

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

JUNE 2011

VOL. 9, NO. 6

Management Committee

President:

Dan Potts
604-913-0600

Vice President:

Alex Tunner
604-921-1610

Secretary:

Dave Walker
604-922-4047

Treasurer:

Terry Hirst
604-925-8145

Past-President:

David Osoba
604-921-7793

Committee Chairs

Communications:

Ron Penhall
604-988-3087

House:

Jon Strom
604-925-1779

Membership:

Don Leier
604-925-7690

Speakers:

Gordon Adair
604-230-9122

Special Events:

Fraser Grant
604-921-6660

Probus Canada Liaison and Archivist:

John Leonard
604-924-9286



Next Meeting

Monday, June 13th, 2011

with speaker

Vivian Krause,

Researcher and Writer

“American Funding of Environmental and Political Campaigns in Canada”

Vivian Krause is a Vancouver-based researcher and writer. She is currently working on a series of articles about the American funding of environmental and political campaigns in Canada. Her work has been published in *The Financial Post*, *The Montreal Gazette*, *The Vancouver Sun* and elsewhere. In December of 2010 she testified to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Energy Security. Michael Campbell has described her research as “*the best investigative work*” that he saw in 2010.

On June 13, 2011, Vivian will present an overview of the American Charitable Foundations funding of Canadian politics and environmental organizations. She will highlight the potential foreign influence on these organizations and the Canadian resource industries.

Vivian has worked for many years in the charitable sector, both in Canada and abroad. During the 1990’s she worked for the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in Guatemala (1990-1995) and Indonesia (1996-2001). She has also worked for the U.N. High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and has worked with Algonquin people in northern Quebec. She is currently a board member of the Adoptive Families Association of B.C., a non-profit that supports families who are in the process of adoption, and helps find families for B.C. children who are wait-listed for adoption.

Vivian has a B.Sc. and an M.Sc. from McGill University and l’Université de Montréal, respectively. Vivian resides in North Vancouver.

Visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6UaftK_N-k to listen to an interview with Vivian.

July Meeting

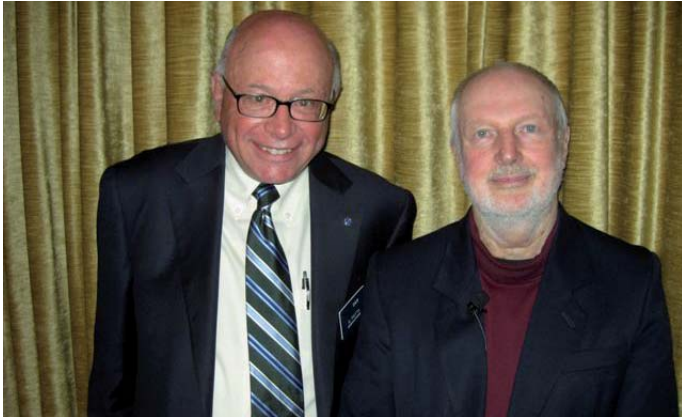
Monday, July 11th

Dr. Corina Andreoiu,

Professor of Nuclear Science, Simon Fraser University and TRIUMF

“Nuclear Plants and Issues Around the World”

Last Month Speaker



Dan Potts with speaker Graham E. Fuller

Fuller began his presentation with a discussion of his recently published book “*A World Without Islam.*” The purpose of the book is to provide a view of the role of the Islamist religion in creating and maintaining the hostility towards the West and the lack of freedom and justice in the Middle East. Westerners should remember that from the beginning of the “Magna Carta tradition” western Christians spent 1600 years trying to use the bible as a guide to creating civil governments.

Fuller defines an Islamist as one who believes the Prophet has something to say that is meaningful about life. Before writing the book Fuller spent considerable time visiting with those who practice the Islamist faith. He found that most had much on their mind that had little to do with the Islamist faith. They were concerned about corruption, lack of justice and democratic process and grievances about western exploitation going back hundreds of years.

Going all the way back to the Byzantine empire, religion was used as a banner for the regions rebelling against centralized Byzantine rule. It was 500 years after the Christians lost Jerusalem before the Crusades were organized in Europe to do something about it. In Fuller’s view the Crusades were not all that much about religion.

Adding to the Middle East grievances was the period of Western colonial rule involving the English, Dutch, Germans, and French. This period has a very recent ending as in 1958 Algeria gained independence from France.

Western control of oil resources is another problem as the Western interest in satisfying its energy needs often led to support of regimes amenable to western interests but not necessarily supporting the legitimate aspirations of the people.

Given this long history of exploitation by the West, it is Fuller’s view that it is a cop-out to suggest the problem is Islam. It is his conclusion that the problems that now

exist in the Middle East would differ very little if we had a “*World Without Islam.*”

Fuller next discussed the current situation in the Middle East and the Arab Spring of the last 4-5 months. He admitted neither he nor any of his professional colleagues would have predicted a college educated man struggling to support himself as a peddler in Tunisia would ignite a major revolution by burning himself to death after being denied the necessary permit to continue his business.

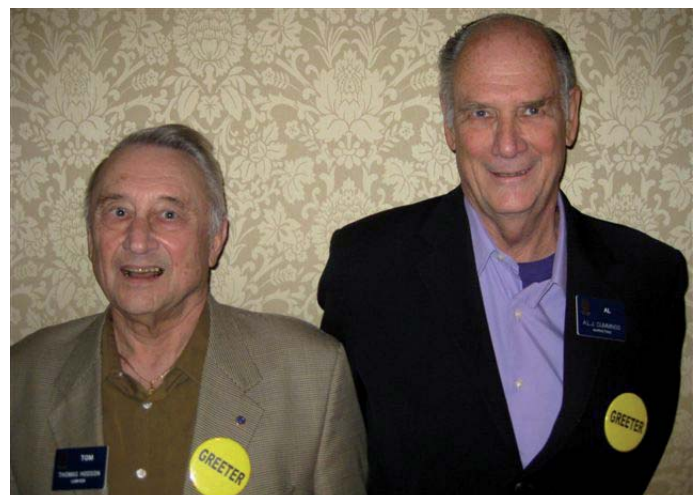
The next unpredicted event was the uprising in Egypt. While conditions in Egypt were very bad and a big blow up was likely some day, no one predicted the time was now. We are likely to see a long period of transition. Under dictatorial rule the population has become politically infantile as a result of the lack of opportunity for political participation and experience. Now people are getting involved in a truly historic process with no clear definition of the outcome and results likely very different in one country versus another.

During the question and answer session Fuller suggested the politicization of the intelligence institutions in the US has corrupted these institutions and degraded the product they produce. An intelligence agency should never give policy advice. Once advice is provided then the agency has a vested interest in the success of the policy which leads to biases when developing and reporting intelligence information.

All in all a very interesting and informative presentation and we thank Graham Fuller for visiting our club and enlightening us with his perspective on the Middle East

Dan Potts

May Greeters



Tom Hodson and Al Cummings

Brief Backgrounds of a Few of Our Recent New Members



Dick Bennett (*member since February 2011*) was born in Bethune, Saskatchewan and has lived in West Vancouver since 1964. After graduating from UBC with an MD, he served in West Germany with the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (1960-63) and in Toronto with Sunnybrook - Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital (1964-65). In 1965 Dick moved to West Vancouver where he carried on his Family Medicine Practice in Dunderave and at Lions Gate Hospital until retiring in 1995.



Len Drugge (*member since December 2010*) was born in Nelson, BC and has lived in West Vancouver since 1964. After graduating from UBC in 1958 with a B.Sc. in Chemistry and Mathematics he joined Imperial Oil where he began teaching those subjects to plant operators at its refineries. That teaching experience was so enjoyable Len decided to return to university to obtain a M. Ed. in 1968 and a Ph.D in 1978 and then choosing a career in education as teacher and principal at the high school level and teaching at the university level (UBC and SFU).



Case Vanee (*member since March 2011*) was born in Appeldorn, The Netherlands. He has lived in West Vancouver for 31 years. He came to Canada to pursue a career in architecture, first working with the Alberta government while building his architecture credentials at the University of Alberta. After 5 years Case joined an Edmonton developer designing and building high-rise apartments, shopping centres and office buildings across western Canada and in the south western US, eventually assuming ownership of the US operations. .

Special Events in June and July

Visit to the Boeing Future of Flight Aviation Centre in Everett, Washington Thursday June 16, 2011

Currently 8 spots open.

Our bus leaves from St. David's Church (corner of Taylor Way and Hwy 401, West Vancouver) at **7:30 AM**. Parking is available in the center and south side of their lot. Arrive 10 minutes early please.

The tour itself takes 1½ hours between 10:00 AM and noon, at which time we cross the street to the Hilton Garden Inn for lunch. We leave Everett at 1:15 PM for home returning at approximately 4:00 PM.

It is imperative that you have your current Passport or an enhanced drivers license or a Nexus pass to clear customs. If you are not a Canadian citizen, and do not have a current Passport, please advise us immediately and we can arrange for a Visa waiver form to cover. (\$6 charge)

Boeing advise the following:

1. No still photos or video cameras, binoculars or cell phones are allowed. Lockers are available.
2. The tour requires a 1/3 mile walk, 21 steep stairs and an elevator ride.
3. Restrooms are not available at the plant but we plan rest stops.
4. No food or drink is allowed on tour.
5. A X-15 flight simulator experience is available at an extra charge.

Mail your **\$75** cheque ASAP payable to: Probus Club North Shore, P.O. Box 92042, West Vancouver, BC V7V 4X4

Visit to new Seymour/Capilano Water Filtration Plant on July 14th

Currently 40 members registered with a waiting list now being compiled. Visit is scheduled from 10:30 a.m. until noon. A barbeque style lunch will follow on the patio of the Seymour Golf Club at the foot of the road. Dress code is golf shirt with collar, no jeans. These promise to be interesting and entertaining outings - see you there! Contact **Fraser Grant** at 604-921-6660 or by email at fsgrant@shaw.ca.

President Dan Pott's Notes



Behind the scenes your Management Committee (MC) is busy arranging speakers, preparing the newsletter, renewing memberships, keeping track of the money, paying the bills, organizing the monthly meetings and planning special events. Fortunately we have a dedicated team on the MC that follow through on their assigned responsibilities leaving the President with the delightful job of trying to “stay out of the way.”

Every year about this time the nominating committee is at work nominating officers for the upcoming year. This committee includes the Past President, President, and Vice-President. Once the offices are filled, the various officers will be looking to build their committees in order to get help, new ideas, and share the workload.

At our last meeting we announced that we were looking for volunteers for the committees and provided a sign-up sheet on a table at the back of the meeting room. Not a single member volunteered!

I understand that many of our members, due to health or other considerations, are not good candidates for posts on the various committees. However, the club does not run itself and we need new people to join in the work of administering the affairs of the club. None of the jobs are very onerous, particularly if you are good at delegating and soliciting help.

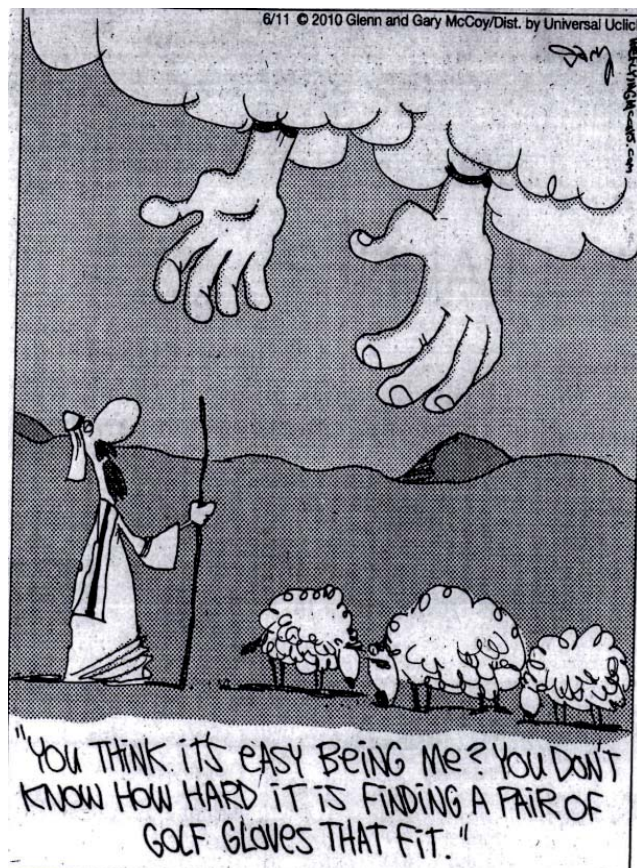
We are going to try again at the next meeting. Please consider volunteering your help to The Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver. Again there will be another sign-up sheet at the back of the room at our June meeting.

All of us have benefited from the efforts of volunteers throughout our work and family life. Many of us have not had much time to give back to our communities. The Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver is one opportunity to do good work for an organization helping enrich the lives of North Shore seniors.

What a great opportunity!

Dan Potts

A Little Humour



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.
Dress Code: Business Attire. Jeans are **NOT** permitted.

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
Phone: (604) 922-9331

Visit: <http://www.capilanogolf.com/public/club/index.aspx>

“Shorelines” © A monthly publication of
The Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver



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

Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed
and may be sent by e-mail to:

newsletter@probus-northshorevancouver.ca

or by mail to:

Probus Club North Shore - Communications Chair
P.O. Box 92042
West Vancouver, BC, V7V 4X4