

PRESIDENT'S PODIUM



I'm wondering if I'm lucky or a bit snake-bit when it comes to travel. The only time I spent two days in Vancouver this year, in order to attend a grandchild's birthday, was the weekend of the heat wave in late June. Luckily, I had a room with air conditioning, but the big city felt shockingly hot, and I was sad to later learn about the huge number of people who succumbed to the heat.

The next outing was a trip to Victoria. We planned to return home on November 25th. After hearing news about the devastation from the heavy rain, we joined the line of vehicles at 5:20 am on the Malahat, hoping we might get past the part of the Malahat that sloughed away. After an hour of waiting in the dark, our line was able to move single file past all the machinery and road work. Later, we left Nanaimo and drove in slush/rain to Campbell River.

At home we learned that we drove over a piece of highway outside of Nanaimo that had a sinkhole under the pavement. We were thankful we didn't have to spend hours following a detour route that others had to endure. Also, we were mighty glad we didn't fall into the sinkhole.

Now I'm flying to Saskatoon to spend a week with grandkids, and I hope I'm not tempting fate. I trust there won't be a once-every-generation extreme snowstorm while enroute.

In the meantime, December is approaching and I'm looking forward to seeing our members at the December 14th General Meeting, where rumor suggests there will be some Christmas goodies. See you there!

- President Marguerite Ancell



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David Oakes
Ken Buchanan
Suzanne Linnell
Valerie Mowatt
Val Dyke

Jerith Jones
Gordon Hutton
Michael Lynch
Ellen Bechard
Blair Deering
Ian Pratt

Report on our November Meeting

On November 9th, 69 of our members gathered at the Legion for our monthly general meeting. Our speaker was Paul Berry from Comox Valley Search and Rescue. He gave a very interesting presentation on the organization and training of the volunteers that make up that group. He also shared some of the stories of missions, both with a happy ending and others not so happy.

Our outgoing President, Miles Jones, was presented with a gift to thank him for his work over the last year.

Miles will continue to serve on the Executive as Past President.

Almost half the group moved on to the Griffin Pub after the meeting.

If you would like to join the pub group for future pub gatherings, please send an email to Howard Siebert



The course "Be Kind to Those You Leave Behind" will be offered in an in-person class in early February at NIC. Linda Maclean was a guest speaker at a past Probus meeting. Some of our members attended the Course and found it extremely interesting and helpful. The Course title is very descriptive of the material she will be covering. Your family will be grateful for the time you spent on preparing, gathering, and clarifying information, prior to your passing. Attendees must wear masks.

ROSE JACOBSON

*Recipient of Orca Probus Club Honorary Membership
(Rose celebrated her 101st birthday November 27th)*

In recognition of her service and dedication to Orca Probus, Rose Jacobson was presented with an Orca Probus Club Honorary Membership certificate at the November 9th Meeting.

Rose joined Orca Probus in May of 2005. Within 7 months, she had volunteered for the bridge club, co-leading for 2 years. Upon her return to the Valley, she continued as co-leader and then leader, for a total of 9 years. In March 2011, Rose also organized the first bowling activity for the club. At the Orca Probus 10-year Anniversary, Rose was an integral part of the entertainment committee, and participated in numerous other performances for the enjoyment of Probus members. She was an enthusiastic participant in the Probus Singers, enjoyed Probus Curling, and was an avid Probus Golfer. She was the first to sign up for the annual "Paddles Up With Probus" Dragon Boating, and one of the first on board again in 2018 at 98 years young!

Our September 2005 Probus newsletter congratulated Rose, who represented the Comox Valley at the BC Senior Games (swimming), bringing home 5 gold medals, 2 silver, and 1 bronze.

Rose's dedication and service started well before Probus. Cpl. Rose Jacobson served in WWII for 3 years, training young pilots in Morse, Aldis, Signal, Lamp, and Flag codes.

Thank you, Rose, for sharing your beautiful smile, your service to our country and your dedication to Orca Probus.



DECEMBER MEETING

The speaker at our December 14th Club meeting will be Tina Wilson. Tina is the owner/operator of Rise Up Rooted, a health and fitness coaching company based out of the Comox Valley. She will offer advice to our members on exercise and stretching.

As many of our members have started to flee to the sunshine, we do not anticipate over-crowding, so there will not be a need for pre-registration. Wear your masks and be prepared if you have not been to previous meetings to present your proof of vaccination at the door. Once seated, masks can be removed.

There will be a book exchange at this meeting, as well as a 50/50 draw.

The meeting fee is \$2 per person to cover rental costs. Please bring toonies as exact change is appreciated. To cut down on waste, we would also appreciate if you bring your own coffee or tea mug.

Doors open at 1:30 p.m. on December 14th, with the meeting starting at 2:00.

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR MEETINGS CONFORM TO PROVINCIAL GUIDELINES. ALL ATTENDEES ARE DOUBLE OR TRIPLE VACCINATED. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE STILL CONCERNED ABOUT MEETING IN A LARGER GROUP, FOR YOUR OWN PEACE OF MIND, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

December 14th is Activity Sign-up Day!

We are full of optimism and excited to get back to our club activities!

Although some activities may not get started right away, we want to be organized and ready to go when the COVID Restrictions are relaxed.

Please bring a pen or pencil, and feel free to suggest new activity ideas to any Management Committee Member.

Our special events this year will be a Spring Car Rally, a 20th Anniversary BBQ for our Orca Probus Club, an August picnic at Kitty Coleman Park, and a Christmas Gala.

We do require activity leaders! The plan is to proceed with the sign-ups, and hope someone from each group will volunteer to serve as leader.

We hope to see you all at the December meeting.



Do you love to putter about in your garden learning how to make plants grow better? Or do you prefer to tend to well loved patio pots or house plants? Gardening can be even more rewarding if you are part of a group who shares your interest; so sign up for the Orca Garden Group at the December Meeting or contact Lynnette to be put on the email and invitation list.

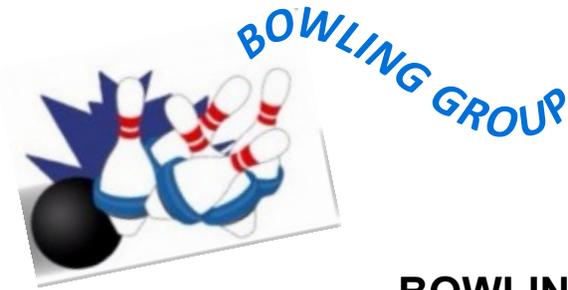
PHONE SCAMS

You would think that people now are aware of the preponderance of phone scams trying to get money from you, but they still fool people every day. Many of the victims are seniors who are particularly vulnerable to seemingly official phone calls.

There is no way that the RCMP or the Canada Revenue would accept payment for fines through Bitcoin transfer and there is no Prince in Nigeria trying to make you wealthy.

One way to protect yourself is to automatically block robo calls, those pre-recorded calls that seem to come through daily. Both Telus and Shaw offer call control that allows you to set up your phone so that anyone calling you must press another digit to complete the connection. Computer calling cannot do this so no more robo calls.

Jill calls her horse Mavo and sometimes Mavo Neighs



BOWLING IS BACK!!

I am happy to advise that Bowling is now open for business.

We will meet on the **2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm. First get-together:**

DATE: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12th, 2022

TIME: 1:00 PM (arrive by 12:45 pm)

PLACE: CODES COUNTRY LANES
(307 – 6th Street, Courtenay)

COST: \$13.85 per/person – CASH ONLY

(The price includes: 2 games; shoe rental and taxes. There has been an increase, however, small businesses were hit very hard through COVID so adjustments have had to be made).

COVID protocols are as follows:

- *BC Vaccine passports are required;*
- *masks are to be worn at all times inside the facility;*
- *sanitize your hands.*

This activity takes approximately 1.5 hrs of your time. You get a work out and also have a fun time with some great people from our Club. Always remember to stretch prior to coming to play.

A sign-up sheet will be available at the December meeting. Once you have signed up, you will remain on the email distribution list until the end of the season, which will be May 2022.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Marie Knowles

HIKING GROUP

Despite the cooler weather and seemingly unending rain, the Hiking groups did venture out in November. Here are a few pictures of the intrepid group wandering through Seal Bay.

