



South Muskoka

Club No 119

Chartered June 12 2001

JANUARY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting:

When: Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Bracebridge Sportsplex

Greeter: Candy Penny

Attendance: Shirley Gates

Ticket Taker: Ginny Medland

President's Message



Greetings members and friends of the Probus Club of South Muskoka.

Wow, December & 2025 are gone. Is it me or did they go by quickly?! In any case I hope you had a joyful Christmas. 2026 has arrived; do you make New Year's Resolutions? Again, many people do. I choose not to ... at least not officially and certainly none that I broadcast, lol. Yes, I want to eat better, exercise more and snack less – don't we all!

On a sad note, we lost our dear friend and important club management team member Patricia (Pat) Kuebler in December. Our lives have been so blessed to have you as part of them and we will never forget you Pat. We don't want to but we must move forward ... unfortunately without you.

Candy and I pray that 2026 is a great year for all of you and we hope to see you at our general meeting on Wed. January 7th. And please support our club groups & events.

May you be blessed with health & wealth and be surrounded by family & friends!

John Penny – El Presidente



Please remember to wear your 'name badge' to the meetings!

January Member's Moment

Maggie Vellinga will be sharing some memorable moments from

'The Life of an Airforce Wife'

January Speaker

Egerton Ryerson

Egerton Ryerson and the Indian Residential Schools:

Egerton Ryerson, Methodist minister and founder of Ontario's public school system, has been vilified as "the architect of the Indian Residential Schools." But many do not know his history with the Mississauga of the Credit or that he was given an Indigenous name in gratitude for his ministry among them. Or that the idea of residential schools had been a matter of public discussion for almost thirty years before Ryerson penned the 1847 letter for which he is arraigned. There is lots to learn! Prof. Peter Wyatt, United Church minister and former principal of Emmanuel College, will be presenting to our Probus group at the January meeting.



Membership News

Happy 2026 New Year! May your life shine brighter and celebrate you with new beginnings!

We have such a unique club. We are small enough to get to know each other better through every event we attend. You will find that we have some very interesting members with fascinating life stories to share.

Winter doesn't hold us back from socializing. We just stay closer to home for a few months. Come and play with us on our breakfast, lunch, dinner and movies dates. All are welcome! With any luck, we will have at least one theatre date also. Just check the event page of this newsletter for more information.

Our monthly meetings will always entertain you with our interesting and educational speakers. The Sportsplex provides us with a comfortable and convenient environment to gather so don't be a stranger – better yet, bring a friend!

See you soon!

Petie Thickett

Membership Chair

mzpt2th@gmail.com

Care Bear News



It is with great sadness that a card was sent to Paul Kuebler and his family expressing our deepest condolences on the sudden death of Pat. The two of them have been such a valued and integral part of our club for so many years, and while Pat's duties on the management committee are being picked up by others, she'll be dearly missed for so many reasons...

Care Bear Chair
Wendy Truscott
wendytruscott@yahoo.com



We will miss 'our' Pat on the Management Team!

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON HIGHLIGHTS









Let our New Year's resolution be this: We will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

DYNAMIC DINERS – We are pretty much interested in dining and socializing. We do this on the third Thursday evening of this month at a nice restaurant we usually agree on during the previous month's dinner. Often we take advantage of the gathering to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Valentine's Day etc. It is fun, sometimes downright boisterous, and a wonderful way to nurture our Probus bonds. All are welcomed, the more, the merrier. The venue for Thursday, January 17, 2026 will be at Andrea's Steak and Seafood. Gathering will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Contact John Vellinga @ jmvellinga@sympatico.ca or 705-637-0452



Dining at Patterson Kaye Resort!!



INVESTMENT CLUB – A virtual meeting by Zoom Invitation on the second Monday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The Group Portfolio is the subject of discussion – what to buy, what to hold and what to sell – without money involved. You may want to visit to experience the excitement of the fluctuating market, and if intrigued, add this event to your monthly outings.

Contact Joe Ursano @ joeursano@gmail.com



December investments right on track!

MOVIE NIGHT – *No movie night in January, however, please join us for a night out at the movies on the 4th Thursday of February. The next movie night is Thursday, February 26, 2026. We will meet at the Norwood Theatre Box Office at 6:45 p.m. to choose your movie and purchase tickets. Movies start at 7:00 p.m. Happy New Year and see you at the movies. Contact Jan and Ed @ janet.sharman@gmail.com or 705-646-1398

NEWS AND VIEWS – Members meet on the 3rd Monday of the month, 9:30 am at Nick's Restaurant. Nick's is happy to provide this venue, free of charge, the assumption being that participants have first joined for breakfast, however large or small. I hope to see everyone on Monday, January 19, 2026. Bring your ideas and have fun. Contact Barb Rigby @ b.rigby@outlook.com or 705-646-2150

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH – Members meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month to have lunch at a predetermined restaurant, chosen by those in attendance the previous month. This is a very fun group, enjoying good conversation, several laughs, while tempting our taste buds at a new restaurant or one of our favourites. What happens at the table stays at the table. We will gather on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 beginning at 12 p.m. at Fresh Kutz Market & Grill, 195 Wellington Street, Bracebridge. Contact John Vellinga @ jmvellinga@sympatico.ca or 705-637-0452



"Hate has 4 letters but so does Love. Enemies has 7 letters but so does Friends. Lying has 5 letters but so does Truth. Cry has 3 letters but so does Joy. Negativity has 10 letters but so does Positivity. Life is 2 sided. Choose the better side of it."

Add Some “MAGIC” To Your WINTER Take A Walk With Dorothy Down The YELLOW Brick Road To The Land Of OZ

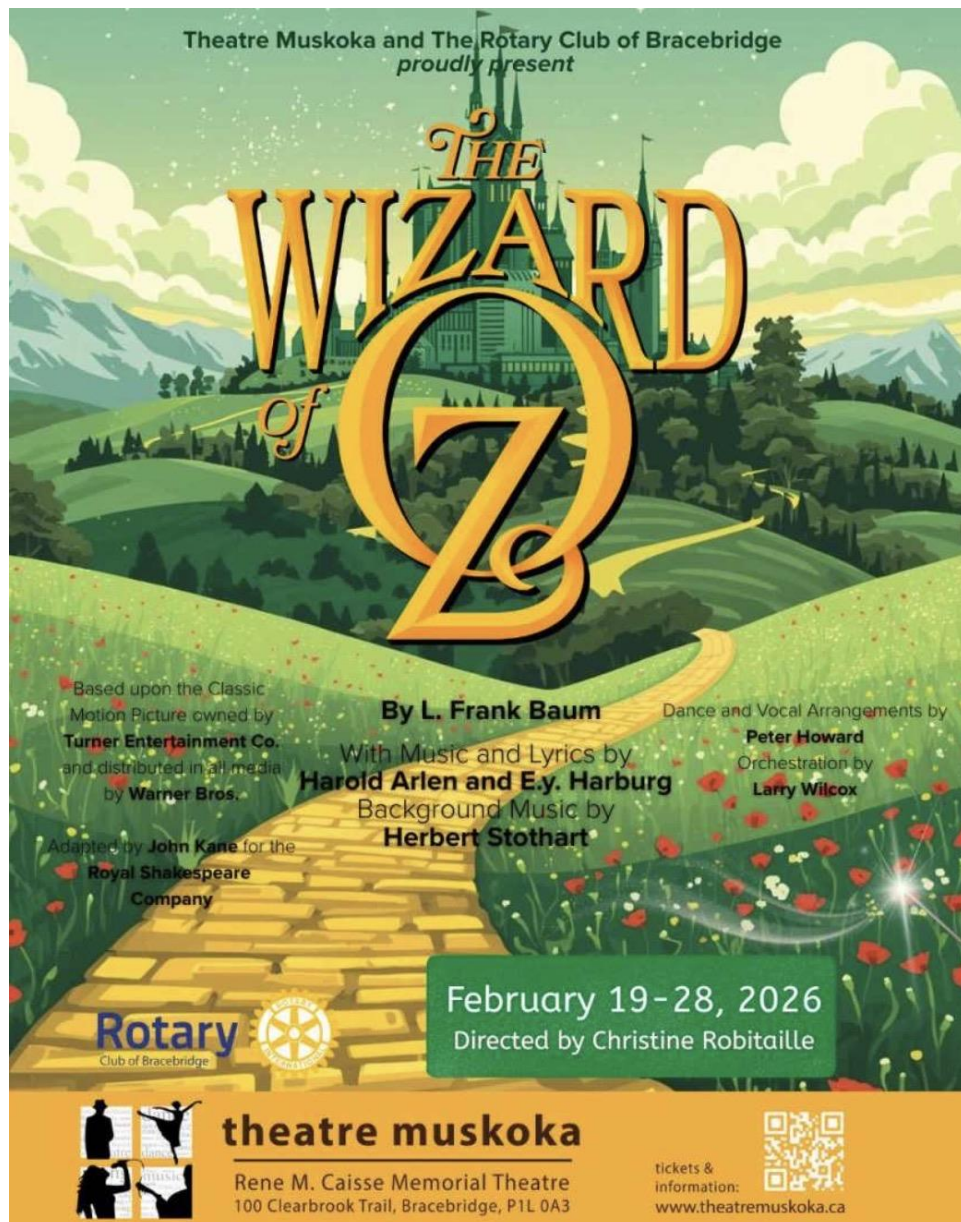
Rotary Club Of Bracebridge

2026 Musical

Sunday, Feb, 28, 2026

@ 2:30 pm (Doors Open 2 pm)

At The Rene M. Caisse Memorial Theatre



Theatre Muskoka and The Rotary Club of Bracebridge
proudly present

THE WIZARD of OZ

Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by
Turner Entertainment Co.
and distributed in all media
by **Warner Bros.**

By **L. Frank Baum**

With Music and Lyrics by
Harold Arlen and E.y. Harburg

Background Music by
Herbert Stothart

Dance and Vocal Arrangements by
Peter Howard

Orchestration by
Larry Wilcox

Adapted by **John Kane** for the
Royal Shakespeare Company


Rotary
Club of Bracebridge

February 19-28, 2026
Directed by **Christine Robitaille**

theatre muskoka

Rene M. Caisse Memorial Theatre
100 Clearbrook Trail, Bracebridge, P1L 0A3

tickets &
information:
www.theatremuskoka.ca



Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Bracebridge! Join Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion as they journey toward the Emerald City in this timeless classic. Featuring iconic songs, vibrant costumes, and unforgettable characters, this enchanting show offers a magical experience for audiences of all ages.

COST: \$35.00
Per ticket (Discounted)

Sign up using Sign up sheet at Jan. & Feb. meetings

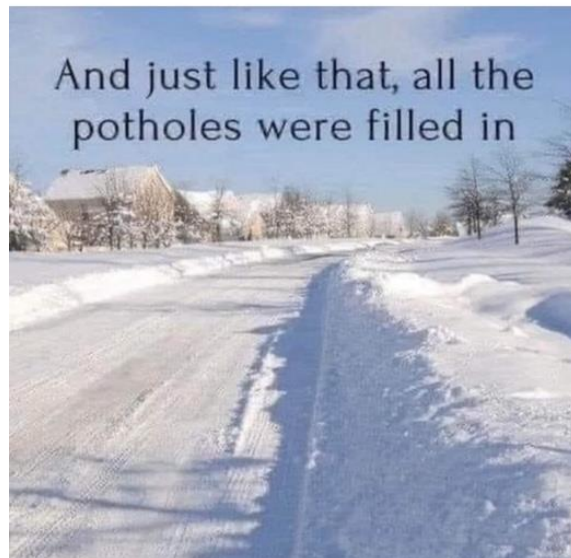
Or contact Brian Garvey 705-645-1353 email: garvey@vianet.ca

**Payment can be made online using your banks Interac system sending payment to:-
Probusclubofsouthmuskoka7@gmail.com **Note the 7 after the club's name.****

Cheques should be made payable to: Probus Club of South Muskoka, and be forwarded to John Penny. Please state what you are paying for in the memo.

DEADLINE: February 4, 2024 to secure and pay for your seat

PONDERING THESE



Anne's Bio



I guess everyone has a story and this is mine. It hasn't been glamorous, it's been real. We weren't world travellers. Stuck pretty close to home. Just the occasional visit to a tropical island or to visit Mickey Mouse and his friends in Florida. So far, I've loved my life.

I was born and raised in Huntsville. The oldest of four children. My only brother passed away suddenly in 2011. My sisters and I became much closer after his death. Sometimes you don't appreciate your family until they're gone.

Anyway, after high school, I attended Canadore College in North Bay and received a journalism diploma. Met my future husband in my final year through mutual friends. I owe them a lot for introducing us. We've been married 51 years. I hadn't planned on staying in North Bay... but the things we do for love.

I tried getting a job after graduation, but all job prospects wanted experience. I eventually went back to Canadore to become a PSW/nurse's aide. I found employment immediately at Nipissing Manor Nursing Home where I worked for three years. It was the Dionne Quintuplets' original government home.

Did I mention that Dave and I got married during this time?

Wanting to move back to Muskoka, we settled at Walker's Point outside of Gravenhurst. We moved into my Mother's cottage and had to start renovating for all season living. It was very rustic. My mother's ancestors had been the original Walker family. Felt like a sense of belonging. We had our two sons while living there. They're now 48 and 45 and we have three grandchildren. When our youngest was five, we moved into Gravenhurst. Dave was working in the engineer department at Oliver Maclead at the time. With both boys in school full time, I re-entered the work force and was able to obtain a bindery supervisory position at McLaren Press. Unfortunately, it was the night shift. While we saved on daycare, working steady midnights finally caught up with me. Tired and stressed, it was time to leave. Took the summer off and then found my dream job working at Maple Orchard Farms/Chocolate House making candies and maple sugar. People would often ask me if I ever got tired of eating chocolate. My answer was always NO. After getting laid off in June because of melting issues, I took another summer off and then was fortunate enough to start working at Rockwell, which later became Dura. Shortly after that, we moved to Bracebridge. While working at

Dura I met many wonderful friends. Since then, many have passed away from different cancers. Very mysterious. When Dura closed in 2007, I once again found myself looking for another job. Apparently, I'm drawn into the newspaper industry. Started working for Metroland Media at the distribution warehouse. Never got a real by-line writing for a newspaper, but I did get ink-stained hands...again. Retired in 2021.

Dave and I recently purchased a travel trailer and have been hitting the open road looking for new adventures. We've always enjoyed hiking and campfires in the evening. I call it our hotel on wheels. I still don't like the bugs though.

After a health scare that started in 2019, I became aware that life is too short to sit on the sidelines. I wanted to become more of a participant in my life.

I've started volunteering with the Alzheimer Society, joined the Senior's Centre (Active Living), most recently the Red Hat Society and of course, Probus, where I have met many, hopefully new friends.

My new motto is LIVE/LAUGH LOTS/ DON'T WORRY

I'm still working on the last part.

Thank you for letting me become a member of Probus. Hope to make a difference and have fun doing it.



www.smprobust.ca

FOR OUR NATIONAL BODY

<https://www.probus.org>

MAILING ADDRESS:

66 Clarke Crescent, Port Sydney P0B 1L0

MANAGEMENT TEAM

President John Penny 705-933-0456 FOR OUR CLUB

johncpenny@yahoo.ca

Vice President	John Mitchell	705-645-7434	john.barb40@yahoo.com
Past Co-Presidents	Ted & Susan Daglish	705-765-0330	daglish@muskoka.com
Secretary	Maggie Vellinga	705-644-3606	jmvellinga@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	John Penny	705-933-0456	johncpenny@yahoo.ca
Membership	Petie Thickett	705-637-0606	mzpt2th@gmail.com
Speakers	Susan Daglish	705-765-0330	dagish@muskoka.com
Newsletter	Jan Davidson	705-205-3773	davdsn@xplornet.ca
Website	Doug Harris	705-645-3156	drdougie@drdougie.ca
Social Outings	Sally James	705-645-2581	sallyjames@rogers.com
Social Outings	Brian Garvey	705-645-1353	garvey@vianet.ca
Social Interest Groups	John Vellinga	705-644-4453	jmvellinga@sympatico.ca
Care Bear	Wendy Truscott	705-767-3420	wendytruscott@yahoo.com
Member at Large	Sally James	705-645-2581	sallyjames@rogers.com
Member at Large	Bev Hyatt	705-645-5658	karendhyatt@outlook.com
Member at Large	Maggie Vellinga	705-644-3606	jmvellinga@sympatico.ca
Photographer	Candy Penny	705-933-0456	importedtea@yahoo.ca



In Memory of

Patricia 'Pat' Mary Kuebler

1956 ~ 2025

Probus Club of South Muskoka Secretary and Speakers Chairperson

Newspaper Editor,

Jan Davidson