

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

December 2015

www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca

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Membership:

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Michael Coady
604-990-7643

Special Events:

Colin Ritson
604-926-6976

2015 Christmas Luncheon

Monday, December 14th

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

Capilano Golf and Country Club

with lots of

**Food, Fun, Fellowship and
Holiday music by the Classic Carollers**



Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates...



January 2016 Meeting at Capilano Golf and Country Club

- Monday, January 11th - Tannis Fuller and Linda Fawcus of the Gluu Technology Society
- **Bridge Club Welcomes New Members** - *details on page 2..*

President's Notes



Christmas is almost upon us. It is a time to celebrate the holiday season and be thankful, and a time to reflect upon this past year. In 2015, our Club continued with satisfying membership numbers and a high quality of speakers and activities. That is due to the continuing efforts of our volunteers, our many committee members, listed on page 2 of this issue, and members of the Management Committee. The members who serve on our committees put in the time and effort to make our club a success. They are conscientious in executing their voluntary responsibilities and act for the good of the members. For all that they do, we should be most appreciative and thank them.

Our speakers this year dealt with diverse topics and covered them very well. Attendance at these events was in the range of 150 members and often many more. Their topics included fire and rescue, Translink, the F35 procurement procedure, oil spill response, municipal finances in Vancouver, Site C, West Vancouver Stream Keepers, Our Ecological Footprint, polling, the Middle East and dental forensics. We should extend special thanks to Gordon Adair the former chair of the Speakers Committee. He arranged speakers who were topical, likely to appeal to our members and in particular, for arranging a replacement for an ill Dr. Warren Justin on 36 hours notice. Gordon must also be complimented for clairvoyance in arranging for Michael Lowry of the Western Canada Marine Response Corporation to speak to us five days after the WCMRC responded to the oil spill in English Bay in April.

Colin Ritson and the Special Events Committee were again active throughout the year arranging special events which included tours of the Vancouver Convention Center, the Museum of Flight, our annual excursion to Bard on the Beach and the tour to the Sea to Sky Gondola in Squamish. One of the highlights of the year was the day sail aboard HMCS Calgary on 23 June which was unfortunately restricted to 12 lucky members.

In addition, our golf group and bridge groups organized by Phil Boase, were active throughout the year. Without Grant Gisel and the House Committee and Jack Yasayko and the Membership Committee, none of the above would get done.

It has been an enjoyable PROBUS year for me and I hope also for all of you. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and hope that your holiday is as hectic or as calm as you desire.

Mike McMahon



2016 Committee Support Group

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

Communications, Chaired by Darryl Stodalka

* Linda Metcalfe, Shorelines Publisher & Editor, Website

House, Chaired by Grant Gisel

* John Baker

Membership, Chaired by Jack Yasayko

* Bill Guernsey

Speakers, Chaired by Michael Coady

* Ken Bryden, John Low, Bev Machesney, Kutty Variath

Special Events, Chaired by Colin Ritson

* John Elliott, John Pennefather, John Walker

Bridge and Golf, Chaired by Phil Boase

* Fraser Grant, Barry Heselgrave

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Bridge Club News 2016

The new guidelines for the Bridge Club are:

- Play will take place every Monday afternoon (holidays excepted) from 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM at the West Vancouver Senior's Centre (no play in July and August);
- There is no requirement for PROBUS members to join the West Vancouver Senior's Centre (\$36.00 annual fee) but it is recommended;
- Annual fee of \$15.00 will be due from each playing member;
- Members will have an opportunity to play twice a month;

PROBUS members interested in joining the Club for **Season #2 starting April 4, 2016**, should email Phil Boase at (pjboase@telus.net).



New Members Welcomed and Introduced at November Meeting



Ted Butterfield



Leo Dear



Louis Peterson



Dave Snead

Ted Butterfield (*member since November 2015*) was born in Coronation, Aalberta. He has resided on the North Shore for 40 years. He obtained a B.Commerce at the U niversity of Alberta, followed by a C.A. Ted's career was in corporate finance with the Jim Pattison Group. Ted enjoys many interests in his retirement as well as serving on several community service organizations.

Leo Dear (*member since November 2015*) was born in Western Australia and has resided on the North Shore for 30 years. He obtained a B.E. (Hon) at the University of Western Australia. Leo's career was with BC Hydro here he worked on the major projects of the 60's and 80's. Leo enjoys tennis, travel and bridge.

Louis Peterson (*member since November 2015*) was born in the Shetland Islands,Scotland. He has been a resident of Lions Bay for 47 years. Louis obtained a PhD. from the University of Aberdeen and studies at USCal. He was a Professor of Chemistry in London and at Simon Fraser University. Louis enjoys community affairs at Lions Bay, auto mechanics, gardening and travel.

Dave Snead (*member since November 2015*) was born in Vancouver and has been a resident the North Shore for 44 years. Dave obtained a PhD. Geotechnical Engineering from the University of British Columbia. Dave enjoys travel, walks and some golf.



Our smiling Greeter for the October meeting, Barry Heselgrave.



A group shot of the new members. Sorry about the reflection from the projector Dave.



MEDOC travel insurance plan is designed to combine all of the travel insurance needs of PROBUS Members in one convenient package, with plan options to suit the coverage you require. Call 1-866-60M-edoc or visit on line at: <http://www.johnson.ca/probus/en/on>

Last Month Speaker - Dr. David Sweet, OC, DMD, PhD

Note: View Speaker presentations, when available, on our website at:
<http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/speakers.htm>



Speaker Dr. David Sweet is thanked by President Mike McMahon with a bowl hand crafted by member Vic Harrison.

Behind the Crime Scene Barrier Tape

David Sweet, with a doctorate in dentistry, the Order of Canada, and many other honours, gave a fascinating talk on the use of forensic science in solving crimes. He is a tenured professor at UBC, and director of the BOLD laboratory, the Bureau of Legal Dentistry, (boldlab.ubc.ca).

BOLD is a very advanced, high security lab at UBC, and a leader in forensic dentistry and DNA evidence. It is vitally important that no evidence is tampered with, accidentally or on purpose. In the same way, a crime scene is surrounded with yellow tape, so evidence cannot be removed, or new substances introduced to contaminate the area. Thus a bystander's cigarette butt, or even a sneeze could do that. Dr. Sweet warns that TV shows like CSI do not give an accurate picture of this process.

The goal of investigators is to find true evidence which will help solve the crime. Forensic scientists are not advocates for just one side. Their role is to be neutral, discover the truth about evidence, if possible, and present their conclusions in court. Dr. Sweet heaped praise on the work of our police forces.

DNA is one form of biological evidence, and perhaps the gold standard, if you can get it. Only a nanogram (one billionth of a gram) will provide that evidence. Thus, DNA can actually be taken from a fingerprint. It can be degraded by sunlight, salt water, UV light and different chemicals. DNA analysis is complex, and was once very expensive, but now with new, automated technology, it is under \$200 per sample. There is virtually no chance that two different

individual's DNA will match except for identical twins. Of course there are many other kinds of evidence: automotive paint found in an injury, hair similarity, blood splatter patterns, and insect activity on the cadaver. High resolution digital photography is also very useful, as are well trained dogs with good noses. Forensic dentists identify and analyze bite marks, nuclear DNA in teeth and bones, dental work, jaw size and shape, saliva, etc. Archaeologists often help when bodies are buried. The goal is to achieve correctly interpreted evidence.

Dr. Sweet mentioned two cases as illustrations of what his team does. The first was a FARC attack in Colombia in which eleven of twelve parliamentary deputies were murdered. The Colombian government has a very good criminal investigation organization, but wanted international experts to give validity to their findings. The second was the Willy Picton case. There were 65 victims from 1983 to 2002, according to Dr Sweet. The investigators copied the techniques used in investigating airplane accidents where there are multiple victims. During the investigation, 400,000 cubic meters of soil was examined, 450,000 swabs analyzed, almost 600,000 DNA exhibits seized by police, with 200,000 DNA samples processed. The investigation cost the province \$80 million. He said that while the work can be gruesome, helping the families get answers makes it worthwhile to him.

There was much more to learn about the discipline of crime scene investigation, but we did see how difficult it is to get away with murder.

Ken Bryden

Monthly Quote

*God grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change,
the courage to change the one I can,
and the wisdom to know it's me.*

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

Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed
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PROBUS Canada: <http://www.probus.org/canada.htm>