



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 December 10, 2002

TIME: 9:30 AM

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

**SPEAKER: Geoffrey E.H. Ballard
General Hydrogen**

Minutes of November 12, 2002

Attendance: 128 with 8 guests

Don Farquhar the chair of this meeting announced that **John Hopkins** would be the Chair of that meeting i.e. the Probus B.C. Convention in May of 2003, hosted by Vancouver. **Fred Cotton** advised that **Geoff Ballard** of Ballard Power would be the December speaker and **Gordon Thom** thanked **Bill Lane** for the Beatty Street Drill Hall tour, and indicated that the October 28th HMCS Vancouver sail had been enjoyable and that another sail would be on November 29th at 8 A.M. for 3-4 hours. Bridge still had some spaces and the airport (YVR) tour was set for 9 a.m. January 22, leaving by bus (\$10) from N.W. Section of Oakridge parking lot - spouses and others welcome (2nd tour Feb. 19 if Jan.22 takes off). Members were reminded that Jan. 14 was the President's Lunch at The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club (RVYC) and Feb. 14 was the Valentine lunch at Point Grey Golf and Country Club (PGG&CC) and that **Gordon Thom's "other"** number is 739-0714. **Leo Sauve** announced that he was looking for greeters for "next year".

George Adams introduced our speaker **James P. Delgado**, Executive

Director of Vancouver's Maritime Museum, as the epitome of the peripatetic!

As the result of Jim Delgado's inability to convince his parents to let him (at the age of 9) go to Egypt to study the pyramids and dig and because the development of the Silicon Valley infrastructure was then beginning (with the resulting unearthing of villages of the Spanish Explorers) and because of the California Gold Rush of 1849-1856, Jim Delgado spoke to us on Tuesday November 12, 2002. But I'm ahead of myself.

Delgado grew up in the greater San Francisco area and, partly due to the foregoing "everybody had a chance to participate in history". He had already told us he had "love of the past and love of community.". As a young man Jim worked on the old waterfront under the streets of downtown San Francisco (in particular, old ships and their cargo under the Trans America Building. Gold Rush Pompeii -incredible preservation). With various educational stops along the way it was now only a short dive for Delgado to the bottom of the sea ("the final frontier" - "every civilization has left traces at the bottom" - "ocean just as fertile as the stars"

Suddenly, we were all "diving Titanic" (actually, Delgado and two crew members in a 19 ton tear drop shaped sub) taking 2 1/2 hours by spiraling down for 2 1/2 miles in darkness (at 400' the color is BLACK). Finally, on the bottom you are advised that the sub is under 6,000 lbs per sq.in. of pressure (at this point, your scribe felt clammy, queasy and very claustrophobic, so

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Membership Committee:

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Visits and Entertainment:

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Doug Lambert
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Greeters Committee:

Leo Sauve
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Rotary Liaison:

John Hoyle
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real was Delgado's description). This trip ("step beyond the bounds of your own life") was in 2001 but it seemed as if it was April 15, 1912 as the sub came up the seven story wall of rusting steel with its dismembered stern, preserved bow and "yard sale" of artifacts in the field around and between the sections of the Titanic.

The scene shifts. Now we are off Japan diving to a ship which sank in a battle in 1281 and where today are found scraps of clothing worn by the Mongol warriors on board, the ship itself technologically advanced - 4 times the size of Columbus's ships - with bombs (round ceramics packed with gunpowder).

And now we're in Bikini Atoll and the ships sunk there with still unbroken light bulbs. "The greatest museum of all sits on the bottom of the sea."

Meanwhile, back on dry land, we learn that the Maritime Museum is the oldest founded (1958) for the purpose, 95% of its inventory (apart from the St. Roche) is in storage and it has an art collection, the first Newt Suit (diving), Pica Ben Franklin and original artifacts from John Franklin's polar expedition, 40% of visitors are children and that the St. Roche is more than a vessel (its history, a sense of values, responsibility, extension of sovereignty, reality, helping the Inu and that the Museum is education at very many levels.

In 1991 all subsidies. Now, 46/47%. Continued Government cuts. Site/building problems. Tour buses banned from Kits point. But the Museum part of social fabric - gateway to Pacific Rim. Larger? (How large?) Site? (where?).

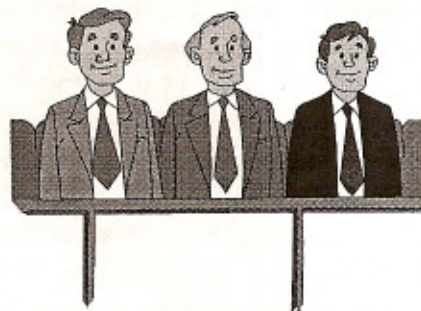
What we have been - legacy for the future (The Maritime Museum). In the question period we also learn that Delgado does not have a problem with the display of maritime artifacts in museums etc. but is uncomfortable with the commercial display thereof and that the St. Roche suffers from dry rot (restored in 1997) but City of Vancouver pays to keep ship open (still talk of new building and site). Reference was also made to the working with other museums in B.C. e.g. Port Alberni, Massat, Campbell River, Prince Rupert etc and, finally, that there was strong evidence that the Japanese, Chinese and Polynesians were here a long, long, long, time ago, thanks to that great highway - the Ocean.

Jack Wood thanked our speaker.

Denis W.H. Creighton, Secretary

**December Greeters: Mac Norris
John Hoyle,**

**December Cash Desk: Frank Willis,
Lorne Bohlman**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Most of us had some pre-retirement anxieties regarding "how am I to keep active after retiring?" I have met only one individual who found this to be a problem. Most of us are leading full lives (some are even "too busy"). Probus offers the opportunity to become actively involved in a corporate activity with the bonus of developing and maintaining those contacts that are so important for our social well being. As a result we have many volunteers who are active within the Club or have indicated a willingness to be so. However, the purpose of this essay is to highlight a problem. Many are willing to work, but fewer are willing to take responsibility. Isn't this true in most organizations! How many times in committees have we all experienced the "eyes of the table" phenomena when a committee chair is being sought. If you are willing to be a General or even a Sergeant rather than a Private please let us know. There are a number of areas in the club that desperately require a "take charge" type of individual.

Though I look old, yet I am strong and Lusty

W. Shakespeare

AS YOU LIKE IT

Act II Scene III

NOTICES:

Airport Tour

January 22, 2003

Departs Oakridge 9:00 am - return Noon

Your Visits and Entertainment Committee has arranged a tour of the Vancouver International Airport on Wednesday January 22. The plan is to board our Perimeter Tour Bus at the BAY Oakridge North entrance at 9:00 AM sharp. We leave for the airport at 9:10 AM. No charge parking has been arranged with Oakridge. Please park in the North West section of the lot.

At the airport we will be met by Heather McCarley, manager of Community Relations. She has arranged Visits to the Operations Room including the Emergency Operations Centre. There after we return to the coach for a conducted tour of the airfield.

Returnable security passes are required as we enter restricted areas. To issue, the airport staff must see your photo ID (Drivers License). So make sure you have it on your person.

Visit duration is expected to be two hours, after which we return to Oakridge ETA 12 noon. There's a White Spot there, why not have lunch?

The bus for the visit costs \$10.00 per person. The tour is limited to 49.

Wives are welcome at the same rate. There are arrangements for a second visit on February 19 if the response demands. First come first serve.

Airport tour Chair, Bill Weatherall.



GEOFFREY E.H. BALLARD

Geoffrey Ballard is the Chair of General Hydrogen Corporation and Chair of the Canadian Hydrogen Association. He is the founder of BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS, INC. Dr. Ballard serves on a number of boards and panels for the Canadian Government, the British Columbia Government, the California Air Boards and several Universities in Canada and the United States. He serves on the Canadian Advisory Board for Energy Science and Technology.

Prior to the development of BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS, INC. Dr. Ballard spent 10 years with the US Department of Defense. In 1974 he was appointed to the Federal Energy Office in Washington, D.C. as the Director of Research for the Office of Energy Conservation.

In 1976, Dr. Ballard brought together and funded a technical team, Ballard Research Inc., to explore the development of high energy density power systems. The battery development became Bluestar Battery Systems International Corp., and the fuel cell development became BALLARD POWER SYSTEMS, INC.

Dr. Ballard was a visiting professor at Dartmouth College in 1964, participated in the National Academy of Sciences Woodshole Summer Studies in 1967, participated in the Defense Science Seminars of ARPA/DOD in 1966, and was Commissioner for Oil and Gas, State of Arizona from 1974-75. He received the US Army Meritorious Civilian Service Medal in 1969 and again in 1971 for innovative research management and the Canadian Commemorative Medal in 1992. He is a Member of the Order of Canada.

In 1996 he was honoured by Brock University with an LL.D. for pioneering efforts in hydrogen fuel cell development. He received an Honorary Doctor of Science from University of Victoria and from Simon Fraser University in 1997, University du Quebec and Queen's University in 1999, LL.D. Concordia University 2001. Time magazine identified Dr. Ballard as a "Hero for the Planet" in February 22, 1999 issue. He received the World Technology Network Award in Energy in November 1999 and in 2001 for the Environment. He received the Goteborg International Environmental Prize for Sweden in December 2000. He was recognized as a 'Pioneer of Innovation' by the Vancouver Board of Trade.