



Canadian Nuclear Society / Société Nucléaire Canadienne

Chalk River Branch, c/o Morgan Brown, Chalk River Laboratories, Chalk River, ON K0J 1J0
<http://www.cns-snc.ca/branches/ChalkRiver/>

e-mail: webmaster@cns-snc.ca

*“Supporting nuclear science and technology for 25 years”
“25 ans de promotion de la science et de la technologie nucléaires”*

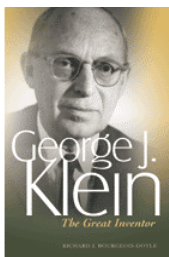
George J. Klein: The Most Productive Inventor in Canada in the 20th Century

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of George J. Klein, the Hamilton-born design engineer who worked at NRC for over 40 years. Dr. Klein's numerous inventions included: the electric wheelchair for quadriplegics; the microsurgical staple gun; a wide range of industrial gearing systems; and internationally important innovations in aviation and space technologies. His early research, for example, made it practical to use skis on aircraft, and his later inventions included the STEM antenna, which became a renowned Canadian contribution to the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo Space programs.

Dr. Klein, who passed away in 1992 at the age of 88, headed the engineering team that designed ZEEP, Canada's first nuclear reactor, in the 1940s. He also contributed to many of the military inventions key to the allied efforts in World War II. At the age of 72, he was called out of retirement to act as chief consultant on gear design for the CANADARM project, and continued to further its development and related space technologies into his 80s. An inductee of the Canadian Science and Engineering Hall of Fame, Dr. Klein was known as a kind, generous, and modest man, as well as an exceptionally productive and creative inventor. His life story is inspiring and instructive in many ways and is said "to make you proud to be Canadian."

Dr. Klein is often cited as the most productive inventor in Canada in the 20th century, and his memory is being celebrated in many ways this year including the release of an official biography published by NRC Research Press and written by Richard (Dick) Bourgeois-Doyle. Titled *George J. Klein: The Great Inventor*, the book is the second in a series of biographies that began with the well-received 2002 book Gerhard Herzberg: *An Illustrious Life in Science*. The Chalk River Branch of the CNS is delighted to have Dick Bourgeois-Doyle talk to the Branch on the work of Dr. Klein.

Dick Bourgeois-Doyle, Director of Government Relations and Liaison with the Office of the National Science Advisor at the National Research Council of Canada (NRC), has headed a number of special projects since joining the NRC Executive Offices in 1987. He previously served as Chief of Staff to the Minister of Science and Technology and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and was founder and start-up manager of successful technology and public relations firms. A former broadcaster and journalist, Dick Bourgeois-Doyle has contributed to many books, articles, TV features, and radio programs on science history. He is founding President of the Thomas D'Arcy McGee Speechwriting Society.



Richard (Dick) Bourgeois-Doyle
National Research Council of Canada (NRC)
8:00 PM
Tuesday, December 7, 2004
Bennett / Mackenzie Room, J.L. Gray Centre
(Entry via rear entrance)



Refreshments will be served – ALL ARE WELCOME!

Further information: Morgan Brown at 584-8811 Ext. 4247