



**Newsletter # 174**

**January 2009**

---

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 *January 19th*.

---

### [Speaker's Corner](#)

Fed up with all the distrust in Ottawa, politicians getting you down-hearted?

Well crank up your hearing-aids and hear what our speaker has to say about "ELECTORAL REFORM as far as Proportional Representation by Single-Transferable Vote" is concerned. Our speaker of many talents will explain BCSTV a voting system adopted in part by SWITZERLAND, NEW ZEALAND and other countries to encourage up to 95% to come out to vote for a more varied and honest Government. Don't miss this outstanding presentation!!! Meet **JAMIE DEITH** a business man from Courtney.

*Bob Martin*

---

### **Presidents Message**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO PARKSVILLE PROBUS MEMBERS!**

As part of your new management team, I'd like to wish all members very best wishes for a healthy and happy 2009! I'm trusting that by our first meeting on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, most of this 'lovely white snow' will have disappeared, and first signs of spring will be visible to the avid gardeners. I've been told by a 'long time resident' that we can expect a big dump of snow about every 10 years. So let's hope we've had our winter now, and can move on to more normal conditions.

I encourage you to invite friends and neighbours to attend our next meeting. While we might not normally encourage political discussions, the planned talk on alternative voting systems and the single transferable vote should be of major interest to people of all political persuasions.

Again, best wishes for 2009!

*Andy Dickard - Vice-President*

## 2008 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

President	- Hugh Carter	752-4664	Historian	- Gloria Stevenson	752-3136
Vice President	- Andy Pickard	752-3364	Sunshine	- Alice Westaway	752-3701
Past President	- Dave Grant	954-0623	Secretary	- Jean Cotter	
Member at Large	- Brenda Moore	752-5931	Comm/Publicity		
Treasurer	- Barry McGill	752-2978	Newsletter	- Mike Bluett	951-0618
Speakers	- Bob Martin	752-0866	Singles Club	- Jim Thompson	752-8462
Membership	- David Sheppard	752-3625	Greeters	- Peter Redford & Jack Greenway	
Activities	- Judy Wood (752-6809), Brenda Moore, Jim Thompson				

### Membership

There are 37 Members who have not paid their dues for 2009. Please bring cheques to the meeting on the 19th. If you not going be there please mail to me 1215 Midiron Close, Qualicum Beach V9K 1C6 or telephone me. We would like to have these cleaned up this month.

Thanks,

*Barry McGill*

### Sunshine Club

I am sorry to inform you that two of our long time members Robert Tomchick and Harold Toombs died in December. Harold Toombs' memorial will be held on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at Tigh-Na-Mara. Our deep felt sympathies go out to both families.

Bob Miller and Bob Martin have been in hospital but are home now. We wish them well.



*Alice Westaway*

### Social Committee

Summary of the social activities the committee of Judy Wood, Alice Westaway and Jim Thompson planned for the Probus club for 2007 and 2008.

<u>2008</u>	
<b>Jan</b>	Chemainus Theatre - Tonight-Piaf , Saltair Pub for lunch
<b>Feb</b>	Mexico Tours - Mexico city to Cancun, Copper Canyon (no local tour as all committee members were away)
<b>Mar</b>	Sid Williams Theatre-Courtney - Pavlo- guitarist. Dinner at Tomato, Tomato
<b>Apr</b>	Oceanside Concert Band - Knox United, Lunch at Cabernets Restaurant, Parksville

<b>Apr- May</b>	Kingfisher Resort Lunch
<b>Jun</b>	Echo Theatre - Educating Rita , Dinner at Gary's Bistro
<b>Sep</b>	Yellow Point Tour- Cranberry farm, Barton & Leier garden & gallery, Lunch - Crow & Gate pub, Herb Farm
<b>Oct</b>	Octoberfest - Port Alberni, Lunch at Waters Edge Bistro
<b>Nov</b>	Port Theatre - Forever Plaid, Dinner at ABC restaurant

<b><u>2007</u></b>	
<b>Jan</b>	Pub lunch- Rocking Horse
<b>Feb</b>	Sid Williams Theatre-Courtney- Roamnza- tenors, Dinner at Tomato, Tomato
<b>Mar</b>	Pub lunch- Lantzville (an excursion to Vancouver was offered but no interest)
<b>Apr</b>	Echo Theatre- Copenhagen, dinner Memorial Golf Club
<b>May</b>	Painters Lodge, Campbell River, overnight excursion, dinner & boat trip etc
<b>Jun</b>	Chemainus Theatre, Anything Goes. Lunch at Crow & Gate pub
<b>Sep</b>	Pacific Northwest Raptor Center, Lunch at the Rock Cod Cafe in Cowichan Bay
<b>Oct</b>	Bailey's Studio Nanaimo, Blood Brothers, Lunch at the Longwood Restaurant
<b>Nov</b>	Ladysmith Lights Bus Tour - dinner, parade, entertainment

As can be seen above we take a break during July, August, and December since the barbecue, golf tournament & dinner, and Christmas party occur during those months. If you have any suggestions for activities please speak to a committee member (Brenda Moore has replaced Alice Westaway) OR e-mail [judy.wood@shaw.ca](mailto:judy.wood@shaw.ca)

*Judy Wood*

### **Events Calendar**

Please bring your CHEQUE BOOK to the meeting (separate cheques for each excursion please - payable to the Parksville Probus Club)). There will be sign up sheets for the three following excursions - but they require payment in January.

**CHEMAINUS THEATRE & LUNCH** - Wednesday, **January 28<sup>th</sup>**, 2 pm matinee, \$37.80

THE SHOW - Letter from Wingfield Farm. "When a city slicker trades his pinstripe suite for overalls and moves to a hundred acre farm, the local township sounds the alarm. Weekend farmers are common, but this man thinks he can make a living with a broken down racehorse and a single furrow plough. Hilariously funny Canadian Classic that has played to sold out houses from coast to coast. " From the Toronto Star " Beattie is astonishingly adept at transforming himself from one character to another in a matter of seconds"

LUNCH - If you intend to join us at the Saltair Pub in Chemainus at 11:45am please let Judy know. You can also get lunch near the theatre if you prefer. We plan to car pool so those interested in this should meet at Wembley Mall at 10:15am.

TICKETS - If you purchase a Lifestyle coupon book for \$24 it has a 2 for 1 coupon in it for Chemainus. Tony Antoniuk will be at the meeting Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> if you want to get one then (or call him at 752-9152) to get one prior. Tickets are also available from Thwaites Norris Insurance. The center section is sold out already for some performances so I am concerned about waiting until after January 19<sup>th</sup> to order tickets. I will place a first order within a few days of receipt of the e-mail newsletter. If you want to be part of this first order you can DROP OFF YOUR CHEQUE AS SOON AS YOU RECEIVE THE E-MAIL NEWSLETTER - payable to Parksville Probus to Judy at 1091 Eaglecrest Drive (752-6809). If you are using a 2 for 1 coupon include it and print your last name in pencil on the coupon. (I have a brass mail slot beside the front door) OR you can order your own tickets from the box office at 1-800-565-7738. Fortunately they have abandoned their one year experiment of different ticket prices for the centre and wings so all tickets are the same price.

**SEATTLE EXCURSION** - Wednesday **February 18<sup>th</sup>** to Sat. Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> \$202US (per person based on double occupancy) includes return boat trip & 3 nights hotel.

PRICE - At todays exchange rate the \$202US converts to \$241CAD so please make your cheques payable for that amount (\$482 a couple). When payment is applied if the exchange rate differs appreciably there will be an adjustment either way.

This visit coincides with the Northwest Flower and Garden Show with its six acres of display gardens, free seminars, (speakers & demonstrations), container gardens, a floral competition and shopping at hundreds of exhibits related to gardening. This show is at the Convention Centre and single day tickets cost \$20 (\$16 in advance). while a 2 day pass costs \$29. If the garden show does not interest you there are many TOURS a



person can take from our Seattle hotel. Examples - the Boeing Factory & Future of Flight Museum (only 22 miles away) - a 4 hour tour, a tour of sights in the city and neighborhoods (including a view from Queen Ann Hill, the Ballard Locks and trendy Belltown.). Attractions which can be visited include the Seattle Centre and Space Needle. the Pike Place market, Olympic Sculpture Park, Pioneer Square etc. HOTEL - the Sixth Avenue Inn is about 7 blocks away from the Convention

Centre and close to all downtown attractions. It has a restaurant and bar on site. We plan to meet for dinner each evening for those interested.



TRANSPORTATION - We will be taking the Victoria Clipper from downtown Victoria Tuesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> - leaving at 5pm and arriving in Seattle at 7:45pm. We will then take a short taxi ride to the hotel where we will stay for 3 nights. We will then return on the Clipper Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 8am arriving 10:45am. The clipper has a light dinner and continental breakfast available for purchase if desired. We plan to car pool to Victoria (since there is ample time each direction) and park at the Harbor Towers or a nearby parking lot.

DEADLINE - the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, or by Jan 30<sup>th</sup> at Judy's home (space in the hotel may be gone if one leaves it too late)

**VICTORIA - BE A TOURIST IN YOUR OWN TOWN** - Wed, March 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>

\$10 + hotel cost : This promotion is a very valuable one in that there are reduced hotel rates and many free attractions as well as reduced rates at others.

TICKETS go on sale FRIDAY, JANUARY 30<sup>th</sup> at all Thrifty's stores (or by calling Tourism Victoria). The reason for getting a ticket early is because some of the hotels sell out early on this promo. I will purchase tickets for anyone who pays the \$10 per person at the meeting or at my home anytime prior to Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> - otherwise you will need to get your own ticket. You cannot book a hotel until you have a ticket (or ticket number). Hotel prices range from \$30 - 45 per person per night and include the Embassy, Executive House, Grand Pacific, Huntington, Oswego, Quality Inn, Swans, Marriott. All are centrally located. We are recommending the Oswego as it is the newest, a boutique suite hotel, where each suite has full kitchen facilities. It is \$45 per person per night (about 1/3 the regular rate). However if you have a favorite hotel from the preceding list please book it.



We would welcome suggestions for restaurants where we could meet for dinner each evening. Free admission- art gallery, Abkhazi gardens, Aviation museum, Naval museum, Glendale gardens, undersea gardens, mineral world, wax museum, Sidney museum, parliament tours, 20 min. harbor cruise, and others.

Discounted offers - BC transit- 1/2 price day pass, Craigdarroch castle 50%off, Gray Line 45 min. tour- \$5, float plane tour \$59, Odeon theatre - 2 for 1, Imax Theatre - 50% off, Prince of Whales - 2 for 1 marine tour, Royal BC museum 50% off, and others. I can e-mail you more detail on these if desired.

Judy Wood ph:752-6809, [judy.wood@shaw.ca](mailto:judy.wood@shaw.ca), 1091 Eaglecrest Drive

At the meeting please pay **Brenda** for Chemainus, **Jim** for Victoria & **Judy** for Seattle.

*Judy Wood*

