteen to eighteen million infants die each year due to their mother’s poor health. It has also been discovered that the birth rate goes down as infant mortality decreases.

Hunger is not a result of food scarcity – we have more than enough to feed everyone. Over 50 deaths per 1000 births is called “persistent hunger”.

The Hunger Project started in 1977 and focussed on empowering women. School presentations started in the 80s and 90s but there was very little uptake. In response, commitment-action-workshops were started. These workshops got people together, allowed them to vent and then got people to commit to a new future as defined by them. It is important that such groups accept the fact that they cannot rely on outside help.

The Hunger Project currently runs on \$25M/year and reaches 16M people currently. Projects are underway in 8 countries having the criteria that no corruption exists and the state must protect these communities of action. As an example, Bangladesh is so poor that there is no corruption and community programs are reaching 221,000 people.

African countries are using local resources and communities of action typically provide an epicentre for education, a storage area for crops and a micro-credit bank (which only works in small communities).

Brian had an 8 minute video to present but technical difficulties meant that it could not be projected and had to be viewed on a laptop. For those that would like a closer look, here is a link to the [Hunger Project Overview](#).



Lunches (email: Marie Armstrong & Ruth Mackenzie via lunches@probustwesternottawa.ca)

December Luncheon Event

On December 2nd, 68 members attended Algonquin College's Restaurant International and enjoyed a delicious meal with stuffed chicken, salad and a fabulous triple dessert.



Welcome to the following new member who joined in December
Carmen Vincent

As of the end of December we have 159 paid members.

Coming Up



Thursday, January 16, 2020 at noon
"Good food and Décor"

Address: 484 Hazeldean Road, Kanata

Phone: 613-836-8560

Cuisine: Vietnamese

Website: <https://chezlam.ca/>

Sign up at the January meeting or via
lunches@probustwesternottawa.ca



After each meeting

Join us for lunch
at The Brew Table

In Bells Corners

NW corner of Robertson and Moodie

Chuckle Corner

Muldoon lived alone in the Irish countryside with only a pet dog for company. One day the dog died, and Muldoon went to the parish priest and asked, 'Father, my dog is dead. Could ya' be sayin' a mass for the poor creature?'

Father Patrick replied, "I'm afraid not. We cannot have services for an animal in the church. But there are some Baptists down the lane, and there's no tellin' what they believe. Maybe they'll do something for the creature."

Muldoon said, "I'll go right away Father. Do ya' think \$5,000 is enough to donate to them for the service?"

Father Patrick exclaimed, "Sweet Mary! Why didn't ya' tell me the dog was Catholic?"

Outings (email: Ruth & Bryan Wakeford via outings@probuswesternottawa.ca)

Coming Up

Thursday, January 23 – Ottawa Traffic Operations

Our January outing will be to the Ottawa Traffic Operations on 175 Loretta Avenue to learn how the city controls when we stop and go ! The tour will begin at **10:30 am** on Thursday, January 23. The tour is presently filled. We do have a short cancellation list in case of any changes, so please advise us ASAP if you are on the list and know you are not able to attend.

Parking is somewhat limited at OTO, although there is street parking nearby. For those who like to walk, you might consider parking at one of the lots off Preston Street and then walking to OTO. There is a large underground lot at Preston Square office buildings, right beside the QW (\$3.00 for the first 1/2 hour and \$1.50 per 1/2 hour after that). Consider car pooling or public transit for this trip.

One change to our itinerary is that there will be ***no planned group lunch for this trip.***

However, because we will be so close to Preston Street, people may wish to try out one of the many restaurants in Little Italy following the tour.

In **February**, at the suggestion of some of our members, we will be returning to **Lee Valley** on Morrison Drive. The details of this free tour are still being worked out, but generally, we are looking at a 1 hour tour of some of the other facilities (head office, photography, product development are some potential tour areas). We hope to have more details at our regular meeting January 14. Maximum for this tour: 30 participants. We will plan a lunch following this tour at Big Rig's nearby.

March 4th will see us travelling to the pretty village of Carp to have a guided tour of **Ottawa Valley Grain Products**, a tour suggested by one of our members. 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 in Carp.

We will have sign-up sheets for all of these outings at the January meeting.

Questions: Ruth or Bryan at outings@probuswesternottawa.ca)

Our lineup of future speakers

Please pass ideas on to Charlie Boole via program@probuswesternottawa.ca

February 11 - Dr. Judith Rygiel, Master Weaver: *The Homespun Textile Economy of 19th Century Southern Louisiana.*

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:

Feb. 7 Mar. 6 Apr. 3 May 1 Jun. 5*
Sep. 4 Oct. 2 Nov. 6 Dec. 4

(* The June session is a pot luck meal starting at 11:30 am)

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

Scenes from our December 6 pot luck.

