



# The Probian

October 2024

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday  
November 6th  
10:00 A.M.  
PERTH LEGION**

***Don't forget ...***

*Bring your own coffee mug, and help  
the environment.*

## BOOK EXCHANGE

Bring no more than 4 books

Take as many as you want



### **New Members (L-R)**

Gary & Carol van der Meulen, Christine Tanner, & Nancy McLean,  
are welcomed by Past President, Gail McAdam (far right).

## ***Past President's October Message***

Greetings all! I am still serving as your President while Mary Kilgour regains her health. She will be returning for the November General Meeting.

It was impressive this month to see approximately 140 members attending our General Meeting.

At our October Management Meeting it was unanimously passed that ***Perth will become a Members Only Club.***

We invite non members who enjoy listening to our Speakers and participating in our Social Events, to join our membership. The cost is \$35.00 per year, plus a one-time cost of \$10.00 for a name tag.

***We will no longer be opening our social events to non-members; however, any non-members who have already signed up for events in November and December, including the Christmas party, are still able to participate in those activities. We will be happy to see you there.***

Members, please speak to your non-member spouses/partners/friends who enjoy our meetings and events, and encourage them to sign up.

Wishing you all the best.

It has been a pleasure to serve as President of Probus. Perth.



*Submitted by Gail McAdam*

***The absolute deadline for paying for your 2025 dues is the November 6 meeting.***

Membership fees are \$35 and can be paid by e-transfer to

[finance@probusperth.ca](mailto:finance@probusperth.ca)

or by cheque to Probus Club of Perth

***If interested in becoming a Probus Perth member, please contact our Membership Chair, Mary Vandenhoff at [vandenhoff@bell.net](mailto:vandenhoff@bell.net),***

## ***Membership***



Once again I have the pleasure of welcoming new members to our Club: Barry Fisher, Andre Arcand and Stephen Sauve.

Thank you to all who have renewed your Probus Perth membership and paid your dues for 2024/25.

Might I remind everyone that one must be a member to both attend meetings, and to participate in social activities. (See details on page 2, above.)

*Submitted by Mary Vandenhoff*

## ***November's Speaker - Daelin Verkindt***

### **Foraging for Food in Lanark County**

Daelin has farm/small town roots and has spent her life working with all types of animals and plants.

She has a BSC in Environmental Biology from the University of Guelph.

She is an experienced animal trainer.

As a water technician, she has worked with Severn Sound Environmental Association. In 2023, she helped Citizen Science with [savelongsaultcreek.ca](http://savelongsaultcreek.ca) at Barbers Lake, McDonalds Corners.

She has spent seven years with The Wye Marsh Wildlife Center in Huron County, instilling a passion for nature in humans of all ages.

Daelin has founded Animal Connection: nature education, combined with the power of animal therapy. As well, she has founded the Plan B Foragers.





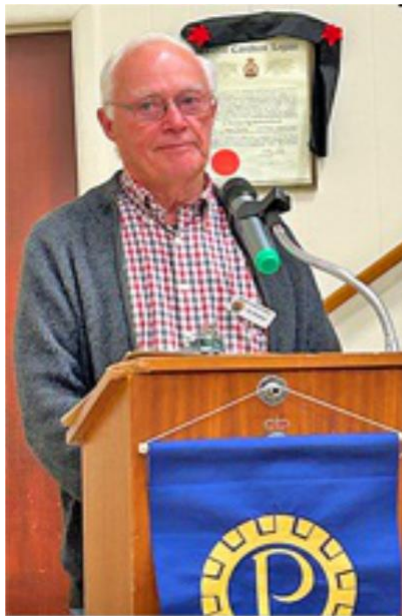
# Friendly Faces



*Gail Read, updating us on the social news*



*Stan Errett,  
a 90+ Club  
Member*



*George Braithwaite,  
Vice President*



*Mary Kilgour, President*

## *Yvonne Powell's Personal Profile*



As our newly minted Probian editor, Yvonne brings a fascinating background of adjusting to newness that can only help to fit her for the challenges of this latest role in her life.

From a normal childhood time on a Stratford farm, Yvonne's life took on a rather dizzying pattern of moves, first following her father's work in the mines of Elliot Lake and Labrador City then on to her pursuing her own university education in both Newfoundland and New Brunswick.

With a marriage to a forester with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources the tally of the places she lived reached an incredible total of 21. And, all the while Yvonne was using those university degrees in Physical Education and English for her own career in teaching, at least at those times when she wasn't in the role of full

time mother to her son and daughter.

Yvonne has now come to Perth from her last home in Renfrew, once again making an exciting new beginning with her new husband Tony Thompson.

That brings the current total of moves in her life to 23!

It is no wonder the poem Ulysses and its message that the human spirit has enduring capacity for exploration, resilience and the quest for meaning, resonates with her. May life in Perth fulfill the spirit of that poem.

*Submitted by Wendy Kaufman*

**\*\*All photos, courtesy of Colin Stephenson.\*\***

## **October's Guest Speaker**

### **Rebecca Last: Climate Change and the Individual**



Just one look at Rebecca Last's blog, *Gardening at Last*, and you will quickly see how passionate she is about gardening. As a Master Gardener whose own garden in Ottawa is certified as wildlife habitat by the Canadian Wildlife Federation, her years of experience made her talk to Probus a very timely and informative presentation.

Citing scientific information about climate change, she made it clear how the latest rise of 1.5 degrees Celsius across the globe and the shifting Jet Stream impacts life worldwide. The climatic changes are more and more often being manifested in such things as strong winds, tornadoes, floods, heat domes, reduced snow cover and drought.

Rather than taking a grim perspective, Rebecca has chosen instead to have a hopeful approach of employing adaptation and mitigation strategies all the while trying to educate others to do likewise. With this part of Canada expected to be cooler and damper than in the past, she uses her expertise to make her own garden an example of best practices for the hurdles climate change raises.

For all of us in attendance and with a particular focus on the gardeners in the audience she provided a plethora of helpful tips exemplifying her key points:

- A) It's not too late to effect change, and...
- B) There **are** things you can do.

Here are just some of her numerous ideas that we can easily incorporate into our own lives:

1. Use less stuff
2. Shop local and keep a supply of food on hand for emergencies
3. Use nature based solutions: plant native species, plant densely, mulch with local mulch, amend soils with compost, and plant more shelter plants
4. Provide shade and water in your outdoor spaces
5. Use rain barrels, water storage systems, drip irrigation for precision watering, or water deeply once a week.
6. Use a heat pump
7. Dress protectively to prevent vector borne illnesses like Lyme disease or West Nile Virus

*Submitted by Wendy Kaufman*

**The Perth Probus Club meets at  
the Royal Canadian Legion, 26 Beckwith Street, Perth,  
on the first Wednesday of the month, September through June.**

**President ~ Mary Kilgour**

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**Further information on the club and contact details for  
the other members of the Management Team can be found at:**

**[www.probusperth.ca/board.htm](http://www.probusperth.ca/board.htm)**

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**Newsletter Editor ~ Yvonne Powell**