

# Shorelines

## NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

February 2016

[www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca](http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca)

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### Monthly Meeting at the Capilano Golf and Country Club

420 Southborough Drive, West Vancouver, 604-922-9331

Coffee and Fellowship: 9:00 am, Club Business and Speaker: 9:30 - 11:15 am



**Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**

*with speaker*

**Dennis Molnar**

Military History Enthusiast

*“WWII Spitfire Fighter Aircraft”*

Dennis Molnar enjoys Military History, is a past Director of the Churchill Society and has presented five lectures on World War II topics, including The Dambusters, D-Day, The Falklands War, The Enigma Machine and The Sinking of the Bismarck.

#### **The Supermarine Spitfire: Genesis, WWII, and its Evolution into an Icon**

The Spitfire's design was far ahead of its time. Production was extremely difficult and very slow. Less than 300 Spitfires had been delivered by July 1939, so the Air Force decided it was “stopgap” and concluded that the Beaufighter was the better of the two. But three key decisions were made in 1938, 1939 and 1940 that affected the outcome of the war and enabled the Spitfire to become the decisive Air Force Fighter.

Join us for this lecture and find out:

- What really motivated Reginald Mitchell of Supermarine to design the Spitfire.
- What happened in late 1939 that pushed the Spitfire back into first place, dethroning the Beaufighter.
- What were the three key decisions in 1938, 1939 and 1940 that made all the difference.
- What Air Chief Marshall Keith Park did that gave the edge in The Battle of Britain and why he lost his job.
- How Spitfire production went from 40 a month to 300 a month in just 4 months.
- What technology allowed the Spitfire to finish the war with an engine 1000HP more than when it started.
- Why the Spitfire was so difficult to taxi on the ground.
- What catastrophe was guaranteed to every Spitfire if it did not take off minutes after starting the engine.
- Why it was impossible to use the Spitfire as a night fighter.

### Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates



#### **Next Meeting at the Capilano Golf and Country Club**

- Monday, March 14th - Dr. Brian Riddell, Pacific Salmon Foundation
- Special Events, *see page 2 for more details...*

## President's Notes



I write this while it's grey and cloudy and raining. It's January in Vancouver, and the local snowbirds have or will shortly head south while the local skiers are enjoying the abundant snow that we missed last year. So in Vancouver we live through clouds, grey skies, rain and mist, but it's almost February, with spring around the corner, and the sun and snowbirds will return.

I hope you enjoyed last month's presentation by Gluu. It reminded me that our gadgets are getting more and more complicated. I realized that they were smarter than me but I didn't realize how much smarter. This however was brought home to me by Gluu and by Siri, which is the voice in my iPhone. I was engrossed in a project and accidentally triggered Siri to speak. I then told Siri to go away and was startled when Siri's verbal response was "Don't be rude". It certainly got my attention and I am now more polite to my iPhone.

Phil Boase and his committee have launched Monday afternoon bridge. It seems to have been a very popular change. Well done Phil, Barry and Fraser.

Colin Ritson's Special Events Committee has reviewed the survey results and reported thereon in this issue of Shorelines. The feedback was very satisfying and will be used in planning and implementing future special events. Like all volunteers the committee wants to plan events in accordance with our members' wishes.

Following the stock markets on a daily basis over the past weeks has been traumatic as the markets fell and rose with the rapidity and neck wrenching effect of watching a tennis match. Hopefully the markets will settle down soon without doing too much damage to the economy.

*Mike McMahon*

Contact - [president@probus-northshorevancouver.ca](mailto:president@probus-northshorevancouver.ca)



## Canada 150



Canada will be 150 years old next year and we want to celebration this great milestone.

We all remember our Centennial Year as well as our Canada 125 celebrations.

Our membership has helped in building Canada (many for more than half the time since Confederation). We have both sacrificed and contributed significantly to our nations successes and have reason to celebrate!

The Management Committee is in the process of establishing a committee to propose and plan an event we will all be proud of. As such, we are looking for volunteers to sit on this committee and help with the planning.

Also, we are looking for ideas and suggestions as to what the event (or events) should be. Suggestions to date have included a road trip around the province, a cruise of some sort, giving back to the community with talks to school children about what we have experienced, seen or been part of for many of those years, a BBQ / birthday party, coordinate an event with Coho festival, some other Northshore event or at Canada Place. I am sure everyone would have an idea.

Will it be a club event or joint with other lower mainland clubs, other District 2 BC clubs or potentially be a Probus Canada event? There is a lot to think about and get organized in a short period of time.

If you want to be part of your Canada 150 Committee or if you have any ideas or suggestions as to potential events please contact your Vice President, Dave Walker at 604-922-4047 or [davidwalker24@gmail.com](mailto:davidwalker24@gmail.com) or any member of your Management Committee.

*David Walker*

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## Special Events Survey Results

### General

We received 122 responses out of a possible 375. We are told that is an extremely high response and thank all those members who responded and shared their thoughts with us. Your Special Events Committee will use the information to help align special events with your wishes.

Generally, members were satisfied with the special events organized over the last few years but there were numerous suggestions on how to improve the experience. The following represents a brief summary of the results of the Survey. You can review the detailed Reports on our website listed below.

### Procedures

The overall responses indicated that:

- a) at least 50% of members chose Monday to Thursday as the preferable days for organizing special events with Tuesday and Wednesday responses the highest at 60%;
- b) about 25% preferred morning events while 52% opted for either morning or afternoon events;
- c) about 38% preferred that lunch be included, 10% did not want lunch included and 51% replied that special events with or without lunch were acceptable;
- d) slightly over 38% wanted special events open to guests from day 1; there were a number of specific comments in favor of that suggestion; and
- e) as well there were a number of suggestions that special events should be well advertised and announced earlier so members could deal with any scheduling conflicts.

### Q2. Reasons for not attending special events

The main reasons were scheduling conflicts at 59%; no interest in the event at 48%; followed by previously visited the events at 35%. (The percentages add up to more than 100 because responders could choose more than one reason.)

### Q4. Other comments re specific tours

Generally, the responders indicated that they had been out of town, had previously done the tour or were likely to do the tour on their own.

### Q5. General comments

The General comments included many good suggestions some of which follow:

- 5.1 a preference for industrial tours versus social events;
- 5.2 participation in behind the scenes events rather than

events generally open to the public;

5.3 events which members would not ordinarily attend;

5.4 some preferred to attend events open to the public on their own;

5.5 there were a number of suggestions that the events should be more actively advertised and earlier advance notice given to enable members to better schedule attendance;

5.6 some see Probus as a speakers club and not a special events club;

5.7 many suggested that although retired they just didn't seem to have the time to attend.

### Q6. Suggestions for special events

There were many good suggestions which you can review on our web site.

### Q7. Other comments

These are only some of the other comments:

- seek suggestions from our members at our monthly meetings;
- pursue tours of facilities in the news;
- concentrate on subjects that are of interest to male seniors 60 to 90+ years of age;
- and many others.

You can review all the responses on our website at <http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca>.

*Chair Colin Ritson  
and Members of the Special Events Committee*

## Gluu Technology Update

A number of emails that were provided by our members who were requesting information from the speakers from Gluu Technology have bounced back. Unfortunately, the handwriting in a few of the requests were a bit difficult for the speakers to decipher!

If you have not received your information from Gluu, please email them at [ask@gluuconnects.org](mailto:ask@gluuconnects.org) and they will send the requested information right away.

## New Members Welcomed and Introduced at January Meeting



**Gordon Bird**



**Bill Buck**



**Roman Cehelnycky**



**George Richards**



**Rob Williamson**

**Gordon Bird** (*member since December 2015*) was born in Vancouver and lived on the North Shore for 55 years. He received a BSc (Pharm) and BA (Hist) at U.B.C, and an LLB from Dalhousie. Gordon was a self employed lawyer majoring in civil litigation and mediation. His interests include Church mission work, both local and abroad, travel, Rotary, the federal Conservative Party, bridge and live theatre.

**Bill Buck** (*member since November 2015*) was born Born in Slave Lake Alberta and lived on the North Shore for over 50 years. He received an MD at the University of Alberta, with further studies in Dermatology in London, England. Bill practiced as a Dermatologist in North Vancouver since 1961. In retirement he enjoys golf, skiing, British military history, and playing in Dixieland and concert bands.

**Roman Cehelnycky** (*member since January 2016*) was born in and educated in Vancouver, receiving a business degree in computer science. Roman's career was with computer technology and development for the federal government in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. His interests include golf, sailing, hiking and biking. He is also a board member of the Dragon Boat Society.

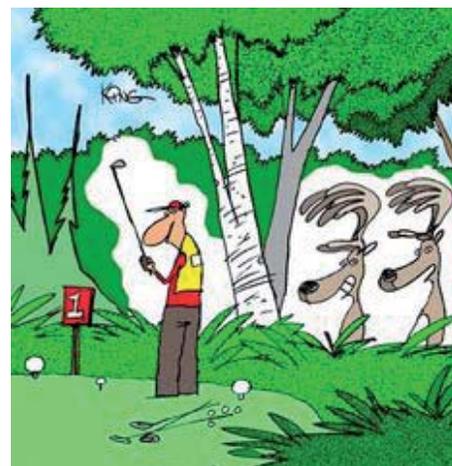
**George Richards** (*member since December 2015*) was born in Golden, BC. He received a B.Sc in forestry from UBC. He was employed in the forest industry for over 50 years in several BC centres. He was Chairman of Weldwood of Canada and recently has been involved in management consulting. His interests include gardening, fishing and hunting. He is currently a board member of the VGH Foundation and Prostate Centre, a church council member and a Kiwanis Club executive.

**Rob Williamson** (*member since November 2015*) was born in Victoria, BC and has lived in West Vancouver for 69 years. He received a B.Sc. (Pharm) from UBC. He owned pharmacies in the Lower Mainland which are now part of the Pharmasave Group. His interests include travel, jogging, skiing, and working part time.

## A Little Humour for Our Members



"I could get there with a wedge  
...you better hit a seven."



"I told you if we built a nine-hole golf course  
and left some clubs out, they would forget all  
about us."

## Last Month Speakers - Linda Fawcus and Tannis Fuller

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



President Mike McMahon thanks our speakers Tannis Fuller and Linda Fawcus with bowls hand crafted by a member.

### The Internet of Things - Gluu Technology Society

Gluu is a nonprofit society on a mission to help older adults use technology to enjoy longer, healthier lives connected to the people and things they love. Gluu (technology that sticks to you- not an acronym) was started by Linda Fawcus, a technology entrepreneur for over twenty years, and Tannis Fuller with twenty years experience in the corporate world. Linda gave the talk.

Linda made it very clear that computer driven technology is changing the world incredibly quickly in ways we don't even know, and we had better adapt. Gluu can help us with that at [Gluuconnects.org](http://Gluuconnects.org). There are ten things we ought to know about the Internet of Things (IoT).

10. Everything you can imagine will be interconnected, using sensors hooked to data processors.

9. It is no longer just the Internet of People. Historically, everything we have read on the Internet was typed in by someone; now there will be computers that will be able to do this. Data was once linear, but soon it will be exponential. That is why quantum computing is being developed. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantum\\_computing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quantum_computing)

8. The Internet of everything is here. There are now almost one billion websites on the Internet, and five billion interconnections, but in five years there will be fifty billion interconnections. Wifi will be worldwide.

7. Sensors will be built into everything. Your kitchen garbage can will recognize the code on your box of All Bran, and remind you to buy some more. An ambient umbrella will tell you if it is going to rain, or where you left it. Shoe sensors will notice your shuffling gait and inform the doctor you are pre-Alzheimer's.

6. Computer screens of different sizes will be everywhere- on your wrist, on your phone, and in your kitchen.

5. IoT will impact the environment by monitoring power usage, and environmental factors. At the same time a massive amount of power is needed now to run the data farms that handle the information. <https://nsa.gov1.info/utah-data-center/utah-data-center.html>

4. It is estimated there will be ten to twenty million self-driving cars in five years. They can drop you off at the club, and return to pick you up. Energy will be stored in ever efficient batteries. Tesla wall batteries already exist for emergency home power.

3. IoT will transform your home by doing mundane chores, and monitoring everything.

2. IoT will aid in your health care. Nano-technology will allow blood cell size "bots" to float through your veins, monitoring certain conditions. IoT pill bottle tops will glow to remind you when to take your pills. Devices will diagnose conditions and they already perform robotic surgery.

1. This technology is changing at an unimaginable rate as they become faster and cheaper.

There is one large fly in the ointment. Potentially, all these clever devices can be hacked, your privacy invaded or devices controlled by someone else. Industry is working on this problem, but it might be time to move to the Gulf Islands.

*Ken Bryden*

## PROBUS Travel Insurance

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>

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**PROBUS Canada:** <http://www.probus.org/canada.htm>