



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

#252-2025 West 42nd Avenue, Vancouver B.C. V6M 2B5 (604) 261-6818

*Clubs for retired and semi-retired professional and
business persons, former executives and others*

NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 16, 1999
TIME: 9:30AM
LOCATION: Stanley Park Pavilion
SPEAKER: MR. PHIL NUYTTEN, PRESIDENT
NUYTCO RESEARCH ON SUBMERSIBLES.
TOPIC: ATMOSPHERIC DIVING SYSTEM

Minutes from October 19, 1999

Attendance: 111

Annual General Meeting: President McBride called the meeting to order. He expressed gratitude to the executive for their help during the previous year.

Fred Cotton (Nominating Committee) reported that there were no further nominations for the executive received beyond those put forward by the committee. The following were elected by acclamation:

Vice President: **John Hopkins**

Treasurer: **Bill Wallace**

Secretary: **Don Farquhar**

Next year's President will be **Roy Williams** who moves up from Vice-President. **Pidge McBride** will be Past President.

Pidge McBride turned the meeting over to the new president. **Roy Williams** presented a "Past President's" pin to **Pidge McBride** and thanked him for his work for the club.

January meeting will be followed by a "millennium lunch" at the Hollyburn Country Club.

Roy Williams introduced the guest speaker - author **Les Hempsall** who spoke on "The Burma

War - The Untold Story". The Burma campaign took place in a terrible environment with heat, torrential rain, multiple tropical infectious diseases and lack of food. The Japanese needed Burma to isolate China by cutting the supply route between Rangoon and Chunking (The Burma Road), as a land base for the invasion of India, as a source of oil, and as a citadel to protect their conquests. Within eleven weeks of Pearl Harbor the Japanese had occupied all of Burma. The allied losses were enormous - of the 12,000 British and Indian troops to reach India only 2,000 were uninjured or free of disease. The Japanese had attained their first goal - the conquering of Burma and ceased their advance at the Burmese borders.

During 1942-43 the American's developed the "Hump Run" to supply China - a 1200 mile airlift between Calcutta and Chunking utilizing 300 transport aircraft serviced by airfields protected by the RAF. In addition four fortified bases created by airborne invasions and supply were established in Burma. These events provided evidence that military invasions could be successfully supplied by air.

In March 1944 the Japanese invaded India with 100,000 troops in an effort to attain their goal of conquering India. The British forces repelled the Japanese at the key areas of Kohima where 1,500 British soldiers held on for 50 days and Imphal where the Japanese lost 50,000 dead. The attack on India ended in December 1944 with huge Japanese losses. For the Allies the air drops made the difference in allowing the besieged areas to be supplied with men and equipment.

In January 1945 the Allies began the campaign which ended with the recapture of Rangoon in May. The Japanese again sustained huge losses in casualties, men and equipment

President:
Roy E. Williams
926-4727

Past President:
Pidge McBride
274-0446

Vice-president:
John Hopkins
985-8422

Secretary:
Don Farquhar
948-9908

Treasurer:
Bill Wallace
222-2365

**Speakers
Committee:**
Brice Macdougall
922-5321

**Membership
Committee:**
Dick Matthews
922-0358

**Visits and
Entertainment:**
Tom McCusker
261-4763

**House
Committee:**
Doug Lambert
266-2422

**Greeters
Committee:**
Norm Weitzel
925-3574

Rotary Liaison:
John Hoyle
926-2667

captured. In January 1945 the Allies began the campaign which ended with the recapture of Rangoon in May. The Japanese again sustained huge losses in casualties, men and equipment captured.

The Burmese war involved over one million men with 98 squadrons not including the "Hump" run being involved. Despite inadequate facilities and the worst flying conditions in the world the Canadian Squadrons #435 and #436 averaged more than the established rate for aircraft use. The largest land battles against the Japanese were fought in the Burma war.

Les Hempsall had copies of his book "...and don't forget to put the paper on the toilet seat" available at the end of the meeting.

Don Farquhar, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

My response was not too positive when I was first asked to join the newly organized Probus Club of Vancouver. After being an active member of many

organizations, including Rotary, during my business career, I did not want to join another group, especially one with attendance requirements and fund raising activities! However, when Fred Cotton described the purpose of Probus to me, I became interested and even more so after attending my first meeting.

As our constitution states, "The purpose of the

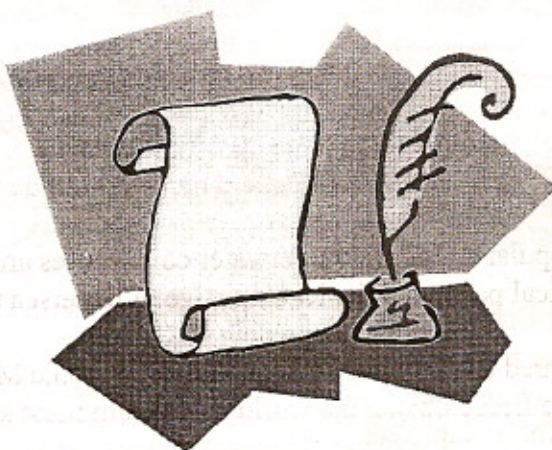
Probus Club is to provide regular meetings for retired and semi-retired professional and business persons.....who in their retirement appreciate and value the increased social contacts.....meeting others, holding discussions and hearing addresses on topical subjects, and arranging visits by members to places and organizations of appeal."

My enthusiasm for the Club and its activities has increased with each meeting that I have attended. We owe a great deal of thanks to those who have been responsible for the excellent quality of our meetings and the dramatic growth in our membership.

During the forthcoming year your Management Committee will strive to continue to attract top quality speakers and to offer opportunities for other activities of interest to the membership.

It requires a significant number of volunteers, over and above the Management Committees to organize and run our meetings. We are grateful to those who have helped make our meetings run so smoothly.

Sincerely, Roy Williams, President



PHIL NUYTTEN

Dr. R.T. Phil Nuytten is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Nuytco Research Ltd. and Can-Dive Construction Ltd. He was the founder and CEO of Hard Suits Inc., a publically traded company that manufactures the world famous "Newtsuit". Prior to Hard Suits Inc., Dr. Nuytten was a co-founder of Oceaneering International Inc., currently one of the largest publically-traded underwater skills companies in the world.

As a commercial diver, Phil Nuytten logged many thousands of hours underwater worldwide. He is widely regarded as one of the pioneers of the commercial diving industry and has consistently been a significant force in the development of new technology. He has logged

In 1990, Nuytten was given the "Life Sciences" Award for "leadership and service to the institute" by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

In 1992, Phil Nuytten received the Order of British Columbia, which is a symbol of national unity and national pride, as well as a recognition of outstanding Canadian achievement. Phil has contributed to the economic well-being of the Province, to the recognition and support of the native culture, and to making the province known beyond its borders as a leader in high-technology underwater endeavours.

In 1995, Phil conceived and patented the "Remora", a submarine rescue system. Remora is a rescue vehicle with a manned personnel compartment and a patented articulated mating skirt to permit mating with a disabled submarine at angles of misalignment up to 60°. Remora has been described as a major breakthrough in submarine safety during a NATO presentation by the U.S. Navy.

In June 1995, Phil Nuytten was one of five Canadians to be granted an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Simon Fraser University in recognition of his career achievements.

In 1996 Nuytten and his design team were awarded a contract to develop a 2,000 foot version of the ADS NEWTSUIT® for the United States Navy.

Nuytten has been heavily involved in the production of film and TV specials based around his unique technology for the past twenty years. Made for TV specials include a one hour CBS special on his life and work called "Descent of Man", NBC 'Mysteries of the Sea', Walt Disney's "Pressure Point", and literally dozens of Canadian, U.S., European and Asian specials.

His invention, the ADS NEWTSUIT® was the feature of an IMAX movie called "Flight of the Aquanaut" which has been shown all over the world.

Nuytten was senior technical advisor and provided the submersibles and other futuristic subsea devices for James Cameron's Academy Award winner "The Abyss".

Phil Nuytten has devoted nearly forty years to developing undersea technology that has as its central theme, the safety of the diving technician. Nuytten is currently at work on a lightweight, free swimming ADS that is intended to allow sport, technical, military, commercial and scientific divers access to continental shelf depths with no decompression hazards.

