



NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

AUGUST 2009

VOL. 7, NO. 8

**Management Committee**

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**Treasurer:**

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**Past-President:**

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**Speakers:**

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Keith Pople  
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**Communications:**

Ron Penhall  
604-988-3087

**Probus Canada Liaison  
and Archivist:**

John Leonard  
604-924-9286



**Speaker: Monday, August 10, 2009**

**Christopher Gaze**

*Bard on the Beach Festival* founder, artistic director and, at times, performer

*“20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Festival  
and insights on Shakespeare and theatre”*

Christopher Gaze is best known as Artistic Director and founder of Vancouver’s *Bard on the Beach* Shakespeare Festival. The Festival has seen its annual attendance grow from 6,000 in its first season in 1990 to more than 80,000 in recent years.

During his professional acting career spanning more than three decades Christopher has performed in virtually every major centre across Canada, as well as in England and the USA. He was born and educated in England and trained as an actor at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. His voice is heard regularly in cartoon series, commercials and on the radio and he was inducted into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame in 2002.

In addition to his role as Artistic Director, Christopher frequently performs and directs at the *Bard*. He hosts two unique concert series for the VSO, Tea & Trumpets and the traditional Christmas Concert. He is a guest host on the Knowledge Network and a is gifted public speaker.

He often shares his insights on the theatre and Shakespeare with school groups, service organizations and local businesses. In May 2005 he was honored by the Governor General with Canada’s Meritorious Service Medal.

**Speaker: Monday, September 14**

**Calvin D Helin:** Member of the Tsimshian Nation  
from the northern BC community of Lax Kw’alaams (Port Simpson)

Author: “Dances with Dependency: Indigenous Success  
Through Self-reliance”

*“New Hope for Native Peoples”*

## Last Month Speaker



**John Leonard with Red Robinson**

Red Robinson has been in the entertainment business for more than 56 years and on July 13th at Probus North Shore he demonstrated through his address just why he has enjoyed such enduring popularity.

His upbeat approach to life is inspirational and as he said, and I paraphrase, life is an amazing journey and it's vital that you follow your dreams. He did that from the age of 12 when he first determined what he wanted to pursue as a vocation.

Red is amazing in his recall of dates and events and we enjoyed the nostalgia surrounding his encounters with Bill Haley and the Comets, Elvis, Terry and Susan Jacks, to name but a few. In fact during Expo 86 he arranged the appearance of 41 different acts.

Red shared with us numerous anecdotal stories regarding celebrities. Here are but three:

... during the Beatles Vancouver appearance fans kept crowding closer and closer to the stage so their manager, Brian Epstein, asked Red to go on stage and attempt to calm things down. He no sooner set foot on stage when John Lennon told him "get the #\$%& off our stage". At the mention of Epstein's name Red's presence was immediately accepted.

... When interviewing Buddy Holly in the early days of Rock and Roll, Red asked Buddy how long he thought R&R would last. The answer is classic "Maybe until Christmas!"

... During Red's short sojourn in Portland Oregon he was in the habit of playing all his music at very high in-studio volume until one day when the man in the next studio who was attempting to make a recording

for a charitable cause stuck his head in the door and asked him to tone it down. It was JFK. As Red explained, one meets the famous and not so famous often in strange ways and places.

Red related his times in the advertising agency business where his agency had the original account for MacDonald's account in Canada and his hosting of national television game shows. His involvement as host of the annual Timmy's Christmas Telethon spanned 23 years and he now devotes much energy to support of the Child Foundation which is concerned with finding a cure for Crohn's disease, liver and intestinal disorders.

One last memorable anecdote. In 1958 he was in Los Angeles when he first heard a song being recorded for the local telethon by a then unknown singer. He loved it, got a copy and brought it back to Vancouver where he gave it a lot of air time which led to interest by a music industry promoter. The song was *Fever*, the singer was Peggy Lee, and the rest is history.

For someone who has accomplished so much and still is, it could be said he's still got "*Fever*".

Bev Machesney



## July Greeters



**Jeremy Marr and Mike Keane**

**Proposed 2009/10 Management Committee Officers (to be elected)  
and Proposed Committee Chairs (to be appointed)**



Esio Marzotto, as immediate Past President, will continue as a member of the Management Committee.

<b>David Osoba:</b> ( <i>Member since April 2004</i> ) David was born in Glendon, Alberta and graduated with an MD from the University of Alberta, later specializing in Hematology and Medical Oncology before retiring to West Vancouver. David currently is Vice President.	<b>Dan Potts:</b> ( <i>Member since April 2006</i> ) Dan is a Chemical Engineer and an MBA retired from the pulp and paper industry, and currently serves a group working to maintain low cost electrical power to BC industry. Dan currently serves as Secretary.
<b>Alex Tunner:</b> ( <i>Member since February 2009</i> ) Alex came to Canada from Hungary at age 10. He has an M. Sc. in Electrical Engineering from U of Toronto and McGill. He retired in 2009 after a varied career in England and across Canada.	<b>George Parkes:</b> ( <i>Member since January 2008</i> ) George was born and educated in Vancouver and retired after a 45 year career in the insurance business in Canada and in the USA. George volunteers with the CNIB and the Kay Meek Centre. George currently serves as Treasurer.
<b>Gordon Adair:</b> ( <i>Member since January 2009</i> ) Gordon, a Chartered Accountant, dabbles in politics and volunteers, including on the board/executive of the Coho Society of the North Shore for 25 yrs. Gordon currently serves as a member of the Speakers Committee.	<b>Bob Birch:</b> ( <i>Member since March 2005</i> ) Bob was born in Saskatchewan and moved to BC in 1970. Bob is an information technology and computer systems consultant. Bob currently serves as Chair of Membership Committee.
<b>Malcolm Metcalfe:</b> ( <i>Member since April, 2008</i> ): Malcolm was born in Calgary and grew up in Trail BC. He graduated from UBC in 1970 in Electrical Engineering. Malcolm currently serves as Chair of Special Events Committee.	<b>Ron Penhall:</b> ( <i>Member since February 2004</i> ) Ron was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and moved to Vancouver in 1948 where he established a successful printing services business. Ron currently serves as Chair of Communications Committee.
<b>Linda Metcalfe:</b> ( <i>Member since February 2009</i> ) Linda, born in England, has resided in West Vancouver for 27 years volunteering and working part-time as an event administrator. Linda manages our website and is a member of the Communications Committee.	<b>Keith Pople:</b> ( <i>Member since November 2006</i> ) Born in Trail; Keith has an MA. Sc. (Metallurgical Engineering), from UBC. He specialized in designing process equipment for the mining and pulp and paper industries. He retired in 1993. Keith currently serves as Chair of House Committee.
<b>John Leonard:</b> ( <i>Founding Member in 2003 and our club's Charter President</i> ): John was born in Sydney, Australia and has had a successful career in advertising. John has served as our Probus National Liaison and Archivist since 2005.	



**Esio Marzotto**

## President's Report

### Annual General Meeting

The Club's AGM will precede our guest speaker's presentation at the meeting on Monday September 14. Announcements have been made alerting members to the nomination process for the election of officers, and the Nominations Committee, under Chair Art Eberwein, has prepared a proposed slate of officers.

Our Bylaws require that "any notice of motion shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and communicated to the membership at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered." The Election will take place during the Annual General Meeting Sept. 14.

### Election of Officers

The following officers are to be elected for a one-year term: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee for those offices are presented on page 3.

### Qualification for Nomination

A nominee must be a current member of the Club and must be nominated by a current member of the Club in good standing at least two weeks prior to the AGM in September.

The nominee must accept the nomination either orally at a meeting or in writing at least two weeks prior to the AGM. The deadline for nominations, therefore, will be Friday, August 28.

### Nominations/Election Committee

The Nominations/Election Committee will prepare and distribute the final slate of duly qualified candidates for election.

### Election

In the event that more than one candidate stands for a particular office, a vote by ballot will decide the winner. The elected officers will assume their positions immediately following their election.

Esio Marzotto

## Special Events

**Metro Watershed Tour - Friday, July 10:** The tour was sold out with 46 members and their guests enjoying the guided tour of the Capilano Watershed in perfect North Vancouver weather on a sunny day in July. [Pictures](#) can be viewed on our website.

**Golf at Squamish on Monday, July 27:** Our initial golf outing at Northlands on June 29 was a success with 16 members enjoying the day. [Pictures](#) are posted on our website. A second event is scheduled at Squamish for July 27. If you wish to participate in future events, contact Phil Boase at [pjboase@telus.net](mailto:pjboase@telus.net) or at 604-985-2790.

**Bard on the Beach – Tuesday, August 18:** "All's Well That Ends Well": - We have arranged for up to 100 seats for members and guests. This popular event is selling quickly. For more information, or to book seats for you and your guests, contact Malcolm at [Malcolm@metcalfe.org](mailto:Malcolm@metcalfe.org) or at 604-926-2001.

Malcolm Metcalfe

### MEETINGS

Second Monday of each month, except when changed to avoid conflict with special holidays falling on that day; in addition, our Christmas Luncheon replaces the December meeting.

Coffee and fellowship: 9:00 am to 9:45 am  
Club business and speaker: 9:45 am to 11:30 am

### Capilano Golf and Country Club

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<http://www.probud-northshorevancouver.ca/>

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