



Orca Probus Club NewsLetter

April

2025

Presidents Podium



April Showers Bring May Flowers!

April marks the onset of spring in many parts of the world, symbolizing renewal, growth, and transformation. Small animals that hibernate emerge from their burrows, birds migrate north, and the bees and butterflies begin to gather nectar from the first flowers of the season. With the amount of rain we have been receiving, the flowers will be popping up and blooming for sure.

For our Orca Probus, April also symbolizes a new beginning as we look to members to volunteer to be part of the management committee. If you are approached by a member of the nominating committee, please consider it seriously and say "YES".

In April, we also have an opportunity to socialize with other members and to have some FUN playing Quizzy Bingo on April 29th. It's a combination of Trivia with Bingo and you can confer with other members at your table for the answers. If the answer is on your bingo card, mark it off. First one to call BINGO wins. This is a new game we haven't tried before and we urge you to attend. **We need around 40 people in order to get the room for free.** Please see the ad in this month's newsletter for more details. Hope to see many of you there!

Volunteers are the heart of this club and the management committee will be hosting a recognition evening for all volunteers and new members for this past year on May 20th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Watch your emails for an invite.



Debbie Olson

Club News

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Club Executive

President	Debbie Olson	Communication	Mike Wilson
Vice-President	Laura Wendland	Social	Barb Wilson
Secretary	Gwendolyne Kruger	Facilities	Carol Coupland
Treasurer	Mike Naish	Past President	Bruce Ellis
Membership	Pat Ellis	Sunshine	Deanna Provencher
		Web Master	Blair Deeringa

Dates to Remember

- Walking: Every Monday
- Bowling: 2nd Wednesday of the month
- Singing: Tues. Apr 16, 2 PM
- Dining Out: 4th Wednesday of the month
- Quilting: 3rd Tuesday of the month
- BookWorms: Last Friday of the month
- Hiking: Tuesday or Thursday - Twice a month

next ORCA PROBUS CLUB meeting:
Tues. April 08, 2025
 2 PM

April Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Mona Wile | Lynn Pringle |
| Joan Matheson; Joan Vick | Louise Casson |
| George Fettes | Bonnie Lembke |
| John Lembke | Dave Matheson |
| Barb Wilson | Al Tippett |
| Isabel Low | Derek Mowatt |
| Beth Ritchie; Ken Talbot | Don Bertram |
| Stan Strilchuk | |

Announcements

April's Speaker

Neville Pawson and his wife Pauline have been members of Orca Probus for three years, and they divide their time between the two best islands in the country, Vancouver Island and Newfoundland. They have family on both coasts.

Neville was born in England and emigrated to Canada along with his parents when he was 10 years old. He lived in North Vancouver and Chilliwack, before going to the Canadian Coast Guard College in Sydney, Nova Scotia in 1975. During his teenage years, Neville was a cadet in the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets and he spent three summers at HMCS Quadra, aka The Spit, in Comox .

He has worked with the Coast Guard for 37 years, and worked mainly in the Newfoundland and Labrador region. He has worked in most of the aspects of the Coast Guard . Thanks to the Canadian Coast Guard, Neville has circumnavigated North America, but not in one voyage.

He will be talking to Probus about the Canadian Coast Guard and its various roles. What exactly does the Canadian Coast Guard do? He hopes that you will find this to be an informative presentation

Quizzy Bingo Night!

When: Tuesday, April 29th, 2025

Time: 5:00 p.m. with games to follow dinner

Where: Comox Golf Course Club House

Cost: \$5.00 per person (covers games only; dinner not included)

(tickets to be bought in advance through cash, cheque or e-transfer)

Tickets will be available at the April Orca meeting.

Dinner to be pre-ordered from the [club menu](#).

Please email Carol Coupland at carol.coupland60@gmail.com with your meal choice by April 24th.

Quizzy Bingo is an innovative game that transforms the classic excitement of bingo by incorporating the thrill of trivia!

Instead of traditional numbers, Quizzy Bingo cards are filled with answers to a wide range of trivia questions. The host reads out questions, and players mark off the answers on their cards. Just like in classic bingo, the first to complete a predetermined pattern shouts "Bingo!" and wins.

A great opportunity to mingle with fellow Orca members and to have a fun time!

Announcements

FINAL CALL FOR TICKETS AND PAYMENTS

PRISMA
Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy
Powell River
"Sailing to the Symphony"
SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2025

Dear Fellow Members - you have done a great job snapping up the special seats that your PRISMA Committee has obtained for our Club. However, we still have tickets available if anyone is interested. **Tickets left over by April 11 will be returned to PRISMA.**

- Tickets are at a discounted rate: \$104.00/person (consisting of a round trip ferry; lunch; concert ticket; and bus ride from the ferry to the theatre return)

PLEASE NOTE: Payment is due at the APRIL 8th general meeting. Once tickets are purchased, there will be no refunds!

Cheques need to be made payable to: "Orca PROBUS Club"

The PRISMA event is always a great day with fine music, good friends, a hearty meal and a lovely cruise.

As always thank you for your continued support.

Marie Knowles and Lawrence Petkus,
Co-chairs, PRISMA 2025



Milestone Anniversary

Judith McIntosh and George McNeill - April 13th

We live in a time where intelligent people are silenced so that stupid people won't be offended.

The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.

Club News

Your executive in action!!

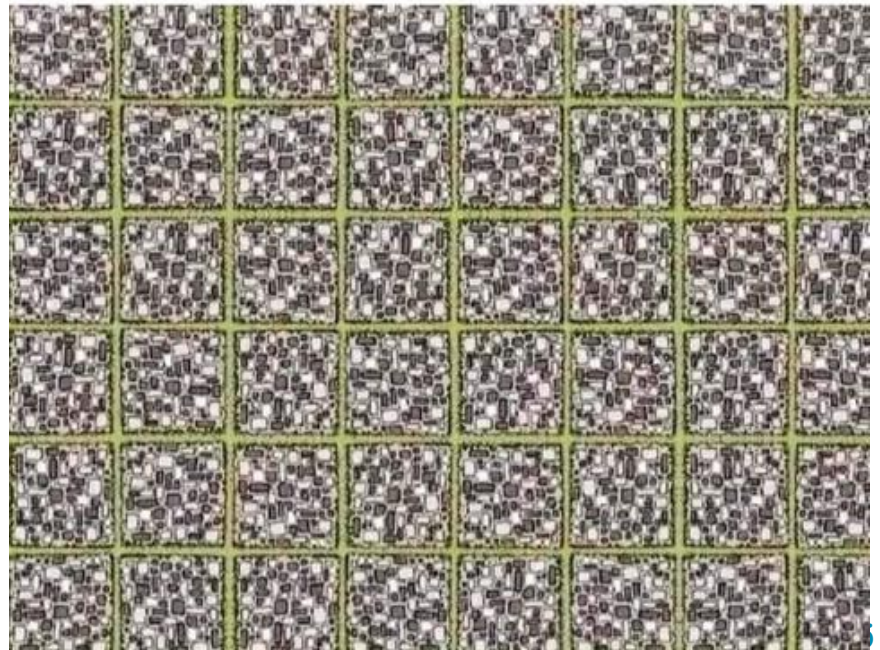
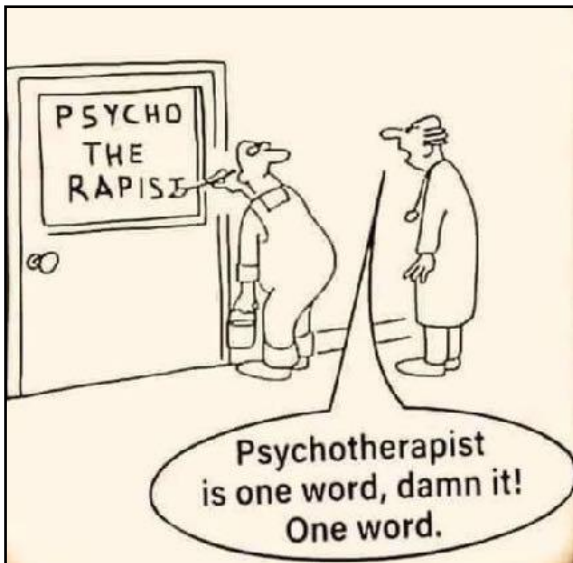


Reminder

Please bring your own cups to the meeting



Ok smart guy
Find the curved line



Club Activity News

“The Women” is a historical fiction novel set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War. It follows military nurse Frances “Frankie” McGrath as she leaves her illustrious family on Coronado Island, California, and enters the muddy trenches — and even muddier aftermath — of the war. Frankie enlists as a military nurse for two reasons: to join her brother already on the ground and to finally earn her parents’ approval. Suffice to say, that romanticized patriotism does not nearly prepare her for the

mortar attacks and napalm wounds that would become her new normal. Frankie begins her first tour in standard-issue pumps that are quickly replaced by combat boots and returns a different woman to a country she can no longer recognize. She is forced to reconcile the war she once believed in with the contentious events that she experienced firsthand. Moreover, she must learn to hide her own scars to rejoin a society that insists “there were no women in Vietnam.”



I COULD NOT BELIEVE IT TODAY, WHEN I CAME HOME AND WAS TOLD BY MY WIFE THAT MY 5-YEAR-OLD SON WASN'T ACTUALLY MINE...

SHE SAYS THAT I NEED TO PAY MORE ATTENTION WHEN PICKING HIM UP FROM SCHOOL

No, we didn't see a box of powdered donuts;



Why do you ask?



Club Activity News

Bowling



A group of 10 bowlers gathered on March 12. The lower number was due to some players having spring fever and needing to get away from it all. One or two had aches and pains that were giving them trouble and wouldn't go away unless they took a break. The flu managed to creep in along with other things.

Nevertheless, the show went on and a good time was had by all. Lots of laughter and oooohs and aaaaaahhhhs. Or even – that darn gutter!. We know bowling is good for the soul.



Once again our #1 Star was NORM TRACE with a score of 347. He doesn't say too much but he's a very good bowler. Sneaking up behind Norm was GEORGIA McLELLAN with 279 and LOUISE CASSON with 221.



There were only 4 of us who made it for coffee at Rhodos Café but that was okay. We tried to save the world but didn't quite make it as it is a harder world out there than we realized.

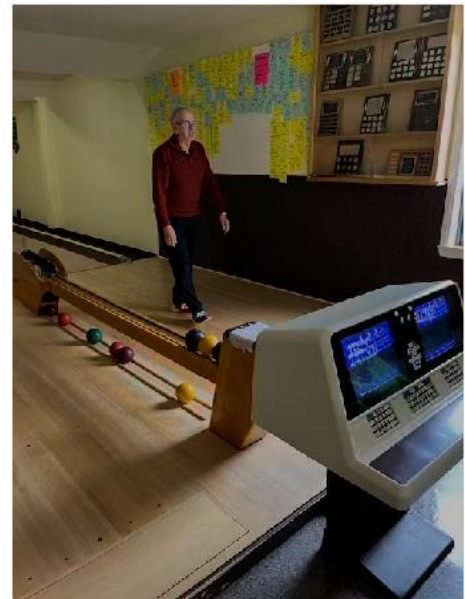


Bowling puts a spark in your day.



Looking forward to next time.

Marie Knowles



Club Activity News



Many Orca Probus fans of the legendary duo Simon & Garfunkel were transported back in time with "Simon & Garfunkel: A Musical Celebration," an extraordinary live concert event featuring the talents of Michael Sicoly and Mick Dalla-Vee

In addition to these timeless hits, the show explored the early influences that shaped the music of Simon & Garfunkel.

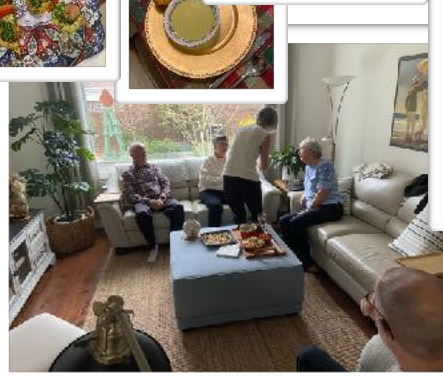


Club Activity News



Dining In

The Wilson, Matheson, and Olson members enjoying conversations and a meal at the Matheson's in February and at the Wilson's in March.



Dining Out

The dining group went to the Griffin Pub for lunch on Wed Mar 26. The food was great and the conversation was lovely. Next month will be a dinner at 6:00 PM



Club Activity News

HIKING



No hikes this past month . . .
On holiday in New Zealand



Pub Club



A bit of a shock when discovered . . . the new pub did not have a beer or wine license yet. Currently, the establishment has been able to obtain temporary liquor licences when having live entertainment. But . . . Howard wasn't prepared to be that entertainment. However, the food was great and the portions huge, so no one seemed to mind.

Club Activity News

We had five walks in March and fortunately none were rained out. We have a core group of intrepid walkers who are prepared to walk rain or shine! Our first walk was around Point Holmes hoping to see the herring spawn. There were many people there as well as seagulls and a number of sea lions waiting in anticipation, but no herring. They showed up the next day but we had some sunshine and enjoyed our afternoon walk. The next week, rain was threatening again so we walked from downtown Comox mall to Mack Laing Park and Filberg Park in search of signs of spring. Comox and the parks never let us down. There is always something to see and enjoy. Most forest walks were very soggy so the next Monday we did another Comox walk from the Lazo Marsh to Sand Pines Crescent. We heard a few red winged black birds but did not manage to get any photos, just a picture of an enthusiastic bird watching group. Weather was threatening again the following Monday inspiring us to around Lewis and Simms Park. What a pleasant surprised to have some warm sunshine and actually feel very warm! Our last walk in March is at Seal Bay. As I write this the day before the walk I am hopeful to see some sunshine and the odd trillium and fawn lily blooming. For sure in April we will have many walks displaying the beauty of living in the Comox Valley.



If you are interested in joining us we walk every Monday from 1:30 to 2:30. If you would like to be added to the list just email [Melanie Olson](mailto:MelanieOlson@comoxvalley.ca).



Food For Thought

Dirt Roads

-- By Paul Harvey

What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved.

There's not a problem in society today, crime, drugs, education, divorce, delinquency that wouldn't be remedied, if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character.

People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride.

That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it's worth it, if at the end is home...a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog.

We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along.

There was less crime in our streets before they were paved.

Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or rape, if they knew they'd be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a double barrel shotgun.

And there were no drive by shootings.

Our values were better when our roads were worse!

People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous, they didn't tailgate by riding the bumper or the guy in front would choke you with dust & bust your windshield with rocks.

Dirt Roads taught patience.

Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly, you didn't hop in your car for a quart of milk you walked to the barn for your milk.

For your mail, you walked to the mail box.

What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part, then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped popcorn and pony rode on Daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap.

Most paved roads lead to trouble, Dirt Roads more likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole.

At the end of a Dirt Road, the only time we even locked our car was in August, because if we didn't some neighbour would fill it with too much zucchini.

At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income, from when city dudes would get stuck, you'd have to hitch up a team and pull them out.

Usually you got a dollar...always you got a new friend...at the end of a Dirt Road!