



# The PROBUS Pilot



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

March 2022

Vol: 13 No: 7

**Tuesday, March 8, 10am, via ZOOM\***

## Jacqueline Gori: Filling the Gap with Furry Feet

Melanie, mother of autistic child Evie (11yrs), picked up the phone in tears and desperation. Her daughter wished she was dead, resorting to hiding under school desks. Evie had fallen through the conventional cracks of the major service dog charities and now Evie was not eligible for her own service dog.



Annie, a University of Guelph Masters in Food Science, was diagnosed with a plethora of psychiatric conditions. She would not leave the house, and when she did, she had to have friends and family with her. This was no way for a young 20 year old to start adulthood.

With story after story I heard the urgent need for mental health and psychiatric service dogs. For that reason I founded Partners with Paws in November 2019, an innovative service dog charity specifically designed for people with mental health and psychiatric problems requiring service dogs.

Through the challenging pandemic we have been able to rebuild Evie's life by giving her Dexter, a handsome golden retriever. Annie received Bear and was able to fly to BC to start her dream job.

But what about Natasha and Isaac, Sunny and Yasha..... well now you'll have to join me on March 8th to hear about their stories.

**Biography:** In 2015, Jacqueline Gori, a longtime fund raiser for National Service Dogs, was diagnosed with PTSD, Anxiety, and Depression. Her mental health issues stemmed from childhood abuse. With all her experience and knowledge about service dogs, it wasn't surprising that she chose to go the route of a Service dog for this kind of support and treatment. However, when looking for a provider for her own needs, she could not find a charity which would supply her with a dog. She was neither a Veteran nor a First Responder.

Because she had 17 years of service dog experience she opted to "owner train" her own service dog Samson. Samson is a yellow Labrador from Cooperslane and certified by trainer Wade Beattie of Canine Support Services, a private trainer. Samson is featured in the fund-raising book which Jacqueline spoke to us about last March and can be purchased directly from the Partners with Paws website.

After writing the fund-raising book (I Love Labs - The Cooperslane Legacy), she soon realized the great gap between mental health needs and psychiatric service dogs. This is when, in November 2019, she decided to try and fill this gap by founding Partners with Paws.

[www.partnerswithpaws.ca](http://www.partnerswithpaws.ca) (Providing Service Dogs to people who need them)

\* ZOOM meeting details will be emailed to members on Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>.



## The Prez Sez

**Well, what do we know?** Covid 19 has taken a toll. It has forced us to go to a Zoom format and reduce social contact. It has even forced some Probus Clubs to suspend operations completely. We know that some restrictions are being eased but at the same time we know that the elderly (that's us) have a higher risk of complications. We also know that warmer weather is coming.

**What we don't know** is the timing and how long it will be before venues re-open and when members will again feel comfortable to meet and socialize (with restrictions).

**What I think.** I am an optimist and as things open up and the weather improves, I foresee us starting lunches, tours and other activities in April and in-person meetings shortly after. Watch the newsletter and emails as we find opportunities to make that happen.

**Next year** is another problem. We need people to run the programs and there I am not so optimistic. See the separate article on vacancies to see where you can help.

Peter van Boeschoten,

[president@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:president@probuswesternottawa.ca)

### Help us fill Management Board Vacancies

The past year and the year before that have presented challenges for Probus. We have made it work despite Covid. This is in large part due to the behind-the-scenes efforts of the members of your Management Committee.

At the June meeting you will be electing a new slate of individuals to manage your club next year. Although we now have two volunteers for the vacant Treasurer and Membership positions (Thank you Bryan & Ruth Wakeford), we still need people for the following:

- President
- Vice President
- Speaker Coordinator
- Tour/Outings Coordinator
- Secretary
- Publicity Coordinator
- A second Travel/Activities Coordinator

These are the critical replacements that we need. Without the positions being filled in June there will be no Probus Club in September. If we share the load, it only takes a few hours each month.

It should be noted that existing executive members would be pleased to provide whatever assistance a prospective new applicant requires. Members are also welcome to attend our monthly Executive meetings to see what we do. Just contact us to get the link if you are interested. Most titles are self-descriptive, but details of responsibilities may be found on our web site [here](#). Alternatively, you can contact any executive member for more information about their position by using the address format [title@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:title@probuswesternottawa.ca).

If you can't do it yourself, poke your spouse or a friend in the ribs and get them to volunteer.

It's time to step forward. We really do need your help.



### POSTPONED!

Our Euchre group won't meet in March as mandates from Ontario Health are due to change on March 1 leaving insufficient time to react for a March 4 start. We are hopeful that we can get underway on **Friday, April.1<sup>st</sup> from 12:30 to 3:30** at the Bells Corners United Church, 3955 Old Richmond Road (at Moodie). Please register with Pat Stoate at [stoatep@gmail.com](mailto:stoatep@gmail.com) or call her at 613-820-0174 if you wish to attend or to get on our distribution list for future notices. Further details will be emailed to you as soon as available.

## Future speakers

Here is our speaker program for April, May and June...

**April 12** - Geneviève Leduc Boole. *Risk Management*. Geneviève is an expert, having had a career in the Security and Intelligence fields. She presently is employed with the Bank of Canada and will speak to us on the tools that are used this area.

**May 10** - Michael Boole will present on the topic of *Money Laundering, Human Trafficking & Child Exploitation*. All three are in the news today even if they have been drowned out by Covid and its variants!

**June 14.** - Paul Allen. *When Tobacco was King*. The Big Lie is not new! The earlier big lie that many of us may have forgotten surrounded the tobacco industry. Remember when the scientists began to tell us that cigarette smoking led to cancer but the industry said it was cool and sexy to smoke. The Marlborough Man came riding in on his horse with a smoke screen of misinformation!!

All Zoom meetings start at 10 am on the second Tuesday of each month. To allow time for informal socialization or just to ensure you have no technical issues with the ZOOM application, you will be able to join the call after 9:30 am.

A link to the ZOOM session and further instructions will be emailed to the membership on the Sunday prior to each meeting. More information about each speaker will be provided in the newsletter for that month.

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

For past speaker info, see our newsletters at: [www.probuswesternottawa.ca](http://www.probuswesternottawa.ca)

## February in Review

**Speaker:** Our speaker in February was Benoit Bazinet speaking on "The Bees of Beechwood". Benoit proved to be an excellent speaker with a highly informative and fascinating presentation that touched on the evolution, anatomy, social structure and behaviour of the modern honeybee colony, the importance of pollinators to our food chain, and the factors contributing to the decline of bees and native pollinators. He concluded with a discussion of what we can do to help.



The recording of this meeting is available on YouTube until Tuesday, March 8. See our February 8<sup>th</sup> email, "Probus Western Ottawa February Presentation Now Posted on YouTube" for link details.

## March Luncheon Event

at [Brown's Social House](#)

The perfect balance between "neighbourhood pub"  
and "upscale casual dining"

**Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at noon**

**Address:** 1-1055 Greenbank Rd, Barrhaven

**Phone:** 613-440-2010

**Cuisine:** varied (follow link above)

Sign up at [lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca](mailto:lunches@probuswesternottawa.ca) by March 14th



# Chuckle Corner

## MORE HOW DO COURT RECORDERS KEEP STRAIGHT FACES?

These are from a book called Disorder in the American Courts and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and published by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while the exchanges were taking place.

ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which

ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

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ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget.

ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

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ATTORNEY: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And what were you doing at that time?

WITNESS: Getting laid

ATTORNEY: She had three children , right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

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ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death..

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

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ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 PM

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.

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## Happy St. Patrick's Day Thursday, March 17



It was raining hard and a big puddle had formed in front of an Irish pub.

An old man stood beside the puddle holding a stick with a string on the end and jiggled it up and down in the water.

A curious gentleman asked what he was doing.

'Fishing,' replied the old man.

'Poor old fool' thought the gentleman, so he invited the old man to have a drink in the pub.

Feeling he should start some conversation while they were sipping their whiskey, the gentleman asked, 'And how many have you caught?'

'You're the eighth.'