



Newsletter # 187

February 2010

Meetings are held at the Bayside Inn and normally on the third Monday of the Month at 9:00 am.
This month's meeting will be held on *February 15th*.

Speaker's Corner

Last month (January) we were treated to an excellent review by Dr. Gerry Redmond of the history of the Olympics taking us right up to the Winter Olympics which will begin this month in Vancouver. Gold, silver and bronze "medals" were awarded to members in the quiz following the talk. We thank Gerry (and his wife Madge who "made" the medals) for sharing his knowledge and thoughts and presenting them to us in a light hearted enjoyable way.

This month on February 15th we will enjoy learning about the challenges facing athletes as they prepare to compete. Our speaker this month is *Tony Theriault* and the title of his talk is:

"Beijing or Bust: An Athlete's Journey"

As I introduce Tony to you immediately prior to his talk, you will learn that he is a successful Canadian athlete and among his many accomplishments is a 6th place finish at the 2008 Paralympic Games. Please come and meet a local athlete of whom we can all be proud.

John Gunton

Presidents Message

Good day to you all!!

As we get into this new year, there's lots going on. One major activity, carrying on from Hugh Carter's initiative last year to reach out to potential new members for our Club, is development of a Club website. John Gunton, our Vice President and Speaker Coordinator, is actively working with Mike Bluett (who already publishes our Club Newsletter) to develop the website. John will give brief demonstra-

tions of the web site at the February and March meetings. So, any questions you have about our new web site – please ask John!! For an advance look, please go to <http://parksvilleprobud.ca>

As a word of background – your Management team sees the development of a Club website as a two-fold opportunity – many potential new members are likely to be more ‘computer literate’ than some of us, and look first to the internet for information about possible clubs and activities in the Oceanside area. Secondly, since more and more of our existing members are making regular use of the internet – posting information on a web site is an effective way to communicate details of planned excursions and other Club activities to our current members. One key requirement of an effective website is keeping it up-to-date. Currently John Gunton and Judy Wood will be our web site editors to assemble input from Club members for the web site. They will be responsible for the ‘content’ of the site. And note that we will want to change the pictures regularly – so if you have some good digital pictures of Club activities, please let John or Judy know. Mike Bluett will be our webmaster – responsible for actual appearance and operation of the website. We look forward to your feedback!

Remember the Chinese (?) expression – “Many hands make light work”. Please consider volunteering to take on one ‘job’ for the Club – note in the list of activities that there are several possible activities that need a leader. If you enjoy doing something, please consider volunteering. And volunteering is not an eternal commitment – leaders should only expect to lead for a year or two, then take a break (or become active in something else!).

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				

Sunshine Club

We are sorry to hear that Ken, Marlene Leaney and family members were involved in a car accident on Village Way and Memorial. The good news is no-one was seriously hurt, but the car was a write-off.

Alice Westaway



CURRENT EVENTS

COMPUTER GROUP – Wednesday February 10th & 24th, 10am

There is no requirement for you to have any significant computer skills to join in: We cover some very basic topics and hopefully topics that will help make life with a computer a little easier. Feel free to ask any questions you may have. Sessions are held at the Bayside Inn and currently cost each member \$25 every 5 month (we meet twice a month). We have room for another two members. The number of members is kept small (12 maximum) to ensure that people feel comfortable and free to ask questions.

BAILEY'S STUDIO - Sunday, February 21st

The following people have paid for the Nanaimo Theatre Group presentation of the musical GODSPELL - Brenda Moore, Judy Wood, Gordon & Margaret Robinson, Doug & Beryl Hamilton, Ludwig & Maureen Weilmeier, Boo Laurin, Barry & Esther McGill, James & Lanette Tomlinson, Stan & Shirley Harry, Gene & Marlene Wakaruk, Bob & Gloria Miller, Fred Collins, Jean Cotter, Pete & Lila Redford, Shona Hookings, Gloria Stevenson. If you wish to carpool please arrange it in advance or meet at the real estate end of Wembley Mall at 10:50am.

LUNCH - We will be having lunch at 11:45am at the Black Bear Pub, (468-1735), 6201 Doumont Road. Left on Aulds, right on Metral Drive, left to stay on Metral, right at Doumont. (It overlooks Brannen Lake).

THEATRE - located at 2373 Rosstown Road (off Bowen Rd). Turn North onto Whitney Road, right onto Rosstown Rd. Seats are not assigned in advance. I will give out the tickets at lunch time. The doors into the lobby open at 1pm and people start lining up anytime after that. The doors to the theatre open at 1:30pm. I have assumed that if you pay for the theatre you are coming to lunch also.

PORT THEATRE - Wednesday, March 24th – 7:30pm \$38.50

ABBAMANIA and BEE GEES - an infectious re-creation of this superstar group's musical works. Sing along to the "Mama Mia" songs. Tickets have been ordered for 8 people. The last ticket order will be Tuesday Feb. 9th. e-mail judy.wood@shaw.ca or phone 752-6809. Drop off your cheque to 1091 Eaglecrest Drive on Feb 7th or 8th. I will be away Jan. 27th - Feb 6th. We will go to dinner prior. Location to be announced in the March newsletter.

TRIP to GREECE - NEW PRICE - \$1554 USD per person double April 17th - 29th (land only)

Alice & I have paid our \$200 deposit for this package with a US company that arranged my Thailand trip in November. They do an excellent job. The package is the same as before except an inside cabin on the cruise (upgrade to outside for \$150pp).



- 3 nights in Athens (2 nights at the beginning and one night at the end)
- 5 day cruise - to Mykonos, Kusadasi, Patmos, Rhodes, Crete and Santorini - all inclusive
- 4 day Classical Tour - to many of the important archaeological sites of ancient Greece.

For those interested in this package I can e-mail a more detailed itinerary. Alice and I are planning to have a stay on Crete and another island at the end of the above package & will likely return May 3rd. The price is based on two people sharing. Single price is \$2014 USD **AIRFARE** - from Vancouver to Athens is estimated to be about \$1390. (Since airfares change continuously it is impossible to get a firm price until a person is ready to book) Cheaper but less convenient air may be available- i.e., longer layovers & more stopovers.

Judy Wood

PAST EVENTS

ROCKING HORSE PUB - Wednesday, January 13th

The following 17 people enjoyed lunch at the Rod & Gun in Parksville Wed. Jan 13th - John & Pat Gunton, Pete & Lila Redford, Bill & Barb Stoddard, Barry & Esther McGill, Ralph & Jeanne Bunker, Gloria Stevenson, Judy Wood, Bob Miller, Louise & Al Shipley & Arlene Shaw.

Judy Wood

COMPUTER GROUP – Wednesday January 27th

The Computer Group members graciously honored me with a wonderful lunch at the Bayside Inn after our meeting last Wednesday. I was also presented with a very humorous book called “The Daredevil Book For Cats”. Many thanks to all for this thoughtful gesture and I look forward to providing you with many future rewarding ventures into the sometimes confusing world of computers.



Photos Courtesy of Fred Collins



Mike Bluett