



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB VANCOUVER

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

JANUARY 2006

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Next Meeting: Tuesday, January, 10th 2006,

Presidents' Luncheon

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Point Grey Golf and Country Club
3350 S.W. Marine Drive, Vancouver

Speaker: Russ Anthony

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 7th - A Night with
Christopher Gaze

April 24th - Golf Tournament

Russell J. Anthony

President & Project

Director, Vancouver Convention
Centre Expansion Project. Ltd.



Russell J. Anthony was appointed President & Project Director of Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion

Project Ltd. in 2003 following a varied career in law, government, real estate advisory services, and program/project management.

Mr. Anthony holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Winnipeg, Bachelor of Law Degree from the University of Toronto, and a Master of Law Degree from the University of London (England) in Urban Planning.

Mr. Anthony has served in a number of public and private organizations. After practicing law, he worked as a senior policy advisor at the Privy Council in Ottawa, Vice-President and General Counsel for the Expo'86 Corporation, Chief Operating Officer of Toronto's Ballet Opera House Corporation, President of Penreal Advisors and President of RPA Projects (which became part of Stantec in 2002).

Throughout his career, Russell has played an active role in industry, community, and charitable organizations including Project Management Institute, British Columbia Construction Roundtable and Vancouver Economic Development Commission. He is also a Director of the Rick Hansen Institute, Sport BC, Vancouver Opera Foundation and Lambda Alpha International, an honorary land economic society.

Minutes of the December 13th Meeting

Attendance: 151 including 2 guests

President Denis called the meeting to order and requested guest introductions. He then called on Nick Thornton to introduce our sole new member Paul McCrea, retired from the legal profession. The Treasurer's Report was the shortest yet. Nothing! Not known as one who is easily satisfied, our President quipped about the Management Committee's concern regarding short reports and said that a financial overseer may be required! Denis then called Jerry Wennes to describe the Valentine's entertainment planned for February 7th. This is detailed elsewhere within. The speaker for next month's meeting will be Russ Anthony, the CEO for the Convention Centre Expansion Project. President Denis directed our attention to page four of the December newsletter and particularly the dates given for next year's meetings. These are all on the second Tuesday of the month and have been prearranged as a convenience for members. He then invited all to the after meeting lunch at Chianti's on Fourth Avenue saying that the attendance is steadily increasing. President Denis then asked Norm Weitzel to introduce our speaker, Jim Taylor, Sports Columnist.

Jim started by expressing his pleasure with our "new digs" saying the last time he addressed Probus we still met at the Stanley Park Pavillion. He then commented on our Treasurer's Report, saying the shortest he had heard up till now was: "Had some, spent some, still got some."

Jim explained that this morning's talk would be centered on his new book "The Best of Jim Coleman." He modestly stated his efforts were limited to editing and writing the forward. Jim

Coleman (Jim C) began as a sports columnist in 1939 and stayed with it until his death in 2001 at age 89. During that time he covered every conceivable sport. His interest in sports however, was whetted much earlier by his father, himself a sports enthusiast. As President of the CPR, the senior Coleman often arranged for his two young sons (Jim and younger Rowen) to travel the continent, attend major sporting events and meet many of the associated dignitaries. Through these early opportunities he made invaluable contacts, many finding their way into his columns. His accolades were many; he was Canada's first national syndicated sports writer, was awarded the Order of Canada, and earned membership in five Canadian Sports Halls of Fame. For the disbelievers, these are news, sports, racing, hockey and football.

The sequence of events leading to the publishing of "The Best of Jim Coleman," was somewhat unusual:

- After Jim's death in 2001 his widow Maggie decided to move to a new apartment. She asked Jim Taylor to help her organize her late husband's personal effects. During this clean up they came across a well-documented stash of Jim C's newspaper columns.
- Jim T recognized the value of their find and through discussions with Maggie, considered the ramifications of publishing them. To this end he chose 150 of the best columns and organized them chronologically.
- When two life long friends of Jim C's heard of Jim T's dream, they arranged for all interested parties to meet with another friend highly respected in the publishing business and as they say, the rest is history.

Jim completed his talk by reading two or three columns from the book. One involving a University of Nevada drum majorette, follows; The 1938 story goes that the majorette by somewhat devious means obtained permission to wear what was then considered a rather scant costume while cheerleading at the school's football games. Attendance quickly increased and the team started winning more games than usual. However, the administration eventually became aware of the situation and decreed that the original ankle length skirt be reinstated. When this became evident, fans demanded refunds on their season's tickets and the team refused to win another game! The authorities backed down and all was well once again. Of course, the actual column written was full of well-honed wit and humour.

During the question period we learned that:

- Jim C was of the opinion that people will believe anything. Jim T used the column "The Curse of the Muldoon" (it's in the book!) to make his point.
- Jim T acknowledged that the NFL has the larger following but the CFL has, by far, the better

What's His Name



i get rid of Roy Williams (Florida) and I figure I'm free till at least January the 10th (a

game.

- Jim C wrote very little on golf.
- Sports' casting today hasn't the challenges of yesteryear.

President Denis asked Art Jones to thank the speaker. Bill Weatherall, Secretary.



lunch?). This figuring gets me no where as I

forget I'm still stuck with **Doug Lambert** and **Barb Kemp**. You know Lambert - he's an Honorary lifer and a nag! Barb is the REAL Editor of the Newsletter and she is not a nag but when she says "Denis I need you" - I respond! Actually, this whole item is what's known as a filler, or given the time of year, a stuffer. Which reminds me, I did forget at the last meeting (you will recall that it was a Tuesday) to wish each and every one of you an old fashioned, archival Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. (take note Historian Tom and Archivist McCusker).

When you read this, I hope you HAD a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

Denis

History

The first non-sectarian Probus Club specifically for active retirees was formed in 1966 by the Rotary Club of Caterham, England to allow retired professionals to continue to meet together for fellowship. The previous year, the Rotary Club of Woburn Garden City,

Cambridge Ontario in 1987. Although Probus membership has its greatest concentration in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand, clubs exist in many places in the world including the U.S., Belgium, India, South Africa and several other countries in Africa and Woburn Garden City,

England, formed the "Campus Club" that had the same purpose. The two soon merged and flourished under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Bromsgrove, Birmingham, England.

In 1974, Probus expanded to New Zealand and into Australia in 1976. The first Probus Club in North America was formed in 1970 and Asia.

Historian

NOTICES

Presidents' Luncheon

Tuesday, January 10, 2006. Members planning to attend please confirm your attendance by calling the office at 604-261-6818 by January 5th, 2006

Cost: \$25.00 - members

\$35.00 - non-members

Time: 10:00 AM

Member Services Desk: Ted Daem

Cash Desh: Frank Willis and Michael Ashby

Greeters: Herb Lewis, Brent Scott, John Smith

It is with regret we announce the passing of Bill Lane on November 24th. Our condolences to his family. A donation will be made by Probud to the Alzheimer Society.

send the form included in this newsletter to the Probud Office as soon as possible.

Jerry Wennes is coordinating this event and can be contacted at 604-224-2272. If you should have any questions.



VISITS AND ENTERTAINMENT

VALENTINE'S EVENT

This year (2006) Valentine's Day is being celebrated on February 7th with a "Night with Christopher Gaze."

Christopher Gaze is a well known entertainer and impresario. He is best known for producing, directing and acting in the Bard on the Beach. Some of our members have witnessed his one-man shows and give him great reviews.

It is being held in the theatre at the Jericho Arts Centre, 1675 Discovery Street (see map) There will be a wine and cheese reception at 7:00 PM with the show commencing at 8:00 PM.

Reservations are necessary, so please

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

