



**Newsletter # 199**

<http://parksvilleprobus.ca>

**March 2011**

---

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 *March 21st*.

---

### **Speaker's Corner**

#### **CLIMATE CHANGE – Understanding the Science**

The Series was introduced at our February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting by myself. In the days leading up to the talk I became aware that this topic is huge and there are many facets of it that require explanation and understanding. Needless to say in the time available we were only able to understand how temperature and moisture levels are measured. We discussed how temperature varies in the different climatic regions of the globe and how they vary with time. We learned how there are uncertainties in the data collected and the interpretation of what causes the variability.

Due to time constraints we did not look at possible explanations of what has caused climate to change through history nor did we have time to examine the potential implications of climate change in the way we might expect change to affect ocean chemistry, sea level variation or to cause extreme weather events. The point was made that others in the Speaker Series will consider the relevance of attempts to model climate change and to argue the feasibility of actions to mitigate change and the cost of doing so.

It is impossible to ignore the topic. We are made aware of it in numerous documentaries, media clips, books, websites, magazine articles, newspaper editorials and journals. The United Nations has formed the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which has published numerous Assessment Reports ( [www.ipcc.ch/publications\\_and\\_data/ar4/wg1/en/contents.html](http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/wg1/en/contents.html) ). The most recent is AR4 (2007) and the next one is expected in 2013. An update is available (2009) <http://www.copenhagendiagnosis.org/> A most important finding of IPCC is that the increased rate of climate change experienced globally in the last few decades is unequivocally caused by the combustion of fossil fuels and the corresponding increase in the rate of CO<sub>2</sub> is released into the atmosphere (dubbed the Anthropogenic Cause). The IPCC is an important body because its findings and recommendations are used by national and local governments in the development of policy and action. These policies and actions are recognized as coming with a very significant economic price tag which will have an impact on all of us. It has been suggested that if, as global community, we ignore the recommendations, we do not

implement the policies or take mitigating actions, the result will be catastrophe. Those who accept a catastrophic outcome as inevitable unless society takes action may be called the Proponents.

It is fair to say that there are those who disagree with that predicted outcome and that catastrophe will not result from mankind's consumption habits of fossil fuels. Those who disagree have been dubbed Deniers. I believe this is unacceptable characterization of them for several reasons not the least of which is that many of them do not deny that climate does and is changing. They are however skeptical that the rate of change is anything but normal and as a result, the significant mitigating actions recommended by IPCC are unnecessary. They are Skeptical of the findings of IPCC and particularly believe there is no proof that the increase rate in the concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere is the cause of warming. Their position is well summarized in [www.friendsofscience.org](http://www.friendsofscience.org) and Conrad Black's National Post letter <http://network.nationalpost.com/np/blogs/fullcomment/archive/2009/11/28/conrad-black-a-teeming-rain-forest-of-irrelevant-climate-claims.aspx#ixzz0YHdfDWDu> .

The Climate Change Debate pits the Proponents against the Skeptics. The debate is that mankind's current consumption rate of fossil fuels will lead to catastrophic climate change if left unchecked.

## **SPEAKERS:**

### **March 21**

#### **Dr. Timothy Ball**

Timothy Francis Ball, Ph.D., is a retired university professor and global warming skeptic. He heads the Natural Resources Stewardship Project and formerly headed the Friends of Science, an organization which believes that science does not support the theory that anthropogenically produced CO<sub>2</sub> from the combustion of hydrocarbons is responsible for climate change. Dr. Ball was awarded a B.A. from the University of Winnipeg, an M.A. from the University of Manitoba in 1970 in Geography, and a Ph.D. in Historical Climatology from the University of London (Queen Mary College) in 1983, writing a thesis analyzing historical weather records from Canada's north. He taught at the University of Winnipeg from 1973 to 1996, starting as a Sessional Lecturer and retiring as a Professor. Dr. Ball has several research publications to his name, of which the most cited has received six citations. Four of his publications have been cited four times or more in peer-reviewed, academic journals.

### **April 18 & May 16.**

#### **Dr Jeff Lewis and the ACER Team**

Jeff Lewis, Ph.D. 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!

Regards... *John Guntan*

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Thanks to John for an excellent introductory presentation of a very complex topic. I was happy to induct three new members at the February meeting as well as present 10 year pins to three members. (see pictures). There were five guests at this meeting and Ken Leaney's guest John Mattis became our newest member. There are two members I have been unable to contact- Ivan Kartz & George Lovatt. If anyone has information on them please let us know.

**Greeters:** At each meeting there will be one or two "Greeters" who will have badges saying "Greeter". They will welcome members and guests at the door or at the tables. Thanks to Ken Leaney for suggesting this and acting as our first greeter. We would welcome any member who is willing to act in this capacity to contact Ken 752-2192, [leaney@shaw.ca](mailto:leaney@shaw.ca).

**Website Revision:** I have worked with Mike Bluett (our newsletter publisher and website editor) to revise the website in order to make it more user friendly. All sections are accessible without a password except the membership list. Please take a look ([parksvilleprobus.ca](http://parksvilleprobus.ca)) and see what you think. I would appreciate your feedback. On the membership page your sign in name should be the name you have on your badge. I hope to spend about 10 minutes at the March meeting to quickly go through it.

**"By Law" Changes:** The proposed "By Law" changes were distributed by e-mail prior to the February meeting and copies were available on each table at the meeting. These are also attached to this newsletter. If you have any suggestions please contact me. These will be voted on at the March meeting. Thanks to Andy Pickard for his work on these.

**Singles Club:** The only way we know you are single is if you tell us. if you are interested in the occasional dinner with the group please contact Jim Thompson ([jast@shaw.ca](mailto:jast@shaw.ca), 752 8462) or Alice Westaway ([al.west@shaw.ca](mailto:al.west@shaw.ca), 752 3701) The group is composed mostly of widows and widowers but all singles are welcome.

Best wishes... *Judy Wood*

---

## 2011 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

---

## SUNSHINE CLUB

Get well cards were sent to Meg Dewar and to Vera Mae Fair..... My apologies to Gordon Collie. At the last meeting I welcomed him back to the club as Jim Collie. Sorry, Gordon, I did know better.

*Alice Westaway*



## CURRENT EVENTS

### **BBQ AND BOCCE TOURNAMENT** – Thursday, July 14th

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*

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

163 Alberni Hwy, at 1 p.m. Followed by the Oceanside Concert Band's performance at Knox United Church, 345 Pym Road, at 2.30p.m. at a cost of \$10 per person. Sign up at the meeting on March 21st, or phone Brenda Moore 752-5931.

*Brenda Moore*

---

## PAST EVENTS

### FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES (at the Quality Resort Bayside at 9:00 AM)

**Present:** Judy Wood presided; 67 members and 5 guests were present.  
66 members meet the requirement for a quorum.

1. Membership: there are 117 paid-up members as of today.
2. Three people were inducted into membership: Alan & Roberta Fraser and Vera Mae Fair.
3. 10 year pins were presented to Jack Coles, Jim Dowsett and Reg Benner.
4. Financial – Doug Cockburn reported that our current balance is \$6,249.16.
5. A vote was conducted on the proposed revision to By-law No. 2, to eliminate the initiation fee by deleting the phrase “an initiation fee of \$10.00 and”. The motion to accept the proposed change was accepted unanimously.

In By-law No. 2, paragraph 1, the first sentence now reads:  
“Membership dues shall consist of an annual membership fee of \$30.00.”

6. President Judy presented the proposed changes to the By-laws – there are extensive „house-keeping“ revisions to update our By-laws to reflect our current practices. She pointed out a last-minute change in the Financial By-law, identifying that there would be two signing officers from the four named management positions. The Management Committee recommends that the Club members consider these proposed revisions so a vote can be held at the March meeting to ratify the proposed changes. Copies of the proposed revisions to the By-laws were e-mailed to all members with e-mail addresses yesterday, and paper copies were available at all tables today. The proposed changes will again be circulated to all members prior to the March monthly meeting.

Minutes prepared by *Andy Pickard*.



Speaker John Gunton receiving his pen



10 year pin recipients Jim Dowsett, Jack Coles, President Judy, Reg Benner



New members Alan & Roberta Fraser being inducted



New member Vera Mae Fair being inducted

*Photos courtesy of Richard Sillery*

### **BOWLING – Feb 25th**

Twenty one people attended the luncheon at Cabernets on Feb 25th, and then fourteen went on to the bowling at the Sunset Lanes. The winner was Bros Brosnikoff, followed by Ralph Bunker.



Ralph Bunker showing the style that earned him second place (to Bros Brosnikoff)



*Rear L-to-R: Ralph & Jean Bunker, Joan Stewart, Judy Wood, Wayne Stewart, Bob Urquhart, Stan Harry, Leslie Sampson*  
*Front L-to-R: Brenda Moore, Richard Sillery, Bros Brosnikoff, John Fair, Alice Westaway, Bruce Foden*

*Brenda Moore*

**Beach Flicks - March 4th**

On March 4th twenty four Probus members attended dinner at the Eaglecrest Clubhouse, and move into the "movie room" to see the presentation of "Nowhere Boy".

*Brenda Moore*

**WHO AM I ?**

Born in Calgary, I graduated from the U of A with degrees in Physical Education and Education and a Graduate Diploma In Ed. Admin. I married Lorne in 1959 and we raised a son & daughter in St. Albert. I taught high school and elementary for 20 years and then took training as a travel consultant. I switched to that career when we moved to Qualicum Beach in 1990 and still work part time in that capacity. As a young retiree (age 51) with lots of energy for the first 6 years here I also taught tennis lessons for the Recreation Dept. and supervised student teachers for Malaspina College. I have been the President of the Arrowsmith Tennis Club and the Eaglecrest Garden Club and both tennis and gardening remain two favourite pastimes. I golf in the summer, enjoy bridge in the winter and love to travel. Lorne and I did 3 major trips annually to all parts of the globe for 10 years. Unfortunately Lorne passed away in 2004 and has missed the wonderful enjoyment of our two grandsons. I continue to travel with friends and have visited 103 countries. I look forward to 2011 as your President. I AM Judy Wood.

**Editor: Mike Bluett**

**Phone #: 951-0618**

**Email: [mbluett@shaw.ca](mailto:mbluett@shaw.ca)**