

January 2021 Newsletter

PROBUS CLUB OF WHITE ROCK & SOUTH SURREY General Meeting Wednesday January 13, 2021

Zoom Meeting No 9



Our January speaker was Dick Drew, retired broadcaster and author who has written about Canadian Achievers. Dick has written books including The Canadian Achievers which contains interviews with hundreds of successful people in business and entertainment. Guest speaker on January 13th was retired broadcaster and author Dick Drew who shared stories based on an estimated 3,000 interviews he has done with people from all walks of life.

Dick used a few props to illustrate achievements of some of the people he has interviewed. For example he demonstrated a whistle with no pea, invented by an Ontario man named Ron Foxcroft. Dick also showed early examples of a Pacemaker developed by Dr. John Hopps, a Canadian.

Dick talked about the Canadian Flag often credited to Lester Pearson. The person who designed the flag, said Dick was an Ottawa man named George Stanley. Dick also displayed the world famous photograph of Winston Churchill with a scowl on his face. The photograph was taken in Ottawa in 1941 by famous photographer Yousuf Karsh who suddenly yanked a cigar out of Churchill's mouth. That's why he was scowling.

Dick told stories about Nova Scotia singer Rita MacNeil who came to Duncan where he owned the local radio station. Dick had to help her read a commercial by recording it in short bursts, a few words at a time. Dick described Rita MacNeil as a wonderful, warm person. BC residents fell in love with Rita during Expo in 1986.

For his finale Dick recalled his interview with Liona Boyd, one of Canada's finest guitarists who was an occasional lover of Pierre Trudeau. He said Liona would be transported in an unmarked police car, lying in the back seat with a blanket thrown over her. After her tryst with Trudeau she would be returned to her hotel by the RCMP.

Dick had a letter with Trudeau's signature on it. He asked Liona if she would sign under Trudeau's name.

"Yes", she said, "that was our usual business position."



Our February speaker is Glenda Standeven who will speak about what men don't like to talk about – prostate cancer. She'll do it in a whimsical way but her message is serious.



Our March speaker will be Baden Smith (Percy's son) who is Director of Information Security for Save On Foods. Baden will have a Power Point presentation regarding internet security and advice on how to avoid being defrauded.



Our April speaker is Mark Bulgutch co-author with Peter Mansbridge of a new book titled "Extraordinary Canadians" He is an outstanding CBC producer who has been responsible for major broadcasts for many years including eight Olympics and major events.

Management Committee and Activities

Management Committee

Walking Group

Hello Probus Walkers,

I'm sure you've heard, Dr. Bonnie has extended the "no social gathering" order to Feb. 5th, 2021.

As a result, our planned Jan. 10th return to **Group Walks is deferred to Sunday Feb 7th @ 10:00 am.**

A new schedule of Group Walks will be issued during the first week of February. Until then, continue your Solo walks.

Also, the current Bonnie Challenge for Solo walks ends this Saturday Jan. 9th.

The planned gala presentation (no less with bands, dignitaries, and cheer leaders) of a 'special bottle' to the winner of this Bonnie Challenge will also be deferred to Feb. 7th. A new "Bonnie-2 Challenge" for Solo walkers will be unveiled within the next week.

Cheers – Stay Safe – Walk Solo, 🚶

Al Zemrau

Probus Walking Group Coordinator

Contact Al Zemrau at azemrau@shaw.ca to be added to the Group Distribution list. Please note that due to provincial health regulations all activities in this group maybe suspended for a period.

Investment Group

The Investment Discussion Group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 19th at 10:00am.

During COVID we meet via Zoom. If you wish to participate please contact me so I can have your name added to list. Once on the list you will be sent a link for each meeting & notices for any other notifications.

At this time we have evolved into having some company stock suggested by members. We are then asked to research each & come to the meeting with a

recommendation as to whether we would want it in our portfolio. When this is finished we open the meeting to general discussion by those attending.

It has been suggested that, in future, we come to the meeting with a Buy, Hold, or Sell recommendation for the stocks we discuss."

The group is running again so please contact Chuck Haller at hall9033@telus.net if you want to receive an invite to the virtual meeting.

Book Club Group

What we're about.

We are a social book club and look forward to meeting new members. The Club meets every second Tuesday of the month through Zoom to discuss a book that we have all read. Occasionally, we will have a second book or event during the month. The primary format is fiction. From time to time we discuss format/poems and members are free to offer suggestions. The month's book is discussed or reviewed with all members sharing thoughts. The conversation flows naturally and we take the time to get to know each other as well. Do not worry if you haven't read or completed a book, you're still welcome to attend. We are a group of five and recently lost one of your founding members. If interested, give me a call.

Bill Jones. bjones17@shaw.ca or 604 328 5360

Snowshoe Group

Hello Snowshoers,

I'm sure you've heard, Dr. Bonnie has extended the "no social gathering" order to Feb. 5th, 2021.

As a result, our planned Jan. 10th **Organizational Snow Shoe Clinic** is deferred to Saturday Feb 6th @ 11:00 am.

Should you choose (and I don't advocate this now) to do a Solo snow shoe run, the best and safest locations to do this are:

- Manning Park
- Whistler

- Seymour Mtn. (pre-registration for tickets are required before heading up the mtn.)

It's a bummer for now, but have faith – spring Snow Shoeing is normally fantastic!

Cheers,

Al Zemrau

Snow Shoe Group Coordinator

Contact Al Zemrau azemrau@shaw.ca to be added to the Group Distribution list.

Please note that due to provincial health regulations all activities in this group maybe suspended for a period.

Member News

George Garrett has just been honoured by the Surrey News Leader in its Community Awards Program because of his work with the Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society. He has won the top Volunteer Award.

George says he is humbled but delighted.

Meet and Greet Sessions on Zoom:

The fourth meet and greet session was held on Zoom on January 6th. Our fourth session drew 16 of us and over the four sessions we have 20 or so members. Some lively discussions have ensued feedback indicates that people would like to continue. Please join us. Everyone is welcome and we are looking for topics to discuss. If you have any ideas, even if you don't desire to join us, send them to Gerry Burns g-burns@telus.net. Gerry will collect them and we will offer four or five per session with the option of ignoring them. Cheers. Your meet and greet gang.

Member Directory

The Member Directory is now available on the Website sorted by First Name as well as Last Name. This includes the printable PDF list as well as the Member Directory with pictures. You must log in to the site to access these under the "Members only" Tab. Thanks to member Rob Leeson for the suggestion.

Interest of the Month

WHO'S THAT MAN

Bill Jones

I was born 78 years ago in Sydney, NS. the youngest of 3 boys. My father was a steelworker, my mom stayed home and raised the brood. After high school I started at St. Francis Xavier University for a BA.1966. I did teacher training from Dalhousie. 1966. and taught 2 years in Dartmouth, 11 years in Ottawa; 4 years in High School Math and Guidance. 7 years Elementary and later moved to Training Government and Corporate Trainers and Employees. I have taught and consulted in Leadership, Motivation, Managing Conflict, Listening, Presentations, Delegating, and Running Meetings and ran my own one man Consulting Firm for 20 years.

We lived in Ottawa for 19 years until 1987 when Joan and I (no Kids) moved to Victoria so I could attend classes in Psychological Foundations @ UVic. Needed my batteries charged. After 2 years I returned to consulting and delivering courses. We stayed in Victoria for 10 years moving to South Surrey in 1999 so Joan could take a job. From 2004 – 2008 I did Real Estate with Bay Realty. I've been retired since 2008.

Joan and I owned ½ a sail boat in Victoria for 8 years; now we charter once a year. Sailed in Turkey, Tonga and circumvented Vancouver Island in early 90's. While our cohorts were raising their children Joan and I travelled. I curl, golf, travel, teach Child Psychology to Parents and generally enjoy life as a retiree. I am particularly enjoying the company of the men I have met in ProBus. Working alone all those years robbed me of the opportunity to spend quality time with people (my work took me on the road most of my life). I am currently involved with the Probus Book Club and vice president of Probus South Surrey chapter.

Smiles and Chuckles

Just in Case You Think You're Old!



Jeanne Louise Calment had the longest confirmed human lifespan on record: 122 years and 164 days. It seems that fate strongly approved of the way Madame Calment lived her life. She was born in Arles, France, on February 21, 1875. When the Eiffel Tower was built, she was 14 year old. It was at this time that she met Vincent van Gogh. "He was dirty, badly dressed and disagreeable," she recalled in an interview given in 1988.

When she was 85, she took up fencing, and she was still riding on her bike when she reached 100. At the age of 114, she starred in a film about her life; at age 115 she had an operation on her hip, and at age 117 she gave up smoking, having started at the age of 21 in 1896. Apparently, she didn't give it up for health reasons, but because she didn't like having to ask someone to help her light a cigarette once she was nearly blind.

In 1965, Jeanne was 90 years old and had no heirs. She signed a deal to sell her apartment to a 47-year-old lawyer called André-François Raffray. He agreed to pay her a monthly sum of 2,500 francs on the condition that he would inherit her apartment after she died. However, Raffray not only ended up paying Jeanne for 30 years, but died before she did at the age of 77. His widow was legally obliged to continue paying Madam Calment until the end of her days.

Jeanne retained sharp mental faculties. When she was asked on her 120th birthday what kind of future she expected to have, she replied, "A very short one."

Quotes and Rules of Life from Jeanne Louise Calment:

"I'm in love with wine."

"All babies are beautiful."

"I think I will die of laughter."

"I've been forgotten by our Good Lord."

"I've only got one wrinkle, and I'm sitting on it."

"I never wear mascara; I laugh until I cry too often."

"If you can't change something, don't worry about it."

"Always keep your smile. That's how I explain my long life."

"I see badly, I hear badly, and I feel bad, but everything's fine."

"I have a huge desire to live and a big appetite, especially for sweets."

"I have legs of iron, but to tell you the truth, they're starting to rust and buckle a bit."

"I took pleasure when I could. I acted clearly and morally and without regret. I'm very lucky."

"Being young is a state of mind, it doesn't depend on one's body, I'm actually still a young girl; it's just that I haven't looked so good for the past 70 years."

At the end of one interview, in response to a journalist who said, "I hope we will meet again sometime next year." She replied, "Why not? You're not that old; you'll still be here."

Never leave home without a kiss, a hug and an “I love you”. Then remove the dog hair from your mouth as you walk to the car.

We all know mirrors don't lie...

I'm just grateful that they don't laugh.

Christmas is now gonna be mid-January. Due to Santa having to quarantine for 14 days when he arrives in the country.

You come from dust, you will return to dust.

**That's why I don't dust.
It could be someone I know.**

I like to make lists.

I also like to leave them laying on the kitchen counter and then guess what's on the list while at the store.

Fun game.

Only six allowed at Christmas but 30 for a funeral. I will be holding a funeral for my pet turkey that sadly passed on 25th december

Did you know ants never get sick? It's because they have little Anty Bodies...

Please don't unfriend me.

Instead of a sign that says "Do not disturb", I need one that says "Already disturbed, proceed with caution."

**We are not
aging, we are
ripening to
perfection.**

**Every family has
one weird relative.**

**If you don't know
who it is, then it's
probably you.**