

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

President: Libby Nelson Phone: 604-314-6749
 Secretary: Deborah Hyslop Phone: 778-242-6314
 Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-3392

[E-mail the President](#)
[E-mail the Secretary](#)
[E-mail the Editor](#)



JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

Today (June 19): No regular meeting! Installation of new Executive.
Next Week (June 26): Natasha McDonald and Denise - The "Bird's Nest" College Preparation and Hockey Skills

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
June 19	6:00 PM	Installation of Executive for 2018-2019 (No regular lunch meeting!)	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
June 23-27		Rotary International Convention	Toronto, On
Sun. July 22	5:00 PM	House Concert with Robert Campbell and Cailin Green	Dave Rempel's home: 10607 277 St. Maple Ridge
August 12	11:00 AM	Rotary Duck Race – race at 1 pm	Maple Ridge Park

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Presidents Quote for the Day:

"You can always tell when a man is well-informed. His views are pretty much like your own"

Guests:

AG Preet Pall, Lorraine Bates, Belinda Carlaw and Scott Payne.

Cheque Presentations:

Sharon Kyle made the following cheque presentations on behalf of the club:

Lorraine Bates, who is the manager of the **Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association**, accepted a cheque in the amount of **\$500**. (Lorraine noted that we are the only sponsor who also buys her lunch!) Lorraine noted that the Association is



now 117 years old, and is the oldest association which is still operating within the municipality (and now the city). The purpose of the Association is to promote agriculture and educate people about it. Approximately 20,000 people come to the agricultural fair, which this year is held on July 28 and July 29, 2018. There are many animals, including a baby donkey, pigs, a bison, goats, and even a slide which baby ducks go down (when they are tempted to over-extend their reach to get some food).

Belinda Carlaw is the coordinator for the Salvation Army. She accepted a cheque in the amount of **\$712**, which will pay for 2 needy children to go to the **Salvation Army's Camp Sunrise** which is located in Gibson (just near the ferry terminal on the Sunshine Coast). Parents of the children that attend are asked to pay the first \$100 if they can afford it, but no person is turned away if they cannot afford to contribute, because the Salvation Army believes that all children should be given the opportunity to go to camp.



Happy and Sad:

Urma Mollema advised that her son has now received his Masters Degree, which should make any parent happy. She is also happy that she enjoyed helping out the RCMP by participating in the barbecue to help raise money for the Special Olympics.

Doris Gagel and Ted and other family members and friends were invited over to their son's home where everybody was happily surprised when their son and his "wonderful" girlfriend announced to everyone that they were getting married then and there.

Sharon Kyle attended Maple Ridge Secondary School to give out some bursaries to students on behalf of our Rotary Club. She noted that approximate \$1.5 million worth of bursaries and scholarships were given out to students on that occasion, with

one young lady receiving a \$250,000 athletic scholarship to go to a college in Texas.

Lynda Lawrence was suddenly called away from the RCMP barbecue with the news that her father had suffered a stroke. (We all wish him a successful recovery).

Our President Libby Nelson advised that **Karen Hendrickson** had tendered her resignation from the club effective the end of June 2018, as Karen's work did not give her time to properly participate in our club's activities.

Program: Preet Pall: Rotary Friendship Exchange 2018



Preet is the Assistant Governor of Rotary District D. In 2007 she was a GSE Exchange Member, is a past president of the Coquitlam Sunrise Club, is the Citation Coordinator for district 50-50, and was the Friendship Exchange Team Leader on the recent trip to Thailand. Preet is an enthusiastic and great Rotarian. Her goal over the next couple of years is to take a position as the District Trainer, Grants, and

Foundation. Her long-term goal is to be the District Governor in 10 years. This is her last year as Assistant Governor. [Does anyone want to take over? If you are interested, please contact the district.] Her Friendship Exchange was between our own district 50-50 and District 3350 in Thailand. (Thailand has 4 Rotary districts - District 3350 includes Myanmar, Cambodia, and Vietnam). The purpose of Friendship Exchanges is to provide to Rotarians an opportunity to experience different cultures and build international friendships. They also allow Rotarians take turns hosting one another in their homes and clubs. Preet states that the benefits of a Rotary Friendship Exchange is that it broadens international understanding, the builds enduring friendships, establishes a foundation for peace and service, allows the opportunity to explore a specific profession in a different context, and provides opportunities for active international projects.

If a person wishes to join a Friendship Exchange, they of course must make an application and some vetting is done to make sure that the applicant is a appropriate member (for example, is the group too large or too small, and do the applicants have any help issues that may prevent them from completing the exchange). There are 10 planning meetings prior to the trip, and research is done in the area that the members are travelling to. The cost of the trip is paid for by each team member and the cost would include flight, \$250 US spending money, and any extras.



Her Exchange team consisted of nine members, being seven Canadians and two Americans from seven different clubs. When they arrived in Thailand, Fellowship started immediately as they were greeted by 20 Rotarians. Their team was hosted by 12 Rotarians. (The hosts recently formed a team and came to our district 50-50; and attended the recent District Conference on the cruise ship in May 2018). The hosts made them feel like family.

Thailand is 98% Buddhist. The Thai people love their King and they teach respect in their schools. Their culture is very rich in color. Throughout the country there are many temples and Buddhas, which shows the people's love and faith in Buddhism. Preet says there are nine levels of Buddhism, and while most men attempt to live the life of a monk, most only last 15 days as it is a dedicated and strict life. Men are allowed to touch a Buddhist monk but women are not (apparently the monks want to be free from the temptation!).

Food was always in abundance, with rice, fish, coconuts and mangoes being staple foods. They even took a Thai cooking class. They were treated like Royalty, and, most importantly, like family. They were shown many sites that a tourist could not possibly see in the short time that they were there. The Rotarians in Thailand hosted them, drove them around, and were their guides. In two weeks they had three formal presentations, and collected eight banners. They received several gifts and in turn gave pins, banners and gifts of jade. They attended a District conference, and were asked to do a presentation. (Their presentation ended with a song [We Are The World], and that apparently received a roar of applause, laughter, with many convention goers singing along with them).

Preet said that, as can be seen from the following quotes in 2012 and 2028, that the power of friendship is the foundation of world peace.

Report of the President, 1912 Rotary Convention, Duluth, Minnesota, USA:

"Friendship is a natural and willing servant... There is no reason why the great power of friendship should not be harnessed to do its part in the world's work"

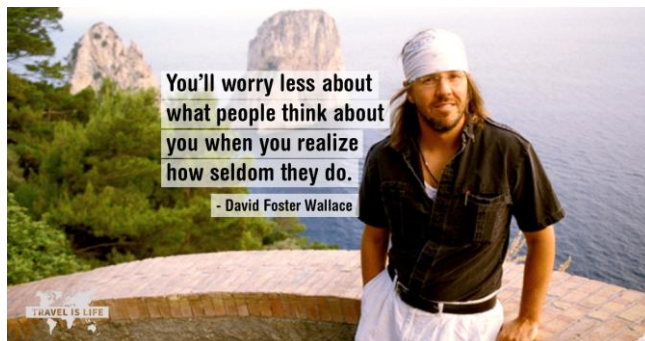
Message to 1928 Pacific Rotary Conference, Tokyo, Japan.

The best antidote for international fear is international understanding; the best way to cultivate international understanding is through business and social intercourse".

Adrienne Dale noted that she led an exchange program to Australia in 2008. When she returned to Australia for the International Convention in 2013, she met up with the hosts from her 2008 visit. Adrienne's observation was that the more you get out in the world and visit other clubs, the better you understand and appreciate Rotary.

50-50: AG Preet won the draw, and donated back the \$15 to our Backpack Program.

Pres. Libby's Closing Quip for the Day:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson