

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

February, 2007

VOL. 5 NO. 2

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Next Meeting
Tuesday February 20, 2007

Dr. Andre Gerolymatos

Chair of Hellenic Studies
Simon Fraser University

As many of you know Dr. Andre Gerolymatos is one of the most dynamic and interesting speakers we have had addressing our Club and we are delighted to welcome him back for an unprecedented 4th time in February.

Dr. Gerolymatos is recognized as a world-authority on Middle Eastern affairs. He specializes in Military and Diplomatic history and has published a number articles and books on these subjects.

Perhaps the greatest value in his presentations is his ability to give us clear and concise analysis of the current problems in the "hot spots" of the region.

Prior to coming to Simon Fraser University, Dr. Gerolymatos was Director of the Hellenic Studies Centre at Dawson College in Montreal. In addition to the numerous books and articles he has written on conflicts in the Mediterranean and Middle East, he has delivered several lectures on the subject at Harvard and Stanford Universities. Dr. Gerolymatos has been a North Shore resident for several years.

We urge you to make sure you have a circle around the date, Tuesday, February 20th. Make sure you are early so that you have a seat for what promises to be one of our top meetings of the year.

NEXT MONTH
David Baines
Vancouver Sun Business Columnist
Tuesday March 20, 2007



Dr. Eduard Fidler was introduced by Lal Fox

Dr. Fidler began his presentation with several quotations on philanthropy. This one by Ralph Waldo Emerson was typical: “It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself.”

He said we all share three goals: financial independence; a legacy for our family members; and a legacy for our community through charitable gifts. But we often make mistakes in estate planning that present problems in the interpretation of our wishes to leave legacies. They include:

Failing to understand the effects of having assets in joint ownership;

Failing to prevent successful court challenges of one’s will;

Having insufficient income in the year of death to take advantage of all potential tax credits;

Failing to integrate retirement income decisions with estate distributions decisions.

Dr. Fidler described a number of examples to show how it was possible to provide for retirement income, a family inheritance and a legacy charitable gift, and at the same time, reduce taxes.

A specific plan will depend upon age, gender, tax situation, province of residence, health status, the investment amount and particular financial goals.

President Brian Cooper thanked Dr. Fidler.



ON FRIENDSHIPS

Let's hear it for friends – whether short term acquaintances or life-long companions, they make life much more abundant. They're even good for your health. Studies have found that strong social networks can improve your immune system and even your cardiovascular health, as well as help with depression and anxiety.

A genuine compliment can be one of the best gifts you can give to any friend. If there's something you admire about someone or a particular way they handled a situation – say so.

One of the building blocks in friendships is that sense of caring and connection that we get when others understand and know us. So keep your ears open and try not to miss milestone events, or difficult times. This year resolve to put your calendar to good use and send a card or make a phone call on your friends' birthdays. And if this is the year a friend retires, or reaches a milestone anniversary, make a fuss!

One caveat: before you start to forward internet jokes and links, be sure that your friend really wants them – and label them in the subject line. Some people feel overwhelmed by too much email and will start to ignore your address if they receive too many forwarded emails and not enough personal ones from you.

Fifty-Plus.Net International Inc.



Greeters today were Keith Pople & Ernie McGuire



Bob Curtis

Bob was born in Winnipeg. He received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Manitoba in 1962 and started work for Manitoba Hydro in control and telecommunications. He married Kathleen in Winnipeg and then moved to Nanaimo with BC Hydro in 1965 where their first daughter was born.

He later transferred to Vancouver. Kathleen became homesick so they returned to Winnipeg in 1967 and Bob with Manitoba Hydro. Later that year they were right back in BC with BC Hydro. They settled in North Vancouver, where their second daughter was born.

Bob was a member of the Radio Advisory Board of Canada Radio Relay Committee (RABC) in Ottawa and a member of the Canadian Electrical Association (CEA) Telecommunications Spectrum Committee.

In 1974 Bob worked on a consulting project in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, planning and designing a new microwave radio system for a power utility.

Bob retired in 2002 after 35 years in telecommunications with BC Hydro. He was a consultant in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, for a power system load-shedding project using fibre optics.

Bob and Kathleen have one daughter with two grandchildren living in West Vancouver and a second daughter with one grandchild living in Tsawwassen. Bob has been a member of the Hollyburn Country Club since 1976. He enjoys running and has participated in the SUN RUN, Pacific Spirit Run and the Scotiabank half marathon. Favourite activities include golf and curling as well as gardening and travel.



Chuck Willett

Chuck was born in Vancouver and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from UBC in 1966.

He was with Regency Prescriptions in the Seymour Medical Clinic starting in 1966 and in 1979 became the pharmacist owner of the Shoppers Drug Mart in Ambleside. Active in his profession, Chuck was president of the BC Pharmacists Society in 1975. He retired in 2000.

Chuck, an avid sailor, advanced to Commodore of the Hollyburn Sailing Club in 1977 and served on the Board of West Vancouver Yacht Club for several years. He is also a golfer and curls on the north shore.

Active in the business community in the 80's Chuck was a member of the West Vancouver Chamber of Commerce and served as a Vice-President for 2 years.

Chuck and his wife Selma (also a pharmacist) have lived in the same house in West Van since 1974.





President's
Report

Gentlemen:

Since our inception in Sept./03 our Club has grown from a Charter Member list of 154 to 280+ today. Not bad in only 3 ½ years! We must be doing something right.

Actually, a lot of it is due to the diligent efforts of the unsung members of our various Management Sub-Committees.

This month I would like to recognize our 5-man Communications Group which is chaired by our ever cheerful Esio Marzotto. In addition to Esio it includes: Ron Penhall, Darryl Stodalka, Al Cummings and John Leonard.

Some of their activities include:

- * maintaining the membership data base,
- * distributing newsletters and other documents,
- * publishing our monthly newsletter, Shorelines,
- * maintaining our own informative website,
- * maintaining necessary communications and correspondence with other Probud Clubs and on and on –


Like the other Committees of your executive (who will be recognized in subsequent issues of Shorelines), these members deserve our thanks. This Club would not be as successful as it is without their efforts.

Brian Cooper

A POEM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

*A row of bottles on my shelf
 Caused me to analyze myself.
 One yellow pill I have to pop
 Goes to my heart so it won't stop.
 A little white one that I take
 Goes to my hands so they won't shake.
 The blue ones that I use a lot
 Tell me I'm happy when I'm not.
 The purple pill goes to my brain
 And tells me that I have no pain.
 The capsules tell me not to wheeze
 Or cough or choke or even sneeze.
 The red ones, smallest of them all
 Go to my blood so I won't fall.
 The orange ones, very big and bright
 Prevent my leg cramps in the night.
 Such an array of brilliant pills
 Helping to cure all kinds of ills.
 But what I would really like to know
 Is what tells each one where to go!*

MEETINGS
 Third Tuesday of each month 9:30 – 11:30 AM
 Year Round
 Hollyburn Country Club
 West Vancouver

“Shorelines” © A monthly publication of
 The Probud Club of North Shore Vancouver 

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