



Newsletter # 190

May 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 **May 17th**.

Speaker's Corner

For those of you with good memories, it was August last year when I gave Part 1 of the Georgia Basin Geohazards talk focusing on hazards related to seismicity tied to plate tectonics in the region. Since I gave the presentation there have been several very significant earthquakes (>7 Richter Scale). These include the devastating earthquakes of Haiti and Chile, as well as Samoa, Tibet, Baja and Sumatra. There have also been a couple of newsworthy volcanic eruption and I will segue the Part 2 talk by making a few comments on these events and some of the implications that could be relevant to us here in the Georgia Basin. I closed the Part 1 presentation with a brief reference to volcanic activity which is of interest to us as evidenced by recent volcanic activity in the Whistler Corridor and the ash plume released from Mt. Baker in 1975. The volcanic eruption on April 16th of the Mid Atlantic Ridge in the vicinity of Iceland prevented me from getting back from London to chair the April Probud Meeting and to introduce our speaker Linda Strand to you of the North Island Wildlife Refuge at Errington. Many thanks to Hugh Carter for stepping in for me and by all accounts, Linda's presentation was well received and on behalf of all who were able to attend, I would like to extend our thanks to Linda for volunteering her time and talent in speaking to us.

Part 2 of the Georgia Basin Geohazards talk which I will give at the May Meeting will also focus on our vulnerability to flooding events and for a complete understanding of hazards of this type it is important to understand how rivers behave. This is particularly important to this area because of the high volumes of moisture we receive in both snow and rain. I will also look at risks associated with relative sea level change. Finally, often as a result of the high levels of precipitation in the area, it is important for us to be cognizant of slope stability issues which become very important with high levels of water saturation in different surficial materials. This closes the loop to seismicity because with these high levels of water saturation, slopes can become quite unstable and subject to catastrophic failure if triggered by shaking associated with even the smallest of earthquakes.

I think you will find this talk interesting as I will be warning about a lack of awareness and complacency which I find to be common place among residents of this area. The issue of preparedness will be discussed at our June Meeting by Ross Peterson, an expert on the subject, when he will give a talk entitled "Recovery from Disasters - Why is this important and why does It take so long?"

Remember to bring along a friend.

John Gunton

Presidents Message

Good day to all PROBUS members! As the days get longer, we have more time for outdoor activities. For those of us with grass – it means mowing the lawn regularly and frequently – unless someone has a few sheep or goats to manicure a meadow!

Plans are proceeding for our annual events: the barbecue and bocce tournament in July, golf and gourmet in August, and Christmas luncheon in early December. Thanks to our members who are arranging these activities for the Club.

Judy Wood and Alice Westaway are off to Greece, and will be back just in time to attend the BC PROBUS Conference in Parksville on May 18 & 19. I'm looking forward to hearing their stories and seeing pictures!

Please keep an eye out for newcomers to Parksville, whether neighbours or new acquaintances – and if they fit the 'PROBUS Profile', please invite them to one of our meetings. We certainly have room for another 30+ members – and personal invitation is the most successful way to attract new members.

Unfortunately, again I'll miss our upcoming meeting on May 17th. This time I'll be in Ottawa for a week of meetings on national fuel standards. [Did you know that most gasoline in BC now contains up to 10% ethanol as a result of B.C.'s renewable fuels mandate?] But I'll be here for our June meeting!

Best wishes.

Andy Pickard

2010 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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Member at Large	Alice Westaway	250-752-3701	al.west@shaw.ca

CURRENT EVENTS

COMPUTER GROUP – Wednesday, May 12th & 26th, 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 will be discussing how to attach files to an email and how to save attachments and find them later. As well, we will have an introduction to a few different photo management softwares (e.g., Picasa). --- *Mike Bluett*

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

This lodge is on Quadra Island and there are more details in the April newsletter.

The following 21 people have paid for this excursion - Judy Wood & Alice Westaway, Gloria Stevenson & Angela Miller, Doug & Marilyn Slater, Tony & Joyce Russell, Marg Norris Jones & Marg Kreye, Bob Urquhart & Fred Collins, Brenda Moore & Lesley Sampson, John & Serena House, Stan & Shirley Harry, Shona Hookings, Nessie Bayley, Jean Temple.

All rooms with 2 beds and the King bed rooms are sold out but there were a few rooms with queens left. (\$86 per person including tax for two sharing, (\$131.20 for a single) This includes dinner and breakfast. If you are interested in this trip please call Bob Urquhart (468-7861) as he has the contact number for the groups manager.

Ferries from Campbell River to Quadra operate every hour on the half. A person would want to be on the 3:30 pm ferry at the latest. A reminder to everyone to BYOB and a snack to share for the Happy Hour starting at 4:30pm in the hospitality room. Bring your glasses from your room.

Some may wish to visit the First Nations Museum at Cape Mudge Village either Monday or Tuesday as it has a very good collection of historical artifacts.

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 the June newsletter.

DEADLINE - 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

Alice and I were to fly from Vancouver Friday, April 16th for our Greek holiday but the Volcanic eruption caused the flight to be canceled. Our trip has now been postponed to April 30th - May 16th.

Judy Wood

BBQ & BOCCE TOURNAMENT – July 15th



COST: \$25.00

PAY BY CHEQUE: PARKSVILLE PROBUS
CLUB

Please pass your cheque to Ralph Bunker at
the next meetings prior to July 15, 2010

HELP: I, we,
require a Bar
Tender for this
event. If you
would like to
volunteer, pls
contact Ralph
at 752-0322



Ralph Bunker

PAST EVENTS

LUNCH and ECHO THEATRE - Sunday, April 11th

30 Probus members enjoyed a roast beef lunch at the Legion, followed by a well acted performance of "Waiting for the Parade" at the Echo Theatre.

Judy Wood