

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

JULY, 2005 VOL. 3 NO. 7

MEETINGS

Third Tuesday
of each month
9:30-11:30 a.m.
(year round)

Hollyburn
Country Club
West Vancouver

Management Committee

President
Stu McNeill
604-926-7204

Vice President
Don Brinton
604-922-9192

Past President
John Leonard
604-924-9286

Secretary/Archivist
Ron Lively
604-924-1641

Treasurer
Glenn Ferguson
604-921-1232

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Membership
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604-926-8286

Programs
Brian Cooper
604-985-0067

House
Art Eberwein
604-926-6081

Communications
John Leonard
604-924-9286



**Next Meeting
Tuesday July 19, 2005**

**Christopher Gaze
Artistic Director & Founder
Bard on the Beach
Shakespeare Festival**

Christopher Gaze is best known as Artistic Director and founder of Vancouver's Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival. The Festival has seen its attendance grow from 6,000 in its first season in 1990 to nearly 80,000 in 2004. During his professional acting career, spanning more than three decades, Christopher has performed in virtually every major centre across Canada, as well as in England and the USA.

He was born and educated in England and trained as an actor at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. His voice is heard regularly in cartoon series, commercials and on the radio and he was inducted into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame in 2002. Recent theatre credits include the role of Frank Strang in *Equus* at The Playhouse for which he received the Jessie Theatre Award for best supporting actor.

In addition to his role as Artistic Director, Christopher frequently performs and directs at Bard. In the 2004 season, he played Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*. He hosts two unique concert series for the VSO, Tea & Trumpets and The Traditional Christmas Concerts. He is a guest host on the Knowledge Network and a gifted public speaker. He often shares his insights on the theatre and Shakespeare with school groups, service organizations and local businesses. In May, he was honoured by the Governor General with Canada's Meritorious Service Medal.

**Upcoming Speaker
Tuesday, Aug. 16th
Martin Crilley
B.C. Ferries Commissioner**



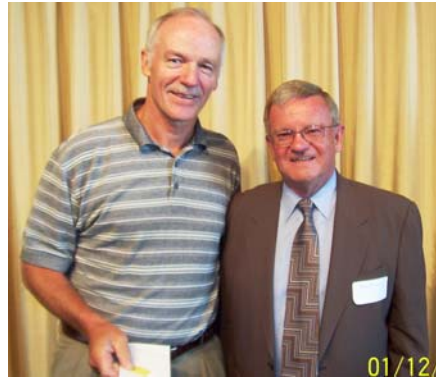
**Our June Speaker, Bob Ackles
thanked by Doug Hull**

Glenn Ferguson introduced Bob Ackles who began by telling us about the struggles his family experienced during his youth. Bob was born in Sarnia Ontario and received his early education in a one room school near Markham Ontario.

In 1952, Bob's father bought a new Chevy coupe and drove the family to Vancouver. "Finding economic conditions poor, we lived in Stanley Park for 2 months. It was great with a huge swimming pool and beautifully treed yard", he told us. Hockey was his first love and he found a job at the Forum in the pre-zamboni days. A new football team was being organized in Vancouver and he went out to a practise and asked the coach if he could be the water boy. He was hired on the spot. Bob had a 3rd job looking for untorn wager tickets on the grounds of the Track after races. He earned more there than at both other jobs combined.

At this point it was clear to us why Bob has earned the reputation as a person with high people skills. He is very unassuming and speaks easily of very personal matters.

He said he learned a lot about people while working in the equipment room and advanced up the ladder through a number of jobs to Director of Football for the BC Lions in 1966. He left the Lions after 34 ½ years to join the Dallas Cowboys for 6 seasons, 3 as President of Pro Personnel and 3 as Vice President of Player Personnel. On settling in to his new position, Bob asked the President to get him a "Green Card". The President called in the Manager of Operations and told him to give Bob a "Green Card".



**Bob Ackles
presenting
raffle winner
Barney
Sorenson
with 2 Grey
Cup tickets**

The fellow left to find out what a Green Card was. The President thought it was something he would have in his desk. Four years later Bob received his Green Card.

After Dallas, Bob moved to the Phoenix Cardinals, then to the Philadelphia Eagles as Director of Football Administration in 1995 and in 2000, moved to the Miami Dolphins as Director of Football Operations for 5 years. He joined the Las Vegas Outlaws of the new XFL league in 2000. The XFL failed after one tumultuous season.

Bob has always had a flair for painting and enrolled in the Fine Arts program at UNLV. He felt he was retired when asked to return to the BC Lions in 2002. He had been away 17 years and had lost touch with his friends in business and he had to work hard to regain the support of leaders in business and institutions. He hired Wally Buono over breakfast in Edmonton. Bob's hiring philosophy is to place little emphasis on the resume and concentrate on the opinions of friends and face-to-face interviews. He enjoys negotiating with player personnel, something most managers find difficult and unpleasant. He receives many calls from players' agents when they become available. He fondly recalled when the legendary Anis Stukas hired him and got football started in Vancouver.

Bob has taken the Club into the community by forming a business advisory committee called the Waterboys, helped raise funds for amateur football and has players visit schools to speak to classes and work with students in the gym.

105 members and guests attended the meeting.



Jack Gallagher

My parents were married in Vancouver; my father had arrived from Scotland at the end of World War I and my mother's family had been in Canada since 1800, and in Vancouver since 1868. My first summer job was at Britannia Mines, and the second summer at Bralorne Mines. I intended to be a Mining Engineer but the war intervened.

I enlisted as a Pvt. In 1942, then a NCO Instructor and then a Prov. 2nd Lieut. with the Irish Fusiliers. Overseas Jan. 1944, posted to the Canadian Scottish Regt. and landed on D.Day with the second wave. I served with the Regt. as a Platoon Commander and Oct. 1944 commanded the Company at the Leopold Canal. I was awarded the Belgian Order of Leopold & the Croix de Guerre for the fighting on the Leopold Canal & the Breskins Pocket. In March 1945 I was sent on a Company Commanders course and retired as a Major in Oct. 1946.

I was hired as a Trainee with the newly established B.C. Forest Products in their logging, sawmill operations and operating divisions. In 1954 I was appointed to the Planning & Development Group of the Crofton Pulp Division, and remained on as Personnel & Industrial Relations Superintendent. I returned to Vancouver in 1967 as Director of Personnel & Industrial Relations with Bulkley Valley Forest Industries.

In 1972 I became partner in the consulting firm, Management Research Ltd. and after 20 enjoyable and interesting years, I retired in 1992.

I was Director then President of the Cowichan Golf & Country Club, a Director & Captain of the Capilano Golf & Country Club, and a member of the Board of Governors of the Vancouver Seniors Golf Association. Today fitness activities include the "Fit Fellas" at the West Van Seniors Centre. Merle & I met in London and married in St. James' Church, Spanish Place, London, and honeymooned in Dublin. We have lived in West Vancouver for 38 years and have 2 children and 4 grandchildren.



Takashi Negoro

"Tak" was born in Vancouver in 1934. Due to the war, his family was evacuated to a "relocation camp" called Tashme, on the Hope-Princeton Highway. In 1946 the family moved to Ashcroft where he completed his high school. He graduated from U.B.C. with a B.A.Sc. in Electrical Engineering.

He joined RCA Victor in Montreal in the Broadcast Engineering Department. His field work took him to various locations in Canada which gave him an appreciation of his country. In 1964 he returned to a Vancouver consulting firm, Hoyles, Niblock & Associates. Early 1966 back to Ottawa to develop clientele in Eastern Canada. Mid-1967 a return to Vancouver to manage their Broadcast Engineering Group. In 1974 back to Montreal for a 2 year term.

In 1979 Tak accepted a position with BCTV as Vice-President of Engineering, and one of the many highlights was the BCTV pavilion at Expo '86.

Tak's industry related committees included the CTV Engineering Committee, the Broadcast Technical Advisory Committee and the Engineering Committee of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters. He was awarded the Canadian Association of Broadcaster's "Gold Ribbon" for Lifetime Achievement in Engineering, and also was inducted into the "Bob Lamb Roll of Honour" of the Western Association of Broadcast Engineers, and remains Chancellor in the selection committee of the Roll of Honour.

Tak and Kay were married in 1966 have 2 sons and have lived on the North Shore for over 30 years. In retirement they extensively use their time-share resort exchange in Hawaii, Spain / Portugal, Australia and Branson, MO.



President's Report

The June meeting of the Probus Club was very successful with an all star cast of Frank Rigney, Bob Ackles and, Doug Hull. We enjoyed an excellent presentation by Mr. Ackles beginning with his early days growing up in rural Ontario; then the long journey by car to BC where the family lived in their car in Stanley Park for a few months; then after a few years, the beginning of a 53 year long career in professional football.

The Management Committee has spent some time reviewing our financial situation and find that we are in good shape. With a view to both relieving the congestion at the check-in table and encouraging members to attend meetings we are recommending that the 2005-06 renewal fee be increased to \$65.00, and the same time, eliminating the \$5.00 monthly meeting charge. Only guests will be charged the \$5.00 fee. Treasurer Glenn Ferguson will welcome your comments.

I very much continue to enjoy, as I am certain you do, the biographies of our members in Shorelines. The variety of interesting backgrounds is truly fascinating. We all appreciate the effort put into writing them and hope that when the Communication Committee members, Ron and Esio call upon you to assist them, you will positively respond. Don't spend a lot of time perfecting your story. Ron and Esio will edit it to length, etc.

Planning has begun on the Christmas luncheon meeting which will again be held at the Capilano Golf and Country Club. Frank Rigney did a fine job as MC last year so we have renewed his contract for 2005. If you know of a performer / entertainer you feel would be appropriate for the luncheon this year please contact Malcolm Nicholson.

Stu McNeill

Lions Football Anyone

The Vancouver Probus Club has rented a large block of seats for the Saturday October 1st football game at B.C. Stadium. Members of our Club have been invited to join in the festivities. The cost is \$65 per person and wives are welcome. Dinner is included in the price. There will be a cash bar. Contact Stu McNeill 604-926-7204.

Chef's Corner Pineapple Angel Tort

- 1 – 19 oz. can crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1 – pkg. (3 – ¾ oz.) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 – cups whipping cream
- 1 – round angel cake
- About 1 pound of strawberries

In a bowl, stir together pineapple and pudding mix and allow to stand 5 min or until slightly thickened. Whip cream until stiff; fold into pineapple mix. Cut cake into 3 equal layers; fill and frost with pineapple / cream mixture. Chill at least one hour. Just before serving, garnish with strawberries. Makes 12 servings.

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Previous issues of “Shorelines” may be viewed on the
website <http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/>

Send editorial contributions and comments to:
shorelines@probus-northshorevancouver.ca

or
“Shorelines”
c/o P.O. Box 92042
West Vancouver, B. C.
V7V 4X4