



Newsletter # 200

<http://parksvilleprobus.ca>

April 2011

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Meetings are held at the Quality Bayside Inn and normally on the third Monday of the Month at 9:00 am.

This month's meeting will be held on *April 18th*.

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### **Speaker's Corner**

*We have now heard the first 2 talks in the Climate Change Series and last month Dr. Timothy Ball provided us with an entertaining and informative view on the topic from a skeptics perspective. When I started the series a couple of months ago I asked for a show of hands of those who felt that climate change is occurring and that human beings are the cause of climate change by virtue of the combustion of hydrocarbons. I wonder if, at the conclusion of last month's talk by Dr. Ball, many of you have changed your original view. It will be interesting to ask the same question when the series concludes.*

*At the meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> we will hear the first of two presentations by Dr. Jeff Lewis and the ACER Team at VIU (Awareness of Climate Change through Education and Research). Dr. Lewis was awarded a PhD from the University of Victoria Department of Earth and Ocean Sciences. He accepted a full-time regular position in the Department of Geography at Vancouver Island University in 2008, delivering courses in atmospheric environments, environmental geography, climatology, and research methods. ACER is a VIU student based initiative to promote public awareness and understanding of the science and implications of climate change. The initiative is rooted firmly in the belief that the ability to make informed decisions on an inherently complex topic will require an appreciation of the science, critical thinking and creative problem solving using evidence-based decision-making. The ACER Team provides information on the physical basis of the greenhouse effect, presents up-to-date global average temperature data, introduces concepts of risk assessment and provides the starting point for discussions on technical, sociological and political solutions. The program focuses on the observable physical phenomena and environmental consequences and addresses several common public misconceptions. Most importantly, the team aspires to motivate audiences to take action in their own lives that contribute to the sustainability of our planet!*

*We look forward to seeing you at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting and don't forget to bring a guest to hear Dr. Lewis and the ACER Team.*

*On an organizational note I am pleased to welcome Gerry Addy who will join me on the Speakers Committee and we will work together to finalize the programme for the balance of the year. Other Probus members are invited to join the committee to share the joy and fulfillment of putting together an exciting lineup of speakers for the benefit of our membership. Contact either myself or Gerry Addy (250-752-5201 [rgaddy@shaw.ca](mailto:rgaddy@shaw.ca)) if you would like to join the committee or if you have any ideas of speakers and topics. We already have the skeleton of the talks for the year organized and we are pleased to advise that we have two speakers from our own club who have offered to fill the July and August slots. Stay tuned for details of who they are and the titles of the topics.*

Regards... *John Gunton*

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## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

At the March meeting I had the pleasure of inducting five new members (four of my friends and one of Ken Leaney's). Please see picture. Also at this meeting two guests of mine - Garry & Pat Meadus joined the club. They are long time friends from Edmonton who moved to Parksville last summer.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

27 members voted for lunch, 21 for dinner, and 4 for either. I had checked with Eaglecrest, Memorial, Arrowsmith, Bayside & Tigh Na Mara regarding prices and menu's. Ken Leaney, who will be co-ordinating this event, attended the management meeting March 16 at which time the executive unanimously decided that the proposal from Tigh Na Mara was the best - as far as price and menu. Lunch was chosen, not just because a few more members had voted for it, but also because the dinner menus were costing \$8-15 more per person. Ken has been working hard on the entertainment and in coordinating that with the restaurant the date of December 14 has been chosen.

Website - At the March meeting I did a brief overview of the Probus website. Please check it out at [parkvilleprobus.ca](http://parkvilleprobus.ca). The membership list is the only page that requires you to sign in- and the procedure for that was outlined by Mike Bluett in an e-mail to members. It is not as difficult as it seems.

By Laws - The proposed by-law revisions were passed at the meeting. They will be posted on the web site and a hard copy can be made available to anyone requesting one.

Probus Canada Rendezvous - This annual conference will be held in Vancouver this year September 13-15. I have program information and registration forms. Please contact me if this would interest you.

Nanaimo Probus Club - We have been asked to make our members aware of the following activities to which members of other Probus clubs are invited:

- Golf Tournament - Arrowsmith, June 23, \$58 each for dinner and 18 hole scramble. Questions? [pmreed1956@shaw.ca](mailto:pmreed1956@shaw.ca), 758-4644

- Seattle Tour- June 14-16, \$290 per person double. Includes bus to & from Woodgrove, 2 nights Seattle with buffet breakfast, Boeing Tour, Underground tour, Smith Tower Observatory, (option to attend Mariners baseball game), Hurricane Ridge, Coho Ferry, tips.  
Contact: eblakeman@shaw.ca, 756-1208

Cheers... *Judy Wood*

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### 2011 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<b>President</b>	Judy Wood	250-752-6809	judy.wood@shaw.ca
<b>Vice &amp; Past President</b>	Andy Pickard	250-752-3364	andy.pickard@nucleus.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Doug Cockburn	250-752-2814	frnwd@shaw.ca
<b>Secretary</b>	Jean Cotter	250-752-9519	cotterscorner@shaw.ca
<b>Membership</b>	David Sheppard	250-752-3625	djshep@shaw.ca
<b>Speakers</b>	John Gunton	250-468-1553	geogunton@shaw.ca
<b>Social</b>	Brenda Morre	250-752-5931	besmoore@shaw.ca
<b>Publicity</b>	Bob Urquhart	250-468-7861	ru7861@telus.net
<b>Members at Large</b>	Alice Westaway	250-752-3701	al.west@shaw.ca
	Hugh Carter	250-752-4664	<a href="mailto:carlyon@shaw.ca">carlyon@shaw.ca</a>

### VOLUNTEERS, APPOINTEES

<b>Attendance Recorder</b>	Pete Redford		
<b>Singles Club</b>	Jim Thompson	250-752-8462	jast@shaw.ca,
<b>Barbecue</b>	Ralph Bunker		rbunk@shaw.ca
<b>Golf Tournament</b>	Tony Marsland		marsland@shaw.ca
<b>Christmas Party</b>	Ken Leaney		leaney@shaw.ca
<b>Photographer</b>	Richard Sillery		frem@shaw.ca

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### REPORT TO PARKSVILLE PROBUS MEMBERS ON RECENT VIHA RECEPTION

Last week, on March 28<sup>th</sup>, I attended a short reception held by the Vancouver Island Health Authority for 'representatives of the Oceanside community'. As far as I could tell, I was representing you, members of Parksville PROBUS – so here is my report to you. There were brief presentations by several VIHA senior executives, and then a short period of time to 'mingle' and talk with a large number of VIHA board members and senior staffers (before their supper).

My overall reaction was one of concern for the proposed new health care facility for Oceanside. VIHA wants this facility to be a 'new model' for local health care – but they don't know how it will run, or what the management structure will be. They have apparently signed a contract with a firm to design (and operate?) the facility, and now plan to 'negotiate' for a significant position on the management board. They hope that local and new doctors will want to work in the facility, in some kind of communal practice with a lot of multi-disciplinary interaction, with nurse practitioners, providing extended hours of operation 7 days of the week – but they would not be hiring the doctors, who might have to set up their own clinic or business structure.

In summary, from my business background, I have little confidence that VIHA has a good plan in place for the proposed new facility. And as for signing a contract, and then expecting to

negotiate a significant position in the management of the facility - I would draw an analogy, it sounded like signing a purchase offer to buy a house, and then asking one's lawyer to review the contract – it's too late for advice or guidance once the purchase offer is signed! If VIHA expects to have a major role in running the facility, they should have put this requirement into the original Request for Proposal. Well, time will tell what we get for a health care facility in Oceanside. I'm hoping to stay healthy for a long time!

PS – I did raise the issue of adequate parking, either free or at minimal cost. While the importance of adequate parking was readily recognized, there were no promises made!

*Andy Pickard*

Vice-President, Parksville PROBUS Club

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### **MARCH GENERAL MEETING**



*New member inductees: Bill & Margaret Clow, President Judy, John Mattis, Jill & David Gooden*



*Speaker chair John Gunton with Tim Ball*

*Photos Courtesy of Richard Sillery*

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## **CURRENT EVENTS**

### **ROD & GUN PUB LUNCHEON AND CONCERT** – Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Lunch at the Rod & Gun Restaurant at 163 Alberni Hwy, at 12:30 p.m. ([Note the earlier time](#)). Followed by the Oceanside Concert Band's performance at Knox United Church, 345 Pym Road, at 2.30p.m. A group of seats will be reserved for the Probus Group. The \$10 tickets will be sold at the door.

### **CANADIAN FORCES MARITIME TESTING RANGE AT NANOOSE BAY** – Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

There is room for two groups of 12. Group A meets at the main gate at 7:45am to board the boat, have the tour & return by 9:30am. Group B meets at 9:45am and returns by 11:30am. The boat ride is about 30 minutes. Guests should be capable of getting in and out of a vessel and climbing a steep (paved) road unassisted. Good walking shoes are recommended. Weather will be cooler on the water. If interested please contact Fred Collins at 752-1401 or [collinsf@telus.net](mailto:collinsf@telus.net) or sign up at the April 18th meeting. Registration is on a first come, first serve basis - for either time.

*Judy Wood*

**BBQ AND BOCCE TOURNAMENT** – Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>

SAME PLACE: Rotary Park Qualicum Beach SAME TIME: 2:00 P.M. SAME GOOD FOOD & FUN  
LADIES: We will be having a contest!!! BEST JUDGED HAT CONTEST There will be prizes!!!!

More information to follow.

*Ralph Bunker*

**PAST EVENTS**

**DINNER AND MOVIE** – March 4<sup>th</sup>

On March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011, twenty-four members enjoyed dinner at the Eaglecrest Golf Club and then 'moved in' to the Movie room to see "Nowhere Boy", one of the Beach Flicks presentations, based on the early life of John Lennon.

*Brenda Moore*

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