

# Shorelines

## NEWSLETTER OF THE PROBUS CLUB OF NORTH SHORE VANCOUVER

May 2014

[www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca](http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca)

Vol. 12, No. 5

### Management Committee

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**Special Events:**

Colin Ritson  
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### Meeting at Capilano Golf and Country Club 420 Southborough Drive, West Vancouver, 604-922-9331

**Monday, May 5th**

*with speaker*

**Dr. André Gerolymatos,**

Chair of Hellenic Studies at SFU

*“Crimea and Russia”*

Dr. André Gerolymatos is one of the most dynamic and interesting speakers we have had address our Club. We are delighted to welcome him back for an unprecedented ninth time. As such, and as an Honorary Member of our Club, he hardly needs any introduction.

Prior to joining Simon Fraser University, Dr. Gerolymatos was Director of the Hellenic Studies Centre at Dawson College in Montreal. In addition to numerous books and articles, he has written extensively on conflicts in the Mediterranean and Middle East, and he has lectured on those subjects at Harvard and Stanford Universities.

He is an internationally recognized authority on Middle East affairs, specializing in military and diplomatic history and has published articles and books on these subjects. The great value in his presentations is his ability to provide clear and concise analyses of the current problems in the “hot spots” of the region and its constantly changing dynamics.

The past year has been a particularly eventful one with Crimea and Russia. Dr. Gerolymatos will bring us up-to-date on these events. He will highlight specific requirements for progress and possible ways of dealing with obstacles.

### Mark Your Calendars with these Important Dates...



**June Meeting at Capilano Golf and Country Club**

- Monday, June 2, 2014 - Speaker TBA

**Special Events - Vancouver City Walking Tour**

- Tuesday, May 27th, 2014 - *See page 2 for details..*

### Our Probus Club's Yearly Meeting Schedule

Second Monday of each month, except when changed to avoid conflict with special holidays. View our current schedule of meetings at <http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/meetings.htm>

Dress Code: Business Attire. Jeans are **NOT** permitted.

Coffee and fellowship: 8:45 am to 9:30 am, Club business and speaker: 9:30 am to 11:15 am

Members are welcome to bring a guest to a meeting.

## President's Notes - May Survey



To effectively manage our club, the Management Committee (MC) seeks feedback from members on various topics. One of the methods used is to survey the membership.

During the month of May, the MC will send out an electronic survey that will ask you to rank various aspects of the venues we have used during the past 12 months (Capilano Golf and Country Club, Chief Joe Mathias Centre, Gleneagles Golf Club) and indicate your venue preference. Our thanks to our Vice President Barry Heselgrave who has taken the lead in designing this venue survey.

This will be the 3rd survey of our membership (excluding show of hands at meetings). The first general survey of members took place in November, 2004 and was reported in our Shorelines January, 2005 issue.

Our second survey was initiated by Barry Heselgrave and his Special Events Committee to secure member feedback on the types of events preferred. That survey took place in October 2011 and was reported in the December, 2011 Shorelines.

One can review the responses of the members in those club years by accessing the above named back issues of Shorelines on our website [www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca](http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca).

Another part of our club's management responsibilities is to review the type of insurance coverage that is provided to us by PROBUS Canada. A portion of our \$2.50 fees per member we pay to PROBUS Canada provides us with insurance coverage they purchase on behalf of all participating clubs.

At our April MC meeting, our Treasurer Alistair Duncan enlisted the expertise of club member Ian Thompson who reviewed the aspects of our insurance policy with the committee. Our coverage is on a calendar year basis and includes \$5,000,000 Commercial General Liability; \$5,000,000 Non-owned Automobile Liability; \$5,000 Medical; \$5,000,000 Tenants Legal Liability and has \$1,000 deductible.

Ian did a superb job of informing the MC, using poignant stories to illustrate the aspects of our coverage and answering our questions.

Thank you Barry, Ian and Alistair for your fine service to our club. May I also pass on thanks to Colin Ritson and Mike McMahon for organizing the Trans-Link tour, to Ed Frazer for stepping in to take photos at our April meeting, to Ken Bryden for his excellent write-up of the presentation and to Past President Fraser Grant for chairing that meeting. Kudos to all members for keeping our club vibrant!

*Don Leier*

Contact - [president@probus-northshorevancouver.ca](mailto:president@probus-northshorevancouver.ca)

## Special Events - Walking Tour

### Vancouver City Walking Tour - Tuesday May 27th

This Walking Tour will be led by **John Atkin**, a civic historian and author who organizes and conduct tours for groups and individuals. John has explored Vancouver like few others have and offers an interesting and offbeat insight to the city's architecture, history and neighbourhoods. He has created, and conducts, a number of unique and popular walking tours throughout the City of Vancouver (<http://www.johnatkin.com>).

The tour will start near the Pacific Central train station and end up in Chinatown. We will be looking at the history and evolution of the False Creek shoreline between the station and Chinatown. The station, Ivanhoe Hotel, the former Royal George Hotel, the site of the BCER car barns, the site of the gasworks and a bit of Chinatown are some of the sights/sites along the way.

The tour will start at 9:30 am and take approximately 2 hours and be followed by lunch at a restaurant yet to be selected.

The tour will be limited to 30 members - there will not be space for partners or guests.

Participants will make their own travel arrangements to and from the tour. Public transport is suggested

The cost of the tour will be \$10.50 including tax.

You may register and pay at the next meeting (May 5) or with John Elliott at by phone 604-925-3535 or email [johns.elliott@telus.net](mailto:johns.elliott@telus.net). Payment can also be by cheque to: John Elliott, 5433 Monte Bre Place, West Vancouver, V7W 3A8. As is usual your registration is not confirmed until your payment is received.

Further details re precise meeting location, end of tour location and the restaurant reserved for lunch will follow by email.

*John Elliott*

## April Meeting Greeters



**Greeters Leagh Farrell and Derek Mowatt**

## New Members Introduced and Welcomed at April Meeting



**Dr. F. J. R. (Max) Taylor**  
Emeritus Professor, UBC



**Angus Wilkinson**  
Tourism, Real Estate



**Bill Guernsey and Laurie Tuttle locate  
a member's badge**

## Brief Backgrounds of a Few Recent New Members



**Philip McLeod** (*member since March 2014*) was born in Scotland. He has lived London, England and Montreal before settling down in North Vancouver for the past 34 years. After obtaining his degrees as a Chartered Accountant and a Chartered Insurance Professional, he was employed primarily with IT system companies as an internal auditor. He is currently a member of the Board of the West Vancouver Community Foundation and past member and former President of the Lionsgate Rotary Club. Philip enjoys travel, badminton and hiking.



**Dr. F.J.R. "Max" Taylor** (*member since April 2014*) was born in Cairo, Egypt. He has lived in North Vancouver since 1997. He received his education primarily in South Africa at the University of Cape Town where he obtained a B.Sc., a B.Sc. (Hons.) and a Ph.D. He also received his Christensen Fellowship at Oxford University, U.K. Max has been a university professor at UBC for 41 years from 1964 to 2005 where his main research was in the very early evolution of life and as a specialist in harmful/poisonous microscopic algae (Red Tides and ciguatera fish poison). He was also an ASEAN Canada environmental consultant, training in S.E. Asia. He has been President of two international societies and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Max now enjoys travel and wood-planed model ship building.



**Angus Wilkinson** (*member since April 2014*) was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, England and has lived in West Vancouver for the past 22 years. He obtained his Member of the Institute of Hospitality in England and a Certified General Accountant degree in Canada. Angus' career encompassed 14 years in the international hotel business, 10 years in real estate development and 21 years as the President and principal of Tyne Hospitality Service Ltd. providing consulting and hotel brokerage services as a licensed BC realtor. He is a member of SKAL International Vancouver and a past Rotarian. He now enjoys running, fitness training, golf, soccer, international travel, theatre and international cuisine.

## Last Month Speaker - Danny Catt



Chair Fraser Grant and Alex Tunner thank speaker Danny Catt

### The Canadian Arctic A Photographic Journey with Danny Catt

Probus members were treated to a spirited and delightful talk on both the Canadian Arctic, and some of the east coast of Greenland. Danny obviously loves the Arctic, having been there twenty-five times. He is a wildlife ecologist, teaches at BCIT, and a professional level photographer. We all envied his lifestyle

Danny is fascinated by everything about the Arctic - the land, the plant life, the animals and the people. He said the Inuit are going through a rapid and difficult transition from a hunter-gatherer economy to a 21st Century one. The extremely high suicide rate and addictions show that they need all the support we can offer them. As Arctic resources are developed, the Inuit will be an important part of the labour force.

Danny takes tours every summer to the Arctic, including eastern Greenland. The members fly there via Ottawa, and then board a small Russian Arctic ship. This takes them along the coast to various villages and islands, out to see the Greenland icebergs, the cetaceans, polar bears and other animals. He has yet to see a bowhead whale. He said that March and September are good months to see the Aurora Borealis. When the icebergs calve off the huge glaciers in Greenland, they float north in Davis St. before turning and heading south. They rarely get past Newfoundland before melting.

As we know, the polar bears are threatened by climate change. They are sea hunters and need the ice from which to catch the seals. This is getting more and more difficult as the ice melts. It appears that orcas are moving into the Arctic Ocean and becoming the top predators.

He also talked about some of the Inuit with whom he has

become friends. One is Elijah Panikkapchoo. In 1942 Elijah was two years old and traveled across the Arctic with his parents on board the St. Roche. So Elijah is very much part of the Arctic history, and is still involved today. Danny said that while the Inuit of Greenland and Canada have similar origins, there are many differences. Greenland is an Inuit dominant society unlike Canada's. They also have market hunting, which means one can buy wild meat in the stores.

On one of Danny's trips, he was examining a small chert quarry and found a very nice arrow head, which the archaeologist dated at about 3,000 years ago. Chert is SiO<sub>2</sub> with a hardness of 6 ½ to 7, and is also called flint. He returned the point to the little quarry.

Danny Catt loves his job and his life, and would welcome any of us on one of his trips. You may wish to check out his blog Catt Trax 3 or visit the Adventure Canada website at <https://www.adventurecanada.com/>.

Ken Bryden

Danny's recommendations: *Chasing Ice*- a movie; *Farewell to Greenland Wildlife* by Kjeld Hansen; *Arctic Dreams* by Barry Lopez.



## Monthly Quote

*"A person with an increasingly grateful heart is one with a decreasingly complaining mouth."* - Burk Parsons

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<http://www.probus-northshorevancouver.ca/>

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