

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

DECEMBER 2009

VOL. 7, NO. 12

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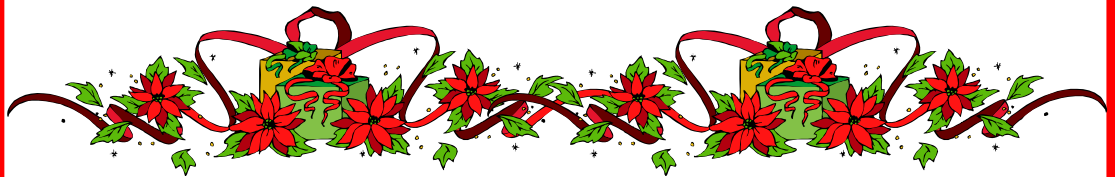
Gordon Adair
604-230-9122

Special Events:

Malcolm Metcalfe
604-788-4004

**Probus Canada Liaison
and Archivist:**

John Leonard
604-924-9286



2009 Christmas Luncheon

Monday, December 14, 2009

11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Capilano Golf and Country Club

with lots of

- **Food**
- **Fun**
- **Fellowship**
- **Fantastic Entertainment**



**Seasons'
Greetings**

January Meeting

**Monday, January 11th - John McDonald,
Chairman and CEO, Day4 Energy - "Worldwide Energy"**

Last Month Speaker



Dennis Molnar with David Osoba

Interest in Dennis Molnar's subject "*The Falklands War*" was evidenced by the standing room only turnout of our membership. His well researched and insightful presentation lived up to everyone's expectations.

Dennis took us from the early days of claimed ownership of the Falklands by France, Spain and England, through to the factors leading up to the conflict in 1982 between Argentina and Great Britain and the uneasy situation which continues to this day.

In 1820 Argentina claimed ownership of the Islands (known to them as the Malvinas) only to have that ownership denied by the British who according to their stated position were just legally "reasserting" their ownership rights (the Argentines called that action piracy, not reassertion). What ensued over many years was a series of posturings involving who got passports and from which country, supply ships from Britain being withdrawn, to name just two aggravations that both sides used to feed the fire of distrust and resentment of each other.

Finally, it boiled over in 1982 when the Argentine junta seemingly desperate to take their citizens minds off the wretched economy (150% inflation), and recently having taken delivery of 250 Mirage Jets, decided to flex its muscles and invade the Islands. Britain under the "Iron Lady" Margaret Thatcher was not about to back away.

Despite the great distance from Britain to the Falklands a significant task force was mobilized in very short order and soon the engagement was underway commencing with the torpedo sinking of the Argentine cruiser Belgrano. A two month war ensued that very quickly ended with the Argentines withdrawing their navy and being soundly defeated on land.

Today little has changed. Argentina still claims sovereignty and Britain just as strongly claims the Islands to be their "overseas territory". All of this over a group of islands with little present strategic or economic value, barren islands constituting 12,173 sq. km. with less than 4,000 people, and an economy largely dependent on sheep farming and fishing, and lately with a developing tourism industry with almost 40,000 visitors annually. However, some suggest there is possible future potential for valuable offshore oil and gas or mineral interests in the surrounding seabed.

Editor's Addendum: As Franklin said in a letter to Quincy "There never was a good war or a bad peace."

Bev Machesney

November Greeters



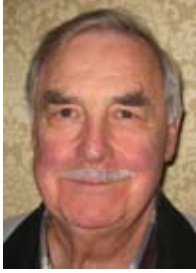
Reg Lightfoot and John Hill

Speaker Suggestions

If you have any suggestions for potential speakers or have good connections to invite a speaker, please contact Gordon Adair by email at gadair@telus.net or call him at 604-230-9122.



New Members Welcomed and Introduced at November Meeting



Gary Bailey
Education, BCIT



Lorne Bohlman
Structural
Engineer



Grant Gisel
Information
Technology



Owen Johnson
Export,
Distribution



Bill Miles
Lawyer

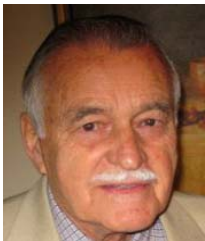


John Norman
Mining Industry CFO



John Seddon
Lawyer

Brief Backgrounds of a Few of Our Recent New Members



Terry Creaney (*member since July 2009*) was born in London, England and has lived in West Vancouver for 40 years. He graduated with a B.Sc., Engineering from West Ham College of Technology, London University (1952). During a 39 year professional career he worked in the UK, Canada and overseas locations with responsibility for management of planning, design, and supervision of all aspects of numerous large engineering undertakings.



Don Leier (*member since October 2009*) was born in Unity, Saskatchewan and has lived in West Vancouver for 15 years. He graduated from university with a BA, earning a Professional Teaching Certificate. Later, he pursued a career in real estate development with a concentration on hotel properties in Saskatoon and Calgary, as well as related consulting. In addition to his business interests, Don is actively involved with not-for-profit foundations.



Guy O'Byrne (*member since October 2009*) was born in Ottawa, Ontario and has lived on the North Shore for 40 years. After graduating in Commerce, he worked in the building services industry until starting his real estate development/management business in 1974 concentrating on medical/dental facilities. In addition to his business interests, Guy is an avid tennis player, serving on the Boards of Tennis BC and Tennis Canada for the past 20 years.

President's Report



President David Osoba

That was quite the talk on The Falklands war by Dennis Molnar. Very well done!

I can't help but comment, however. What was the point of it all? I know of course that many wars, large and small are fought to preserve a way of life, e.g., democracy versus totalitarianism. But what was the point of the Falklands war?

A little more patience on both sides and a more active role by a motivated mediator (the USA?) would have prevented the loss of priceless young lives and the tremendous material costs that were incurred. In the end Argentineans still feel that The Malvinas belong to them and Britain maintains an expensive outpost far from its mainland. This situation is reminiscent of St. Pierre and Miquelon – France continues to keep up this expensive piece of history just off the coast of Canada.

Of course, in the end, it's the citizens of these outposts that should decide where they want to belong and, up till now, despite the expenses, they have decided to keep the status quo. So be it! Thanks again to Dennis for reminding us of this important issue.

December is the festive season. I wish everyone and their loved ones the best of everything and hope that the New Year will be a happy one!

David Osoba



2010 Committees Support Group

We are delighted to recognize our members who provide valued support and share in the workload of the committee chairs. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact the appropriate Chair.

Communications, Chaired by Ron Penhall

- Gerry Leonard, Vice-Chair and Assistant Shorelines Editor
- Linda Metcalfe, Shorelines Editor

House, Chaired by Keith Pople

- Phil Boase

Membership, Chaired by Bob Birch

- Bill Guernsey

Speakers, Chaired by Gordon Adair

- John Elliott
- Fraser Grant
- Bev Machesney
- Ernie Maguire
- Mike McMahon

Special Events, Chaired by Malcolm Metcalfe

- Phil Boase, Bridge and Golf Organizer
- Linda Metcalfe

Meetings

Second Monday of each month, except when changed to avoid conflict with special holidays 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

420 Southborough Drive
West Vancouver, BC V7S 1M2
(604) 922-9331

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

Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed
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or by mail to:

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