



The Probus Club of Burlington Lakeshore

Hi-Lites - August 2024

Mon., August 12

10:00 am

Sabatino Vacca

Classical Music for
the Soul

Management Committee 2023-2024

John McArthur, President
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(905) 818-2902
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Tom Williams, Secretary
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Ken Medland, House
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Jim Thurston, Cheer.
(905) 319-9352
Lawson Hunter, Ext. Publ.
(905)802-8633
Bill O'Brien, Golf
(905)-577-7846

President's Message

At our July 8th meeting, 84 people attended, including six quests. We are optimistic that a number of these guests will soon become members. Four members joined us on Zoom. For a summer meeting, this was a positive turnout. Also, 30 people have already viewed the YouTube recording. For those who did not hear him in person, I encourage you to view the YouTube version, which is still available.

Our membership is now at an all-time high of 166, and we are well on our way to achieving our objective of 175 by the end of the year. Our "Be a Friend, Bring a Friend" approach is working! Please keep bringing your friends to our meetings. It is our best source for new members!

Dean Baker's presentation was very well received. As a 48-year Burlington Golf & Country Club member, I appreciated him extolling the club's merits. Since then, he and his maintenance crew have been swamped, dealing with the aftermath of several rainstorms. The most recent heavy storm washed out our 16th hole and is still being repaired.

At the meeting, I shared that at a recent civic recognition evening, honoring some fantastic volunteers who helped make Burlington a better place with their efforts, fellow member Dan Lawrie was presented with a Burlington key to the city. The key honors individuals and organizations who have significantly contributed to our city through sports, philanthropy, business, arts, and culture volunteering at advocacy or leadership. Congratulations on your many contributions to our community, Dan!

We will have a good attendance at the Norm Foster Play in St. Catherines on August 15th.

Please remember to sign up for our fall golf tournament, which will be held on September 20th at the Rockway Vineyard Club.

Plans are underway for our annual Car rally, which will be held on October 9th.

I have been fortunate to work with a powerful and dedicated management committee, making my role easy and enjoyable. Our subcommittees are Speakers, Events, Membership, External publicity, and House. I encourage you to consider joining one of them. These collegial committees are pivotal in ensuring the continued success of our club. If you are interested in becoming involved, please drop me an E-mail, and I will forward it to the chair of the respective committee.

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Hi-Lites - August 2024

President's Message Continued

Past president Ken Medland, the chair of our nominating committee, is finalizing nominations for next year's management committee, which will be presented to our membership at our September AGM.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our August 12th meeting.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

John C. McArthur

Guest Speaker - Sabatino Vacca

Sabatino Vacca is the Founder, Artistic Director, and Chorus Master of the newly formed Southern Ontario Lyric Opera (SOLO). He has been the Music Director of the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra (CSO) since 2007, and helped found the Milton Philharmonic Orchestra in 2014. Sabatino led the Etobicoke Philharmonic Orchestra as Music Director from 2010 to 2017. SOLO debuted in concert in 2015, and followed with productions of La Traviata, Tosca, La Bohème, Pagliacci, Gianni Schicchi, Rigoletto, Don Giovanni, Le Nozze di Figaro, and in concert with world-renowned Canadian Soprano Adrienne Pieczonka, and Measha Brueggergosman-Lee. The CSO led by Sabatino has accompanied Ben Heppner, Richard Margison, Gary Relyea, and others in concert. He conducted an all-Tchaikovsky programme at Roy Thomson Hall in Toronto. Sabatino has also conducted orchestras in the Czech Republic, Symphony Hamilton, the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony, the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra, the Brampton Symphony Orchestra, the Rose Orchestra, the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra, and the Georgian Bay Symphony. For Opera York he served as Artistic Director from 2004 to 2016. He was on staff with Opera Hamilton and has worked as an opera coach for the University of Toronto, Laurier University, as well as the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Sabatino is the recipient of the Spirit of Ontario Award for the Arts by the National Congress of Italian Canadians. He was inducted into the Alumni Gallery at McMaster University.

Sabatino performed as piano soloist with the McMaster University Orchestra while an undergrad there, and received a medal of excellence upon graduation. He then furthered his piano studies in New York with pianist Gyorgy Sandor before turning his attention to opera and conducting. He has performed as piano soloist with the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, Symphony on the Bay, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra.



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Membership

July meeting, we were pleased to have three new members introduce themselves.

Ian Dovey with a career in communications, Jim Wills statistician with Service Canada, and Brian Campbell as a University Professor and Dean.

Great addition to our talented group.

The meeting also attracted several guests with one signing up shortly.

Currently we are at 166 members with a target this year of 175.

Let me know if you have any changes to your contact information or require a membership roster.

Gary Kirkwood, Membership

gmgak@outlook.com

905 577-5475

Special Events for 2024

Events for the next few months

August 15th - Norm Foster Play, St Catharines Ontario Sold Out
Watch your E-Mail for directions and additional info prior to date.

Sept 11th - NOTE: Venue change
- Springhill Distillery, Guelph Ontario
(approx 1 hr from AGB)
- 45 Min Tour, \$15 / person
- More info to follow

October 2nd - My Fair Lady - Still tickets available. - Last Chance - August 12

Oct 9th - Mike Hill Car Rally
Details to follow

George Caughell, Events



**Next Month -
Monday, September 9, 2024**

**Dr. Shanni Philp,
Audiologist**

Hearing Problems & Solutions

Cheer Committee

Your Cheer Committee contacts or visits members who are ill. In the event of a death of a member, or his spouse, a card of condolence is sent to the family. A memorial donation is made to an appropriate charity on the passing of a member. Please contact me, or any member of the Management Committee, if you are aware of an illness or bereavement.

Jim Thurston, Chairman, Cheer Committee
50thirsty05@gmail.com
905.319.9352

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Probus Golf News:

Hello again to Probus golfers - we still have spaces available for our golf outing on Friday, September 20 at Rockway Vineyards GC. We have played at Rockway in September on the past two years and it is a pleasant course surrounded by vineyards and farm lands. Bill O'Brien will be at our meeting on August 12 to sign golfers up for this event. You may sign up as an individual or with others and we will set up tee times accordingly.

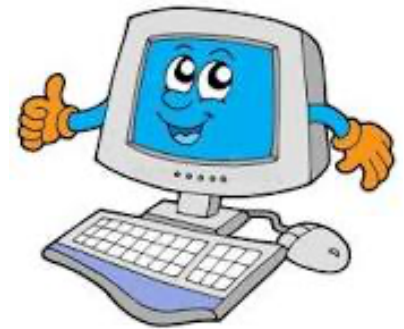
Astra Belisario of Heritage Place has agreed to help sponsor the event and she plans to come out to give each golfer a sleeve of golf balls and a bottle of water to help your round go well.

Don't forget to get signed up for this fun outing.

Bill O'Brien, Golf Committee

Technology Interest Group

We are a joint, Burlington and Lakeshore Probus Club group, who get together to discuss current developments in technology including but not limited to computers. We help solve each others technology and computer related issues.



We are taking a break for the summer - our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 26.

For further information closer to the date, you can contact Bob Dickison at rgdickison@gmail.com,

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From the House

Another strong turnout to hear a great speaker and welcome our newest coffee sponsor, Tansley Woods.

House continues to be the center of activity for our members

Our amazing greeters set the tone of fellowship for the meeting, but also the 50 50 team who actively interact with all to ensure the success of this project !

My thanks to all of the team who make my job so easy and rewarding.



At our last meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming our newest coffee sponsor, Tansley Woods, Burlington's largest full service facility. Tansley was represented by Alexey, Janeny and Laurie and were very knowledgeable with their advice. Welcome!

Ken Medland,
House Chair