



Orca Probus Club NewsLetter

March

2025

Presidents Podium

I can't believe that the month of March is upon us already. March is named for the Roman god of war, Mars. However, we think of it as the beginning of spring, as March brings the vernal equinox, the Full Worm Moon, and the return of Daylight-Saving Time! March's full Moon, the Worm Moon, reaches peak illumination on the morning of **Friday, March 14, 2025**. Look for it on the evening of Thursday, March 13, as the Moon rises above the horizon!

- March 4 is [Mardi Gras](#) (aka "Fat Tuesday" or Shrove Tuesday), which is the final feasting day before the Christian tradition of Lent begins on the following day, Ash Wednesday.
- March 5 is [Ash Wednesday](#), which marks the start of Lent.
- March 8 is International Women's Day, which is a day that not only celebrates the achievements of women and the progress made toward women's rights but also brings attention to ongoing struggles for equality around the world.
- March 9 is the start of [Daylight Saving Time](#), which begins at 2:00 A.M. that day. Don't forget to "spring forward" and set the clocks one hour ahead, or you may find yourself an hour late to everything!
- March 15 is the [Ides of March](#)! Legend surrounds this ill-fated day. Beware the Ides of March!
- March 17 is [St. Patrick's Day](#). According to folklore, folks wear a shamrock on St. Patrick's Day because the saint used its three leaves to explain the Trinity.
- March 20 brings about the [March equinox](#)—also called the vernal or spring equinox in the Northern Hemisphere—marking the beginning of spring. In the Southern Hemisphere, this date marks the [autumnal equinox](#) and the beginning of fall. On this day, the Sun stands directly over Earth's equator.
- March 29-31 are known as the [Borrowing Days](#). According to lore, the last 3 days of March have a reputation for being stormy.

There are so many things to look forward to and to celebrate in March. However, in April, the members of Orca Probus have the Trivia/Quiz Night to look forward to as it is being planned as I write these words for the newsletter. Please consider joining us. See the ad in the newsletter for more information.



Cheers!
Debbie



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. March 11, 2025
 2 PM

March Birthdays

Art Rees

Joan Mumby

Linda Taylor

Cheryl Cooper

Gail Embury

Angus Mumby

Pat Verschoor

Sadie Brodie

Announcements

March's Speaker

Aaron Schmidt is the education coordinator, as well as trainer for the non-releasable ambassador birds, site maintenance and volunteer recruitment for the Visitor Centre at MARS.

After spending a few years driving truck across Canada he realized that he forgot his real passion, wildlife. While working towards his degree in biology Aaron started volunteering at MARS and grew to love it instantly. He has been a full time staff member since 2023 and has his fingers dipped in whatever possible at MARS. For his presentation he will be talking briefly about the history of MARS, what they do and a quick talk about rescue to release, focusing mostly on Owls, with an owl friend who will be attending as well.

Correction!



Beth Broomfield was acknowledged as she celebrated her **twentieth anniversary** at our February meeting.

Quizzy Bingo Night

When: Tuesday, April 29th, 2025

Time: 5:00 p.m. with games to follow dinner (**dinner not included in ticket price**)

Where: Comox Golf Course Club House

Cost: \$5.00 per person

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

Tickets will be available at both the March and April Orca meetings.

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

Please email Carol Coupland 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

"SAIL TO THE SYMPHONY"

Saturday, June 21, 2025

PRISMA (Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy)

To all those who enjoyed themselves at last year's PRISMA "Sail to the Symphony" event and to our new members: what better way is there to celebrate the summer? Join us for a summer sail, a fabulous lunch, for a great concert event with PRISMA 2025.

- Last time we were able to reserve the **best seats in the house**. This year we have been granted the same privilege. This means: no stairs, no bleachers, far enough up audience to have an excellent view of everything onstage, yet close enough to have a truly intimate musical experience.
- We are informed that both the **dining arrangements** and excellent food preparation will also be repeated. The last menu included salmon, chicken, and vegetarian options, etc.
- The same **transportation** situation - discounted ferry rates and a free shuttle to the Evergreen Theatre are as before.
- **The package cost this year is \$115 per person, however, for groups like Orca Probus who book 15 or more tickets the discounted rate will be \$104 per person**
- We have asked PRISMA to hold 50 packages at this rate, however, these will only be held for us until **April 15, 2025**, at which time unsold tickets must be returned and final payment made.
- The featured music this year is - "Mahler's Sixth Symphony alongside his Kindertotenlieder. It is a powerful mix: the symphony ends tragically while the final song from Kindertotenlieder offers a note of hope. The way they complement each other makes for a truly unforgettable experience."

Lawrence and Marie will have a table set up at the March 11, 2025 general meeting where you can reserve your tickets for the event.

NOTE: At the April 8th, 2025 general meeting final payment for all tickets will be required. There will be no refunds after payment.

As always we thank you all very much for your continued support of PRISMA and look forward to another successful event.

Marie Knowles and Lawrence Petkus
PRISMA 2024 Co-Chairs

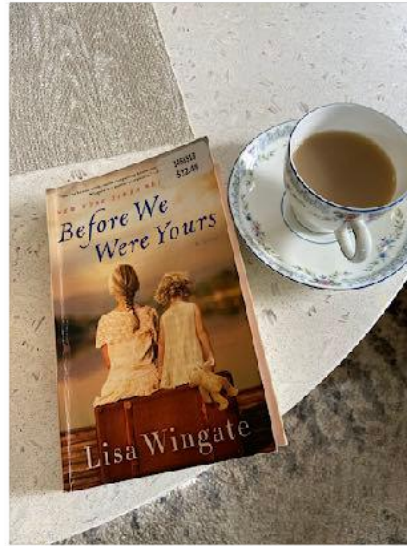
Club News

Around the meeting room!



Club Activity News

Memphis, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shantyboat. But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge—until strangers arrive in force.



Club Activity News

Bowling



Once again we had a great turnout of players on February 12 - 15 in total.

As we were so close to Valentine's Day some of the players wore red, pink, heart designs or a combination of all. It was great to see.

There was lots of joviality and good scoring - **NORM TRACE** with a score of 353 was our "leading man" followed by **LOUISE CASSON** with 296 and **JILL ACKERMAN** with 288.



There were several players chomping at their heels but couldn't quite make it - there's always another time at this stage.

A few of us headed over to Rhodos Café afterwards to relax and visit.

I always feel it has been good time well spent at the bowling alley.

Marie Knowles



Club Activity News



The group got ready to be swept away by the timeless melodies of the Beach



Boys! We were treated to a nostalgic evening filled with their iconic hits and concert favorites. Let's Go Surfin is performed by BACKBEAT, Canada's most authentic musical tribute to the 60's.

Some of the group enjoyed a tasty meal at the Heritage Pub before the concert.



Club Activity News

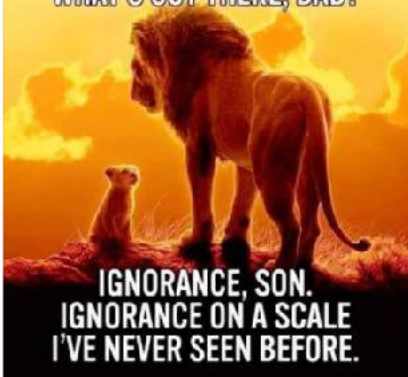
HIKING



On 13 February we passed by Comox Lake



WHAT'S OUT THERE, DAD?



IGNORANCE, SON.
IGNORANCE ON A SCALE
I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.

The Wizard of Oz is 83
years old! Today, if
Dorothy were to
encounter men with
no brains, no heart,
and no courage, she
wouldn't be in Oz.
She'd be in
Congress!!!!

Club Activity News



This month was to experience the culinary fusion at Dockside, where the Dockside team created unique twists to West Coast flavours.



Club Activity News

PROBUS SINGERS AND FRIENDS

On February 18th, 16 members of the Probus Singers and Friends group met and sang songs all related to relationships of some kind. Some happy and some not so happy! For example, All My Loving and That'll Be the Day. What a joy it is to get together every second month and join our voices and musical instruments together to make music and to fill our spirits. We all leave with a brighter outlook on this world, which we are certainly needing right now. We next meet on Tuesday, April 15th at 2:00. Please reach out to Rod and Debbie Olson if you would like to be added to the email list.

See you in April!



Club Activity News

February brought some typical winter weather and as a result of the snow, one walk was canceled. We walked the Airpark north and the following week, with snow still on the ground we walked it south. Following the last

pineapple express, on our way to Idiens Park we kept on paths with good drainage to avoid wet feet. The dampness did not put a damper on our chatting and we appreciated the welcome by some lovely mallard ducks! Here are some photos of our intrepid walkers. We walk every Monday, unless it snows, at 1:30. The walks are around 3 kilometres long. Let me know if you would like to join us.



Food For Thought

Who Packed Your Parachute?

Sometimes in the daily challenges that life gives us, we miss what is really important. We may fail to say hello, please, or thank you, congratulate someone on something wonderful that has happened to them, give a compliment, or just do something nice for no reason.

Charles Plumb, a US Naval Academy graduate, was a jet pilot in Vietnam. After 75 combat missions, his plane was destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. Plumb ejected and parachuted into enemy lands. He was captured and spent 6 years in a communist Vietnamese prison. He survived the ordeal and now lectures on lessons learned from that experience.

One day, when Plumb and his wife were sitting in a restaurant, a man at another table came up and said, "You're Plumb! You flew jet fighters in Vietnam from the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk. You were shot down!" "How in the world did you know that?" asked Plumb. "I packed your parachute," the man replied.

Plumb gasped in surprise and gratitude. The man pumped his hand and said, "I guess it worked!" Plumb assured him, "It sure did. If your chute hadn't worked, I wouldn't be here today."

Plumb couldn't sleep that night, thinking about that man. Plumb says, "I kept wondering what he might have looked like in a Navy uniform: A white hat, a bib in the back, and bell bottom trousers. I wonder how many times I might have seen him and not even said good morning, how are you or anything because, you see, I was a fighter pilot, and he was just a sailor."

Plumb thought of the many hours the sailor had spent on a long wooden table in the bowels of the ship, carefully weaving the shrouds and folding the silks of each chute, holding in his hands each time the fate of someone he didn't know.

Now, Plumb asks his audience, "Who's packing your parachute?"

Everyone has someone who provides what they need to make it through the day. Plumb also points out that he needed many kinds of parachutes when his plane was shot down over enemy territory - he needed his physical parachute, his mental parachute, his emotional parachute, and his spiritual parachute. He called on all these supports before reaching safety. His experience reminds us all to prepare ourselves to weather whatever storms lie ahead. As you go through this week, this month, this year... recognize people who pack your parachute!