

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

SEPTEMBER 2012

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September Meeting at Capilano Country Club 420 Southborough Drive, West Vancouver, 604-922-9331 Monday, September 10th

with speaker

David A. Wood, MD, FRCPC

Structural and Interventional Cardiologist at VGH and SPH
Director, Undergraduate Cardiovascular Assistant Professor at UBC

David Wood is a Clinical Assistant Professor and the Director of Undergraduate Cardiovascular Medical Education in the Division of Cardiology at the University of British Columbia. He is an Interventional Cardiologist and is affiliated with Vancouver General Hospital & St. Paul's Hospital, the Centre of Excellence for Surgical Education and Innovation, and the Centre for Health Education Scholarship. Dr. Wood is certified in cardiac computed tomography and is a member of UBC's Advanced Cardiac Imaging group.

Dr. Wood's primary research interests include transcatheter management of structural and valvular heart disease and new device development. He obtained subspecialty training in structural and interventional cardiology at Vancouver General Hospital, St. Paul's Hospital, and Lenox Hill Heart and Vascular Institute of New York. He received postgraduate training in medical education at the University of Dundee, Scotland.

Dr. Wood has over 90 publications in peer reviewed journals, including the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. He works closely with Dr. John Webb as a member of the first group to develop transarterial and transapical transcatheter aortic valve replacement.

The presentation on "*Minimally Invasive Surgery for Structural Heart Disease and Valve Replacement*", complete with graphics, should prove very informative.

2012 Annual General Meeting Materials

AGM materials including an Agenda, Directors' Annual Report, Financial Statement, and Minutes from the 2011 AGM, have been sent to all members.

Please review these items. We will not provide copies at the meeting.

Mark Your Calendars...

Meeting at Capilano Golf and Country Club

- Monday, October 15th., (**Note: Third Monday in October due to Thanksgiving Day holiday conflict**)

Upcoming Special Events (*Details on Page 3*)

- Cirque du Soleil, 'Amaluna' - Thursday, November 29th



President's Notes - Reflections



Completion of our Club's ninth year is a good time to review it. The bottom line is that our Club is well-established, financially sound, and active in fostering fellowship among members through numerous events.

Our program in Year #9 included:

- Speakers – at our monthly meetings we had a full slate of eleven speakers, covering a wide range of topics – energy (2), international affairs (2), health (2), environment (1), sports (1), transportation (1), law (1), community (1). Attendance at meetings was at or above capacity on several occasions, averaging 158, with a peak of 200.
- Christmas Lunch – we enjoyed Capilano Golf Club's renowned buffet, and entertainment by Canada's comedy duo: Bob Robertson & Linda Cullen of *Double Exposure*.
- Special Events – we had trips to a nuclear research facility, bird sanctuary, air show, Shakespeare, and an art & design college.
- Recreational activities included eight bridge evenings (32 members) and five golf events (48 members).

Operational highlights included:

- A full membership complement, up to our "cap" of 370.
- A surplus on operations and over \$22,000 in the bank, permitting reduction of membership fees to the "traditional" \$50.
- Exploring the Great Hall at Gleneagles Golf Course, with its larger space, as a possible venue for meetings, thru three "experimental" meetings there. Following the third one in November, members will be surveyed for feedback and preferences. Any changes will require full support.

Early in the year, we surveyed members for their program preferences. The results were helpful in planning our program. There was considerable interest in starting a Current Affairs group. However, no consensus was reached as to its possible format, and a decision was deferred until comparable programs were assessed – for example, Capilano-U's Elder College offers two 12-session current affairs discussion groups ("What's News") this Autumn.

September 13-15, 2011 saw Rendezvous-2011 in Vancouver, Probus Canada's 3rd National Reunion. Our Club's Management Committee "sparked" the event and, with assistance from several BC clubs, carried the major part of the organizing load. The successful event, with 180 registrants, produced valuable information for Probus Canada, Probus Club operations, and for possible future events.

Our excellent Management Committee made it all possible. The team warrants our thanks and respect for their dedication and professionalism.
Alex Tunner

Membership Renewals

We are at the end of another Probus fiscal year. It is our practice to send renewal notices to all members in August each year regardless of which month a person joined. These notices were mailed on August 11th. If you did not receive a notice in the mail, please let me know by phone at 604-925-7690 or email at dleier@shaw.ca.

The renewal payments are due by **September 15th**. A second and final email notice will be sent to those who have not paid by this due date or by phone for those members without email. Your prompt response will be greatly appreciated.

When paying next years membership please **return the renewal notice with your cheque**. This will help ensure the payments are properly processed. We encounter situations where a cheque has only initials and a surname rather than the name used in the Probus registration. Also, some members use company cheques.

Returning the renewal notice also ensures that changes to your personal information and preferences are updated in our database. Thanks for helping make the renewal as prompt and smooth a process as possible.

Don Leier



August Greeters



Bob Curtis and Les Janz

New Members Welcomed and Introduced at August Meeting



John Blair
Consultant



Eugene Chan
Dermatologist



Neil Hummel
Chartered Accountant



Lloyd Warnes
Marketing

Special Events

As this Special Events term draws to an end, your Committee would like to thank members for your support and to update you on the air show and upcoming events.

Abbotsford Air Show -

Twenty nine members attended the 50th Anniversary Airshow by bus and were treated to the amenities of the Presidents' Club. The greeting with champagne and orange juice as well as coffee and Kahlua set the stage for the day. A wonderful Tiger Moth, WW II airplanes including a B25 bomber, stunt planes and the most modern fighters showed their capabilities. The show was spiced up with the Candian Forces Skyhawk parachute team, a jet propelled outhouse and a jet powered bus. The USAF Thunderbirds and CF Snowbirds put on wonderful demonstrations. We also were able to visit the statics lines in between food and drink. The attendees seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Upcoming Events -

Amaluna by the Cirque du Soleil. This event has been scheduled for Thursday evening November 29th and seats have been reserved for 60 with the potential for more seats if demand warrants. Members and their partners should enjoy a first class performance in great seats with bus transportation to and from the event for a price of \$80 per person. Early demand has been strong so if you are interested, please advise Mike McMahon at mike@mcmtax.com or by telephone at 604-926-1088. An e-mail has been sent with particulars including the cut off date of September 25th for reservations.

The **Christmas Luncheon** has been confirmed for Monday, December 10th at the Capilano Golf & Country Club. Information will be sent out in due course.

Your Committee has arranged a foot tour of the **new Port Mann bridge** through communications with the Project Staff on September 6th at 10:00 AM or 10:30 AM depending on bus arrangements. Members were advised by email which resulted in a great response.

Finally, your new Special Events Committee has begun to develop the programme for 2012 - 2013 and has some interesting possibilities based upon the survey of last year and input from Members.

Barry Heselgrave



Last Month Speaker



Malcolm and Linda Metcalfe thanked by Alex

Continental Energy Issues

Malcolm Metcalfe is the Founder and Chief Technology Officer at Enbala Power Networks.

Malcolm gave an interesting presentation on Canada's role in the energy picture. He explained that energy makes up about 1/3 of our trade with the US but the US has now found new sources of both oil and natural gas within their borders. These sources have been driven by the use of new "fracking" technology. This process uses horizontal drilling in oil and gas bearing shales, deep below the surface, and hydraulically fracturing the rock to release oil or gas.

Natural gas prices have fallen to very low levels, and sales revenues for Canadian natural gas exports have fallen dramatically. Oil is now a focus in the US, as this new fracking technology appears positioned to drive up US oil production and prices down. The Bakken field, in North Dakota, Wyoming, Saskatchewan and Alberta is claimed to contain more than 900 Billion barrels of oil, which is only partially recoverable, but this compares to the Canadian Oil Sands at less than 200 Billion barrels.

Canadian oil and gas production currently has almost no access to any markets other than the US, and the potential for the US to have surplus oil and gas, reducing potential purchases from Canada, may be a real threat to Canadian trade and revenues.

Canada is now examining the potential to build pipelines to the BC Coast, to deliver oil and gas for export to Asian markets. These proposals are revealing splits between provinces and people. Public opinion appears to strongly oppose the projects and yet there is little discussion on the potential impact on the economy resulting from a failure to assure markets for the resources that we have always been able to sell easily.

The way forward may ultimately be a complex process, but there also may be little time for inaction.

Malcolm's presentation is now available on our website at <http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca> under the Speaker's tab.

Ken Bryden

Caring Alert

Future newsletters will have this space available to note members/spouses who may welcome contact from friends, at a time of illness or bereavement

Monthly Quote

*"There are many things in life
that will catch your eye,
but only a few will catch your heart ---
pursue those."*

-Michael Patrick Nolan

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

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Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed
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