

**Newsletter # 209**

<http://parksvilleprobud.ca>

**January 2012**

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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 *January 16th*.

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### **Speaker's Corner**

As mentioned previously, our guest speaker on January 16 will be the Honourable Don McRae, Minister of Agriculture. His Executive Assistant, Don Smukowich and probably Ron Cantelon, B.C. Liberal MLA for Parksville-Qualicum, will also attend. This is a rare opportunity for the Parksville Probud Club and will be an excellent time to boost attendance by inviting some guests.

Don McRae was elected to the Comox Valley riding on May 12, 2009 and was appointed Minister of Agriculture on March 14, 2011. He was born and raised in the Comox Valley and taught at GP Vanier Secondary School for fourteen years. He served as a Courtenay City councillor for the past seven years and was active on many community organizations including the Comox Strathcona Hospital Board.

*Gerry Addy*

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### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

There are several indications that this could be a very interesting year. Last year certainly ended on a high note – the Christmas Party was very entertaining and enjoyable. Then Gerry Addy has started the year off with a very interesting speaker in the person of Don McRae, Minister of Agriculture for B.C.

Lou Drage is not able to continue as the 50-50 Draw Chair, so we will need to find someone who can take over that task. If anyone has some ideas about that, will you please let me know, and we probably should try to work out a process to be sure of having the greeters for all of the meetings. How would be the best way to deal with that?

As Judy has done before me, I will probably try to remember to mention Alice Westaway's Book Exchange. If you have some books that are just collecting dust, bring them in, and be sure to look through the books that are already there. You may find that book that you have wanted to read. Years ago, when I had to travel quite a bit, I started leaving the book which I have just finished. I would write a short note and leave the book in the seat pocket. Over time I found other people doing the same thing, and it certainly broadened my reading experience.

I feel very much like a “newby” in many ways, so if you see something that I am forgetting as we move through the year, please let me know.

In a small First Nations village, a young squaw came out of her tepee one morning and placed her newborn son on a deer hide for all to see. About an hour later, another young squaw did the same thing. About 20 minutes later a young squaw came out of her tepee, placed a hippopotamus hide on the ground, and put her twin sons on the hide. That proved the Pythagorean theorem, “The sons of the squaw on the hippopotamus hide were equal to the sons of the squaws on the other two hides.”

*Happy New Years, George Shaw*

### 2012 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

<b>President</b>	George Shaw	250-390-9121	gshaw5@gmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Tony Marsland	250-752-1072	marland@shaw.ca
<b>Past President</b>	Judy Wood	250-752-6809	judy.wood@shaw.ca
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bob Urquhart	250-468-7861	ru7861@telus.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Jean Bunker	250-752-0322	rbunk@shaw.ca
<b>Membership</b>	David Sheppard	250-752-3625	djshep@shaw.ca
<b>Speakers</b>	Gerry Addy	250-752-5201	rgaddy@shaw.ca
<b>Social</b>	Fred Collins	250-752-1401	collinsf@telus.net
<b>Members at Large</b>	Alice Westaway	250-752-3701	al.west@shaw.ca
	Richard Sillery	250-752-2744	frem@shaw.ca

### VOLUNTEERS / APPOINTEES

<b>Attendance Recorder</b>	Pete Redford	250-752-6388	predford@shaw.ca
<b>Singles Club</b>	Jim Thompson	250-752-8462	jast@shaw.ca
<b>Barbecue</b>	Ralph Bunker	250-752-0322	rbunk@shaw.ca
<b>Golf Tournament</b>			
<b>Christmas Party</b>	Ken Leaney	250-752-2192	leaney@shaw.ca
<b>Photographer</b>	Richard Sillery	250-752-2744	frem@shaw.ca
<b>50-50 draw</b>			

### SUNSHINE REPORT

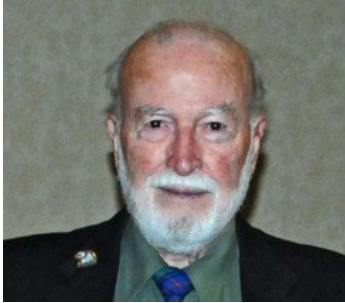
A get well card was sent to Helen Shaw and a sympathy card to Don & Jan Walker after the sad death of their son.

This week I have sent a get well card to Bernard Atkinson who had some health problems while on a holiday in Hawaii. He is home now, having some tests. Our best wishes to you both.

*Alice Westaway*



**2012 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS**



**George Shaw - President**



**Tony Marsland - Vice President**



**Judy Wood – Past President**



**Jean Bunker - Secretary**



**Bob Urquhart - Treasurer**



**Gerry Addy - Speakers**



**Fred Collins - Social**



**David Sheppard – Membership**



**Alice Westaway - Member At Large**



**Richard Sillery - Member at Large**

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**BOOK EXCHANGE**

Remember the book exchange.... we need some new ones for good winter reading.

*Alice Westaway*

## CURRENT EVENTS

### **DINNER AND MOVIE AT EAGLECREST (Beach Flicks) - Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**

Doors open at 6pm. The movie is called \$5 a Day. A terminally ill thrifty con man and his estranged son try to live on \$5 a day during a cross country drive in this road trip comedy. The conservative son begrudgingly joins his father on the road - after being released from jail for one of his Dad's earlier crimes. (Beach Flicks is a non-profit organization in partnership with the Toronto International Film Festival and the Film Circuit).

Cost - \$6

Deadline - Monday, January 16 meeting if you wish us to get your ticket. Otherwise you can arrive early enough to buy your own.

Dinner- 5:15pm at Eaglecrest clubhouse for their fish and chips (and other things). Reservations required. Please phone June Atkinson (954-3707) for further information.

### **CHEMAINUS THEATRE - "All Shook Up" - Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm**

Featuring the songs of Elvis Presley, this musical comedy follows a small town girl who dreams of hitting the open road. Everything gets turned upside down when a guitar-playing roustabout rambles in, introducing her to romance, rebellion and rock 'n roll.

Cost - \$45.92 (each, or two for one with coupon)

Deadline - the January 16 meeting. Cheques payable to the Parksville Probus Club please. If you do not meet this deadline you can order your own tickets. Tony Antoniuk will be at that meeting so you can buy the lifestyle books for \$25 which have the two for one coupons.

Lunch - 11:30am. Saltair Pub just off Chemainus Road. Please sign up if interested. Call Judy 752-6809 for further information.

*Judy Wood*

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### **WHO AM I (OR ARE WE)?**

Delivered in a tent by a drunken doctor in an oil boom-town in Texas, this guy dropped out of school when he was 16 so that he could join the maritime service in WWII. After the war, he went back to secondary school and graduated when he was 21 years old. Then he worked his way through several different occupations. He wasn't really happy with any of them. Thus, in 1956, this former lumber mill worker, taxi cab driver, disc jockey, and airport manager decided to take a \$100.00 per month cut in pay in order to become a teacher. (or maybe he just couldn't hold a job, eh?) So, at the age of 29, he enrolled in college, (Yuba Community College, north of Sacramento) majoring in Social Science, with a minor in Life Science. After returning to teach at that same college for 26 years, he became the Dean of the Language Arts and Library Services Divisions. In 1990, instead of retiring, he served one year as the Interim Personnel Director for the college during the search for a permanent Director.

Although a good woman is hard to find, he managed to wed one of the few native-born Californians who was still actually living there. The daughter of itinerant farm-laborers, this former tomato-planting, pear-picking, cattle-herding motorcycle-rider had also been forced to settle for teaching in order to make ends meet. To make that happen, she worked her way through college as a tutor. Her Major was Language Arts, and her Minor was Learning Disabilities. The latter equipped her to deal with most of the people she would meet in US politics, particularly in the 2000's. Convinced that no one else would marry a biker-babe-turned-college-professor (now teaching at the same college as her future husband), she was shocked to learn that her now-partner of 30 years had already done a background check on her and had discovered that she was wearing a fake wedding band so that none of her single colleagues would feel they had to ask her out just to be polite. When he asked if she'd like to see his great-grand-goldfish, she knew she'd picked a winner. (For details about the liverwurst sandwich, the critter stew, the hair-cutting kit, and the REAL reason he finally popped the question, buy them a couple of drinks sometime.)

They've been on the road together (literally) ever since. They moved to Lantzville in 2004, and got permanent residency in 2006. They've even been spotted recently in Save-On co-piloting a wheelchair pushing a grocery cart. What could possibly come next?

We are George and Helen Shaw

