

## Sketch of a West Pointer: Peter Kidd

Peter Kidd was born in Vancouver and is a true Vancouverite, spending his whole life in this beautiful city. He began his business career in the steel industry, where he spent 15 years. Moving on, he then researched and built a phonograph record manufacturing plant in Vancouver. Peter ran that business for about 14 years until CDs came along and put the finishing touch on vinyl. Selling prefabricated Cedar Homes was his last occupation; he recalls that his most interesting client in that business was in American Samoa. As you can see, Peter is definitely a man of diverse interests and talents.

Peter grew up beside the original Quilchena Golf Course, and often played with his friends in the bushes that lined the fairways. He recalls that Freddie Wood, the pro, was not too happy with little brats scampering around his private golf course. Any balls found in the rough became the property of the boys! His main focus at that time was the outdoors and at age 15, he and three buddies built a cabin on Hollyburn Mountain. They had seen a prototype of a panabode construction at the PNE, became excited and pooled their resources to purchase a 16' x 24' panabode garage, without the car door. They had it delivered up Hollyburn Mountain as far as a truck could haul it, then created a trail to their site about 40 minutes due west and set to work packing in all the materials and built their palace. The cabin is still there and the family, including grandchildren, still uses it. After his marriage to Arden, they moved to Crescent Beach where Peter built another panabode home. It was 1300 square feet with 3 bedrooms and a full basement. They were sleeping in the basement the night hurricane Frieda came through; they lost many trees on their property with several falling on the house. Amazingly, no one was hurt.

Peter always wanted to try golf but never got around to it until, he says, it was too late!! He was about 60 when he finally found the time to play. Although admitting that he knew nothing about the handicap system until he joined West Point Golf Club in 2008, he thinks 28 is his best so far, but continues to work on his game. Peter recalls scoring the elusive hole-in-one on an 85-yard hole at Burnaby Pitch and Putt. More recently, he holed an approach shot on Langara's 17th hole for an eagle!! A favourite recollection is about losing a golf ball while playing Country Meadows and then discovering that his playing partner had it in his pocket. Should that warrant a penalty? And if so, to whom?

Peter admits that he finds many golf courses "too damn hard", but his favourite is Country Meadows for its good grooming, presence of Sandhill Cranes and the ability to still pick up a glass of beer after 18 holes! Fraserview, Langara and Squamish round out his top four.

Peter's family consists of his wife, Arden, son David in Melbourne, daughters Jennifer (North Van) and Susan (Vancouver). In the 1970s, the Kidd family joined the Arbutus Club, where Peter still plays doubles social tennis twice a week (and sponsors WPGC so we can hold the AGM in such a prestigious location). Daughter Susan plays tennis at a competitive level in the City League.

Peter and Arden have many favourite vacation spots but they enjoy the opportunity to spend time in the desert and play golf in the warm sunny climate.

When asked which golfers he most admired, he selected Ernie Els, Tom Watson and Phil Mickelson, each of whom exhibit class and have good rapport with the public.

*Prepared by Lorne Lindsay  
July 2014*