



Newsletter # 189

April 2010

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 19th*.

Speaker's Corner

In March we were entertained and informed by Robert Grose who answered the question "Should I buy green bananas?" and we learnt to avoid using the term "retirement" and instead replace it with "second life". I hope you enjoyed what he had to say as much as I did.

You can see the speaker line up for the balance of the year by visiting the website and looking at the Calendar. I will try and keep the speaker schedule up to date and as you can see, after we have had a couple more talks on disasters our focus turns to the marine environment. We are fortunate to have lined up some very prestigious speakers (myself excluded!) and I hope we can maintain a good attendance during the summer months.

At our next meeting on Monday April 19th we welcome Linda Strand as our speaker who will talk to us about the "North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre".

Linda is a volunteer with the centre and she will tell us about the centre's history as well as current operations, strengths and the challenges it faces. She will show us a short DVD and there will be ample opportunity for questions. This gives us a good chance to learn more about the good work that the centre does and I look forward to introducing Linda to you at our meeting. Please bring a long a guest if you know of others who might be interested.

John Gunton

Presidents Message

Good day to you! I feel a little like my early description of the Brant Geese when we first moved to Oceanside – I thought of them as the ‘phantom geese’ – widely touted but rarely seen! I was away on business at the time of our March meeting; I expect to leave town early on Monday, April 19th, missing out next meeting; and I’m scheduled to be in Ottawa May 17th to 21st – missing our May meeting! Fortunately, we have a fine tag team with John Gunton, our VP, and me, covering the leadership duties. So far our times away have not coincided – so one of us has been here for each Club or Management meeting. In fact the timing is tight this month, but should work. I’m here for our Management meeting on April 14th, when John will be away in England, but returning April 18th, just in time for our club meeting April 19th! We are also blessed with some active participants on the Management Team, keeping our activities rolling.

Please give us some feedback on the new Club website – is it useful? You might want to memorize the web site address or write it down and carry it in your wallet, so if you meet some people new to the area, and are talking about activities in the area, you can give them our web site for more information on our Probus Club.

Give some thought to participating in the upcoming BC PROBUS conference being organized by the *Northwest Bay Probus Club of Nanoose* on May 18th and 19th right here in Parksville.

Oh, and the Brant Geese? They are no longer ‘phantoms’ - now I see lots of them, knowing where and when to look – right at the water’s edge at lowish tides. It helps that we overlook the Little Qualicum River Estuary and beach beyond – a good spot for the Brant to visit.

Best wishes.

Andy Pickard

2010 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	- Andy Pickard	752-3364	Historian	- Nita Looijen	248-8614
Vice President	- John Gunton	468-1553	Sunshine	- Alice Westaway	752-3701
Past President	- Hugh Carter	752-4664	Secretary	- Jean Cotter	752-9519
Comm/Publicity	- Bob Urquhart	468-7861			
Treasurer	- Russ Morison	248-3074	Newsletter	- Mike Bluett	951-0618
Speakers	- John Gunton	468-1553	Singles Club	- Jim Thompson	752-8462
Membership	- David Sheppard	752-3625	Greeters	- Peter Redford & Alice Westaway	
Activities	- Judy Wood (752-6809), Brenda Moore, Jim Thompson				
Members at Large	- Brenda Moore (752-5931), Jim Thompson				

CURRENT EVENTS

COMPUTER GROUP – Wednesday April 14th & 28th, 10am

Sessions are held at the Quality Bayside Inn. We have room for another 4 members. The number of members is kept small (12 maximum) to ensure that people feel comfortable and free to ask questions.

This month we are discussing how to create Word documents. This involves how to use some of the mysterious tools in the toolbar and menu.

BOOK EXCHANGE - *A simple Book*

Exchange, based on the honour system will start at the March meeting. Very simply, you will "bring a book and take a book", no restrictions- a soft cover for a hard or soft cover, big for a little etc.. If you do not see one you like, you do not have to take one at least not for now. Please help us get started by bringing along a book.

Thank you, *Alice Westaway*

LUNCH and ECHO THEATRE - Sunday, April 11th - \$30

30 people have paid for this combo. Lunch starts at noon at the Legion and I will give your names to the organizers. Theatre tickets will be given out at lunch. The play starts at 2 pm.

TSA KWA LUTEN Lodge - Quadra Island - Monday, May 24th

COST - \$79.95 per person + tax = \$86 - based on double, therefore \$172 per couple. Single cost \$119.95 + tax = \$131.20. This cost includes vouchers for dinner (\$22.50pp) and breakfast (\$10pp) for two. Please indicate your preferred bed configuration (2 doubles, Queen, King). First come first serve. All rooms have a balcony or patio with a view of the strait (and any passing cruise ships). Check in 3pm, check out 11am. The hospitality room is being provided free so anyone coming is asked to BYOB and a pre-dinner snack to share at 4:30pm.

Facilities- sauna, outdoor hot tub, fitness equipment, archery, horseshoes, bocce ball, bike rentals.

DEADLINE - Sunday, April 11th. If you are coming to Lunch and Echo please bring your cheque then otherwise please drop it off to Judy prior. For those not attending Echo please have your cheque to Judy by Wed. April 14th. judy.wood@shaw.ca, 752-6809, 1091 Eaglecrest Drive. (I will be in Greece April 16 - May 2).

PORT ALBERNI STEAM TRAIN & MCLEAN MILL TOUR - Saturday, June 26th - 2pm

Cost \$22.50 each. We will have lunch in Port Alberni prior- details in a later newsletter.

DEADLINE - April 11th (at Echo) or May 17th meeting.

2:00 departure, E&N Train Station (1912 vintage). We ride behind an ex-logging locomotive.
2:35 arrive McLean Mill (a National Historic site)
3:00 theatre show (The Tin Pants Theatre company makes history come alive at the Nikkei Theatre)
3:30 sawmill demonstration (The sawmill is the only commercial steam-operated sawmill in Canada)
4:00 interpretive tour and/or free time
5:15 departure, McLean Mill
5:40 arrive, E&N train Station

PAST EVENTS

PORT THEATRE - Wednesday, March 24th



Back row - Gloria Stevenson, Gene Wakaruk, Boo Laurin, Pete Redford

Front row - Judy Wood, Marlene Wakaruk, Lila Redford, Marg Kreye

ABBAmania and the BeeGees. Eight Probus members enjoyed dinner in the lounge at the Coast Bastion Hotel in Nanaimo, followed by a very enjoyable performance of ABBA songs (such as Dancing Queen, Waterloo, Fernando) and Bee Gees songs- the most popular being Staying Alive from Saturday Night Fever. I loved the ABBA part of the program- all such familiar songs. Some of the songs had the audience on their feet dancing.

Judy Wood

WE'VE GOT A DATE

WRITE THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

JULY 15th, 2010

IT IS THE ANNUAL PARKSVILLE PROBUS CLUB

B.B.Q. & BOCCE TOURNAMENT

COST TO BE – SAME AS LAST YEAR

\$25.00 PER PERSON

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

Sincerely submitted

Ralph Bunker