

Shorelines

NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

OCTOBER 2012

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October Meeting at Capilano Country Club 420 Southborough Drive, West Vancouver, 604-922-9331 Monday, October 15th

with speaker

Herbert Grubel

Professor of Economics (Emeritus), Simon Fraser University
Senior Fellow, The Fraser Institute

"Is the Euro Dead?"

Herbert G. Grubel was educated in Germany and the United States, earning a PhD in Economics from Yale University in 1963. He has had teaching and research positions at Yale, Stanford, Chicago, Pennsylvania, the US Treasury, Berlin, Singapore, Cape Town, Nairobi, Oxford, Canberra and Bologna.

Mr. Grubel was a Reform Party Member of Parliament in Ottawa from 1993 to 1997, serving as the Finance Critic from 1995 to 1997.

Mr. Grubel's presentation reports on the views expressed by prominent economists on the future of the Euro and Greece at gatherings this summer in Greece, Italy and the Czech Republic. There was no consensus. Some emphasized the cost to Germany and some other countries involved in bailing out Greece, Portugal, Spain and Italy, concluding that the Euro experiment will be ended. Others focused on the costs of ending the experiment, concluding that the Euro will survive the current crisis. Arguments on both sides are powerful but only time will tell which predictions are correct.

FINAL NOTICE FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If a member fails to pay the renewal fee of \$50 by **October 15th**, their space will be filled by a new member.

Please mail ASAP or bring your payment with your renewal form to the October meeting if you have yet to renew.

Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates...



Next Meeting at Glen Eagles Golf Course Clubhouse

- Monday, November 12th, *Speaker detail on Page 4*

Upcoming Special Events (Details on Page 2)

- Cirque du Soleil, 'Amaluna' - Thursday, November 29th
- Annual Christmas Lunch - Monday, December 10th

President's Notes



I look forward to working with this experienced Management Committee to continue furthering the aims of our Club as we embark on our tenth year of existence in Probus.

We have come a long way since John Leonard and Don Brinton got tired of waiting to join the Vancouver Chapter and decided to form this North Short Probus group. Thanks to the excellent work of past committee volunteers, we have kept our focus on arranging outstanding speakers while adding interesting special event outings plus recreational golf and bridge groups. As a result, we are now one of the largest active Probus Clubs and can point to the successful hosting of an International event – Rendezvous 2011, among past accomplishments.

A big part of our monthly get-togethers is the social aspect of fraternizing with fellow members and making new acquaintances. To celebrate our 10th Anniversary, we plan to hold a function next summer, the details of which will be made known once finalized.

To those of you who have agreed to serve on a Committee this year, I extend my thanks and I welcome any suggestions that can add to the success of our Club. Our web site has been updated to include new Committee members whose ideas, interest and energy will help ensure our continued success.

Fraser Grant



Special Events

Your committee has a number of possible events for the coming year. We will try to build upon Barry's successful survey of last year.

Port Mann Bridge

Nineteen members attended and were treated to an impressive tour of the bridge with interesting facts supplied by our accommodating guides.

Vancouver Aquarium

This was an event of the Probus Club of Vancouver. Seven of our members and 3 guests attended an informative and enjoyable tour behind the scenes.

Amaluna / Cirque du Soleil

Sixty-nine tickets have been taken up by our members at the early discounted price. A limited number of tickets may still be obtained at \$85 each until 15 October. Contact Mike McMahon at 604-926-1088 if interested.

Christmas Lunch

Preparations for this event which will be held on Monday, December 10th, are well underway. Pricing and arrangements will be announced at the next Probus meeting.

UBC Wine Research Centre

Mike Sommers is in the midst of arranging this event. The tour is planned for the third week of February. We hope to include a talk by Dr, van Vuuren before the tour and then lunch and wine tasting with Dr, van Vuuren. *Details to follow.*

Mike McMahon

September Greeter



Paul Newton

New Members Welcomed and Introduced at September Meeting



Dennis Connor
Alternate
Energy



Ron Echlin
Airline Pilot



Bob Gale
Civil Engineer



Jim Grey
Telecommuni-
cations



Mervin Korolek
Property
Management

Brief Backgrounds of a Few Recent New Members



John Blair (*member since September 2012*) was born in Melbourne, Australia, and after graduation in Land Surveying he moved to Calgary and then to North Vancouver in 1983. He has lived in West Vancouver for the past 5 years. John worked primarily in consulting engineering, surveying and mapping with McElhanney Consulting Services, specializing in international development and resource projects working on assignments in Asia, South and Central America, Africa, Turkey and the Middle East. He recently retired as Director and Chief Operating Officer.



Eugene Chan (*member since September 2012*) was born in Shanghai, China and came to Vancouver in 1945 where he attended King Edward High School. He has lived in West Vancouver since 1970. Eugene graduated in Medicine from University of British Columbia and subsequently did post-graduate work in Dermatology at Northwestern University in Chicago. He practiced Dermatology in New Westminster and at Royal Columbian Hospital since 1966.



Neil Hummel (*member since September 2012*) was born in Toronto and has lived in North Vancouver since 1978. Neil graduated from Queens University in 1969 with a Bachelor of Commerce and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1972. Following a ten year career in public accounting practice Neil moved to the financial services industry, later pursuing a new career serving as Chief Financial Officer for a number of Vancouver based public and private companies. Outside his career interests, Neil coached soccer and baseball and served on the Boards and Councils of his professional associations, Capilano University Foundation and Vancouver Symphony Society.



Lloyd Warnes (*member since May 2012*) was born in Chilliwack, BC and attended school in New Westminster. He has lived in West Vancouver for 23 years. Lloyd has a Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing) from UBC. Following graduation, he joined Procter and Gamble developing marketing plans for major brands and new products, progressing to Product Manager before leaving in 1969, initially joining McKim Advertising and later becoming a partner in the Sage Group which specializes in Public Relations and Fundraising. Outside his career interests, Lloyd finds time to serve on the Board of Sunny Hill Hospital Foundation and volunteer at John Braithwaite Community Centre.

Last Month Speaker



Dr. David Wood thanked by President Fraser Grant

New Advances in Treating Structural Heart Disease

Dr. David Wood discussed the latest techniques in structural heart repair. As he said, *“This is plumbing, not electricity.”* In patients where heart valves are not functioning properly, or there are other mechanical problems, SAVR, or **surgical aortic valve replacement** has been the norm. This involves open heart surgery with its inherent dangers, long convalescence, and cost. In older patients, where the surgical risk is high, TAVR or **transcatheter aortic valve replacement** appears to be less dangerous, just as successful and is less costly.

The TAVR technique requires opening an artery in the leg of the patient, and working a catheter up into the heart. In the majority of cases, the problem lies with the aortic valve, and not the mitral valve. The catheter is about 7mm in diameter and the artificial valve will range in size from about 20 to 40mm, with the average being between 21 and 25 mm. Once the catheter is in place, the new artificial heart valve can be inserted. The favourite one is made by Edwards Lifesciences of California. Because the procedure is less invasive, the patient can usually go home the next day. The valves last about ten years and can be replaced. Dr. Wood said that symptoms of aortic valve problems are tiredness, shortness of breath, angina and sometimes fainting.

Some people have a congenital hole in the septum within the heart allowing blood leakage. These holes can vary in size, and they can be plugged using an approach similar to that for valve replacement. An Amplatzer cardiac plug is used, which can be viewed on Youtube.

In BC Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement is being used at Vancouver General and St. Paul’s Hospitals for suitable candidates.

When asked if an otherwise healthy person, without symptoms should have a CT scan (or ECG) to see if there is leakage, calcification etc., he said no. He said there may appear to be a problem which is in fact not a problem, so the doctor is left not knowing what to do. In other words, *“if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.”*

The survival rate from this TAVR procedure in patients, who are at high risk from open heart surgery, is much better than either surgery or use of medicines. High risk patients had at least a 69% chance of surviving one year or more, and death often occurred from other causes. In low risk, younger patients, the standard treatment continues to be open heart surgery, but it is likely that TAVR will be performed in younger patients as the technology improves.

Reference notes from Dr. Wood’s presentation are now posted on our club’s website under the “Speakers” tab.

Ken Bryden

November 12th Meeting

Ian D. Anderson, President of Kinder Morgan Canada, will speak on Kinder Morgan Canada’s application to twin the TransMountain Pipeline between Edmonton and the Lower Mainland.

Monthly Quote

*“Don’t place a period
Where God has placed a comma.”*
-Gracie Fields

Meetings

Second Monday of each month, except when changed to avoid conflict with special holidays on that day; in addition, our Christmas Luncheon replaces the December meeting.
Dress Code: Business Attire. Jeans are **NOT** permitted.

Coffee and fellowship: 9:00 am to 9:45 am
Club business and speaker: 9:45 am to 11:30 am

Members are welcome to bring a guest to a meeting.

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Editorial contributions and comments are welcomed
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