



# Orca Probus Club NewsLetter

October

2023

## Presidents Podium

As all of you know, our President Neil Brodie recently passed away. As the acting President, writing this podium, it is with great regret that Neil could not prepare this last podium of his term himself.

We are all deeply shocked by the news. At the end of August the Orca executive group met at Neil's home for our normal monthly meeting, and aside from being a bit tired he seemed normal. The meetings at his house were always fun, as he ran them with humour and banter.

Neil served us well and our thoughts and wishes for comfort are for Sadie.

I hope many of you will be able to attend the next meeting on October 10 where we will elect a new executive and talk about events and activities coming up this year.

## Club Executive

President.....	Neil Brodie	Communication.....	Mike Wilson
Vice-President.....	Bruce Ellis	Facilities.....	Debbie/Rod Olson
Secretary.....	Tim Rabbitt	Social.....	Barb Wilson
Treasurer.....	Mike Naish	Past President.....	Marguerite Ancell
Membership.....	Pat Ellis	Sunshine.....	Deanna Provencher

# Club News

Newsletter Contents			
Club Announcements	3-6	Activity Group Contacts	12
What's Up	7	Club Activity News	13-18
Club News	8-11	Things to Ponder	19

## Dates to Remember

Walking: Every Monday  
Bowling: 2nd Wednesday of the month  
Singing: 3rd Tuesday of the month  
Dining Out: 4th Tuesday of the month  
Quilting: 3rd Tuesday of the month  
BookWorms: Last Friday of the month

**Octoberfest: October 18, 2023**

**Membership Dues Deadline: Oct 31, 2023**

next ORCA PROBUS CLUB meeting:  
Tues. October 10, 2023

## October Birthdays

Judi MacGillivray

Stephanie Moulton

Robert Noon

Kelly Kline

George Dowler

Dave Pacholuk

Tanya Montague

Dea Bullis

Debbie Olson

Bernard Bechard

Barry Hemmelgarn

Margaret Trace

# Club News

## Club Announcements



### **Orca Probus (and friends) Oktoberfest Party**

Date: Wednesday October 18th

Time: 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Location: 888 Komox Wing 1298 Military Row

DJ David Vick

will play a great variety of music genres for dancing/listening

Dinner will be buffet-style and will include barbequed sausages,  
a variety of potato salads, sour kraut, pickles, and  
pumpkin pie for dessert

Please let Barb Wilson know if you have a dietary issue

Volunteer Bartender

Tickets are \$20.00 each

**Tickets available now or at the October 10th meeting**

**If you are unable to attend the October 10th meeting or wish your tickets now, you can pay by eTransfer to [bzh.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:bzh.wilson@gmail.com) and your tickets will be emailed to you.**

**Ticket purchase cut-off Friday, October 13th**

# Club News

## Club Announcements

### Attention

At the Annual General Meeting in October, the Orca Probus Executive will be proposing two small changes to the by-laws of the club.

**By-Law No. 5 ... Change the date for the club AGM from October to September**

We have been holding the AGM with the election of officers in October for years. But this is not consistent with other clubs and does not match events. September is the first month of the club Fiscal year, the start of all memberships and the start of activities. It is felt that the new executive should also start in this month.

**By-Law No. 5, paragraph 4...** Currently it reads that any motion for a change must be submitted and read to members one month prior to the voting at a general meeting. The proposal is to change the wording to a minimum of one month prior to the voting.

The purpose of this change is to accommodate the move to a September AGM. As there is no general meeting in August the one month rule cannot fit but with this amendment a motion could be presented at the June general meeting. It is only for the purpose of announcing the motion, not voting on any change.

These changes will only take effect for the 2024-2025 club year.

### Reminder

**Membership Dues need to be paid by end of the October. Unpaid memberships will be dropped from the club.**



If you are celebrating a marriage anniversary of 50 or 60 yrs., please agree to have your milestones announced in the Probus newsletter. Send in a picture of your marriage and a current picture.



# Club News

## Club Announcements

### NOTICE

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Orca PROBUS Nominating Committee has proposed the following members as Officers of the club for 2023-2024:

President- Bruce Ellis  
Vice-President- Debbie Olson  
Secretary- Gwendolyne Kruger  
Treasurer- Mike Naish  
Membership- Pat Ellis  
Sunshine- Deanna Provencher  
Social- Barb Wilson  
Communication- Mike Wilson  
Facilities- Rod Olson  
Past President- Neil Brodie  
Webmaster- Blair Deering

The election will take place at our AGM on October 10, 2023

If further nominations are received, voting will be by secret ballot.

**Note: In the unlikely situation that we cannot hold an in-person AGM, the list above will be acclaimed if no concerns or nominations have been received from membership by the deadline set.**

Thank you to the Nominating Committee: Marguerite Ancell, Neil Brodie, Bruce Ellis, Miles Jones and Dave Dyke for the excellent slate of candidates.

#### Treasurer Report for the year 2022-2023 (for AGM)

Treasurer Mike Naish reported that on September 01-2022, the bank balance was \$2119.76, plus GIC's of \$5000. Therefore, total cash assets were \$7119.76. And that at the end of the financial year August-31-2023, the bank Balance was \$9378.24 less funds held in trust for Wine tour of \$3645, plus one GIC of \$3000 equals \$8733.24. An increase in cash assets of \$1613.48 from the previous year.

Treasurer Mike reported that the financial books had been successfully reviewed on September the 12th, 2023 by Ross Cowan.

# Club News

## Club Announcements

### New members joining at September meeting



**Alan and Margaret Taylor**



**Diane Collins**

### October Speaker

Orca Probus is very pleased to have one of our own members speak at our October Annual General Meeting.

Stan Gooch has had a remarkable career.

He joined the Department of External affairs in 1965 and had foreign postings in Argentina, Yugoslavia and Austria. Then a period on the International Atomic Energy Agency. In the following years he was the Canadian Ambassador to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras and Panama.

In 1994 Stan was appointed the High Commissioner to India and the ambassador to Nepal and Bhutan. In following years, he became the Canadian Ambassador to Mexico.

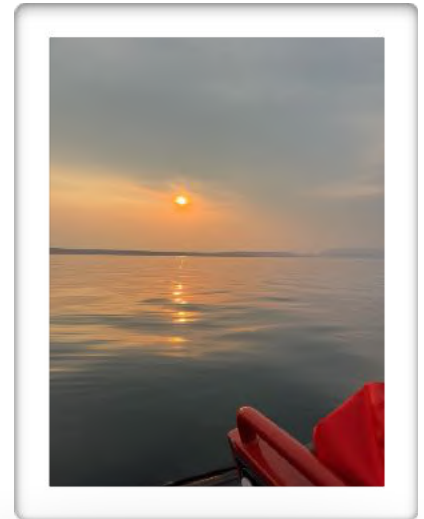
There is probably the opportunity for a dozen interesting presentations from this background, but Stan has chosen to talk about his views of the situation in India with the Sikhs and the recent developments with respect to Canada.

A very timely subject and one we are sure will be fascinating for our membership.

# Club News

## WHAT'S UP!

Judi MacGillivray and Robert Noon enjoyed a great little package that included 2 nights accommodation in a private suite of a house, a \$100 dinner credit at the Anchor Waterfront Restaurant and a 4 hour whale watching trip out of Campbell River. All was most enjoyable and to top it off, we stopped at the Campbell River Museum. And what a find that was! In itself, it's worth a visit as it's extremely well done, similar in many ways to the B.C. Museum in Victoria on a smaller scale.



Here's the proof we were there and survived those "space suits". They're like a full body life jacket but oh my...very tricky to get on and once on, you move like a robot. All part of the experience!



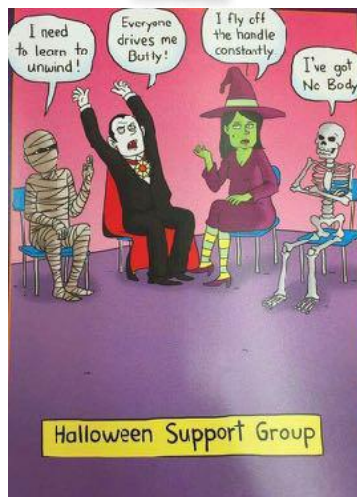


# Club News

## Members taking part in the September meeting



"Linda, those pants we had on sale...  
were they machine washable?"





## Club News

Early on a clear Friday morning, 36 members and 4 guests anxiously awaited the arrival of our bus for the day's excursion. All I can say is our mouths dropped open when this modern sleek huge grey bus pulled up and we were greeted by our driver, Tony. Quickly we learned the bus was the pride of the fleet at Comox Shuttle and Tony's some 20 yrs service to the company had us in good hands.

After being settled in our seats for a short while the bus appropriate games began e.g. "pass the phrase" and later in the day "name that tune". And with Rod and Debbie Olson aboard, we were lead in several sing-alongs like, "Tiny Bubbles" , "Red Red wine" you get the drift.



Tony (our chauffeur)



Shortly past Duncan we turned off the Hwy and arrived at Cherry Point Winery nestled amongst rows and rows of



net covered grape vines. After consuming 5 flights of various types of award winning wines, and many purchases, we were off to the next stop: Enrico winery. First off we had a tour of their facilities and then under an



outside tent we had a couple of tastings, then lunch,



Continued next page



# Club News

more tasting and then each was gifted a wine glass as a memento. Then off we went to Merridale Cidery where we enjoyed flights of spirits and cider at a sit down venue all set

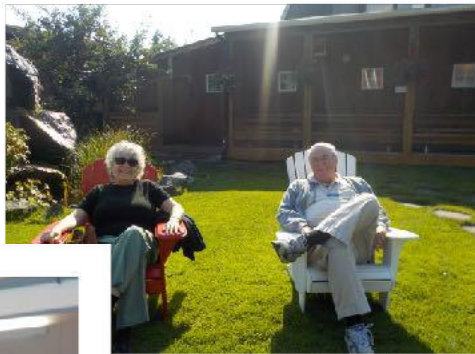
up to enjoy pieces of home made pies. After a walk around the premises we quickly boarded the bus and headed to our last stop: Blue Grouse for 4 pm. Here we were split into two groups for their presentation and tastings: one upstairs and one down. Their premises are a new, modern, spacious concrete bldg. looking over the valley.

At 5 pm we headed north for home with more activities to pass the time. Tony had us home by 7pm with lots of great memories of a packed day.





# Club News





# Club Activity News

## Dining and Theatre

This month the group enjoyed dining at the WhiteSpot and rocked to the music of Chicago by the tribute band West Coast Chicago



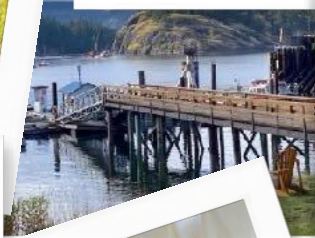




# Club Activity News

## QUADRA GOLF

September 2023



APRES GOLF Heriot Bay Inn



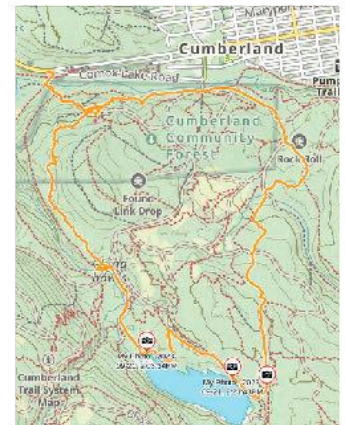
**A sincere THANK YOU to all our Probus Golfers for the past three years of camaraderie and support. And a big THANK YOU to Sue & Mark, for volunteering to lead Probus Golf. Isabelle & Dave**



## Hiking Group



A large photograph of two hikers walking away on a dirt trail through a dense forest. The hiker in the foreground is wearing a dark jacket and a backpack, using a trekking pole. The second hiker is further ahead. The forest is lush with green foliage and tall trees. In the bottom right corner, there is a smaller inset map showing a topographic view of the area, with a red line indicating the trail and a blue circle marking the starting point. The map includes labels for 'Carnegie Lake' and 'Lake of the Clouds'.





# Club Activity News



## Pub Club

Last months we met the Beaufort Bistro, just downstairs from the meeting room. It was a bit of a gong show when it came to the delivery of the preselected food items. If we go here again next year I will downsize the menu selection to 4 items. This should

simplify the process and cut down my and the servers stress.

Next month we will be going to the Church Street Tap House which is just one block uphill from the Legion. I will send out the announcement via Email on October 2nd, at which time you can reply as to your attendance.





## Club Activity News



The Probus Quilters & Friends group had their first meeting of the new Probus year today at Ellen Bechard's home, we had a good turn out. As usual we had a great Show & Tell session followed by a social time with coffee/tea and treats! Thanks to Bernie Bechard for taking the group photo!



Some of our Probus quilters and friends ie "retired" Probus members: (L to R) Ellen Bechard, Karen Ross, Cheryl Rabbitt, Beth Ritchie, Coby Sherstone, Deanna Provencher and Gail King.

Coby Sherstone's baby quilt



Cheryl Rabbitt's quilt made at a machine quilting course



Karen Ross's twin bed quilt



Gail King's baby quilt



Beth Ritchie's baby quilt

## Club Activity News

### PROBUS SINGERS AND FRIENDS

On Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, ten Orca members came out to the first session of Probus Singers and Friends for the 2023/24 season. It was great to be together again and the singing was amazing. As always, our musicians supported us in great form and the percussion accompaniment was a welcome touch. We

are in the process of adding some new tunes so that should be fun. We hope to see more of you at the next event which is Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00.



Please email Rod and Debbie if you would like to be put on the mailing list or if you want more information.



### Dining Out

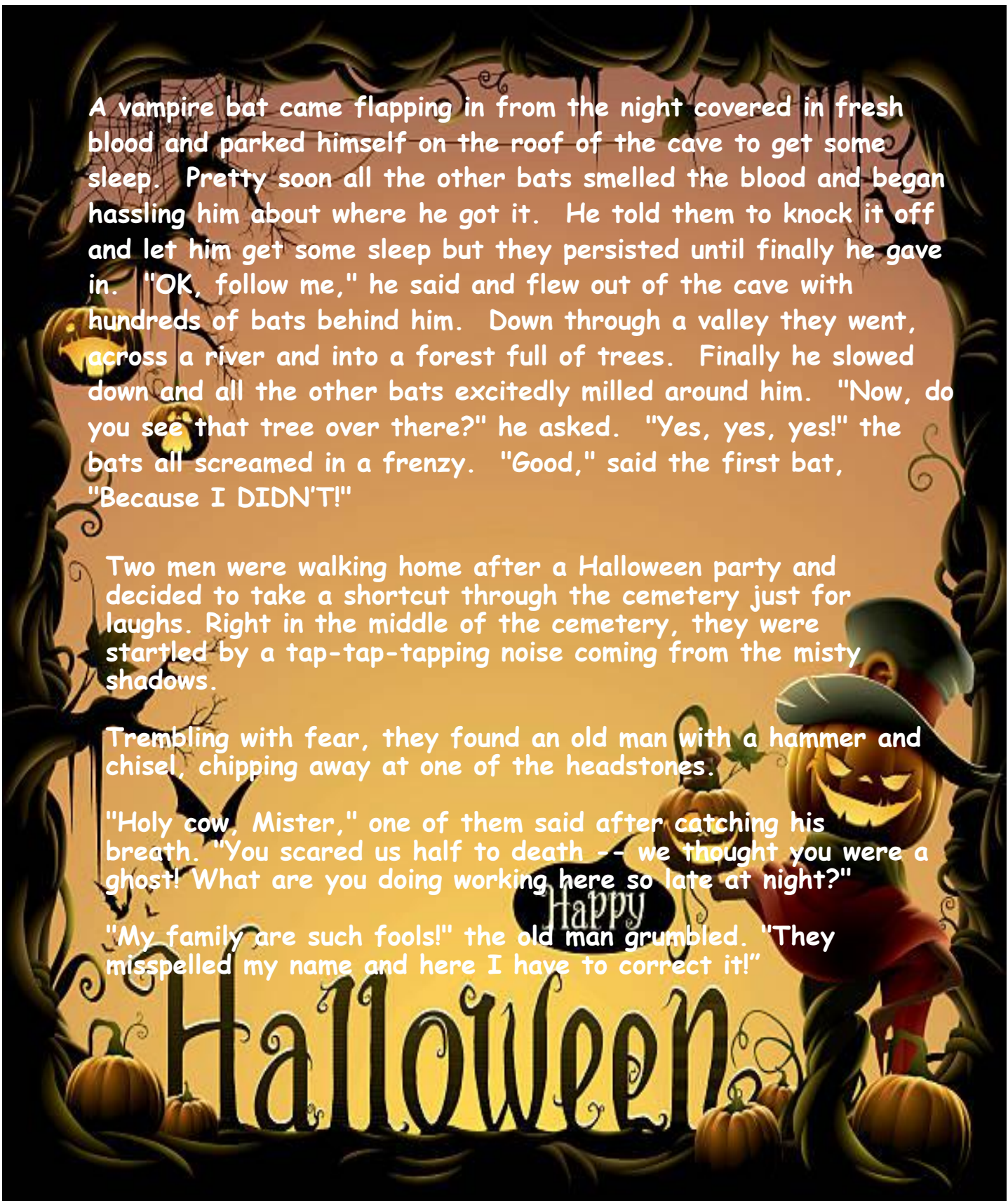
This month's Dining Out was enjoyed at the Comox Golf Club.





## Things to Ponder!

### A little Halloween Humour



A vampire bat came flapping in from the night covered in fresh blood and parked himself on the roof of the cave to get some sleep. Pretty soon all the other bats smelled the blood and began hassling him about where he got it. He told them to knock it off and let him get some sleep but they persisted until finally he gave in. "OK, follow me," he said and flew out of the cave with hundreds of bats behind him. Down through a valley they went, across a river and into a forest full of trees. Finally he slowed down and all the other bats excitedly milled around him. "Now, do you see that tree over there?" he asked. "Yes, yes, yes!" the bats all screamed in a frenzy. "Good," said the first bat, "Because I DIDN'T!"

Two men were walking home after a Halloween party and decided to take a shortcut through the cemetery just for laughs. Right in the middle of the cemetery, they were startled by a tap-tap-tapping noise coming from the misty shadows.

Trembling with fear, they found an old man with a hammer and chisel, chipping away at one of the headstones.

"Holy cow, Mister," one of them said after catching his breath. "You scared us half to death -- we thought you were a ghost! What are you doing working here so late at night?"

"My family are such fools!" the old man grumbled. "They misspelled my name and here I have to correct it!"

# Halloween