



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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

NEXT MEETING **Tuesday November 12, 2002**

TIME: 9:30 AM

LOCATION: H.R. MacMillan Planetarium
and Space Centre - Lower Level

SPEAKER: James P. Delgado, Executive
Director Vancouver Maritime Museum

TOPIC: **Underwater Archaeology
and our Maritime Heritage**

Minutes of October 8, 2002

Attendance: 115 (approx.) with 3 guests

Tom McCusker chaired the meeting in the absence of Don Farquhar. The recent deaths of Leonard McBride and John Barnes were announced. Gordon Thom gave details on the trip of HMCS Vancouver from Canada Place to Esquimalt on Monday, October 28th to interested members and advised the skytrain Admin. Tour was still being looked at and the YVR tour might be in December or early 2003. Bill Lane gave further particulars of his Beatty Street Drill Hall tour (Saturday, October 25). Fred Cotton announced that the November speaker will be James Delgado, the Executive Director of the Maritime Museum.

Our guest speaker, John Lounds, President of the Nature Conservancy of Canada was introduced by Allan Baker and thanked by Ed Moul. The Conservancy has been in existence for 40 years (first in Ontario and now across Canada). It has an American counterpart but the two are totally separate. Conservancy is interested in properties that have species that need to be protected e.g. wetlands, the beauty and diversity of landscapes and proximity to

urban areas (70% of the species at risk are found in the 10% of Canada where population lives). It is not an advocacy organization. "We are NOT Greenpeace" (don't climb poles, protest etc.). A conservation real estate company. Conservancy has a national board and local Provincial boards with 13 offices across Canada and is guided by science but can't conserve everything. What is endgame? How much land is needed? There is a conservation blueprint for eco regions in Canada (10 exist along Cdn./U.S. borders each unique). Conservancy wants to significantly conserve 50 high priority landscapes over next 5 years by raising \$100M. Two major funds - National Land Conservation Fund (5.8M - short term interest loans to quickly acquire property) and the Stewardship Endowment Fund (2.3 M - ongoing care of lands). We learned that B.C. is the most biologically diverse province in Canada. Partnering with the Landowner is the key to Conservancy with some of the B.C. "projects" at Princess Louisa Inlet, Campbell River, Cowichan Valley, Okanagan Valley, Elk Valley, Crows Nest Pass. Nationally, 13 regional areas in which Conservancy is trying to preserve 1.7M acres of land.

The future of the nature Conservancy of Canada? - nothing less than the preservation of the 50 most significant places in Canada (7 in B.C.) and if we (society) can create or choose not to destroy (uncontrolled access to Conservancy properties its biggest problem i.e. people). - Why not?

Denis W.H. Creighton, Secretary

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

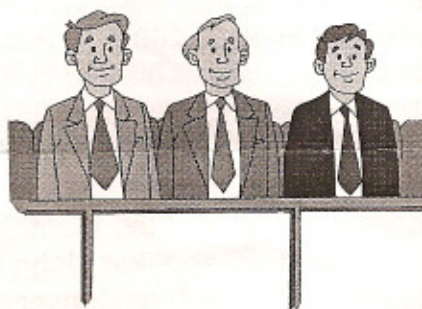
Most members of our Probus Club will agree that the key to our success has been the outstanding quality of our speakers and the subjects they have addressed. It is no easy task to find good speakers and persuade them to speak to our membership. A questionnaire was inserted in our last Newsletter asking for the names of possible speakers and/or suggested topics. *THE RESULTS WERE TRULY DISAPPOINTING.* Please...Please...Please...rack your brains! We need your help and support!!! Try to come up with some names and suggestions for **Fred Cotton, Chairman of our Speakers Committee.**

NOTICES:

VALENTINE LUNCHEON

The Valentine Luncheon will be held on Friday February 14, 2003 at Point Grey Golf and Country Club. Tickets will be available at the Members Service Desk.

November Greeters: Ray Casson,
Gordon Thom
November Cash Desk: Frank Willis,
Lorne Bohlman
Member Services: Tom McCusker



It is with regret we announce the passing of John Barnes on September 19th and Jack Cunningham on October 9th. Our condolences to their families. Donations will be made in their names by Probus to the cancer society and to the VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation respectively.

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE-2002-2003



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James P. Delgado

James P. Delgado has led or participated in shipwreck expeditions around the world. His undersea explorations around the world include RMS *Titanic*, the recent discovery of *Carpathia*, the ship that rescued *Titanic*'s survivors, USS *Arizona*, the sunken fleet of atomic-bombed warships at Bikini Atoll, and the 1846 wreck of the United States naval brig *Somers*, whose tragic story inspired Herman Melville's *Billy Budd*.

Delgado is Executive Director of the Vancouver Maritime Museum in Vancouver, British Columbia. Previously, he was the head of the U.S. government's maritime preservation program and was the maritime historian for the U.S. National Park Service. When not at the museum, he is the co-host of the new National Geographic television series *The Sea Hunters* along with best-selling author Clive Cussler. Delgado's active participation in the study and preservation of shipwreck sites includes a membership in the International Commission of Monuments and Site (icomos) committee on underwater cultural heritage.

A fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and a Fellow of the Explorers' Club, Delgado is the author or editor of nearly thirty books and numerous articles, most recently *Across the Top of the World*; *The Quest for the Northwest Passage*, an International best-seller published simultaneously in Canada, the U.S. and Britain. His other books include *The British Museum Encyclopedia of Underwater and Maritime Archaeology*; *Ghost Fleet: The Sunken Ships of Bikini Atoll*; *Pearl Harbor Recalled*; *New Images from the Day of Infamy*; *Great American Ships*; *To California by Sea*; *A Maritime History of the Gold Rush* and three books for children *Wrecks of American Warships*, *Native American Shipwrecks*, and *Shipwrecks of the Westward Movement*.

