



# Orca Probus Club NewsLetter



December

2022

## Presidents Podium

Just thinking, two months on the job, already running out of ideas for this message. By spring it could be serious writer's block. I thought maybe a small stipend might tempt a talented member to ghost write it, alas our reluctant treasurer proved he is well named, so be prepared for some far out senior rants.



Neil Brodie

On a more serious note this is the time of the year when many of us start planning a sojourn to sunnier climes. In these times, this is a voyage into uncertainty, airport problems, cancelled flights, travel advisories, all which eliminate many destinations. However persistence can payoff as there are safe sunny places that can ease winter's dreary grip. Another option might be a getaway to a more local resort to relax. This might be an idea the club could pursue as an activity if there was enough interest.

I'm not ready for Christmas like Costco, but I made Hydro happy and put lights up on a nice day for once.

Here is wishing you all a merry Christmas. Enjoy a great holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Cheers,  
Neil Brodie

# Club News

## Dates to Remember

Walking: Every Monday  
BookWorms: Fri. Dec 9, 2022 (luncheon)  
Christmas Dinner/Dance. December 13, 2022  
Bowling: December 14, 2022  
Singing: Tuesday, December 20, 2022

**next ORCA PROBUS CLUB meeting:**  
**Tues. Jan 10, 2023**



**ORCA PROBUS  
CHRISTMAS DINNER/DANCE**  
Black Fin Banquet Room  
Tuesday, December 13, 2022  
Doors open: 5:00 pm

### FINAL REMINDERS

Please:

Inform planning committee of any food allergies!

Bring your tickets.

Do not use restaurant/pub parking lot.

Park in marina parking lot below Black Fin or on street above.

Looking forward to sharing a special evening.

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# Club News

## Highlites of November's Meeting



### January Speaker

Our January speaker will be Caitlin Pierzchalski. She will be giving us an update on the Kus Kus Sum project to restore the old Field Sawmill site to a natural habitat.

Caitlin is the Executive Director of Project Watershed. Her background as a restoration ecologist makes her well suited to be the program manager of this project.

Those of us that cross the 17th street bridge regularly, are well aware of the needed conversion of this eyesore to make it part of the estuary.



# Club News

## Meet Our New Members

Since many of our members do not attend every monthly meeting and a roster is only printed every two years, here is an opportunity for you see who has joined the Orca Probus in the last month. When you see them at the monthly meetings or in the community, give them a warm "Hello"!



Judi MacGillivray/Robert Noon



Dave and Joan Vick

## December Birthdays

David Oakes	.....	Bob Boyer
David Vick	.....	Val Dyke
Rod Olson	.....	Jerith Jones
Ken Buchanan	.....	Michael Lynch
Valerie Mowatt	.....	Ellen Bechard
Suzanne Linnell	.....	Blair Deering
Ian Pratt	.....	

Happy Birthday!

# Club News

To all members:

Barb Wilson, Orca Probus Social Director, organized a small group of Orca Probus members to attend the "Relive The Music 50s & 60s Show" at the Sid theatre. Afterwards, all enjoyed a meal at Yiamas Greek Restaurant in Courtenay.



Barb wants to canvass the membership to see if there is an interest in creating a theatre/dinner group.

If this is of interest to you, please contact Barb

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# Club Activity News

## Bowling



We had a good turn out on November 9 with 3 new players joining us. We still have lots of space for more bowlers so don't be shy to contact me to get your name on the list.

The "star" of the last event was Jill Ackerman who had a score of 233 on her 2<sup>nd</sup> game and those strikes just kept on coming. Amazing!!

Details for the November get together are as follows

**DATE:** WEDNESDAY, December 14, 2022

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

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

**COST:** \$13.85 per/person - CASH ONLY PLEASE  
(Price includes two games; shoe rental and taxes)

We will arrange to go for coffee afterwards for those who are interested at the time.

Marie Knowles

A photograph of a bowling score sheet on a blue background. The sheet shows a grid for 10 frames and 10 lanes. The top row shows the time 5:22, FR, 60, and LANE. The names of the players are listed on the left: JILL, ELAINE, and SAL. The scores for each frame are listed in the grid. Jill's score is 233, Elaine's is 99, and Sal's is 74.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	HC
JILL	X	X	X	X	3	11	5	5	11	11	233
ELAINE	R	3	2	R	4	5	7	2	2	5	99
SAL	3	2	2	5	5	5	5	2	5	2	74



# Club Activity News

## Probus Singers and Friends



**Seasonal Sing-along Songs!  
Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

2:30 - 4:30

1025 Ryan Road

Wear your festive finery!



## Book Worms



A small group of ladies met at the home of Gail Label to discuss the book "Off the Wild Coast of Brittany".

As usual, the group was provided with delicious goodies which fuelled a lively discussion on and off topic.

Marilyn Morris gifted all the ladies with a lovely leather bookmark which she had picked up on her recent trip to Peru.



# Club Activity News

## PUB CLUB NEWS-December



We went to the Kelly O'Bryans Irish pub after the November meeting. All went as planned. We had a good turnout with full attendance. The St Patrick's Stew, Beef Stroganoff and Butter Chicken Curry were the favourite meals. We had excellent and professional service. Everyone went home satisfied though somewhat lighter in the wallet. Have a wonderful holiday season!



# Club Activity News

## Hiking

Orca Probus Hiking Report November 2022



If you thought you were missed from the hiking list this month don't worry, there were no hikes. Other commitments and appointments eliminated both leaders but hope to get out in early December.

Speaking of LISTS and December \_\_\_\_\_



This year is about to end and looking back I wonder if many of us feel that it was the steps we actually took, the evenings by the fire and the paths we walked that made all the difference

Happy Holidays and happy trails

# Club Activity News

## Quilting

Unfortunately our host for this month's meeting took ill at the last moment so we did not have a gathering.

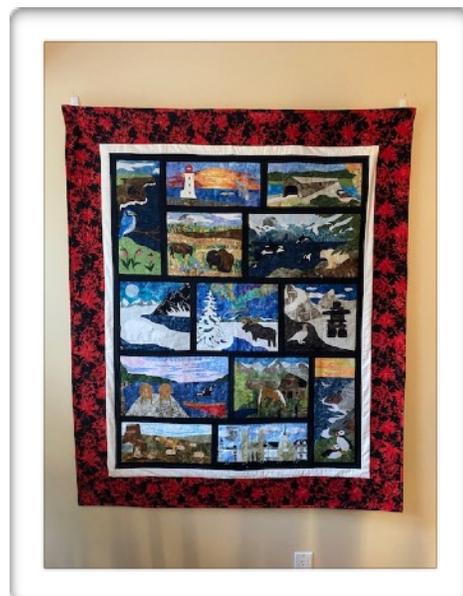
Here is a Christmas runner Beth Ritchie made last year - it features Tomten as my Swedish mother called them, now they seem to be generic "gnomes" with no eyes!! I have a large collection of tomten figures too.



Below are more examples of the beautiful work that is being done by the members of the quilting group.



Deanna Provencher's Quilt



Liz Van Boeschoten's Canada Quilt

# Club Activity News

## Dining Out

Several members of the Dining Out group finally got together for a celebratory meal at Yiamas Greek Restaurant in Courtenay. Although we missed the date of the event we were celebrating, the spirit was honoured (and consumed!)

**Ochi Day** (also Ohi Day) is celebrated throughout Greece, Cyprus and Greek communities around the world on October 28. On October 28, 1940 the Italian ambassador to Greece presented Greek Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas an ultimatum demanding Greece allow Axis forces to enter its territory and occupy certain strategic locations, otherwise Italy would declare war on Greece. The Prime Minister of Greece answered this ultimatum with single word "όχι" ("No!")

Although we didn't remember to take a photo of the event until we had finished our meal, we did manage to get a pic!! Here are the celebrants:



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# Club Activity News

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Why not join us at our next dinner - we'll be dining at Kinnari Thai, to celebrate the new year. At present we intend to go to Kinnaree on January 17 at 6:00 pm. The Thais see this as a time to wave goodbye to misfortune, wash away sins of the past year, and make wishes for the coming year.

The Kinaree (กิ้งกือ) is a mythical being with the upper body of a woman and the body, tail and legs of a swan. They are believed to be the secret keepers of Thailand and it's Dharma.

The most famous Kinaree in Thai mythology is the figure known as Manora, a heroine in the tale Sudhana Jataka. The story inspired a dance called Manorah Buchayan, which is one of the most profound among the high classical dances of Thailand, as well as the "Norah" dance of southern Thailand.

Contact: Chip/Karen Ross \_\_\_\_\_

## Walking

Melanie continues to lead the walking group every Monday. Generally fairly short (1 to 1 1/2 hours) of easy walking, An opportunity to chat with friends and get a little exercise. If interested in joining, please contact Melanie Olson



## Thought for the month

This explains why friends forward jokes. I've never thought of it this way before.

A man and his dog were walking along a road. man was enjoying the scenery when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying and that the dog walking beside him had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.

After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight. When he was standing before it, he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother-of-pearl and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold.

He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?" "This is Heaven, sir," the man answered. "Wow! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked. "Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up." The man gestured, and the gate began to open. "Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked. "I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought a moment and then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going with his dog. After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road leading through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence. As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book. "Excuse me!" he called the man. "Do you have any water?" "Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there, come on in." "How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to the dog. "There should be a bowl by the pump," said the man.

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They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the water bowl and took a long drink himself, and then he gave some to the dog. When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree. "What do you call this place?" the traveler asked. "This is Heaven," he answered. "Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too." "Oh, you mean the place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope. That's Hell."

"Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?" "No, we're just happy that they screen out the folks who would leave their best friends behind." So, sometimes, we wonder why friends keep forwarding stuff to us without writing a word.

Maybe this will explain it. When you are very busy, but still want to keep in touch, guess what you do? You forward emails. When you have nothing to say, but still want to keep contact, you forward jokes . When you have something to say, but don't know what, and don't know how...you forward stuff .

A 'forward' lets you know that  
You are still remembered,  
You are still important,  
You are still cared for.

So, next time you get a 'forward', don't think that you've been sent just another forwarded joke, but that you've been thought of today and your friend on the other end of your computer wanted to send you a smile.