

ORCA PROBUS CLUB

Comox Valley

NEWSLETTER

April 2020

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM



Ken Talbot, President

Just before putting fingers to the keyboard, I looked at the last President's Podium and not a mention of a virus! Now, just one month later, I doubt there is a person in the world who hasn't been affected in some way.

Close to home, all social activities as we know them have been shut down. Our Snowbirds have returned home early and are now in social isolation, as are many of us voluntarily. It is a strange feeling! We are however lucky to be a social club with a special bond to each other which is particularly precious at times like these. Please make an effort to keep these ties vibrant by contacting each other by phone or other social media, just for a chat or sharing a joke, and to let people know we care. It's especially important to those living alone and/or in isolation. If you are, or you know of, someone who needs help, we have had lots of club members volunteering assistance, so contact us at orcaprobus@gmail.com.

We are indebted to all the medical support staff who are working so diligently. Please also give a wave and a thank you for those providing us with the things we need – the grocery check-out person, the postman, the garbage collectors, etc. etc. So many people working hard to ensure we all get through this.

Back to more mundane matters, your Management Committee did hold our March meeting, but via e-mail and telephone. Somewhat of a long-winded process, so next time, if social distancing provisions remain, we will be venturing into the latest technological age and ZOOMing the meeting. Talking of technology, in times like these the amount of information is overwhelming, so I have resorted to a single source for Coronavirus stuff via the app "BC COVID-19". That, and CBC radio, is about all I can handle.

I'm a glass half-full guy and I see birds nesting just outside my office window, my BBQ is all fired up, the weeds are commencing their annual challenge, and I'm getting the garden organized for social distance entertaining.

Stay safe and keep in touch with each other. We love to hear from you!

- President Ken

The ORCA PROBUS CLUB meetings are cancelled for the time being.

Our Website: www.orcaprobus.ca

ORCA PROBUS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	Ken Talbot	
Vice-President	Neil Brodie	
Secretary	Marguerite Ancell	
Treasurer	Caroline Urquhart	
Membership	Lynnette Lynch	
	Val Dyke	
Social & Activities	Jerith Jones	
Facilities	Mike & Barb Wilson	
Newsletter	Bruce Ellis	
Past President	Marie Knowles	
Orca Probus email address		orcaprobus@gmail.com

SPRING EVENT DRIVING ADVENTURE

The Driving Adventure experience scheduled for April has been cancelled. We hope to hold it some time in the future when things are back to normal.

PRISMA SAILING TO THE SYMPHONY

The 2020 Prisma event has been cancelled. Anyone who purchased tickets can get a refund by contacting Larry Petkus.

ORCA PROBUS SUMMER BBQ

The Summer BBQ committee regrets to announce that the BBQ scheduled for July 14th has been postponed until further notice.

While it is disappointing, we know you will understand that, under the current circumstances, it is best to be prudent until normal activities can resume.

We will keep you posted of any changes as they develop.



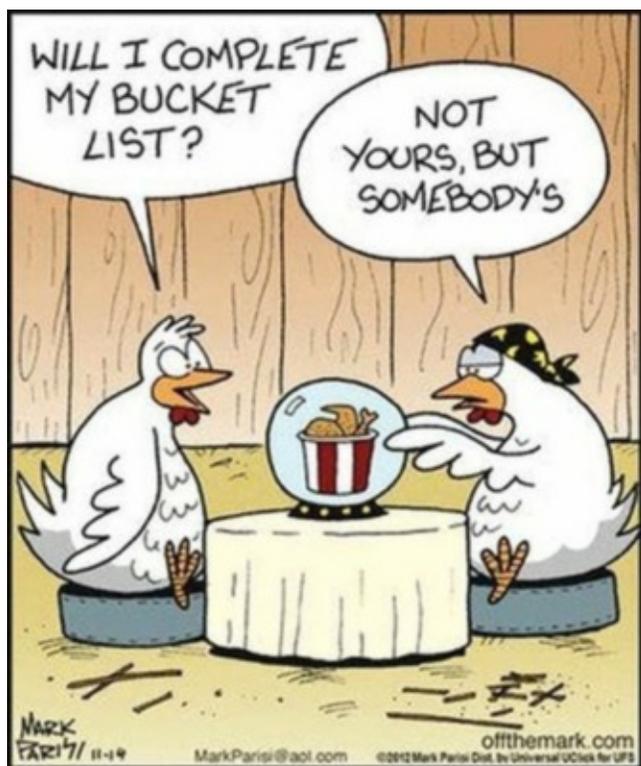
APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04	Joan Matheson	20	George Fettes
10	John Powell	20	Lynne Pringle
11	Barbara Wilson	22	Louise Casson
14	Ken Talbot	26	Dave Matheson
14	Beth Ritchie	27	Alan Tippet
14	Richard Williams	28	Nancy Larkin
		29	Derek Mowatt
		30	Donna Brasso

MILESTONES

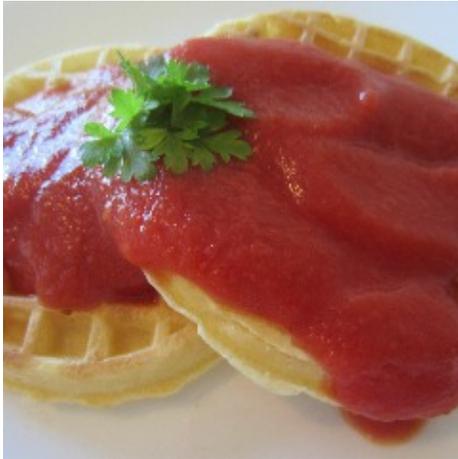
In April 2005 Rose Jacobson and Marilyn and Don Manley joined our happy band. Congratulations on 15 years.

In April 2010 George McNeill and Judith McIntosh joined Probus – Happy 10 years.



Our Members Dine In

With our chances of dining out with our groups gone for now, we face the prospect of boring meals, particularly with the current Isolation and the limited visits to the Grocery Store. Here are some suggestions to excite the palate using the ever limited resources in the pantry and fridge.



Waffles with Ketchup



Alphagetti in Aspic with Weinies



Fish Head Pie

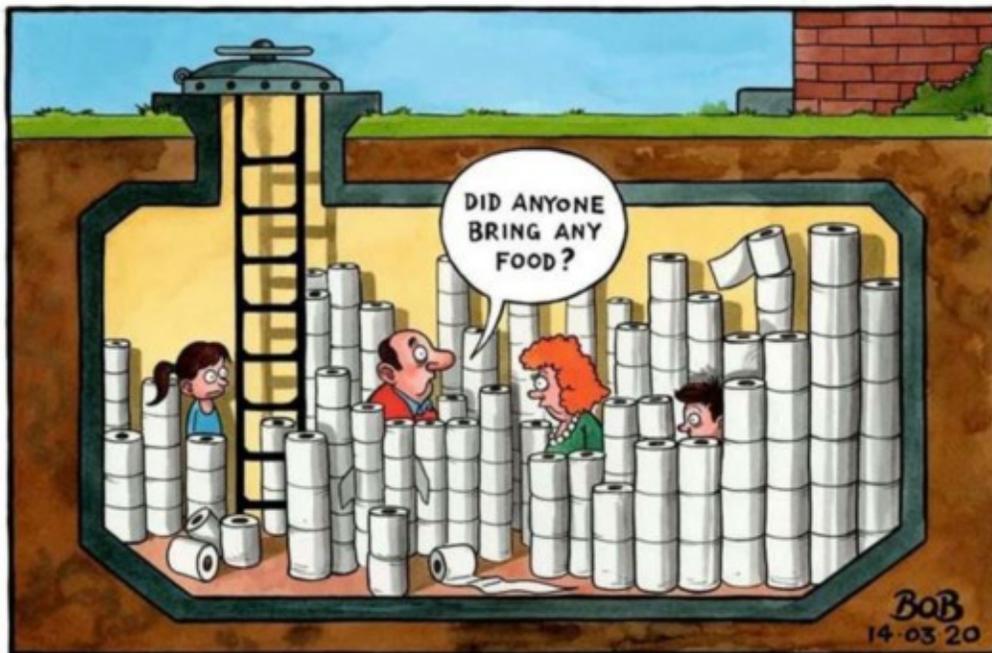


"Kitty Litter" Cake with Chocolates



And as the store inventories run down, you may have to resort to this!

Toilet Paper



Does anyone know how long toilet paper will last if you freeze it?

Ad in Record: Single man with toilet roll would like to meet single woman with hand sanitizer, objective good clean fun.

OUR MEMBERS TRAVELEd

Just a few short weeks ago our members were travelling on vacation.
All are safely home in isolation.



Paul and Margo in Vietnam



Miles and Jerith in Charleston SC

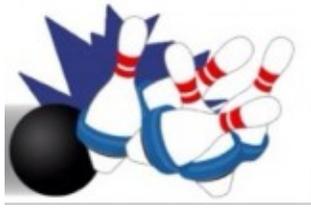


Elaine and Tom in Mexico

We are a week into self-isolation and it's really upsetting me to witness my wife standing at the living room window gazing aimlessly into space, with tears running down her cheeks.

It breaks my heart to see her like this, and I've thought very hard about how I can cheer her up.

I've even considered letting her come in, but rules are rules!



BOWLING GROUP

Due to the coronavirus we did bring the bowling season to an early close after our March get together. We will recommence in September 2020 – virus permitting. You will see further information appearing in the newsletter closer to that time.

Our March get together was very sparse but many thanks to the diehards who did show up – Jill Ackerman, Louise Casson, Michael Lynch, Liz Van Boeschoten and Marie Knowles, we had a great time together with Jill and Louise especially, racking up the strikes and spares like nobody's business.

Thank you to all bowling participants for all your support throughout the past months. It has been a lot of fun and I look forward to seeing you in the Fall.

Enjoy your summer.

Marie Knowles



I'm giving up drinking for a month...

Sorry, bad punctuation.

I'm giving up. Drinking for a month.

So technically, showing up at a bank wearing a mask and gloves is OK now.

Our hearts go out to the husbands who kept telling their wives for months that they would get at it when they had the time.

GOLF GROUP

With the golf season on hold, you have to find other ways to practice.



PUB CLUB NEWS

Last month we went to the Flying Canoe Pub at the Westerly Hotel. The service was very good and the food and drink orders were served promptly.



With every
problem there's a
solution 😂

“Do you have the Covid-19 flu?” asked Fred’s neighbour as he watched Fred wearing a parka and an overcoat painting his house on a relatively warm day. “No,” replied Fred, “The man at the paint shop told me that for the best results I should put on two coats.”

PROBUS SINGERS AND FRIENDS



"We live in interesting times." The Undecideds are not quite sure whether that's a good thing or a bad thing. In fact you might say that we're somewhat ..ummmmUndecided. (Pause for your eyerolls and groans).

The best of interesting times so often include music: a king so overcome with joy and exaltation at the sound of the Hallelujah Chorus that he leaps to his feet in celebration, creating a custom that continues today. Or the awe and wonder we felt when Chris Hadfield serenaded us from space.

Equally, the worst of times are frequently accompanied by music, and this pandemic we are living through is proof of that. Both on Youtube and in the news you can listen to musicians in lockdown in Italy standing on their balconies and serenading their neighbours. Musicians are entertaining us on FaceBook and Youtube, recording whole concerts for us to enjoy whenever we feel low. André Rieu has posted a whole series of his most uplifting concerts on FaceBook for us to listen to. And while we mourn the loss of Kenny Rogers, we are so fortunate to be able to go online and listen to the musical magic he and Dolly Parton created. Turn up the volume, close your eyes and just let the joy of Islands in the Stream pour over you.

What we are going through is tough. Sometimes it's hard to get through the day. Our suggestion – find some music you love, turn the volume up all the way, and just let those beautiful sounds sweep over you, carrying away your fears, your sadness, your loneliness.

- The Undecideds, Rae, Rhonda (aka R2) and Bev

HIKING GROUP

Well, aren't we glad we got out on the trail before the new norm took over!

Shortly after our March meeting, a group of us navigated the outside loop trail at Seal Bay, and ended up on the Beach for Lunch as planned. The Park is in the process of replacing many sign posts so that made the route interesting if you know anything about the network of trails!

The day was sunny but we needed to find shelter on the Beach as it was windy. The pictures attached show the treasures along the way

Although the weather of recent has been ideal for hiking, we must do our part and self-isolate and follow the rules of our Health Advisors. The trails will wait.





Coming Home

Miles dog smiles and says wroo woo ah woo
does a little dance: her toes tippy tippy tap too.
She cocks her head to the side, she s so happy she could cry.
Her eyes are wide open, two huge moons in the sky.
She pirouettes twice, then sits by the door.
Her tail says she s happy: bam bam bam on the floor.
Her long pink tongue swings from her white toothed smile.
This match was made in heaven s doggy domicile.
No two hearts are more loyal or a love more true blue,
Miles dog smiles and Miles smiles, too.

The Old Farmer