

A large, arched stone sign with the words "NANAIMO" and "THE HARBOUR CITY" in white capital letters. The sign is set against a background of dense green foliage.

**NANAIMO**  
**THE HARBOUR CITY**

# **“SERVICE ABOVE SELF.”**

**75 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE  
NANAIMO COMMUNITY**

**by**

**Ian V. Williams, Len W. B. Lovik and Bruce Gordon**

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# PREFACE

I must say that when I volunteered to finish the history of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo I had not read the wise words from a letter written by Lord Acton in 1887 titled *"Advice To Persons About To Write History — Don't."* Fortunately those who came before were thorough, organized and pack rats and the committee of Mike Benson, Janeane Coutu, Bill Horman, Dale Huck, Denis Lyseng, Bruce Gordon and Doug Bradford were willing and able. I must confess that while my heart was willing the spirit procrastinated. The committee met with regularity at the start and marvelled at the copious photos and stories we came across. In the early stages we made more fellowship than progress. We soon came to the realization that while we had an excellent collection, we did not possess a cross referenced database to work from. Our Director, Mike Benson, became anxious and finally accepted our assurances that all was well, suggesting with a tact that only Mike could muster, that the clutter (priceless historical artifacts in numerous boxes) in his basement might be of some help to us. At this point I must thank my wife Barbara for her tolerance, whose dinning room was colonized by the boxes from Benson's with the contents spread over the table for several months. As the deadlines came and went we became more anxious and adrenaline took over. "Gord" gave us our final deadline which is but a few days away as I write this. The committee responded and we have put together a 75 year history based on the information available to us. As such, there is no question that many have not been given their due and for that we apologize and hope that the 100 year history will capture that which was lost in this version. Martin Weideman and Lisa Fawkes kindly provided editorial advice for which we are most grateful. Senior

Rotarians Ken Alexander, Harry Cicconi, Bill Horman, Dale Huck, Ken Inch, and Bruce Tait all read the draft and their suggestions were greatly appreciated.

Hegel is quoted from the Philosophy of History as follows; *"History in general is the development of the Spirit in Time..."* We have tried to portray the spirit of the club and the excellent work that has been accomplished over the years. The accomplishments of many Rotarians are imbedded in local and international history and I suspect they might agree with Bismark-Schoenhausen who said *"History is simply a piece of paper with print; the main thing is still to make history, not to write it."* There is no doubt in my mind that Rotarians in the next quarter century will continue to "make history" so that the next historian who is tasked with the 100 year book will be as fascinated with the accomplishments and the personalities of Rotary as we were. As our founder Paul Harris once said;

*"This is a changing world; we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be rewritten again and again."*

I hope that among the musings and wandering you find joy, satisfaction and a sense of pride as you read about the truly great Organization, based on "service above self", that you are a part of.

*Ian V. Williams*

THIS PAGE IS DEDICATED TO  
**Len Lovick**

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO HISTORIAN SINCE 1977



Joined Rotary . . . . . 1955  
Club President . . . . . 1970-71  
Paul Harris Fellow with Bar . . . . . 1979



WITHOUT LEN'S DEDICATION TO ROTARY AND  
METICULOUS ATTENTION TO DETAIL  
THIS HISTORY BOOK WOULD HAVE NOT BEEN POSSIBLE

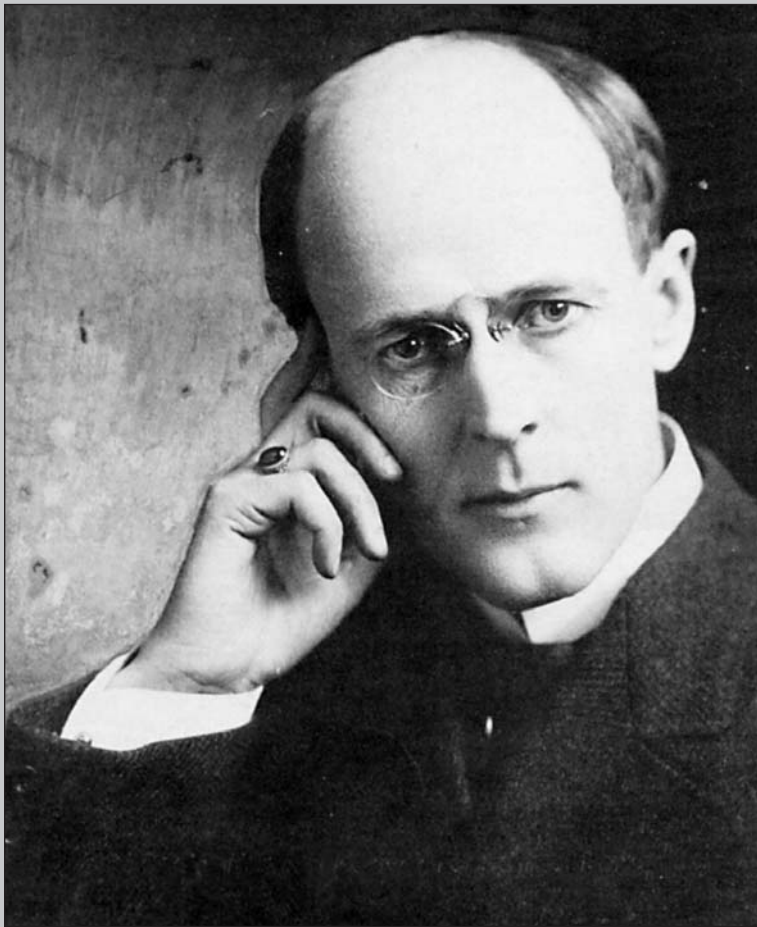


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*History book committee, Left to right: Mike Benson, Dale Huck, Bill Horman, Janeane Coutu, Doug Bradford, Denis Lyseng, Bruce Gordon, Ian Williams.*

# I



Paul P. Harris, 1868 - 1947, founder of Rotary International

# *“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”*

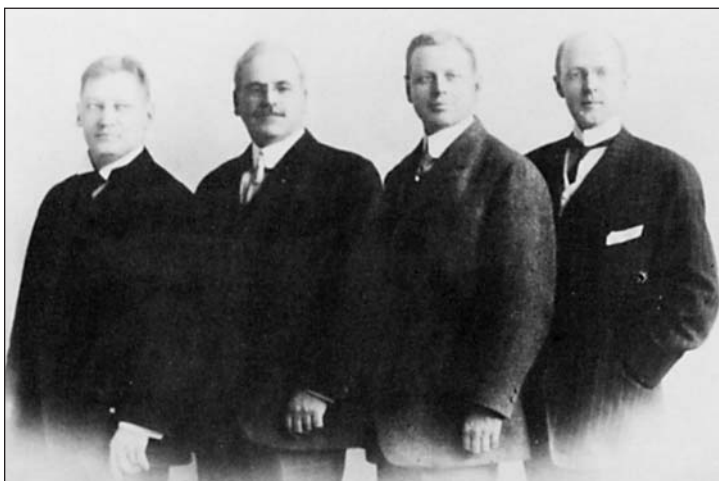
## THE ORIGIN OF ROTARY

Rotary originated because of one man's loneliness. Paul Percy Harris was a successful lawyer in the growing city of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. Paul had been raised by his grandparents in the small rural village of Wallingford, Vermont. In Chicago he missed the camaraderie of the small village. On February 23, 1905 he invited three businessmen in Chicago, who like himself had grown up in rural areas, to join him for lunch in his offices. The three businessmen were Sylvester Schiele, a coal merchant; Gus Loehr, a mining engineer; and Hiram Storey, a master tailor. which were in the Unity Building. They were to *“band together for social purposes and to be material help to one another.”* The founding four were of American, German, Swedish and Irish ancestry, professing Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths.

A second club was founded in San Francisco three years after and by 1910 there were 16 clubs and 1500 members across the U.S.A. Because they rotated their weekly meetings in different offices, Paul Harris conceived the name “Rotary Club.”

Membership was limited to one businessman to each classification, and emphasis was placed on attendance. By founding “Rotary”, Paul Harris had quite an effect on the 20th century. Unknowingly, he had formed the **FIRST** “Service Club” in North America.

Rotary soon outgrew the “*need to be of material help to one another*”, “*Service to Others*” became more important. The first convention was held in 1910 and it was here that the saying “*He Profits Most Who Serves His Fellows Best*” was put forward by Arthur Fredrick Sheldon. The next year the idea that clubs should adopt the principle “*Service, Not Self*” was promoted by B. Frank Collins. These ideas were adopted by all Rotarians but it wasn't until the convention of 1950 that the slightly modified sayings “**He Profits Most Who Serves Best**” and “**Service Above Self**” were officially designated as Rotary mottoes.

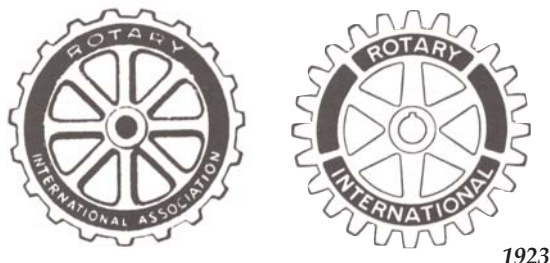


*The original four Rotarians (left to right) Gus Loehr, Sylvester Schiele, Hiram Storey, and Paul P. Harris, Founder. Photo from Focus on Rotary.*



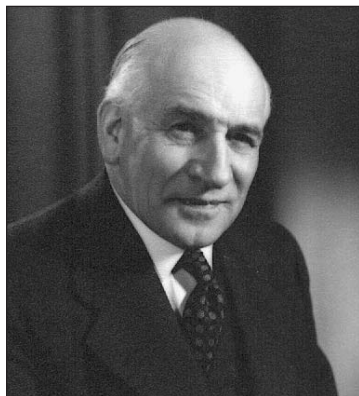
## Evolution of the Rotary Wheel

Rotary's early emblem was a simple wagon wheel (in motion with dust) representing "*civilization and movement*". It was designed in 1905 by Montague M. Bear, member of the Chicago Club, who was an engraver. Most of the early clubs adopted the wheel in one form or another. Eventually, in 1922, authority was given to create and preserve an emblem for the exclusive use of all Rotarians. Accordingly, in 1923 the present gear wheel with 24 cogs and 6 spokes was adopted, and a keyway added to signify that the wheel was a "*worker and not an idler*."



## Rotary Club of Nanaimo Formed

Rotary became INTERNATIONAL with the formation of a club in Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA in 1911 and came to Nanaimo several years later. "The application of ideal service by every Rotarian to his personal, business, and community life," together with "high ethical standards in business and the professions," attracted men like George Pearson, the first president of the Rotary Club of



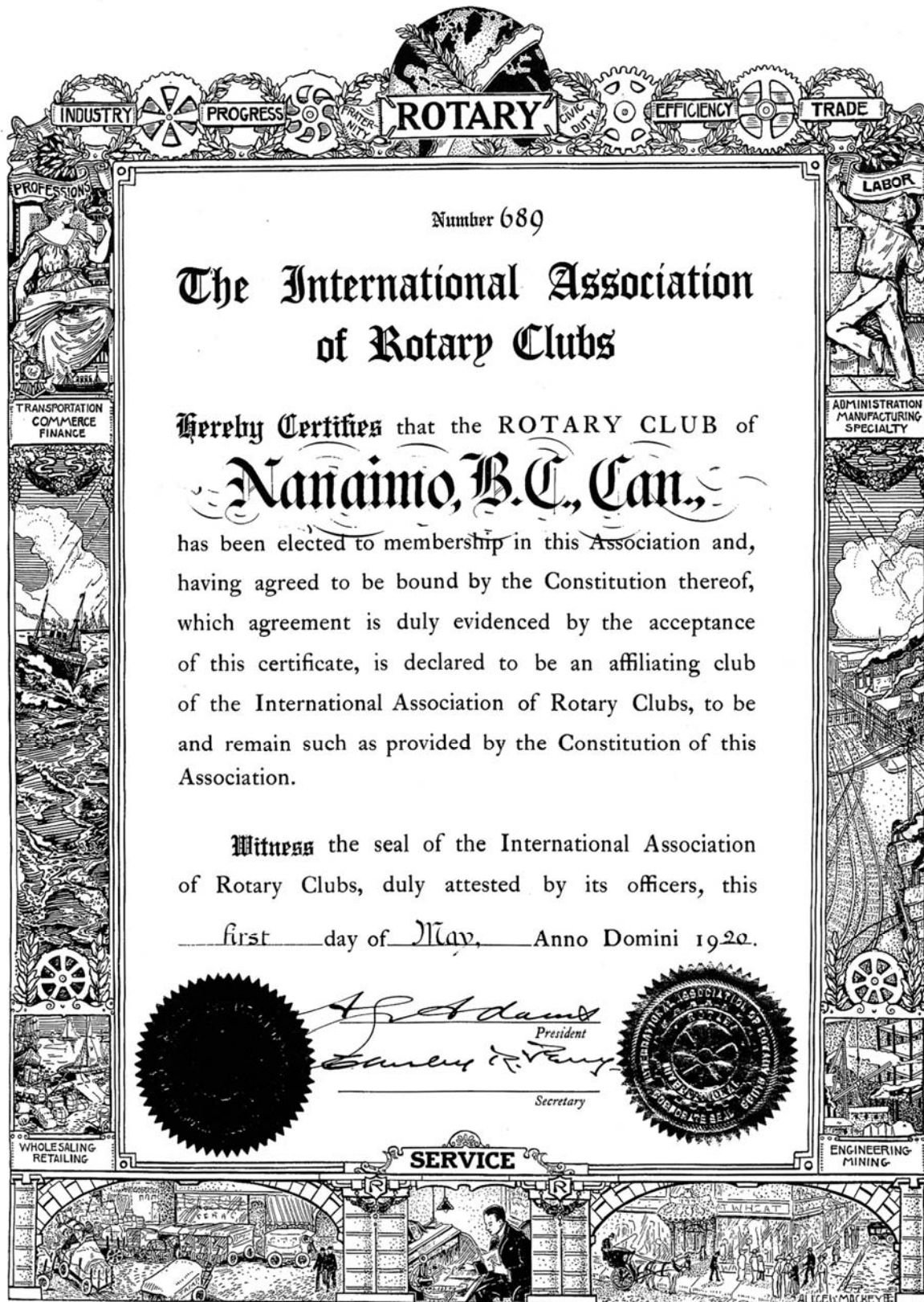
George Pearson, first President

Nanaimo. He worked together with the sponsoring club, Rotary Club of Vancouver, to attract worthy men to form the Rotary Club of Nanaimo. Twenty three

Nanaimo businessmen sat down with George Pearson in the Windsor Hotel at 7:00 pm. on April 30, 1920 to hold the first meeting of the Nanaimo Rotary Club. The Club's charter is dated May 1, 1920. The Club's number #689 indicates that there were less than 700 Clubs in existence at that time. (The numbering system was eventually abolished as Rotary Clubs became more numerous and spread world-wide).

James Galbraith, Manager of the Bank of Montreal was the first elected secretary. Jim was transferred in November, 1920 and M.C. (Charlie) Ironside took over the job and continued for the next 26 consecutive years until he died in 1946. Unfortunately, when Charlie passed on in 1946 most of the Club's records were lost except the invaluable Club attendance record from which the following list of charter members was assembled.





**CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE NANAIMO ROTARY CLUB  
FROM THE CLUB ATTENDANCE REGISTER**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Classification</b>
01	Ormond, R.H. (Bob)	Plumbing
02	Cowman, Percy	Baking - Retail
03	Fletcher, G.A. (George)	Pianos - Organs
04	Martin, E.S. (Ted)	Educational -Elementary
05	Ironside, M.C. (Charlie)	Ship Broking
06	Partington, J.F.E. (Jim)	Hardware
07	Henderson, J. (Jim)	Coal Mining
08	Galloway, J.D. (John)	Petroleum Products
09	Shaw, J. (John)	Education - Secondary
10	McFarlane, N. (Noel)	Autos - Retail
11	Kidd, F.H. (Frank)	Unknown
12	Pearson, G.S. (George)	Groceries - Wholesale
13	Doyle, J.F. (John)	Men's Retail Furnishings
14	Galbraith, J. (Jim)	Banking
15	Murphy, H. (Harvey)	Men's Clothing - Retail
16	Brown, Dr. G.B. (George)	Dentistry
17	Gray, W.W. (Bill)	Tobacco - Retail
18	Cunningham, T. (Tom)	Farm Manager
19	Carter, N.E. (Norman)	Business Schools
20	Dendoff, H.G. (Hubert)	Springs - Manufacturing
21	Eby, O. (Oliver)	Department Store - Retail
22	Mitchell, W.W.R. (Bill)	Real Estate
23	Beattie, G.A. (Si)	Theatre Management
24	Jepson, F. (Fred)	Sewing Machines



## THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

By the mid-1920's Rotary had become truly global in nature and it was two men from the Rotary Club of London, England that made a lasting contribution to Rotary. Sydney Pascall and Vivian Carter formed the "Aims & Objects" Plan while walking one Sunday morning in 1926. Their idea of partitioning service into Club Service,

Community Service, Vocational Service and World Service was presented, discussed and accepted at the 1927 R.I. Convention in Belgium. The Object of Rotary was derived from the four avenues of service. Club members are given a poster that states the object of Rotary, when they first join. It is as follows;

### OBJECT OF ROTARY

*The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and , in particular, to encourage and foster:*

**First.** *The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;*

**Second.** *High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society;*

**Third.** *The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his or her personal, business, and community life;*

**Fourth.** *The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world of fellowship of business and professional men and women united in the ideal of service.*

The four avenues of service have been an important part of the Rotary program ever since.

In order for our Club to have been of

service it was necessary to raise money. Fund raising has, like many other activities, been much work made easy by a blend of fellowship and many hands.

# II



Grand Finale - Vancouver Skating Club  
Rotary Ice Carnival - February 1942

# FUND RAISING

One of the major concerns as a service club is how to raise money for both Nanaimo community and World community projects considered worthy of support. The first record of Rotary fund raising activity comes from a December 11, 1922 copy of the Nanaimo Daily Herald that had been stuffed around a window to seal off the cracks. The story, headlined "MIDNIGHT MATINEE NEXT FRIDAY NIGHT TO RAISE CHRISTMAS FUNDS FOR KIDDIES" and ran as follows:

*"Christmas is once more approaching and arrangements are again under way to provide that for every kiddie in Nanaimo it shall mean really and truly a time of good cheer and happiness. There are to be no empty stockings on Christmas morning and no sparsely provided tables on the great day of the year to the youngsters of the city. Last year the Rotary Club of Nanaimo took part in this good work, and hampers of good cheer and gifts galore were distributed where they were most needed. The Rotary Club is continuing its good work this Christmas.*

*Next Friday night the Club is staging a Midnight Matinee in the Dominion Theatre. Tickets for the entertainment are now on sale at 50 cents per, and with Harry Eccles, the manager of the Theatre, arranging the programme, there is no fear but that the performance will be of the very best. A Midnight Matinee is a new idea in Nanaimo, and both on this account and because of the cause for which it is being staged there ought to be a bumper house. The thing to do now is for all those who think of going to the performance, to get their tickets and join the crowd which has lined up for giving the kiddies a good time at Christmas.*

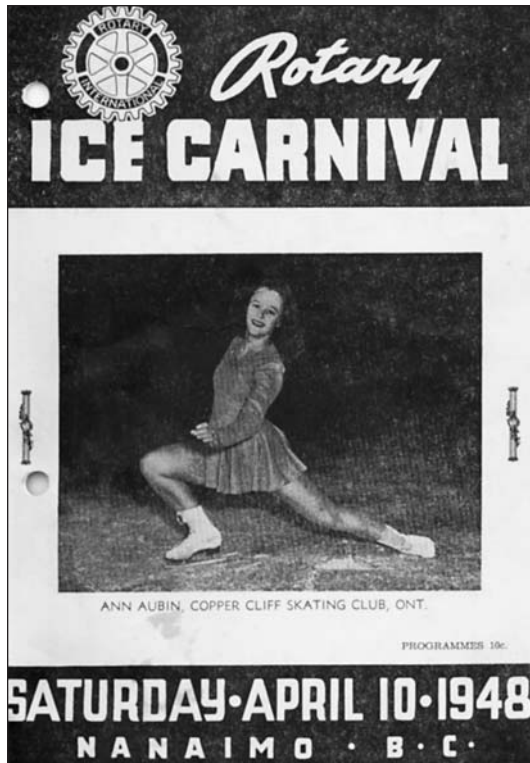
*The Rotary Club is expecting to raise \$500 for the Christmas fund through the Matinee. But the fund is not confined to the Matinee. Other organizations are working to swell the fund, and the Rotary Club is asking for subscriptions. Among other places, subscriptions to the fund will be taken at the offices of the Free Press and the Herald, and a full acknowledgement of the funds received will be published later. The Rotary Club wants to make sure that every kiddie in the city and environs has a really good time this Christmas, and towards this end calls upon every citizen to help out in this good work."*

The following, a record of early fund raising for the hospital, was reported in the NANAIMO FREE PRESS - May 31, 1928: *Nanaimo Rotary Club took the opportunity to charter the steamer "Princess Patricia" for an excursion to Powell River. Leave Nanaimo 1:30 p.m., visit Powell River, take part in sports or sight-seeing for four hours, until departure at 8:00 p.m. Round trip fare \$2.25 for adults, children \$1.30. All proceeds to be donated to the Rotary Club hospital wards.*

*Committee in charge: J. H. Good, Harvey Murphy, Harry Boothroyd, Mayor Busby, John Shaw, Oliver Eby, Jim Partington, Arthur Glen, W. W. Lewis, H. I. Smith, Joe Filmer, and Percy Cowman.*

In 1942 the Rotary Ice Carnival was held to raise money for the newly formed Nanaimo Figure Skating Club. This continued as a fund raiser until 1955 when the cost of production became too great.

Music has been used over the years as a venue for fund raising. During 1944, a public concert was held in the Capitol Theatre, with the assistance of the C.W.A.C. band and pipers from Camp Nanaimo. Nanaimo Rotary raised \$500.00 to assist



Earl Brown a local youth, who had broken his back in a diving accident on Newcastle Island.

In early April, 1947, the Projects Committee advised the Club that the Trail School Band and Orchestra would like the Nanaimo Rotary Club to sponsor a concert in Nanaimo, and split the proceeds 50/50. The Club approved. On May 16th the Club was presented with a cheque for \$248.43, proceeds from the concert.

Professional entertainment, White Heather in Concert, was used by the Rotary Club as a fund raising event as well as for fun and fellowship.

More recently, the Club sponsored a High School Band Appreciation Night where local school bands entertained the public and all proceeds (\$2,450 in 1990) were donated to local high school bands.

A lottery was undertaken in 1968, to raffle off a Firebird car with tickets costing \$1.00. "This strained the efforts of the

committee and the club to the limit until the very end in June 1969 when the tickets were finally all sold." The winner was Mrs. John Kotyk of Wellington." This raffle netted \$6,126.41.

The first Oktoberfest in 1978 successfully produced a profit of \$2,200. Tickets were \$7.50 per person which included a free beer stein. Food and drinks were extra. The Oberkrainer Entertainers, a group of six women and 14 men from Vancouver, entertained the crowd of 627 persons. Proceeds went to the Boys' and Girls' Club project. The promotion of



*Steve Akenclose and his costume received obvious approval of fellow Rotarians Alfred Shulze left and President of Nanaimo Rotary Eifion Pritchard and Roy Hancox. The club was promoting its Oktoberfest at Beban Park Oct. 25, 1980.*

Oktoberfest was an exercise in fun and fellowship.

The 200 Club, where members purchased a ticket for \$40 and draws were made for cash prizes, netted \$3,460 in 1978 towards the Nanaimo Boys' and Girls' Club. This has been changed to the 100 Club draw which is now held twice a year.



Provincial Lottery ticket sales were also used by the club to raise money for the Boys and Girls Club projects. Bob Fawdry organized Rotarians and Rotaryannes to man booths at Harbour park and Northbrook Malls. Within 18 months Bob reported that \$21,000 had been raised to apply against the outstanding debt. This was to eventually total \$100,000 and was used to retire the club debt. Lottery ticket sales was a 52 week a year commitment which also raised \$60,000 for Rotary Bowl and \$50,000 for the Gateway Project.

There have been various schemes to make money over the years. Not all were successful. Several hundred two pound boxes of Holly, carefully packaged by Rotarians and shipped back east in 1958 proved that picking, packaging and shipping Holly is a trade best left to others. Others in this category are the infamous Chocolate Covered Banana project (there may still be some left) and the smoked salmon project. The smoked salmon project

made money within the club but when the committee expanded to international marketing in 1991 they were underwhelmed with the single response from close to 1000 mailings directed at other Rotary Clubs.

Herring by the bucket sales were popular in the mid - 1980's and the sale of Christmas trees netted the Club a few hundred dollars (\$379) in 1969. Auctions have proved successful over the years and are usually accompanied by dinner. A recent dinner-auction in the spring of 1994 raised \$8,000 .

Local Bingo and Casino events have contributed greatly to funding Rotary projects with these projects lasting through the last few decades. Profits in 1988 were reported at \$23,624. Garage sales in 1993 - 1994 grossed \$5,200.

Golf tournaments have provided considerable funding toward local projects. The Club pledged \$35,000 to the Equip for



◀ Dec. 9, 1957, Packing holly in Arnold McGillivary's basement. Norm Schroeder, Bill Crellin, unknown, Art Stranberg, Vic Jones

▶ Dec. 9, 1957, Packing holly in Arnold McGillivary's basement.

Back row (left to right) Earl Foerster, Arnold McGillivary, Jim Thorpe, Johnnie Thompson, Joe Kneen, Art Stranberg, Bruce Coleman, Dick Weismiller  
Front row (left to right) Jack Stevenson, Earl Fletcher, Vic Jones, Harry Cicconi

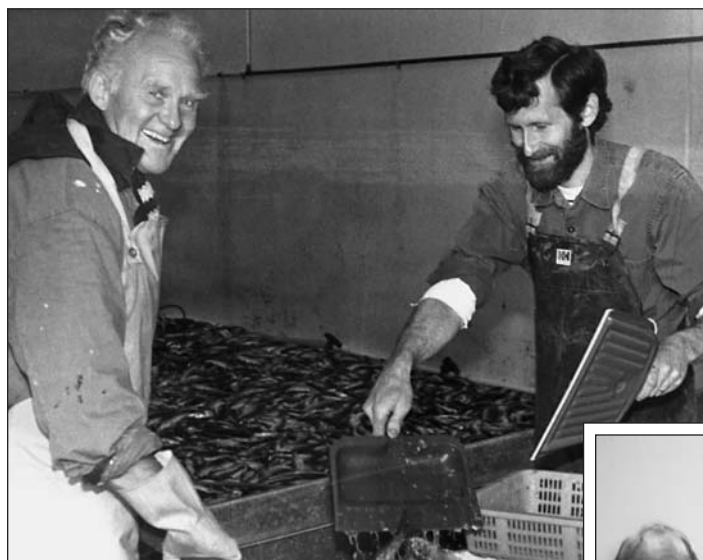


▲ Smoked Salmon Project poster.

Life campaign for the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. Golf tournaments held at Morningstar Golf Course in 1991 and 1992 provided much of the money needed to complete this obligation. The committee chaired by Ray Kulai worked very hard and Rotarians like John Roger were key to the success of these tournaments. Rotarian Bill Horman was able to persuade Mladin Zorkin to donate his Morningstar Golf Course for the tournaments. Sponsors were found for each hole, Rotarians and their wives volunteered their time and great attendance all contributed to a excellent fund raiser. Then president Ian Williams was pleased to note that a mere

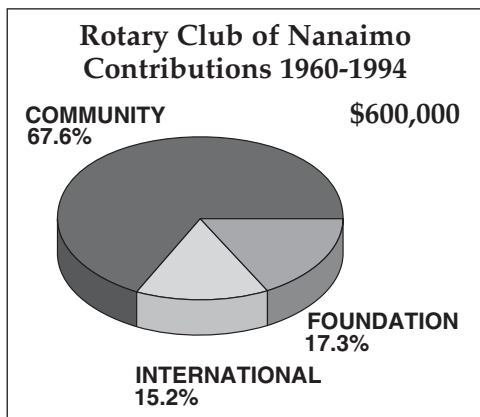
donation to the golf tournament elevated him from president of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo to President of Rotary International! Alas, fame was fleet, and when he announced this at the next meeting reality rapidly returned (see photo opposite page).

A survey of contributions from 1960 to present indicates that approximately 15% of the funds raised by the Club were spent on International projects, 17% was donated to Rotary Foundation and 68% was spent on local community projects. These funds were often used as a catalyst to attract matching grants from various governments and Rotary International.



▲ Rotary Herring Sale, Harbour Park  
April 14, 15, 1984  
John Olesen, John Heisterman

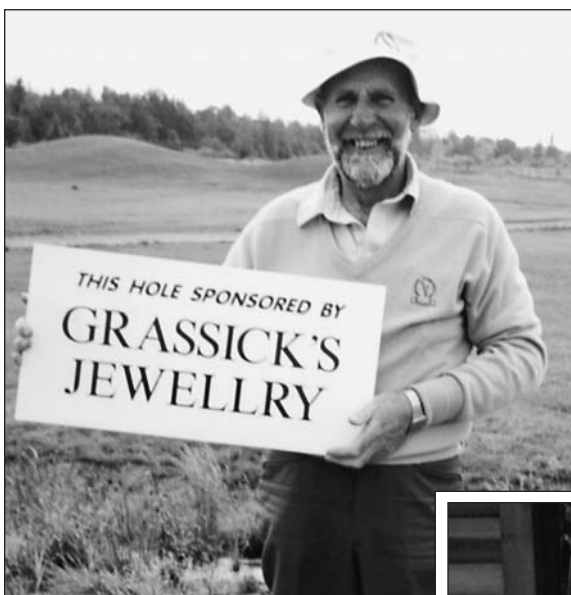
Spring 1994, Nanaimo Curling Club.  
Cooks: Dale Huck, Bill Horman, Andy  
Wizinsky, Dave Hammond ▶



Spring 1994, Nanaimo  
Curling Club.  
Harry Wipper, Kay  
Peters, Bob Peters ◀



▶ Rotarian Ray Kulai, Chairman of the Golf Tournament with Debora Zorkin and Mladin Zorkin, who donated the use of Morningstar Golf Course.



▲ Rotarian Gord Proctor holding sign sponsored by "that great store downtown"



▲ Such a promotion!



▲ Volunteers helping with golf tournament, Dorothy and Bob Pulleyblank with Ray Kulai



▲ Fred Schultz saved a precious piece of antiquity to present to president Bob Fenty. Garage sales in 1993-94 produced \$5,200.

# III



Two of our dedicated cashiers, an example of Rotarians in Club Service.

# CLUB SERVICE

## A. Club Venue

The Nanaimo Rotary Club had difficulty arranging for an appropriate meeting place. In a letter to charter members, elected secretary Jim Galbraith had this to say, *"The committee to make arrangements for the holding of our weekly luncheons has had considerable difficulty securing a suitable meeting place, as none of the hotels has a suitable dining room. Mrs. Gordon of the Lotus Hotel (then on Bastion Street) has agreed to arrange a private room for us. Our regular luncheon will commence at the Lotus on Friday at 12:15 p.m. and tickets will be 75¢. Smokers to provide their own cigars."* The Lotus was nicknamed the Temperance Hotel by the locals as they did not serve liquor.

In 1945 on the 25th anniversary of the Club, then President Earl Fletcher said in

his report, *"for the first two years there was difficulty in deciding on a suitable meeting place. Finally, in 1922 the Club settled on the Windsor Hotel (today known as The Dorchester) until the opening of the Malaspina Hotel in 1927."*

The Malaspina Hotel was built by the Nanaimo Community Hotel Association, a group of Nanaimo businessmen who financed the construction. It was built on the water front, adjacent to the C.P.R. wharf with an eye to attracting the travelling public. Frank Cunliffe was President of the Association for twenty years. He was also President of the Nanaimo Rotary Club in 1926-1927, the year the hotel opened on July 30, 1927 according to the Free Press. It must have been one of the highlights of Frank Cunliffe's year as President of the Nanaimo Rotary Club. Several other Rotarians were included in the Nanaimo



*The Winsor Hotel in 1925, Rotary meeting place from 1922-1926. Currently known as the Dorchester Hotel*

Community Hotel Association, including Bob Ormond, Oliver Eby, and Ernest Bird.

The Rotary Club met at the Malaspina Hotel from 1927 until well into the 1960s when due to a lack of suitable parking the Club moved back to the remodelled Windsor Hotel, then known as the Shoreline Hotel.(Plaza?). While at the Shoreline the Club's controversy regarding a bar in the banquet room made the local papers in December 1968. The headline was "No Peaceful Sailing Over The Bar, It Seems" followed by;

*"Nanaimo Rotarians are split on a club matter that drew comments from many members in a lively controversy at Friday's meeting in the Shoreline Hotel. The question which sparked the debate was, whether or not the club should upset a 50-year-old tradition and have a bar in the banquet room, or not.*

*After the pros and cons had been heard, a motion was passed asking the directors to study*

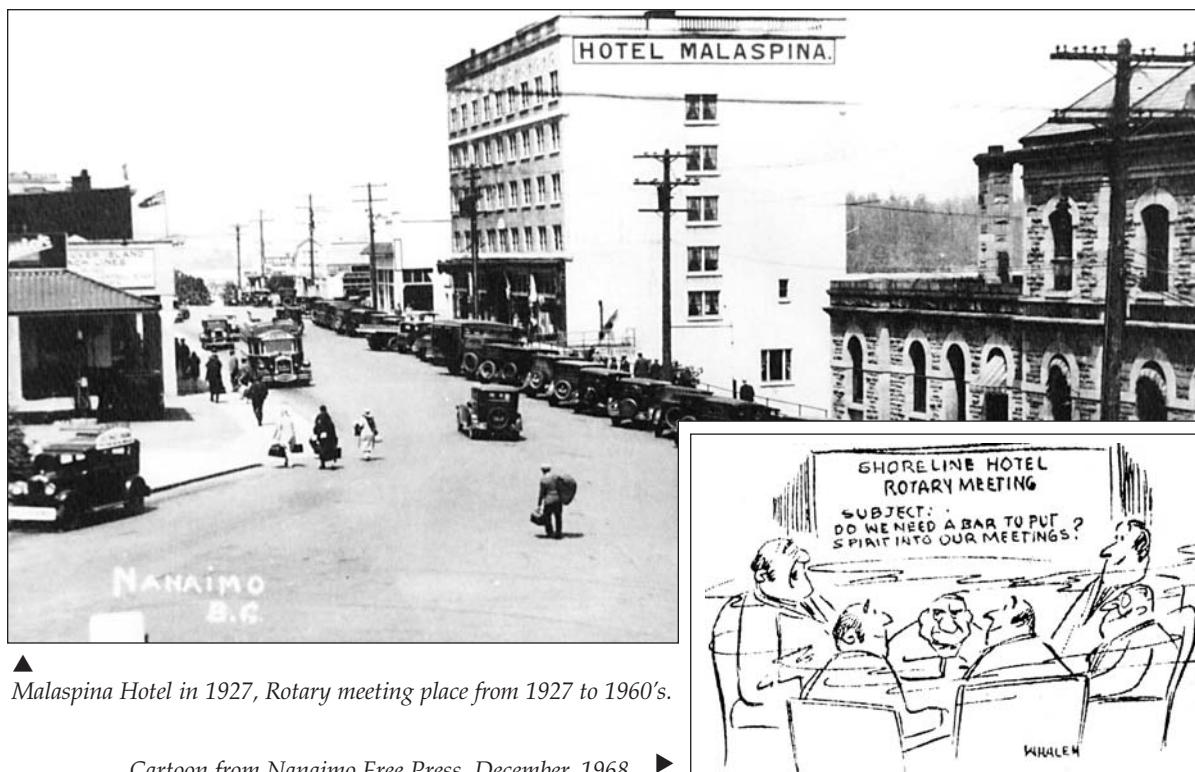
*the matter and bring back a recommendation to the general membership two weeks hence.*

*Those in favour of having the bar said it would add to the feeling of fellowship and give new members an opportunity to meet older members.*

*A recent visitor to England, Canon Harry Greenhalgh said he noticed all English Rotary Clubs have a bar. "It just points up the different attitude between North America and Britain regarding drinking", said Canon Greenhalgh.*

*"It would not add to the dignity of the club," said Jim Scales, echoed by John Cook and Ken Alexander.*

The Rotary Club returned briefly to the Malaspina Hotel during the 1970s until in January, 1978, the Club was asked to leave as the hotel was closing after 41 years service to the community. The Nanaimo Rotary Club then moved to the Tally-Ho Motel, where it has been ever since.



▲ Malaspina Hotel in 1927, Rotary meeting place from 1927 to 1960's.

Cartoon from Nanaimo Free Press, December, 1968. ►



## Luncheon Prices

At the Board meeting on February 3, 1947, F. J. Fall, manager of the Hotel Malaspina advised that effective February 4, 1947 the price of meals would be increased to 70¢.

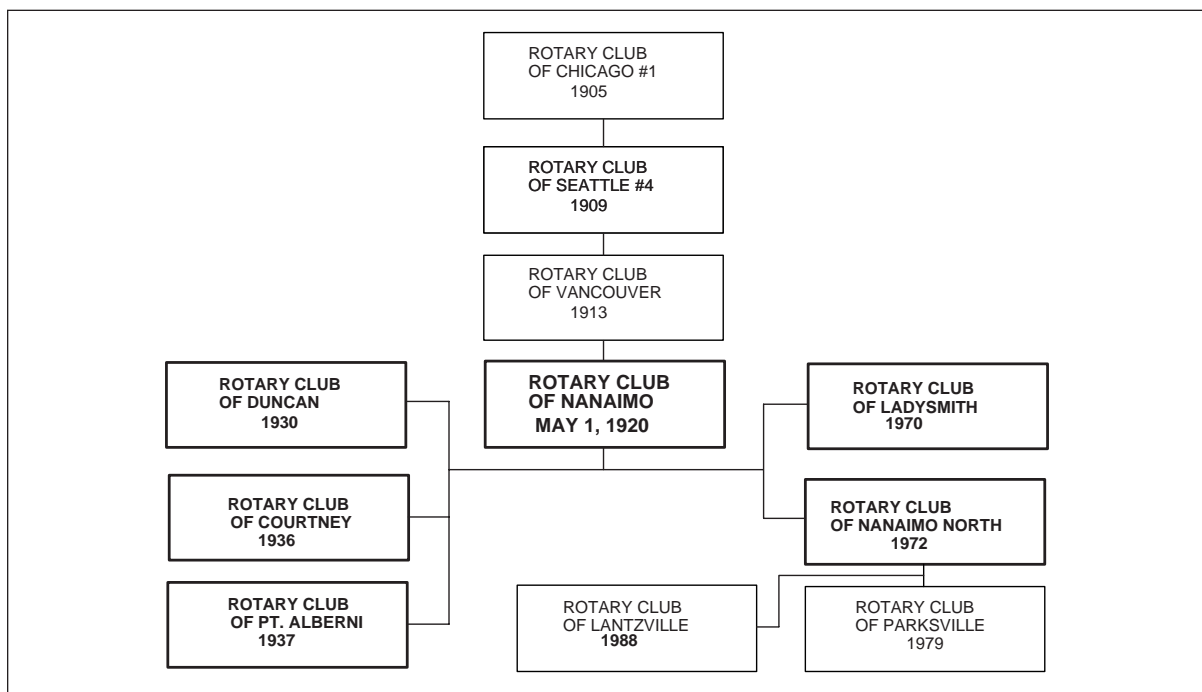
The Board made the following recommendation to the Club. *“Whereas an increase in the price of luncheons from 60¢ to 70¢ has been approved by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and whereas Rotary Fellowship through various forms of social functions necessitates drawing from our “General Fund” from time to time and whereas the present system of collecting 15¢ each week over the cost of the meal is totally inadequate.*

*Your directors recommend that this is an opportune time to set the price of our weekly luncheon ticket at \$1.00 and that the 30¢ per ticket thus collected be turned over to the Club’s “General Fund” to cover expenses, and that the annual donation at Christmas to the hotel Staff,*

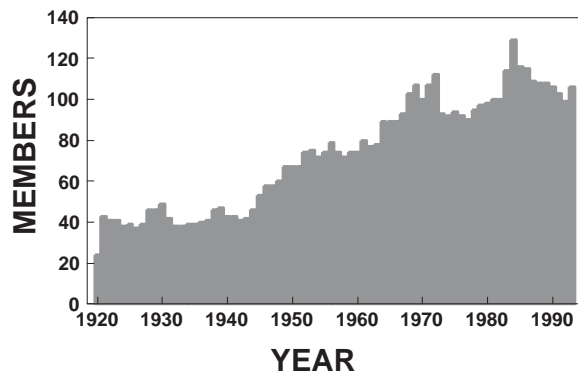
*and any such assessments be thus taken care of.”* This was approved by the Club at the luncheon meeting February 7, 1947. This compares with today’s assessment of \$10.00 with \$8.50 going to the Tally Ho for meals and the remaining for club expenses.

## Membership, Club Extension and Attendance.

Membership in the Nanaimo Rotary Club has grown over the last 75 years. Nanaimo Rotary started with 24 members and quickly grew to 43 members in its second year. The Club stayed at roughly this level until 1943 and during this period sponsored three Rotary Clubs, Duncan, Courtney and Port Alberni chartered in 1930, 1936 and 1937 respectively. Nanaimo Rotary membership began a steady growth in 1944, reaching 112 members in 1972. The formation of the Nanaimo North Rotary Club significantly impacted the Clubs membership and the following year



*Rotary Club Extension.*



*Rotary Club of Nanaimo membership 1920 - 1994.*

membership dropped to 93 members. Interestingly, the formation of Ladysmith Rotary in 1970 did not appear to impact the Club's membership. Membership grew through the mid eighties, peaking at 129 and once again club extension impacted members with the formation of a breakfast club in Lantzville in 1988. Membership now fluctuates between 105 and 110 members.

Rotary year 1991-1992 was an historic year for membership in that women were brought into the Rotary Club of Nanaimo. President Ian Williams began the process by announcing at the August 9, 1991 Club Assembly that it was time the Club discuss the *introduction of women*. He gave the following short history;

The first women members of Rotary were inducted into the Duarte Rotary Club in California in April 1977. This caused a great deal of controversy among Rotary International and the clubs charter was later revoked by Rotary International and confirmed by the delegates at the International Conference in Tokyo Japan in May 1980. In July of 1986 Rotary's Council on Legislation rejected a bid to admit women to Rotary clubs in 160 countries around the world. Edward Cadman, R.I. president was quoted *"There was full and fair discussion. At this time, the majority feels Rotary should continue as a service club for men, but the door is certainly not closed to*

*future proposals to include women."* A pivotal decision was made in the California (U.S.A.) Court of Appeal, reversing a decision of the trial court favourable to Rotary. The court held that Rotary International and its local clubs in California are business establishments under the law of the State, and, as such, are prohibited from excluding females from membership. Rotary disagreed but issued the following as reported in Rotarian Magazine Sept. 1986;

*"It is the official policy of Rotary International that the Constitutional prohibition against female membership be adhered to by all Rotary clubs, except those in California.*

*Recognizing nonetheless that the membership rules of Rotary and particularly those relating to male membership are of substantial concern to many Rotary clubs and Rotarians around the world, the Board of Directors of Rotary International has determined that it will promptly undertake a study of Rotary's membership rules and the impact of possible changes. With the benefit of this study, which will include a survey of Rotary club attitudes worldwide, the Board will, acting in the best interests of Rotary, consider submission of appropriate legislation at the earliest time, the 1989 Council on Legislation."*

President Ian pointed out that as of November 1, 1988 all Rotary Clubs in Canada could accept women membership in Rotary and following this the 1989 Council on Legislation in Singapore rendered a milestone decision as reported in the April 1989 Rotarian magazine;

*"Among the milestone decisions of the 1989 Council was one to change international membership rules to allow any Rotary club to admit qualified women as members. The proposed measure received significantly more than two-thirds majority required for adoption. At six previous Council meetings dating back to 1964, the proposition went down to defeat.*



*Specifically, the action removed the word "male" from the R.I. constitution and bylaws and opens the door to women in clubs that choose to invite them into membership". Enactment 89-54*

The discussion that followed this brief history was reported in COGS as follows;

*"A very informative and sometimes lively, club assembly was held last week., the highlight of which was probably the discussion about bringing women into our club. We heard pro and con from many members, even a guest with women in his club was asked for an opinion, but the club's mood was probably summed up best by Cy Connerton who said "Remember, fellows, a women has to be proposed by one of us!"*

The issue of women in Rotary had been brought forward for discussion at several club meetings through the fall of 1991 and at a Club Assembly held January 17, 1992 Dave Hammond moved that *"The Nanaimo Rotary Club approve in principal proposals for women members and that we proceed with the regular membership process."* The January 24th, 1992 issue of COGS reported the ensuing discussion as follows;

*"A very active discussion followed with about 16 members presenting their views- mostly favourable. They can be capsulated as:*

*-a large number of clubs have women members and have benefited from their participation;*

*-Rotarians should be leaders in their classification firstly, and man or woman secondly;*

*-worry was expressed about "club atmosphere;"*

*-the younger generations do not see gender as a barrier in their professions;*

*-some were sorry to see it come , but knew it was inevitable;*

*-we should continue to be leaders in our community and be first to introduce women into the Club.*

*President Ian summed up the reason for the vote by saying, technically, a vote was not necessary since any proposal must be considered. However, because of the concerns expressed, a vote on the principle of women members in our club was a vote of confidence to the Board of Directors to take their initial step. The motion passed overwhelmingly."*

Following this endorsement the membership committee sought out potential female members and invited them to meet with the Board of Directors over lunch at the Coast Bastion Inn where they were given several presentations on the aims and objectives of Rotary as well as individual members responsibilities. Four women from this group indicated they would accept the invitation to join the Club. On March 6, 1992 four women were inducted into the Rotary Club of Nanaimo. This event was reported in the March 13, 1992 issue of COGS as follows:

### ***"Club History In The Making***

*Last week members of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo witnessed history in the making as the first four women members were inducted into our club.*

*The first four "lady Rotarians" in Nanaimo included: Marianne Armishaw (Public Relations), introduced by Ian Williams; Lucie Gosselin (Accountant), introduced by Gord Hubley; Elizabeth Hay (Ophthalmologist), introduced by Denis Lyseng; and Janeane McGannon (Computers), introduced by Jim Thorpe. They were joined at the podium by another inductee, Lionel Benoit, who was introduced by Gordon Proctor.*

*All five new Rotarians were inducted into the club by Bob Pulleyblank, who expressed his pleasure at being given the opportunity to induct the first women into our club and to the "most impressive organization ever!" The five Rotarians were heartily welcomed into our club."*

There are now six women in the Club with the addition of France de Gaspe



The first women to join the Rotary Club of Nanaimo; Lucie Gosselin, Janeane Coutu, Elizabeth Hay, Marianne Van Toor

Beaubien (Banking) and Carol Lemoine (Hotel Sales and Catering). These very active Rotarians have demonstrated that women are valuable members committed to the ideals of Rotary and to "service above self".

Attendance was recognized by Paul Harris as key to Rotary enduring the

vagaries of time. The Charter members evidently took their weekly attendance seriously. From the Club attendance records we learn that in the first month of May they had three consecutive meetings with 100% attendance, on the 14th, 21st, and 28th. During the first year the Club held 23-100% meetings. Jim Partington, charter member #6, had the best Nanaimo

Name	Apr 29	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27	Jun 3	Jun 10	Jun 17	Jun 24	Jul 1	Jul 8	Jul 15	Jul 22	Jul 29	Aug 5	Aug 12	Aug 19	Aug 26	Sep 2	Sep 9	Sep 16	Sep 23	Sep 30	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28	Nov 4	Nov 11	Nov 18	Nov 25	Dec 2	Dec 9	Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30
1. Ormond Bob	x	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
2. Cowman Percy	x	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
3. Fletcher George	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
4. Martin Ted	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
5. Spruade Charlie	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
6. Partington Jim	x	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
7. Henderson Jim	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
8. Galloway John	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
9. Shaw John	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
10. McFarlane Noel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
11. Kidd Grant	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
12. Pearson George	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
13. Doyle John	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
14. Galloway John	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
15. Murphy Harry	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
16. Brown George	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
17. Gray Bill	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
18. Cunningham Tom	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
19. Carter Norman	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
20. Bendoff Herb	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
21. Day Oliver	x	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
22. Mitchell Bill	x	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
23. Brattie Si (George A)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
24. Ekman Fred	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P

Original attendance record of Rotary Club of Nanaimo, April 29 to December 22, 1920

Rotary attendance record of any CHARTER Member. He maintained continuous perfect attendance for 34 years, except he missed six meetings in 1942 due to ill-health. His record was from 1920-1954, the year he died.

The longest perfect attendance record for any Rotarian associated with our Club belongs to Hubert Dendoff, Charter member # 20. At the 40th anniversary of our Club, Hubert, then a member of the Vancouver Rotary Club, was recognised for 40 years perfect attendance and at our 50th anniversary held May 8, 1970 he was presented with an illuminated and framed lifetime membership in recognition of 47 years perfect attendance.

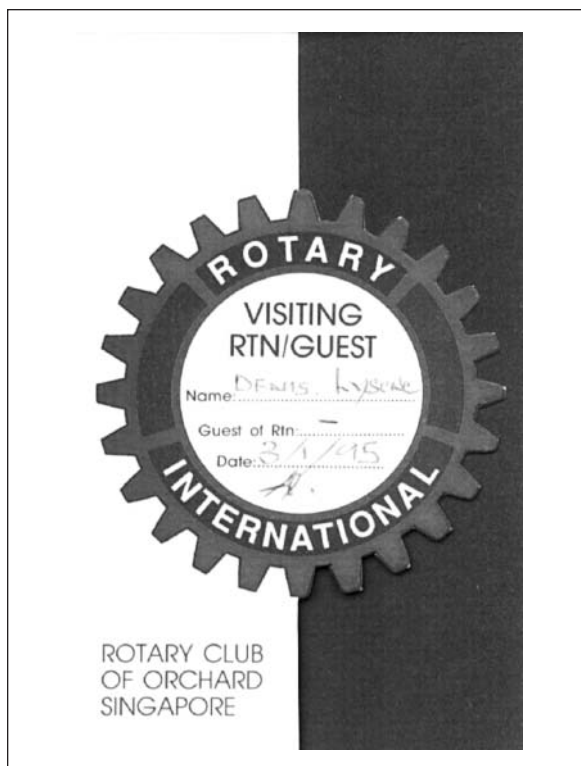
Many members found it impossible to maintain 100% attendance, therefore Rotary ruled that a visit to another Rotary Club within the week prior to or following a

missed meeting would count toward a members attendance record. The expansion of Rotary to 22,000 clubs in over 160 countries and geographic regions of the world, provides not only local, but also globe trotting Club members with the ability to “*make-up*” attendance. Make-ups are even possible on most cruise ships around the world. This has fostered international visitations to the Club by Rotarians from all parts of the Globe as well as our members visiting clubs throughout the world. As a courtesy, visiting Members carry their club banner to exchange with the host club. These banners are displayed at each meeting, indicating the extent of Nanaimo Rotary Club’s world wide exposure.

Rotarians concerned with perfect attendance will go to great lengths to preserve their record. An example is Rotarian Helmut Buchholz from our club who, while in former East Germany, caught a flight to West Germany to attend a Rotary meeting returning to East Germany following the meeting, thus maintaining perfect attendance.

## Program

A program has always been a significant part of the luncheon meeting, responsible in part for maintaining membership. Following lunch and a short business session the members are treated to a wide variety of presentations. These have included Adventure (Around the world small craft sailing, local resident joining Canada’s attempt to climb Mt. Everest), Scientific (Scientists from the local Pacific Biological Station and Universities talking about issues ranging from Fisheries to Nuclear Reactors), Industrial (Captains of industry talking about the Pulp and Paper industry to Ground penetrating radar), social (local and national groups addressing



*Card issued by Rotary Club of Orchard Singapore to Denis Lyseng for attending a make-up meeting.*



social issues affecting our community). Some of the best talks have been the required talk new members give to introduce themselves to the club, each one reinforcing the fact that Rotary attracts achievers and builds fellowship.

As well, prominent civic, provincial and federal politicians have all addressed the club, most talking about current political issues. However, members will always remember the story Frank Ney, at the time mayor of Nanaimo and realtor, would tell about the deal he made with the Clubs longest living member. The following is from the 1986 Old Timers luncheon.

*“As you all know I have been in the Real Estate business for many years. When Billy Lewis attained his 80th birthday he approaches me and suggested that he wanted to sell his house, his long-time residence on Dawes Street*



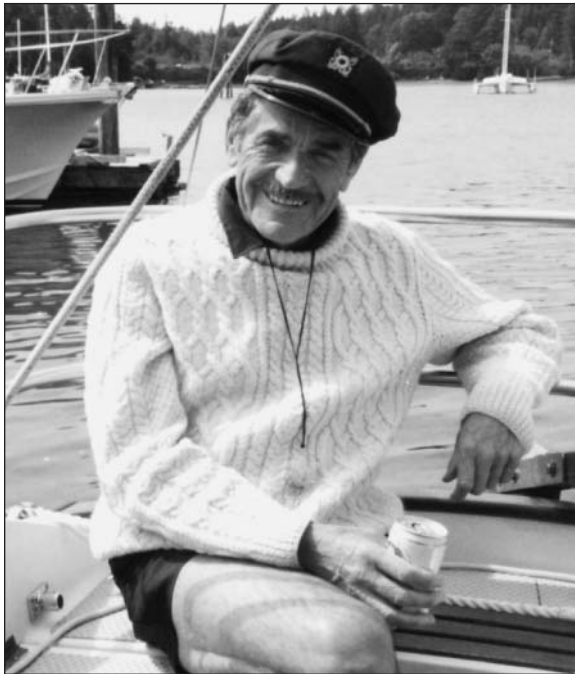
*Rotarian, Bill Horman; Attorney General for Canada, John Turner; Rotarian, John Morris*

*for \$6,000.00, provided he could continue to live in the house, rent free, for the rest of his life.*



*Rotary Program at Malaspina Galleries, Gabriola Island, August 1933:  
Rear left to right: Club President, Percy Cowman, two visitors, Bob Ormond  
Front: Charlie Ironside*

*At that time \$6,000.00 was a fair price for the house, and since Billy was 80 years of age it seemed like a very fair proposition, so I agreed and bought the house. Little did I know that Billy would live to be 104 and have 24 years rent-free residence in his house. It was the worst Real Estate deal I ever made."*



*Mayor Frank Ney relaxing on the water.*

Personal stories from Old Timer's Day bring a wealth of enjoyment and history to the club. This event takes place in May of each year when the club invites our Senior Citizens (non-Rotarians) to join us for lunch and fellowship. This event was originally chaired by Jim Scales and has been the responsibility of Bill Horman since the early 1970's. An example of the history exchanged at these events is chronicled in a 1980 Nanaimo Daily Free Press article authored by Jim Bradley.

*Men who remember the days when a Nanaimo building lot was \$50, city taxes were \$50 a year and a glass of beer was a dime were entertained Friday at the Rotary Club of*

*Nanaimo's annual old-timers meeting.*

*Rotary members invited 40 city pioneers, averaging 79 years of age, to lunch at the Tallyho and visit old acquaintances.*

*The youngster among the lot was Albert Dunn, 65. Dunn, city fire chief for nine years and a veteran of 42 years with the department, was guest of Tom Macdonald, the present chief.*

*Capt. Arthur Yates, 98 in July, had the distinction of being the senior citizen at the Rotary event. The former sea captain has been in Nanaimo 80 years.*

*Many of the guests dug the coal that was the basis of the economy in early days, and many came here from other coal mining areas such as Cape Breton Island.*

*Albert Tickle, 77, came here in 1918 to start working in the mines. He was 15 at the time. John Wallace, 84, a resident since 1910, was one who narrowly escaped one of the recurring disasters which haunted the mines. Wallace was nearly involved in the Protection Island disaster years ago which took 16 lives.*

*Another of the old timers who lived dangerously at times was Robin Walley, a 95-year-old who used to work in the explosives plant near the present Cilaire district.*

*Walley quipped that he regards life as a cricket game, and he regards himself as "95, not out".*



*Lewis Thatcher, left and Joe Laing far right both 93, are welcomed by Rotarian Jim Scales to Old Timers Day, May 10, 1985.*

*"My thoughts are in the future because that's where I'm going to spend the rest of my time," he said.*

*One old timer who has been at nearly all the Rotary Seniors' luncheons is George "Pop" Dorman Sr., who, at 87, still belts out O Canada with the best. Dorman's wood-crafted cribbage sets, made on a Nanaimo theme, were given to Rotary president Frank Turley and two others in a draw. Dorman has made more than 5,000 since he started 10 years ago.*

*The press was well represented by Jim Curran, 79, who spent 40 years in the local newspaper business with both the former Nanaimo Herald and The Free Press, and by Ron Norris, 81. Norris was long time owner and manager of The Free Press and his grandfather started the paper in 1874.*

*All of the guests were born before the local Rotary club was formed 60 years ago, and all but a few are older than the movement which started 75 years ago.*

*Russ Clark, born in 1906, recalls the days when as a bell hop in the old Windsor Hotel, he observed the weekly Rotary club meetings. As a taxi driver in the late 1920's, Clark knew every house and who lived there by its address.*

*Mayor Frank Ney, bringing city greetings*

*to the luncheon, paid tribute to the vision of local pioneers and passed out model bathtubs and hats to the oldest guests.*

*Bill Horman, who organized the function, said there is room for more guests in future years, and people interested can get details by calling him at Nanaimo Realty."*

*It should be noted that Bill probably paid dearly for advertising at the meeting following the printing of the above article. Bill has indicated their goal this year is to have 75 guests with an average age of 75 to enjoy our fellowship for our 75th year.*

*Fellowship is the glue that binds rotarians who accept and practice the ideal of service in their lives. The Nanaimo club builds comradeship through recognition, humour and a sense of belonging. New members are invited to a fireside meeting at a members house to get to know a small group of rotarians and learn what the club and Rotary International is doing and where they are going. Every new club member is immediately assigned to one of approximately 30 committees. The committees are the engine that moves the club toward its objectives. Participation is promoted in the spirit of fellowship in all these activities.*



*Rotarians socializing after the fireside. March, 1995 at Bailey Theatre: Joe Allen, Gord Hubley, David Ford, Bob Fenty President, Jenny Ford*





*President's breakfast held at Bill Horman's house 1993.*

The Club provides many opportunities for developing comradeship and new members are encouraged to join activities beyond club and committee membership. Members have an opportunity early in the year to mix with the families of others at the President's breakfast. The relatively new president serves attendees hotcakes, sausages and banter while families socialize and get to know each other.

Later in the summer the Club holds a picnic for members and their families where hotdogs, hamburgers and horseshoes are the focus. The picnic has been held at Field's Pool in Cedar, Newcastle Island, members homes and recently at Rath Trevor Beach.

The Great Softball Challenge always provides entertainment both for players and spectators. The COGS reported one of these as follows;



*Dale Huck, President Basil Hobbs, Jack Stevenson and Dave Hammond, dish out the batter and banter*

*"There was no joy in Nanaimo Wednesday night as the mighty Nanaimo Rotary Club was edged out by the upstart Lantzville Rotary Club for the 1990 Softball Challenge."*

*"Although the game was a star studded squeaker, with the good guys being edged out in the final inning 10-9, in the overall point system the Lantzville sluggers tallied 16 points, our guys had 10 and the Nanaimo North club managed 9 points."*

*"In a great fellowship get-together at the Kin Hut following the game, the famous Horman trophy was presented to the Lantzville champs."*

*"As three clubs were involved, our club and the North Club each took some players from the Lantzville club and individual star quality was tallied to account for the point system."*



*The 1990 Softball Challenge between local Rotary clubs.*

*"Not to say we were not without stars; new member Doug Panton pounded a long ball for the first of the games only two homers, while Brian Chapman tagged another into the tennis courts. And how can we forget the stellar plays made at first by Bill King, or the low-profile pitching of Matt Szeler, or the standup body blocking of Andy Wizinsky at the mound! (He must be black and blue today)."*

*"The fielding of (Gord) Hebden, Panton, and McKinnon kept our boys in the game, although we have to admit Turley of the other guys certainly tallied more than his share of outs, as he snagged one after another sure base hits."*

*"Of course the game wasn't without its ugly moments and Doug Bradford has to top the list as he bodychecked Umpire D.G. (District Governor) Doug Lewis and sent him flying!"*



◀ District Governor Doug Lewis, umpire of 1990 Rotary Softball Challenge.

Rotarian Doug Bradford tackling D.G. Doug Lewis. Baseball Bradford not football! ▶



*"There was some confusion at the beginning, as Jim Turley showed up with a lacrosse 'catchie-thingie', and Ian Naimath came ready to play cricket, but that all settled down and they played ball."*

*"Several Rotarians and wives came out to cheer, and all enjoyed a good game of fun and fellowship".*

If we can't win at least we're consistent as Dale Huck, Don Olsen and Gord Hebden explain to the club why we won the trophy for second best, with Nanaimo North Club stealing first place!



▲ Dale Huck, Don Olsen, and Gord Hebden regaling the skills of our "Second Place Team", 1985.

Christmas is always special when children are involved. The Club holds an annual children's Christmas party where children and grandchildren have their special day within the family of Rotary. In past years Rotarians and their families gathered for the Christmas picnic seen in at Rotarian Joe Garner's place where tree sales, turkey shoots and refreshments were the order of the day. A regular meeting close to Christmas is chosen as a time to bring the spouses together with rotarians to celebrate the season. The club brings in entertainment as part of the christmas program as in 1986 when Rotarians and their spouses enjoyed the Uplands School Choir.



*Rotary Christmas Tree picnic at Cassidy, December 1963. Bill Luhtala, Gunnar Baardsen, Gordon Blunt, Tom Wintemute.*



*Santa magically appears at 1993 Children's Christmas Party.*



*Magician entertains children at Christmas party.*



*Uplands School Choir entertains Rotarians at Christmas luncheon, December 19, 1986*

Sometimes it gets more serious, but not much. The Rotary Club of Nanaimo has held a fishing derby once a year (whether we needed it or not) since the mid 1960's. Those members with boats/yachts host others in the club capable of rising at the crack of dawn and tolerating an assault by the demons of vertigo. Traditionally the organizers, recognizing the angling prowess of participants, provide steak and corn for the sustenance of these brave souls. This activity brings out the

competitive spirit in Rotarians, specifically in the telling of embellished stories of the pursuit and capture (mostly pursuit) of the prey. Some, like John Roger, instrumental in the success of our recent golf tournaments, appear unimpressed with the stories, after all they braved the sea, didn't catch a fish and when they got here there was no dam golf course!





◀ All those Rotarians and only 6 fish! Good thing Jack Stevenson brought steak for everybody.

Rotarian John Roger, far left, unimpressed with stories of bravado in the quest for the elusive salmon. No golf course.



Sometimes the catch is better!



Golf has long been an activity that has brought Rotarians together as shown in this 1953 picture. Inter-club golf tournaments have included Courtenay, Port Alberni,

Qualicum, Chemanius and Duncan. Some members only golf on special occasions while others are “regulars” who get together weekly to golf.



◀ Vancouver Island Rotary Golf Tournament - 1953  
Nanaimo Golf Club on Wakesiah Ave. includes five local Rotarians.





*Mixed Bridge is sometimes really mixed! Rotarian Harry (or is it Harryette) Wipper and bridge partner Bob Fawdry.*

The competitive spirit comes to the fore as members and their spouses vie for the weekly prize in Rotary Men's Bridge and monthly booty in Rotary Mixed Bridge Club. Members' talent ranges from the domine dynamite duplicate player wise about all card conventions to the dulcifying durable dysrhythmic, wise about none of the card conventions past present or future (What is a convention?). The former attend Rotary Bridge, spend hours attempting to pass on their wisdom and in the end tolerate (for isn't tolerance what Rotary is all about?) those of us who fall into the latter category. When all is said and done both groups enjoy the fellowship and those that win (sometimes the latter because the former can't figure out what the devil the latter are up to) gather up the magnificent prize of \$1.00 (Canadian).

Curling bonspiels involving Port Alberni, Duncan, Qulaicum, Campbell River and the local Nanaimo clubs are another tradition in the Club. In 1966 the Duncan Club put up the Ron Harper Shield



*Men's Bridge 1994: Back Row; Duncan Grey, Mike Smart, Bill Horman, Blair Lindsey, Gord Proctor. Middle Row; Ray Kulai, Doug Bradford, Roy Hancox, Fred Downs, Mills Clarke, Dave Hammond, Bob Peters. Front Row; Mike Benson, and Harry Wipper.*

for the Vancouver Island Rotary Bonspiel Championship. The Nanaimo rink, skipped by Gene Koster with Lionel Berry, Jack Stevenson, and Bill McFarlane, were the first winners.

Special events have been a way of breaking the ice and getting to know one another, such as Gay Nineties night celebrated in 1953, ladies night costume ball held at the Plaza Hotel in 1954 and Klondike night celebrated in 1963. Theatre night, a night of live theatre exclusively for Rotarians and their friends was the idea of past president Bob Pulleyblank who is actively involved with local theatre. Rotarians socialize before and following an entertaining play, sometimes watching our very own Rotarian Mike Patton perform on stage.

Speaking of theatre, Robbie Burns day celebration has always generated humour and comraderey in Rotary. Floyd Warner reported in Jan. 24, 1970 COGS that; *"It was a smorgasbord affair for lunch and Harry was denied the opportunity of saying grace. President John (Morris) usurped this honour with a Scot's Haggis blessing. Carmen then piped in the Haggis, carried by Jim Scales, and Jim gave the "Ode to the Haggis" and some of the Rotarians actually ate some of it! Al Pearse*



▲  
Left to Right: Mary Cook, John Cook, Bill Harman Sr., Sue Norman, Mrs. Dyde, Stan Dyde, Mabel Cashman, Ross Cashman.

Klondike Nite - April 1993 ▶  
Elizabeth Barsby, Jock Morris.

Basil Hobbs, Bob Fenty and Jock Morris all smiling. Is this before or after the Haggis? ▼



*then promoted the idea that all Scotsmen pay a fine and this argument continued for several minutes until Jim Scales sang "The Star of Robbie Burns" as his donation for the day, and Bill Coates paid his \$0.50 fine and later won the draw for \$5.00 (a 900% profit). Wullies frown quickly became a broad smile. Carmen then played several selections on the bagpipes (Green Hills of Tyrol) etc., but found it necessary to fondle the pipes for several minutes before they would respond."*



▲  
Rotarian Mike Patton displaying his talent on stage.



▲  
Klondike Nite - April 1993  
Ted Barsby, Anne Morley, Ian McLeod.

Interclub meetings have been used since the early 1920's to foster comradeship between clubs. One of the first known interclub meetings was held in 1924 when the Nanaimo and Victoria Clubs got together to dedicate the watering trough built at the base of the Malahat Highway. Some of the grander interclub meetings were held in the mid 1950's. In the fall of 1954, the Victoria Rotary Club came up to Nanaimo by train. They picked up Rotarians in Duncan and Chemainus and held a gala evening in the ballroom of the Plaza Hotel. In the spring of 1955, as part of Rotary's celebration of its 50th Anniversary, Nanaimo Rotary Club made a return visit by train to Victoria. They included the Qualicum Rotary Club. A





*February, 1955; Daily Free Press: Start of Nanaimo Rotary's Safari To Victoria to celebrate 50 years of Rotary.*

very successful evening meeting was held in Victoria. Since that time members have enjoyed group visitations to surrounding clubs, expanding their paradigm of fellowship beyond our Club.

Rotary conferences are another avenue for fellowship be they a Presidents



*Presidents and secretaries conference, Portland, 1933. Ten Rotarians from Nanaimo all wearing wedge field caps.*

Secretaries conference like the one held in Portland, Oregon in 1933 or an International Conference held each year. One of the ways Rotary extends fellowship at conferences is to have a Home Hospitality event where local Rotarians and their spouses host foreign Rotarians attending the conference. The Rotary Club of Nanaimo won the District Attendance award at the District Conference.

Recognition of members achievements, either within the club or in their work or private lives ranges from whimsical to serious. This includes birthdays, wedding anniversaries and club anniversaries when members contributions are heralded. Some recognition costs more than others. A picture in the newspaper will inevitably result in a fine set by the "fineor" (Sgt. at Arms) ranging from \$0.25 - \$5.00, all taken in good fun and usually accompanied by a



◀ Emily and Joe Kneen on left and Earl and Gladys Fletcher on far right with Japanese hosts at home hospitality night, R.I. Convention, Tokyo, Japan, June 1, 1961.

Nanaimo Rotary Club won the attendance award at the District Conference in Tacoma, 1987. ▶



▲ Sergeant at Arms Bob Wall fining his boss, Director Bill Horman! Smile Bill it's not that bad!

rebuttal from the "finee". Sometimes the Stg.-at-Arms goes to great lengths as reported in COGS, July 19, 1991;

"We were given a warning the previous week that the infamous "Roberta" Fenty (President Bob Fenty in drag) would collaborate with Sgt-at-Arms Malcom (Telford) to raise \$200 this meeting, and true to his/her word the buxom blonde bombshell attended and, with Malcom's help, attempted to sell her/his favours with the funds going to the Child Development Centre."

"What actually happened was that our members shelled \$203.75 out of their pockets to have "Roberta" keep his/her favour to his/herself!"

"Actually what we witnessed was the spirit of Rotary in action, as members raised that sum of money in just a few minutes all in the spirit of fun. It was great to be a part of it."

In a more serious vein, the Club also expresses appreciation for members outstanding contribution to the ideals of Rotary. This is done by awarding the member a **Paul Harris Fellow**. A





contribution of \$1000.00 U.S. is donated to Rotary Foundation on behalf of a deserving Rotarian. The member is then presented with his certificate and medal at a significant

Club gathering. This prestigious award is reserved for those few whose contribution is above and beyond the majority. The first to be selected for this award were Percy Cowman and Earl Fletcher both awarded a Paul Harris Fellow in 1975, both charter members of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo. Three Rotarians were honoured in 1979. President Bob McDougall announced to the club that an anonymous donor had offered to contribute \$1500 to Rotary Foundation if the club would match it. This was agreed and the Rotary Foundation Committee under Bruce Tait selected three deserving

members for Paul Harris Fellow Awards. The surprised recipients were Ted Stroyan, Bob Fawdry and Len Lovick.

Since that time the club has recognized 15 outstanding members with PHF awards; Ken Alexander (1981), Ted Barsby (1991), Harry Cicconi (1981), Willis Ganderton (1990), Bruce Gordon (1995), Bill Horman (1988), Don Kemp (1991), Gordon McGavin (1988), John Morris (1992), Bob Pulleyblank (1992), Jim Scales (1980), Jack Stevenson (1990), Norval Wheatcroft (1983). Members C.A. Wood (1987) and Dick Weismiller (1990) were awarded their PHF posthumously.

Another honour bestowed on long serving members is the classification of Life Member. These members are extraordinary Rotarians with many years of service. Life Members are recognized at special occasions when spouses are present. For example, President Willis Ganderton, at the 1986 Christmas Party, announced that Arnold McGillivray was made a Life Member.



▲ President Willis Ganderton presents Life Membership Award to Arnold McGillivray, who proudly displays the award (on right).



▲ Bill Horman (1980) introduces new lifetime member Jim Scales, Rotarian since 1939. Jim gave Bill his first job!

### Life Members of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

Name	Year	Year Join	Comments
Bill Lewis	1963	1920	Made life member on his 100th birthday!
Percy Cowman	1970	1920	Charter member
Hurbert Dendoff	1970	1920	Charter member
Oliver Eby	1970	1920	Charter member
Earl Fletcher	1971	1921	Completed 50 years service
Earle Forester	1974	1933	Club pianist, 41 years
Arnold Hanna	1974	1936	Past president of Alberni
Norman Corfield	1979	1929	Life member at 90 years old
Jim Scales	1980	1947	Life member at 84 years old
Ross Cashman	1981	1951	Life member at age 80
Bill Hunter	1983	1962	Charter member of Kinsmen
Bob Rathlef	1983	1948	A Mason and member of Elks
Nat Martin	1986	1950	Pres. Nanaimo Symphony
Arnold McGillivray	1986	1949	Alderman, Port Alberni
Bill Power	1986	1950	Club Auditor for 17 years
Ted Stroyan	1990	1964	Chairman of 2 District Conferences
Len Lovik	1993	1955	Club Historian 1977 - 1995
Ken Alexander	1995	1939	Chairman of Bowen Park Development



March 7, 1930: Rotaryannies Toy Band, Rotary Club of Nanaimo  
 Back Row L to R; Mrs. Grey, Adie Dunsmore, Mrs. Filmer, Ann Ormond, Mrs. Bierce, Mrs. Barsby, Dorothy Dickinson, Gertrude Dean, Mrs. Murphy, Bett Cowman, Mrs. Browne, Front L to R; Mrs. Thorneycroft, Mrs. Gould, Mrs. Boole, Mrs. Clements, Miss Grey, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Partington, Mrs. Hictchcox. On Floor; Nan Cunliffe, Elsie Mitchell.

Historically, wives of Rotarians came together and were known as Rotaryannes. They would meet for lunch and socialize amongst themselves. Rotaryannes provided much support to the club and were "good sports" at various Rotary functions. They formed a toy band in 1930 and in 1934 celebrated the international flavour of Rotary by dressing in international costumes. Rotarians enjoyed the "Barbershop Girls" during a "wonderful" Gay Nineties celebration in 1953. In 1954 they dressed up for a ladies night costume party in the Plaza Ballroom. Rotaryannes also participated in athletic endeavors aspiring to win the

coveted Ladies Nail Driving Trophy. After a tight race, the 1958 champion, Jean McLeod was presented the trophy by President Harry Cicconi during the Rotary Picnic at Field's Pool in Cedar. Senior Rotaryanne's are considered very much a part of Rotary, maintaining a contact with the club long after their Rotary spouses have passed away. Current Senior Rotaryannes include Gladys Clarke, Mary Cook, Eileen Crellin, Vedora Estelle, Flo Hanna, Cae Lupton, Mae McGavin, Ann Morley, Clarice Murray, Moya Pritchard, Marg Stroyan, Gwen Weismiller, Sheila Westwood, Galdys Wheatcroft, and Louise Woods.



▲ February, 1934, International costumes, Rotary Club of Nanaimo Rotaryannes. Back Row L to R; Gladys Fletcher, Mrs. Scharze, Mrs. Browne, Emmie Bate, Mrs. Partington, Connie Cowman, Dorothy Dickenson. Front Row L to R; Mrs. Carter, Agnes Russell, Alice Cowman, Mrs. Thorneycroft, Mrs. Foerster, Mrs. Horman, Mrs. Cowman. Seated L to R; Mrs. Murphy and Betty Seggie.

March, 1953, Gay Nineties Night, The Barbershop Girls. L to R; Lorraine McAllister, Olive Morrison, Nina Stokes, Peggie Borland, Joan Muir, Mable Cashman. ▶





*Ladies Nite, 1954  
Costume Party, Plaza  
Ballroom.  
L to R; Helen Jones, Joan  
Muir, Gladys Fletcher,  
Sue Horman, Kay  
Martin, Nan Cunliffe,  
Eileen Cunliffe, Anne  
Hana, Hazel Addison.*



*Tommy Bennet, referees  
a nail driving contest at  
the 1958 Rotary Picnic,  
Fields Pool, Cedar.*



▲ *President Harry Cicconi presents prize to  
Jean McLeod, winner of nail driving  
contest.*



▲ *Back row left to right: Margaret Stroyan, Eileen Crellin, Louise Wood  
Front row left to right: Gladys Clarke, Flora Hanna, Anne Morley*



While there were many ways to enjoy fellowship and involve Rotaryans in Rotary, the senior members are of the opinion that none exceed the experience of hosting a district conference. The Club has hosted two conferences in its history. The first in 1974 and the second five years later in 1979.

### **60TH ANNUAL DISTRICT # 502 CONFERENCE, APRIL 26, 27, 28, 1974**

Courtney District-Governor Cliff Laver, in 1973, put the Nanaimo Rotary Club on the spot when he asked the Club to host the 60th (Diamond Jubilee) Annual District # 502 Conference in 1974. This was the first time the Club had tackled such a job in the 54 years of its existence; the president Bill Crellin knew we had our work cut out for us.

Fortunately, Ted Stroyan accepted the challenge as Conference Chairman. Ted had both leadership qualities and organizational ability, combining a background in education - to formulate the Conference program - and in public relations - to promote attendance at the Conference.

Another important personnel asset was Rotaryanne Evelyn Cicconi, an absolute "Whiz" with decorations.

Ted called the first meeting of his central Committee chairman on June 22, 1973, to decide on the theme. Meetings were held monthly until the end of March 1974, recruiting more members and Rotaryans, including volunteers from the Nanaimo North Club. By this time the publicity committee of Don and Thelma Macrae had sent out 2,100 registration forms, with a piece of red carpet attached to indicate the "red carpet" treatment attending delegates could expect.

During the Conference there was indeed a length of red carpet rolled out in front of the Malaspina Hotel by Manager

Russ Dickson, and last used for the visit of Queen Elizabeth II. A welcome sign was suggested to read "keep it clean - trod on by our Queen." This "Magic" carpet was stolen on the Saturday night of the conference and was never retrieved.

During April, meetings were stepped up to once a week. Evelyn Cicconi reported that up to 25 Rotaryans had met weekly for 2 months at her home to make 1,000 paper flower blossoms and 100 "hot pink" topiary trees for the table centres. The Nanaimo Curling Rink, where all the conference sessions were held was totally transformed by the decorations which were a "smash hit". The ladies all got to know one another much better, as a result new friendships were formed.

A total of 800 delegates and their ladies came to Nanaimo for three days of fellowship and discussion. When they registered, every lady received a special gift - an original Indian drawing complete with printed legend, and suitable for framing. Only 400 of these exclusive prints were made and each were numbered.

Following an afternoon of golf or fishing, delegates enjoyed Rotary home hospitality. Canadian and American guests attended dinner at 67 Rotary homes with 21 Co-hosts mixing in Rotary fellowship before attending the impressive opening ceremonies in the stunningly decorated Curling Rink at 9:00 p.m.

To a crowded audience the ceremonies led off with a parade of international flags, carried in and mounted in display stands by sea cadets from R.C.S.C.C. "Amphion", accompanied by the Nanaimo Concert Band on stage. His honour Lieutenant Governor Walter S. Owen brought greetings and good wishes and declared the Conference open. The two host Club presidents, Bill Crellin of the Nanaimo Rotary Club, and Don Rawlins of the Nanaimo North Rotary Club, welcomed all delegates on behalf of their respective



*Parade of flags by  
R.C.S.C.C. "Amphion"  
60th District Conference.*

Clubs. The keynote address was delivered by Rotary International President's representative Dr. M. W (Marty) Fleck from Albuquerque, New Mexico. District-Governor Cliff Laver, Courtenay Club, closed the proceedings. The conference was off to a colourful and distinguished start.

On Saturday morning 57 Rotary pioneers sat down to breakfast in the Malaspina Hotel. A few, with exceptionally long service, (like Percy Cowman of the

Nanaimo Rotary Club) received a framed drawing of the Nanaimo Bastion.

Over at the Villa Hotel, 55 President-Elect and Secretaries also sat down to breakfast, with Nanaimo Club President Bill Crellin and District-Governor Cliff Laver in charge of the programme.

Students from Malaspina College had arranged to entertain the 25 visiting exchange students for the day, with a fishing trip, and a picnic on Newcastle Island, winding up at the banquet and dance in the Curling Rink in the evening.

A special Saturday programme for the ladies began with a choice of luncheon at either the Malaspina Hotel or the Tally-Ho Travelodge with appropriate programs, followed by afternoon bridge or golf, as desired. Specially wrapped gifts of canned clams and recipes were provided.

The Conference theme was adopted from Rotary International President Bill Carter's slogan "A time for action."

The first plenary session on Saturday morning tackled "Communication in Rotary" with Charles Hayward, Tacoma,



*President Bill Crellin welcoming attendees of the 60th  
District #502 Conference, 1974*

Washington to outline methods and means of communication: to be followed by group discussions on a variety of Rotary information topics.

During the Saturday luncheon District-Governor Cliff Lever presented various Club awards. The Community Achievement Award went to Chemainus Club for building a Senior Citizens Home, a remarkable achievement for a club in a small community.

The District Conference Business Session was also conducted by the District-Governor, with District-Governor-Elect Bob Brister presenting resolutions.

The afternoon plenary session heard a stirring address from John Fisher (Mr. Canada), noted radio commentator and public speaker from Toronto. His theme was "Is Rotary Relevant In Today's World?"

The annual dinner and dance, arranged by the Nanaimo North Rotary Club was the central social event. The "hotpink" table centres and colourful hall decorations added a gay, festive note to the evening. Marty Fleck was presented with an Indian Carving, and Cliff Laver received a specially designed metal sculpture. Rotary fellowship took over the evening.

"The Best Sixty Years of Rotary" featuring 15 successful Club projects, many with displays concluded the plenary sessions on Sunday morning, followed by the final luncheon.

On Sunday evening "the gang who had put on the conference" held a "Victory Party" at the Malaspina Hotel to relax and review a most successful conference. After all his hard work, Ted Stroyan was presented with a framed original Indian art work by Arthur Bolton of the Tsimshian Tribe, "for his excellent leadership and organization as Conference Chairman."

Also at this party "other" original Indian art work by the same artist, copies

of which were given to all the ladies attending the conference, was presented to Helen, wife of District-Governor Cliff Laver, to signify that no additional prints would ever be made. The print was suitably framed.

Having to put on this conference was the best thing that ever happened to the Nanaimo Rotary Club. There was more fellowship, more co-operation, more involvement, and more participation by members and their Rotaryannes than in any previous Club endeavour. This includes the Nanaimo North Rotary Club too.

## **65TH ANNUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE - APRIL 27, 28, 29, 1979**

Only five years after the Club's first successful District Conference it was called again, by District-Governor Deans "DP" Peggs of Victoria, to host a second one in 1979. Former conference Chairman Ted Stroyan, agreed to convene the conference on one condition - that the same crew of Committee Chairman would serve with him. Fortunately, the original crew was almost intact, only Accountant, Club President, Bob McDougall replaced Finance Chairman John Dunham, who had moved away. We still had our "whiz kid" decorator Evelyn Cicconi. This time we all knew what we had to do and could profit from our previous experience.

Ted called the first meeting at his home on February 9, 1978 with a full complement present. The dates for the conference were set as April 27, 28, 29, 1979. So that Evelyn and Ted "could celebrate their birthdays," it says in the minutes. Plans for the budget, halls, housing, decorations and advance publicity moved along quickly. Nanaimo North Rotary Club was included from the start. A publicity stunt was planned for the forthcoming 1978 conference in Tacoma. As Vic Cameron urged "let's get the bull





*Rotarian Bruce Tait "revving up" the crowd at the Tacoma Conference.*



*Rotarian Ted Stroyan, town crier, inviting participants of the 1978 Tacoma Conference to Nanaimo in 1979.*



*Tacoma Club president Bill Dearborn with 40 lb. salmon from Nanaimo.*

rolling." From then on Ted always referred to the "best damned conference this District has ever seen." AND IT WAS !!!!!

Our whole idea of the skit at the Tacoma conference was to publicise *our* conference at *their* conference. It went like this.

At the Saturday night banquet and dance, Bruce Tait, dressed as a logger, in hard hat and checkered shirt, started the crowd by revving up a power saw - a "real attention getter" Then Ted, dressed as a town crier, strode into the banquet hall ringing his hand bell and shouting, "Oyez!, Oyez!, Hear Ye!, Hear Ye!, Hear Ye!" followed by an invitation to all and sundry to attend the "best damned conference this District has ever seen", to be held in Nanaimo 1979. While Ted held everyone spellbound (he won the Tacoma town crier championship) the assembled exchange students and our "gang" passed out the rolled parchment invitations, duplicates of Ted's spiel, to all assembled delegates.

Then a kilted piper marched in, followed in procession by Carl Opgard and Don Rawlins, "suitably attired in cap and gown", carrying a 40lb frozen salmon suspended between them from a decorated pole, with a scarlet-coated Mountie guarding the rear. (The Americans love those Mounties). After parading around the hall, the salmon was ceremoniously deposited in the lap of Tacoma Club President Bill Dearborn, as an obvious reminder of the "wonderful fishing" awaiting in Nanaimo. Our group, all dressed in costume, then retired in procession behind the piper and the Mountie, mission accomplished. So much for "getting the bull rolling."

Everything had gone as planned except for a few minor developments. Ted and Don Rawlins and their ladies transported the frozen salmon in Don's minibus, but they "got lost" after arriving in Tacoma. They eventually managed to get the salmon safely back in cold storage. Incidentally, it had taken a lot of manipulation on Ted's part to secure the salmon in the first place.



The Scottish piper arranged for in Nanaimo, at the last minute couldn't come, so Ted went on a desperate hunt for a piper in Tacoma. The local pipe band "was out of town on an engagement." With only a half hour to spare Ted finally located, on short notice, a piper who entered into the spirit of the occasion and did a good job for us.

After a summer recess, monthly meetings resumed in September. In the meantime Evelyn and Harry Cicconi had attended the Rotary International Conference in Tokyo, so were on an oriental kick on their return. Evelyn proposed that the decorations for the conference should be Japanese to include Shoji screens, Tori gates, lanterns, and banners, blossoming cherry trees etc., the basic colour scheme to be black, yellow, and white. The entire Curling Rink would become a blooming Japanese garden.

From October until the end of the year, work crews of 40-50 people, Rotarians and Rotaryannes from both Clubs, turned out every Wednesday night at Wille Ganderton's warehouse to prepare the decorations. The ladies sat patiently, week after week, making 8,000 paper blossoms. Wood materials for the screens, gates, and table centres, were donated from members scrap piles.

The fellows cut, drilled, hammered, sanded and painted under the eagle eyes of Norval Wheatcroft and Allan Pearse. They made and painted 15- table centrepieces, 300 candleholders, and 400-500 banners to hang from the rafters.

Six hundred flower pots were painted to hold 600 yellow chrysanthemum plants, each one to be presented to the visiting Rotaryannes with a card reading "This plant is a gift from the ladies of the Nanaimo Rotary Clubs. We hope it will preserve memories of a warm and friendly 65th Annual District Conference." Special permits had to be obtained from the

Department of Agriculture and the Canadian Customs so the plants could be admitted into the United States.

There was a lot of Rotary participation and a lot of Rotary fellowship, and both Clubs got to know each other just that much better.

It was further suggested that a fair-sized banner be sent to every Club in the District to be displayed at every Club meeting to remind Rotarians to attend - "the best damned conference" - or words to that effect. It was also decided (while DP was distracted by two Rotaryannes) that he should distribute these banners during his annual visit to each Club.

Early in February, 3,100 invitations and registration forms were mailed out, with a piece of red wool attached to each one saying "this is the wool from which we are weaving the fabric of the best conference of ideas, enjoyment, fellowship, friendship, and Rotary experience."

In accordance with R. I. president Clem Renouf's slogan "Reach Out", the Conference theme was "Reach out - to the Future."

"DP" extended the conference by one day by enlarging the usual pre-conference Past-District-Governor's Dinner to include all Paul Harris Fellows in the District. About 100 Rotarians and their ladies attended this successful event on Thursday night at the Tally-Ho.

Friday afternoon visiting delegates enjoyed local fishing or golf, followed at 5:00 p.m. with home hospitality, hosted and co-hosted by Rotarians and their wives from both Clubs. Guest couples were mixed from Canadian and American Clubs so that, by the time everyone arrived at the Curling Rink for the opening ceremonies, they had already enjoyed a lot of Rotary fellowship and friendship. The transformation of the Curling Rink into a blossoming Japanese garden, with stone

lanterns and miniature rock gardens, all surrounded by shoji screens and hanging lanterns aglow, really impressed and delighted everyone. There was no doubt the effort put forth by the two Nanaimo Clubs to have the "best damned conference etc...."

The opening ceremonies followed the pattern of the previous Nanaimo conference with the impressive parade of flags; Lieutenant-Governor Henry Bell-Irving brought greetings and good wishes and declared the conference open. Nanaimo Club president Bob McDougall and Nanaimo North Club President Ken Finley made everyone welcome. The Consul General of Japan in Vancouver, Shinichiro Assao, was the principal speaker, and afterwards he was presented with a genuine native carving, as an expression of appreciation.

Saturday morning, close to 60 Rotary Pioneers, those with 20 years or more membership, sat down to breakfast at the Tally-Ho. There were 11 Rotary Pioneers from the Nanaimo Club in attendance, including Frank Wilfe tied as the oldest pioneer present. The President's breakfast for incoming Presidents and Secretaries was held at the Malaspina Hotel.

The Japanese Consul's speech was a prelude to the first plenary session on Saturday morning when the topic was

"Reach out to the Pacific Rim." There were four speakers, one each from Japan, Australia, Canada, and the U.S.A.

During the presentation of District Club Awards before the luncheon, the Rotary Club of Nanaimo won the Community Service Award, the Cliff Laver Sheild, for their outstanding Boys and Girls Club Centre.

All day Saturday students from Malaspina College entertained the 25 exchange students from throughout the District, together with eight Interact members from Tacoma. They toured Harmac Pulp Mill, enjoyed canoeing and recreation on Westwood Lake, and a barbecue. All attended the banquet and dance in the evening.

The special ladies programme for Saturday included luncheon and entertainment at either the Tally-Ho or the Villa Hotels, followed by either bridge or golf, as preferred. An attractive recipe designed and produced by the Nanaimo North Rotaryannes was distributed to the ladies as a further souvenir of this conference.

The afternoon plenary session featured Rotary in action at the community level. In "Reach out to your Community" several successful Club projects were outlined by 11 sponsoring Clubs.

At the Governor's annual dinner and dance over 1,100 people sat down to a rib roast dinner, the colourful table centrepieces gay in black and yellow, yellow tapers and the individual potted yellow chrysanthemums for the ladies. Each Club President present received a Japanese "happi" coat to add colour to the occasion. following the inspiring address by Dr. Harold Henderson of Kelowna, the Rotary International President's representative, a presentation of a native Indian carving was made to him, while the District-Governor "DP" Peggs, was



*Japanese Consul addressing 1979 District Conference.*



Governor's annual dinner and dance.

appropriately presented with a native Indian ceremonial talking stick.

By special dispensation from the District-Governor, three Paul Harris Fellow Awards were made by the Rotary Club of Nanaimo to members Ted Stroyan, Bob Fawdry and Len Lovick, for their outstanding and continuous service to the Club.

The final session on Sunday morning presented six skits to illustrate "Reach out to the Future", Rotary in the next decade, and in the next century. The noon luncheon brought "the best damned conference this district has ever seen" to a close.

While hosting a district conference can be challenging and rewarding, attending an out of town conference can be an adventure as witnessed by George Murdie's report on attendance at the Rotary International convention in Chicago on Rotary's 50th anniversary (Fig. 26).

*"Let me say at the outset, what a wonderful travelling companion President Jim proved to be, sociable, tactful, careful, and being a brother Scotsman, of course, we got along well."*

*"It was well that we decided at an early date to go to Chicago, for preparations were barely completed when it was time to take off, and as Jim signified his intention of taking his kilt for a dress outfit, I decided to get a kilt from*

*Scotland, and it arrived a few days before we left."*

*"Financial arrangements had to be made also. As I knew Alex Carmicheal would frown on lending money for such frivolous purposes, I tackled Bob Mawhinney for a loan of \$50.00. Bob is a great guy, he made no bones about lending me the money."*

*"Just as a matter of routine he took out a mortgage on the house, but I am happy to say that with Jim's good guidance I was able to bring back \$10.00, and by dint of careful saving we hope to clear up the loan by Christmas."*

*"When we got to Vancouver we realized we were being had by porters. Red caps, waitresses, etc, and that if we were to get back financially sound we would have to do something about it. Sure enough Jim came up with a bold plan. He got a dollar's worth of dimes, and with a grim expression on his face he pulled the strings of his purse tight, and said, "That has got to last the trip." We had no trouble passing the American customs, but it was more difficult passing a porter. Those birds waylaid us at every move, and the mutterings and dirty looks, man, if looks could kill we were a couple of dead ducks. But Jim held his ground and outstared the hardest of them."*

*"Things went along pretty smoothly until we arrived at the Hotel Hilton where it seems that there is a rule that if you have more than*



*two pieces of baggage it takes two bell boys, and after registering and being assigned a room, we were taken in hand by two specimens. The head man being a 24 year old, 6' 2" model, with wavy hair, who wheeled his luggage cart right into the room, stowed our baggage, put up the window, told us about the services we could get and held out his hand, Jim being down to his last American dime crossed the big fellow's palm with it, and the poor man took a deep breath and fairly shouted, "is this for both of us?" I could see trouble so I dug deeply into my pocket and gave the other fellow a dime, and they reluctantly left muttering unquotable language. It says much for Jim's fortitude in trying circumstances that he never lost his temper or patience."*

*"We will proceed to the British Commonwealth of Nations dinner, \$7.00 a plate, with souvenir ash tray, which I lost."*

*"While dress was optional we decided to dress up and wear kilts which decision was not without its moments, as though Jim has worn a kilt off and on for 20 years, I was wearing one for the first time in my 69 years, and I must say that I fail to see why anyone in their normal senses would wear a kilt by choice. Dinner was at 6:30 p.m. at the Palmer Hotel, one of the better hotels, and not so far from the Hilton Hotel. We started to dress at 5:00 p.m. and while Jim had no difficulty, I never could dress myself even in a tux, I expected some help from Jim. To give the man credit it was the only time he cut me short, and he said he had enough to do to dress himself, so there I was. Near panic seized me, and as a desperate situation needs prompt decisions, a bright idea came to me. I*

*dashed into the corridor with my kilt pinned over my stuffed shirt, and commandeered a coloured room maid and pressed her into valet service, much to Jim's consternation."*

*"He muttered something about Minnie and Bob Moses and turned a deep red, but let me say that Southern mammy knew her stuff about dressing a man and within ten short minutes we were off."*

*"We worked our way through the hotel to the taxi without attracting too much attention, but when we arrived at the Palmer House main dining room, people got really chummy. Were we really Scotch? What was the name of the tartan? Their mother or grandfather came from Scotland, and so on. Even a LIFE photographer took a shot at us. The dinner passed quietly. I was glad to get my hairy legs under the table where they could not be seen, although Jim for Ben on such things assured me it was something to be proud of, and not on any account to use a depilatory. If going there was uneventful, getting back to the Hilton Hotel was the opposite. As the distance was not too great we decided to walk to save taxi fare, and that was where we made our mistake. The two or three blocks from the Palmer House to Michigan Boulevard was quiet, but when we turned onto the Boulevard it was different. Jim was the target for their admiration, and by the time he got two blocks he was like a red Indian in war paint, and to the inquisitive dames who enquired what a Scotsman wore under his kilt, he merely said, "I'm a man of few words. Gie me your hand."*

## COGS Bulletin

According to instructions from Rotary International, a club bulletin should: "Stimulate interest and improve attendance, announce the program of the forthcoming meeting, relate highlights of the previous meeting, promote fellowship, contribute to the Rotary education of all members, and to report news of the club, of its members—and of the worldwide Rotary program." Much of the club history reported in this publication was gleaned from back issues of COGS.

As far as we know, the oldest club bulletin in existence is pasted onto the inside front cover of the first club attendance record book. Dated May 6, 1921, it records the "fifty third meeting of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo held in the Great War Veterans Association Hall at 12:15 promptly." In handset type it is printed on single sheet with the Rotary wheel (minus the keyway) for identification. It is no surprise that the subjects covered are all familiar; visiting Rotarians, annual attendance records, the previous meeting and re-election of officers, committee reports and announcements of future events.

Unfortunately for the bulletin editors in the early days of our club, there were no desktop publishing computers, no scanners, no photocopiers, and the early editions of our club bulletin were printed by the old fashioned letterpress method. Type was cast in lead on a Linotype linecasting machine, and the Rotary symbol was reproduced from a brass engraving. The bulletin was painfully typeset each week and then printed on a hand-fed platen press at a local printers.

We have no record of when the club bulletin was officially named "COGS," but the 995th meeting, in

1939, on October 20 at Malaspina Hotel at 12:15 noon is reported in a copy of "Rotary Cogs." It is a single sheet 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 on gold coloured paper with purple ink. It was printed at Filmer's Printers whose owner, Joe Filmer was a member of the club and served for many years as bulletin editor. Other bulletin editors during that time were Tom Bennett and John Hart. Rotarians serving on that committee included Jack Barsby, Nat Bevis and Bob Wilson.

### Some of the Bulletin Chairmen

*There is no record of who edited or chaired the bulletin committee in the early years of our club, but it is reasonable to assume the the long serving secretary, Charlie Ironside, who was so meticulous about the records he kept of our club, was certainly involved. Thanks to a couple of our members who did keep records, Joe Kneen and Len Lovick, we were able to compile a list of bulletin chairmen covering the past 50 years. It was quite common for the committee to remain the same from year to year, with members taking turns chairing it. You will see a few members took the chairmanship several times over the years.*

1945-46 Norm Whitehead	1967-68 Harry Wipper
1946-47 Harry Cicconi	1968-69 no record
1947-48 Harold Shelly	1969-70 no record
1948-49 Harry Cicconi	1970-71 Geoff Barrett
1949-50 Jim Scales	1971-72 Bill McFarlane
1950-51 George Murdie	1972-73 Newt Hopkins
1951-52 Jack Lort	1973-74 Norm Graham
1952-53 Tommy Bennett	1974-75 Hody Lawlor
1953-54 Ross Cashman	1975-76 Cec Ramsden
1954-55 Bob Moses	1976-77 Lionel Berry
1955-56 Bill Lupton	1977-78 Chuck Wood
1956-57 Doug Kirkbride	1978-79 Roy Folz
1957-58 Doug Kirkbride	1979-80 Ed Marzocco
1958-59 Doug Kirkbride	1980-81 Ray Keyes
1959-60 Jim Thorpe	1981-82 Bill Rathlef
1960-61 Tom Bennett	1982-83 Gordon Proctor
1961-62 Bill Crellin	1983-84 Gordon Proctor
1962-63 Dick Bond	1984-85 Jim Thorpe
1963-64 Harry Cicconi	1985-86 Basil Hobbs
1964-65 Bill Ney	1986-87 Gordon Proctor
1965-66 Ray Kulai	1987 to 1995
1966-67 no record	Bruce Gordon

As reproduction technology changed, so did the format for our club bulletin. The evolution of the Gestetner brought about a change in COGS format, and a single sheet of 8 1/2 x 14 inch bond produced by McFarlane Travel brought the Rotary news to our members. The machine was purchased by the club for \$290.15 in January, 1958, and was housed at McFarlane Travel Agency.

Bill McFarlane, owner of the travel agency, served a term as COGS editor, and on the committee for many years accepting the responsibility of producing the bulletin each week. Keith McFarlane, a member of our club today and Bill's son, remembers when he was a boy he used to come to his father's office after school to run the bulletin off on the Gestetner and fold COGS in preparation for mailing them out to members. Keith painstakingly licked all the address labels and stamps at age 12 for the reward of one dollar a week.

COGS format changed in 1982-83 when Gordon Proctor took over as the editor, and our members were treated to an 8-page bulletin with a much expanded content. The cover featured pictures of the current president, the District Governor and R.I. President, and the back page featured a full roster of our members with their telephone numbers. Gordon printed the program for the current meeting as well as the next two meetings, along with the names of the members who had special duties. That portion of the format continues to this day. The cover was pre-printed for the year, and the weekly program was photocopied at McFarlane Travel. Clarisse Appleton of McFarlane's copied, folded, stamped and mailed COGS for many years. Members who served on Gordon's committee over the years include Ted Barsby, Jim Wallace, Jim Thorpe, Basil Hobbs and Bruce Gordon.

Our bulletin was still mailed out to members each week when Gord took the job over, but when postal rates took a huge

jump and it became no longer financially feasible to mail out the bulletin and we began the method of distributing them at the meeting each Friday. Gord Proctor's wife, Jean, faithfully typed out each bulletin during the years he was the editor.

Gord Proctor brought a special distinction to COGS, winning the Best Bulletin Award in the District three years out of five. Gord won Best Bulletin in 1982-83, Honourable Mention in 1983-84, and Best Bulletin in 1986-87. District officers finally put our bulletin in a different category, so that we were in competition with much larger clubs. We continued to win.

Basil Hobbs won Best Bulletin in 1985-86, and COGS won again in 1987-88 under Bruce Gordon's chairmanship. We won Honorable Mention in 1990-91, and Best Bulletin again in 1991-92.

Gord Proctor stepped down as chairman of the bulletin committee after five years, and remains on that committee to this day helping out whenever called upon. Basil Hobbs acted as the COGS editor for a term, and then the job went to Bruce Gordon who has continued in the tradition set by Gord Proctor; striving to be the most effective Rotary club bulletin in the district.

In January, 1990, the bulletin format changed to a 4-page style, and is now printed at Quadra Printers. Professionally typeset on Macintosh computer each week, your faithful scribe takes full advantage of the versatility of the computer-age, and sometimes digitally scans in a photo, one has been known to reformat the front page when the occasion arises. The main format of the bulletin cover is still pre-printed for the year, giving us the advantage of colour. The roster, upcoming program information, report on the meeting, Rotary news and attendance reports are compiled each week and printed on our covers.





# ROTARY CLUB of NANAIMO

Fifty-third Meeting

G. W. V. A. Hall, FRIDAY, May 6th,  
at 12:15 promptly.

## "LET NOT THE SPOKEN WORD OF ROTARY ETHICS CEASE TO BE HEARD IN OUR MIDST."

IN reply to GOVERNOR NEL'S special appeal for a high percentage for the month of APRIL, we have presented him with the following ATTENDANCE BOUQUET: Five Weeks as follows: 97.18%, 89.14%, 97.29%, 97.29% and 91.89%, thus making an average for the month of 94.58% which, of course, knocks us out of the running completely, for close of the year honors. Surely we can do better than this.

FOLLOWING is the list of batting averages for the entire year, and we must say "hats off" to PERRY COWMAN, BILL GRAY and JIM PARTINGTON who each made it 100% and thus set a fine example to the Club.

### BATTING AVERAGES FOR FIRST YEAR.

No.	Name	No. Meetings	No. Attended	No. Absent	Per Cent. Total
14.	Brown, Doc	52	51	1	98.07
28.	Booth, Tom	27	27	0	100.
30.	Beattie, George	24	24	0	100.
23.	Beattie, Sy	44	44	0	100.
34.	Bard, Pete	13	12	1	92.30
38.	Bird, Ernest	9	9	0	100.
18.	Cunningham, Tom	52	49	3	94.23
19.	Carter, Norman	52	46	6	88.46
2.	Cowman, Percy	52	52	0	100.
27.	Culliffe, Frank	27	27	0	100.
10.	Dendoff, Herb	52	50	2	96.15
13.	Doyle, John	52	51	1	98.07
27.	Dunsmore Andrew	12	12	0	100.
21.	Eby, Oliver	52	49	3	94.23
29.	Filmer, Joe	27	27	0	100.
5.	Fletcher, George	52	48	4	92.30

▲ Rotary Club bulletin, 1921. Note wheel does not have a cog.

Club Bulletin in 1960



NANAIMO ROTARY CLUB — OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Vol. Twenty, No. Fourteen  
Friday, May 19, 1960  
Price: 10c per copy

# "COGS"

He Finds Most Who Serve Best.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 1960. John Dunham, Terrible Zypist.

ADMITTS: Carman Brown (in sick-bed), Ross Cashman, Bill Cochrane, Bill Crellin, Bill Hunter, Vic Jones, Gene Koster, Floyd Warner and Jerry Welch.

MAKE UPS: Gunner Beardsen at Campbell River and John Dunham at Yakima.

BIRTHDAY BOYS: Gene Koster, October 23rd, Milton Wharf, October 26th.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Doug and Gunner Beardsen, November 3rd. I am giving you lots of notice, Gunner, so you will not have any excuse for forgetting.

Bill Lantala, John Morris and Lionel (The Monsignor's) all had guests.

Bill Ray was smoking a cigar which we thought would be completed after a few puffs. But he came through with bags of experience, no doubt.

Barla Beardsen might know his planes, but he doesn't. He thought the "O.S. 102" was the "PRINCESS ELAINA", might C.P.R. fallow.

Question of the Week, Number 78.

To understand that one of the greatest assets of a business man is his friends and that any advantage of friendship is eminently ethical and proper.

The Directors recommended and the Club approved a song to sponsor a team in the St. Mary's Football League, to Rotary Stumpers. Let's do a little more chaps, than give the song, let's go get and root for the team. The first presentation a few weeks ago has been declared open. Get Peterson reported on an invitation to send a team Alameda Rotary Hospital on November 16th and 17th. See information.

PROGRAMME: Harry Greenhalgh briefly introduced our opening remarks. The Reverend William Hills of St. Mary's proceeded to demonstrate why he is asked to speak to us as the Washington State Biographical Principals Association. I met with him on one point, however, I happen to know him at the same time and my recollection of the time was 79 degrees, not 50. Of course, I did my singing at 11:30 p.m. Maybe it just felt like 85 at that time. His discussion of the Canadian system of living, the and fears kept the Club engrossed throughout. Maybe I religion and politics are more closely aligned. Dick (Buckley) was in.

Front cover changed in 1990, President Bradford's year.

Sometimes we do have fun! Club voted to reward editor rather than fine him.

They say imitation is the best form of flattery, and our club bulletin has been imitated by many Rotary clubs throughout the district and even farther afield as many club bulletins have adopted our format and style.

The COGS bulletin continues to serve our membership with the same mandate as set out by the early pioneers of Rotary. We try to faithfully record the history of our club by reporting on the program, the people and the record of service to Rotary and to the community.

ROTARY COGS

Published Weekly by the

Rotary Club of Nanaimo

AT NANAIMO

VANCOUVER ISLAND - BRITISH COLUMBIA

Meetings:

—HOTEL MALASPINA—

Each Friday at 12:15 Noon

▲ Format of Club bulletin 1940-1950

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

# "COGS"

Volume 73, Number 16 Friday, October 16, 1992

Serving Our Community Since May 1st, 1920 CHARTER NUMBER 689

Club Meeting Friday at 12:15 TALLYHO ISLAND INN

CLUB OFFICERS: President Doug Bradford, Vice President Ruth McFarlane, Secretary Jim Thorne, Treasurer Gordon Murray, President Elect Gail Hadden, 1993 Past President Ian Williams.

DIRECTORS: Bill Wall, Bob Ferry, Ed Norman, Dennis Loring, President of Rotary International, Clifford L. Doolman, Northbrook, California, District Governor - Gordon K. Long, Campbell River.

Club Mailing Address: P.O. Box 405, Nanaimo, British Columbia V9R 5L3

NANAIMO ROTARY CLUB

# "COGS"

Volume 68, Number 3 July 17, 1987

President Keller's Theme for 1987-88 "Rotarians—United in Service ... Dedicated to Peace"

Serving the Community Since May 1, 1920 Charter Number 689

Meets Friday at 12:15 Tally-Ho Island Inn

ROY HANCOX PRESIDENT 1987-1988 Rotary Club of Nanaimo

CHARLES C. KELLER President 1987-88 Rotary International Member of Rotary Club of California, Pennsylvania, USA

R. S. (GORD) BARTLETT Governor 1987-88 District 502 Rotary International Member of Victoria - Nanaimo Rotary Club Victoria, B.C.

Vice President: Doug Greer, Secretary: Don Kemp, Treasurer: Ken May, Past President: Willis Ganderton, President Elect: John Marlow.

DIRECTORS: Doug Bradford, Ray Kulai, Bob Peters, Terry Robinson.

Club Mailing Address: P. O. Box 405, Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5L3

▲ Format changed when Gord Proctor took over as editor.

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

# ENQUIRER

Volume 75, Number 15 378th Meeting Friday, March 24, 1993

Past Presidents Caught in Act! "We were only playing bridge" they say!

INSIDE: Two New Members Proposed, Quadra Island Spring Break Planned, Gala 75th Anniversary Planned for April 23rd, Sign Up Now for New For Whistler District Conference.

EXPOSE!! Rotary Wheel not a wheel at all, but found to be a Gear!

President Bob Visits Elvis In Calgary!

# IV



District Community Service Award for the construction of the Wheelchair Park.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

An early project of the new Service Club was the development of Townsite Beach at the foot of Townsite Road, near the Nanaimo Yacht Club, to benefit the youth of the community. No definite date is known for this project. At the 50th anniversary of the Club in 1970, charter member Percy Cowman remembered that "It was run for a year or two by Jack Good," but eventually the beach had to be closed due to sewer seepage into the harbour. "One of the early examples of pollution," lamented Percy.

On June 24th, 1923 near the end of Bob Ormand's year as Club President he presented medals to the Champions of the Nanaimo District Junior Football Team. It was appropriate that he should make this presentation as he had been something of an athlete in his younger days in Ontario. At the time he owned Ormand's Plumbing on Bastion Street, as a member of the Nanaimo Community Hotel Association Bob was also instrumental in the construction of the Malaspina Hotel.



*Townsite beach prior to closure.*

Frank Rowbottom, one of the medal recipients, remembers the occasion well as it was his eighteenth birthday. Several years later, in 1958, Frank was asked to join the Nanaimo Rotary Club. He indeed became a member, and maintained 20 years perfect attendance until 1979 when he died.

In 1924 Victoria Rotary Club and Nanaimo Rotary Club were still the only



*Nanaimo District Junior Football Team Championships, presented medals by Nanaimo Rotary Club.*



Rotary Clubs on Vancouver Island. It was perfectly natural for the two clubs to get together on a project that was primarily that of the Victoria Rotary Club led by Club President Jim Beatty. The north end of Malahat Drive, then a gravel road, needed the replacement of the wooden trough, formerly used by horses, with a concrete trough. By this time the trough was used primarily to provide water for thirsty radiators after the long gruelling drive over the Malahat. A roadside spring provided the water for the new concrete trough. The gravel road continued along the waterfront at Mill Bay, with cribbed logs for support.

The official dedication of the new cement trough took place on April 28, 1925. Nanaimo Rotarians and their wives attended the afternoon dedication ceremony, and later attended a dinner at the Tzhoulam Hotel in Duncan, presided over by then Nanaimo Club President Norman Carter. Headlines in the local paper on April 28 read "BIG ROTARY PARTY TO OPEN MALAHAT DRINKING FOUNTAIN". The announcement was reported as follows:

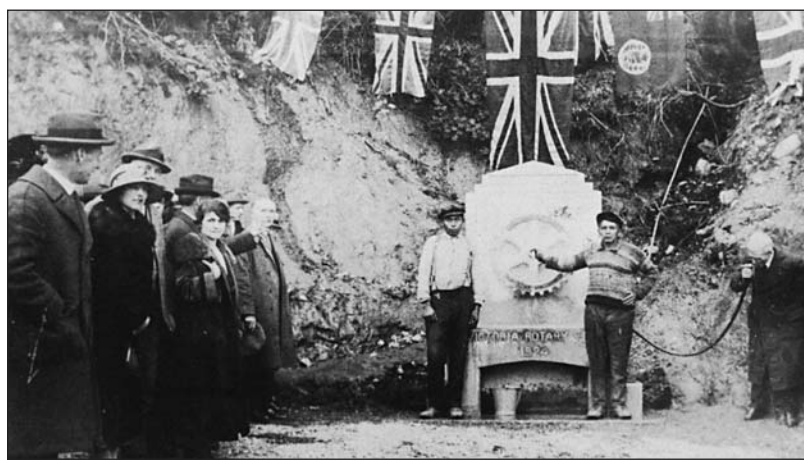
"Members of the Victoria and Nanaimo Rotary Clubs will take part in the official opening of the Rotary Malahat drinking fountain at Mill Bay at 4 o'clock this afternoon."

*"James H. Beatty, Victoria president, will be master of ceremonies. The blessing on the work, which replaces the old stream trough, will be pronounced by Rev. F. A. P. Chadwick. Rotary padre. Hon. W. H. Sutherland, Minister of Public Works, will unveil the fountain."*

*"After the ceremony Rotarians of the Island will assemble in Duncan for an evening entertainment under the direction of C. F. Davie, M.P.P., Mayor Mutter and Dr. R. E. Kerr, president of the Duncan and of the Associated Boards of Trade of Vancouver Island".*

*"The dinner at Duncan will start at 6:30 o'clock at the Agricultural Hall, when Dr. Sutherland will speak on Island roads".*

*"Victoria Rotarians will travel by motor car over the Mill Bay ferry."*



▲ Dedication Ceremony for the concrete watering trough on the Malahat, one of the clubs first projects, April 28, 1925.

Malhat along Mill Bay showing cribbing holding the road, 1925. ►



In 1982, the Duncan Rotarians restored the old cement trough which had been vandalized by the removal of the original Rotary wheel. Photos courtesy of Chuck Peterson (Duncan).



*Concrete watering trough restored by Duncan Rotary, 1982.*

The CITY BEAUTIFUL Committee ran a "Best Garden" competition. Rotarian Tom Gould, a nurseryman, donated a silver cup known as the Rotary Garden Club Trophy. Three keen competitors were Rotarians: Herb Bate who lived on Albert Street, Ted Jenkins who lived on Wentworth Street, and Jim Scales who lived on Townsite Rd. Jim won the trophy three years in succession. Over time the trophy has been misplaced and no longer exists.

## FRANKLYN STREET GYMNASIUM

Towards the end of the 1920s the entire community participated in a campaign to raise funds to build a gymnasium on Franklyn Street on property adjacent to John Shaw High School (Named after charter member Rotarian John Shaw, School Principal). Eventually John Shaw High School became known as Quennell School.

Heading the gymnasium campaign was sports enthusiast Peter Maffeo, a Gyro, and later City Mayor, who enlisted the help of all the service clubs, including Nanaimo Rotary, under the Service Clubs Council. School children contributed 10¢ per week collected at the schools. The campaign was a success. The gymnasium was built. Some very fine basketball was played in this gymnasium during the ensuing years.

## THE UPPER ISLAND MUSICAL FESTIVAL

In 1927 Andrew Dunsmore, organist and choirmaster at the Methodist Church (later St. Andrew's United) suggested the formation of the Upper Island Musical Festival. Andrew was a member of the Nanaimo Club which approved of the community project, and backed Andrew's idea. It is doubtful if Andrew ever realized how successful his idea would ever be. The first Festival was held in May, 1928. There were only 150 entries and R. T. Covenay acted as secretary. The Festival celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1978, when entries exceeded 1,000. Most of those entries were from Upper Vancouver Island communities such as Courtenay and Port Alberni, where music teachers recognized the value to their pupils of the annual Festival in Nanaimo.



*Rotarian Andrew Dunsmore in his band uniform, originator of the Upper Island Music Festival.*

Rotarian George Pearson acted as first honorary president, Rotarian Andrew Dunsmore was president, Rotarian Norman Carter served as treasurer, and R. T. Covenay again acted as secretary. Rotary was well represented on the executive. Pearson continued as honoraria president until his death in 1966, then Pearson's daughter Elsie (Mrs. Ken Alexander) succeeded to her father's job and later served in an active capacity with the Festival Committee. Dunsmore was president from 1928-1935. Rotarian Earle Foerster succeeded Dunsmore as president from 1935-1938. Rotarian John (Jack) Barsby took over from Earle as president until 1942 when the Second World War intervened. The Festival was temporarily cancelled until 1954. Despite his failing health, Dunsmore re-activated the Festival after the war.

Rotarian Douglas Kirkbride, a pupil of Andrew Dunsmore's, took over where Dunsmore left off and served as president of the Upper Island Musical Festival for

four years from 1955-1958. Kirkbride won many vocal awards in the Festival, including the coveted Rose Bowl. Rotarian K. D. McLure served as president of the Upper Island Musical Festival in 1971-1972.

Because they had music in common Jim Scales and Andrew Dunsmore were close friends. Jim had been a Rotarian in Port Alberni since 1940. He spent the Second World War years entertaining service personnel. When he returned to Nanaimo in 1947 and the Nanaimo Rotary Club, he addressed forces at the weekly luncheons for the Club sing-songs. Jim was song leader and Andrew functioned as pianist. At the annual Musical Festival Jim competed with Jack Barsby and Doug Kirkbride.

When Andrew died in 1955 at the comparatively young age of 63, Jim was devastated. In Andrew's honour the Nanaimo Rotary Club established the Andrew Dunsmore Memorial Award in the amount of \$25.00. Over the years the Club has increased the amount to \$250.00, now used to help Festival winners as they pursue their respective musical careers.

The Upper Island Musical Festival begun in 1928 has become one of Nanaimo Rotary's more enduring projects. The Club long ago left the Festival and has moved on to other projects.



*Aisslin Noskey and Amy Lang receiving Andrew Dunsmore Memorial Awards from president Doug Bradford.*



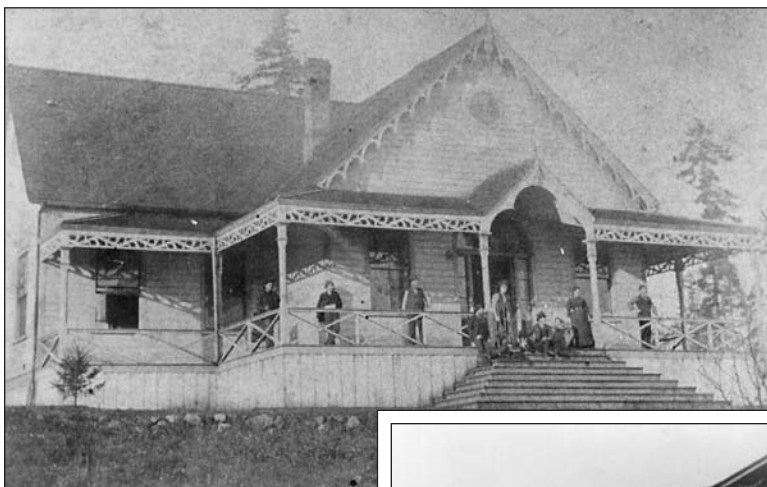
## NANAIMO GENERAL HOSPITAL

The wooden structure of the Nanaimo General Hospital, built in 1881 was in need of replacement. So in 1927 the Nanaimo Rotary Club decided to provide a more permanent structure by constructing a new hospital on Kennedy Street to be known as the Nanaimo General Hospital.

George Pearson was president of the Nanaimo Hospital Association. He had six Rotarians on the Board Of Management: Mayor F. A. Busby, Robert T. (Bob) Wilson, Percy Cowman, A. W. J. Rathlef, W. H. Boothroyd, and Dr. G. B. Brown, along with seven others. With this nucleus Nanaimo Rotary Club led the campaign to get the new hospital built. When funds ran out

they helped carry the project to its completion in 1928. The Club also furnished and decorated two private wards in the new hospital.

These hospital facilities served the Nanaimo community for many years, with the north wing added in 1940. On May 16, 1947 the Community Services Committee was instructed by the Club to see that the semi-private room furnished by the Club in the Nanaimo General Hospital be put in first class condition, and so maintained. In 1956, a new anaesthetic machine was needed which would cost \$838.00. The Provincial Government payed one-third and Nanaimo Rotary Club donated \$555.00 as its two-thirds, under Club president Tom Bennett.



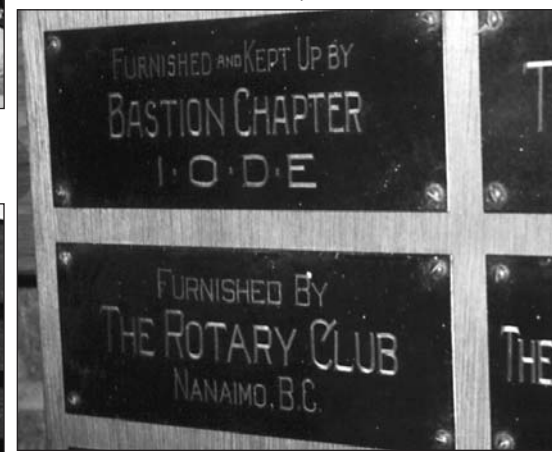
*Original hospital constructed in 1881.*

*Nanaimo General Hospital on Kennedy Street, completed 1928.*





◀ Hospital ward & door plaque, photos from  
▼ Hospital Museum.



◀ Nanaimo Regional General Hospital on Dufferin Crescent 1963 and showing relatively new addition.

The Nanaimo General Hospital on Kennedy Street served the community until construction of the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (NRGH) on Dufferin Crescent was completed in 1963.

On November 30, 1961, with Gene Koster as Club president, the administrator of the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital on Dufferin Crescent was advised, "The Rotary Club is prepared to furnish a private and semi-private room in the new hospital, now under construction, to cost about \$2,000.00." To raise funds for this project Rotarians sponsored concerts by the

U.B.C. Choir and the Don Cossacks' Choir for two successive years.

On January 3, 1963 the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital administrator advised the Nanaimo Rotary Club that, "the hospital has received equipment for the rooms, and that a cheque for \$2,000.00 would be appreciated. The cheque was sent January 28, 1963.

In 1967-1968, under President Alex McKeachie, the Club again responded to a request for assistance from NRGH to obtain a cardiac care unit that would cost \$9,000.00, two thirds to be paid by the



*Electroencephalograph donated by Rotary with the help of the Provincial Government, 1969.*

Provincial Government. The Club pledged and raised \$2,229.00 for this project. Fund raising included a \$50.00 a plate dinner, the Christmas tree picnic at Joe Garner's and the May 24th pancake breakfast. The money was turned over to the hospital in January 1968.

In 1969 the Club raised \$6,125.00 as part of its share in the purchase of a \$21,000.00 electro-encephalograph and monitoring equipment. The money was raised under President Bruce Coleman, and by Projects Committee Chairman Dave Trace, by raffling a Firebird car. On May 1, 1971,

*Urological operating table donated in 1990.*



the Club donated \$7,000.00 towards an electroencephalograph for the Nanaimo Regional General Hospital. The balance of the cost of the machine, \$21,000.00, was made up by the Provincial Government.

In June of 1976 a donation of \$630.00 was made in response to a request from Dr. Ellis for funds to introduce special knee surgery procedure called spherocentric knee arthroplasty.

Dr. Dave Ellis again appealed to the club, this time for the purchase of arthroscopic surgical equipment for knee surgery. The Nanaimo Rotary Club, under president Ken Inch, responded with a donation of \$6500.00 in August 1985. An anonymous donor brought the total to \$10,000.00 and a provincial government grant of \$5000.00 achieved the goal of \$15,000.00

In June of 1987 president Willis Ganderton announced the approval of a motion to provide an ultrasonic lithotripter costing \$10,500.00. This equipment pulverizes kidney stones for ease of passage by the patient, thus avoiding surgery.



On August 18, 1989 Ian Williams, Director for Community Service, presented a notice of motion that would see our club purchase a computer and necessary equipment to program pacemakers for NRGH.

In the succeeding meeting, president Bob Pulleyblank declared the motion carried unanimously.

Seventy five hundred dollars was donated on April 20, 1990 to NRGH towards the purchase of a \$100,000.00 urological operating table after Dr. Oxley pointed out that eventually most of the members would likely meet him for the intended surgery.

The board of directors for 1990/91 under president Dale Huck in consultation

with the incoming board and Club members pledged \$35,000 to the "Equip for Your Life" fund raising campaign for NRGH. This was a 5 year commitment. President Ian Williams announced to the club on January 24, 1992 that the club had raised \$21,000.00 to date and had only \$9,000.00 to go. This pledge was paid in two years thanks in large part to the great club support at our fund raising Rotary Invitational Golf Tournaments held June 25, 1991 and June 23, 1992, co-sponsored by Morningstar Golf Course. Proceeds from the latter tournament were presented by president Ian Williams to Jane Lindstrom of the Hospital's Equip for Your Life campaign completing our commitment.



*President Ian Williams and Morningstar Golf Course owner Mladin Zorkin presenting cheque to Jane Lindstrom of the Equip for Your Life Campaign, 1992.*

## WHEELCHAIR PARK

March 4, 1988 the Board of Directors presented a notice of motion, *"That the Club provide up to \$2000.00 for clearing and preparing a park like area between the Hospital and Travellers Lodge."* This land is situated at the corner of Boundary Road and Nelson St. and is owned by NRGH. The land was assessed in August and proved to be too wet and marshy, therefore the development was abandoned. The project location was switched to NRGH land between the hospital and Kiwanis Lodge. Dangerous trees were removed in September and brush clearing began October 1 with 10 Rotarians volunteering their time. October 14, 1989 the following notice of motion was presented to the club; *"That we clear brush, landscape and put wheelchair paths in an area between the hospital and Kiwanis Lodge to spend a maximum of \$10,000.00 less any grants available."* This was subsequently approved unanimously on October 28.

The November 10th COGS reported the following *"Willis Ganderton reported on the progress of our Hospital Park Project, saying that the walkways have been cleared, bark mulch has been hauled in, and Hub City will be paving the walkways just as soon as weather permits."* A work party was held December 2, 1989 and President Bob

Pulleyblank reported to the club that the park looks good, much mulch was spread and indicated another work bee prior to Christmas would be called to clean up the area.

Following this Willis Ganderton made a motion, on behalf of the hospital grounds project, that our club up it's financial support by \$5,000 to a total of \$15,000 to pay for additional costs in the clearing and paving of the walkways.

The project was completed and Rotarian Bob Peters made a presentation on our Wheelchair Park Project to the District Conference held in Olympia in 1990. This presentation netted the club a trophy from the district thanks in large part to the efforts of John Marlow and Willis Ganderton. President Bob Pulleyblank presented the plaque to hospital administrator and Rotarian Malcom Telford to display in Dufferin Place .

## ROTARY HOBBY FAIR

The Nanaimo Rotary Club continued to support community youth activities as indicated by the following quote from the Nanaimo Free Press - May 2, 1928.

*"The boys work committee of the Nanaimo Rotary Club is sponsoring a Hobby Fair to be*



*Wheelchair park adjacent to Dufferin Place. Club won District Award at District Conference in 1990.*

*held in the school gymnasium. There have been over 900 entries received, with age groups from 17 years and younger." This project continued for several years and in March, 1931 the Nanaimo Free Press published "The fifth annual Hobby Fair, sponsored by the Nanaimo Rotary Club, will be held in the school gymnasium and will have at least 1,000 entries."*

During the early 1930's the Nanaimo Rotary Club also provided funds toward the construction of the *Boy Scout Hall* in Gyro Park on Comox Road (now Bowen Road). The hall was opened in 1931.



*Rotary donated funds to help construction of Boy Scout Hall, 1931.*

The youth recreation problem was only partially solved by the construction of the Franklyn Street gymnasium. It was felt in the community that a *Civic Arena* was the only real answer. The Service Club Council, which included Nanaimo Rotary Club, began campaigning in the late 1930s for a Civic Arena, again under Gyro Pete Maffeo, and by 1939 it was under construction. Nanaimo Rotary Club

*Civic Arena, construction began 1939.*

participated fully in this civic venture. They set up a Civic Arena committee, bought a bond and club members served on the Board of Directors. The \$90,000.00 arena was officially opened on May 15, 1940 by Lieut-Governor Eric Hamber, according to the Times newspaper dated May 17, 1940. It was a considerable local achievement.

## NANAIMO FIGURE SKATING CLUB & ANNUAL ICE CARNIVALS

Beginning in the winter of 1942 the Nanaimo Rotary Club sponsored the formation of the Nanaimo Figure Skating Club to encourage young people who were not necessarily interested in hockey, to use the Civic Arena. The Club also produced the first Ice Carnival in February 1942 with the assistance of the Vancouver Skating Club and the Nanaimo Figure Skating Club. The Ice Carnival proved to be a tremendous amount of work and involved

every member of the Nanaimo Rotary Club. It also proved to be a financial success as well as very entertaining for the community.







*Rotary Ice Carnival, 1942.*

During the war years, usually in February or March, Nanaimo Rotary Club continued to sponsor the Ice Carnivals. They got bigger and better, and continued from 1942-1955. Inevitably production costs rose and more Vancouver professional skaters were brought in, more of the money raised was ending up in Vancouver. Finally in 1955, faced with production costs of \$8,000.00 and dwindling returns to the Club, Nanaimo Rotary Club had to cancel the Ice Carnivals. This community service had continued for thirteen years, from 1942-1955.

The Club also participated in local plans to assist in the rehabilitation of returning personnel from the War.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF BOWEN PARK

The development of Bowen Park in 1953 was the largest and most challenging undertaking by the Nanaimo Rotary Club spanning a period of seven years of direct involvement. Frank Cunliffe, a dedicated Rotarian offered his legal advice and services setting up the Bowen Park Development Association under the Societies Act of the Province of British Columbia. The property, 89.4 acres, owned by the City of Nanaimo, remained undeveloped, until on February 18, 1953 the Nanaimo Rotary Club established the Bowen Park Development Association. Rotarian Stan Dyde was Chairman. Rotarian Dave Jones was Vice-Chairman and Rotarian Harry Cicconi was Secretary-Treasurer. Appointed Directors were Rotarians Jack Barsby, Frank Cunliffe, Joe Kneen, Tom McArravy, Don McLennen, Norval Wheatcroft and Club President Jack Litch.

A local press report explained, "*The Association was formed by the Nanaimo Rotary Club for the purpose of enlisting the support of public-spirited groups and individuals to*



*Work party of over 140 volunteers at site of Bowen Park, April 19th, 1953.*



▲ ►  
*Clearing and burning brush on the entrance from Wall Street.*

*participate in the development programme but the Club did not intend to do the whole programme alone."* A city-wide membership drive, at \$1.00 per member, aroused community enthusiasm. Besides money, there were offers of trucks, bulldozers, and other equipment. It took from February 18th until Sunday April 19, 1953, when more than 140 volunteers turned out, headed by Mayor George Muir, a Rotarian, to do their stint of labour toward making Bowen Park one of the finest parks on Vancouver Island. Bankers, fishermen, loggers and lawyers worked side-by-side wielding axes, brush knives, mattocks and picks. Work began on clearing an entrance in from Wall Street, and slash fires were started. This was the first day of many to be organized by the Bowen Park Development Association.

Work bees continued on Wednesday afternoons, on Saturdays and Sundays and in no time at all a roadway was cleared and filled ready for gravelling. The fill was donated by Canadian Collieries Ltd. The Associated Commercial Travellers provided men and materials to build a picnic shelter, valued at \$6,500.00. Rotary Anns and Soroptimists served many sandwiches, and the Nanaimo Curling Club served coffee. The entire community was behind the project. By 1955 considerable progress had been made, thanks to the continued

generous donations of equipment and manpower by the bulldozer operators who cleared land for picnic areas and truckers who hauled fill and gravel. Service stations donated gasoline for the trucks and machines. Scheduled for this year, 1955, was completion of the parking area on Wall Street by gravelling and draining. Club members participated in work parties, laying drain tile down the hill on Wall Street. These work bees continued through 1956.



*Members of the Rotary Club, Joe Kneen, Ken Alexander, President of the Park Development Association and Jack Litch turned out to a work party in 1956.*

The Nanaimo Rotary Club not only provided volunteer labour but also supported this project financially. In May 1953, Nanaimo Rotary Club sponsored the appearance of "Rubinoff and his Violin" in



a concert at the Capitol Theatre to raise funds; followed by the first ever RADIO AUCTION in Nanaimo over Radio Station C.H.U.B. Proceeds from these two events amounted to \$3,730.00. The Club Committee chaired by Nat Martin with Harry Cicconi, and the Club president Jack Litch presented a cheque for that amount to the Association. The Bowen Park project continued all through the 1950s together with all the other activities of the Nanaimo Rotary Club. In 1954 the Project was advertised in the May 24, parade and the Radio Auction netted \$1,713.00, in 1955 \$1,000.00 was added, followed in 1956 with an additional \$500.00.



*Park Development Association 1955, back row, Rupert Champion (Chess Club), Stu Morrison (Kiwanis) and Rotarians Basil Cleat, John Cook and Bill Power (Secretary-Treasurer). Front row, Percy Cowman, unknown lady, Ken Alexander (Chairman), Don Cunliffe (Vice Chairman) all Rotarians, Herb Maisey (Gyro). Rotary Club President Jim Scales not in picture.*

Alexander agreed to chair the Association, with the help of Rotarians Don Cunliffe, Bill Power (treasurer), Harry Cicconi (secretary), John Cook, Basil Clement and Percy Cowman. Stu Morrison of Kiwanis, Herb Maisey of Gyro, and Rupert Champion of the Lions Club completed the executive for the Association.

The Association continued to collect funds through membership drives and special projects. Long term projects, such as developing a park, often begin with much enthusiasm but this wanes after a time. There were those in Rotary who felt the Club had accomplished its goal and that further development was the responsibility of the Association. However, there were others in the Club who knew full well that the Bowen Park Development Association could not function effectively without the full support of the Rotary Club. That support continued until 1960. Ken Alexander,



*Rotary Club float in May 24th parade, 1954. Rotarian Stan Dyde on tractor.*

Nineteen Fifty Four was a critical year for the Bowen Park Development Association. Stan Dyde, for personal reasons resigned as chairman of the Association. After some consideration, Ken



realizing the work of the Association was nearing completion, ran for and was elected to the Nanaimo Parks Board in 1957. Early in 1958 the Parks Board, the Recreation Commission and the Arena Commission were amalgamated as the Civic Properties and Recreation Commission. Harry Wipper was hired as manager for the newly formed Commission. He was enthusiastic about the development of the park as was the Commission. Harry directed funds that were budgeted to the Recreation Commission, to the Park development and he raised funds through activities in the Civic Arena.

In 1960 Ken Alexander chaired a meeting that included Harry Cicconi, Bill Power, Bob Fawdry and Stu Morrison. It was decided that the assets of the Association would be turned over to Civic Properties and Recreation of the City of Nanaimo. These were a few pieces of equipment including a small Caterpillar and \$1,425 in cash.

Ken Alexander retired as Chair of the Civic Properties and Recreation

Commission in 1961 and was replaced by Rotarian Bill Hunter. As a result of the involvement of Rotarians in key positions, the work on development of the park continued well into the succeeding years.

To commemorate the Club's contribution to the development of the park, a granite cairn with a Rotary Wheel was erected and faces Wall Street - almost opposite the Curling Rink. The plaque inscription reads, "*May this plaque commemorate the Bowen Park Development Association, organized and sponsored by the Nanaimo Rotary Club, for it's contribution towards the development of Bowen Park*". The original rose bushes surrounding the cairn were donated from the gardens of Nanaimo Rotarians to commemorate Bill Horman Sr., a respected Rotarian who died of a heart attack while working at Bowen Park.

In December 1960, the Bowen Park Development Association wound up its affairs and turned its funds over to the Civic Properties and Recreation Commission with Rotarian Ken Alexander as Chairman. Rotarian Jack Stevenson was also appointed to that Commission.

The Bowen Park Development Association had proved it's worth by



▲ Granite cairn and plaque commemorating the Bowen Park Development Association organized and sponsored by The Rotary Club of Nanaimo. ►



▼ Rotarian Bill Horman Sr., who died of a heart attack while working at Bowen Park.



getting the entire community behind the development of Bowen Park. It was a major project of the Nanaimo Rotary Club.

With the major project behind them the Club continued to provide further support in the development of Bowen Park. Under president John Dunham a filtering system in the amount of \$1,155.00 was provided by the Club for the Kinsmen Club outdoor swimming pool built in 1964-65. Klondike Nights in 1963 and 1964 provided some of the funds. The Nanaimo Rotary Club also provided \$1,700.00 in the fall of 1966 towards furnishings for the senior citizen's lounge at the Bowen Park complex.

A special Rotarian was honoured in Bowen Park. The *BILLY LEWIS CENTENARY ROSE GARDEN* was established in BOWEN PARK in 1963. Billy Lewis was a Rotarian for 48 years from 1920-1968. He joined the Nanaimo Rotary Club on June 20, 1920, three weeks after it was chartered. He had no ambitions to be a Club president, but served as treasurer 1923-1935 and again in that capacity from 1941-1946. Very few Rotary Clubs can

boast of having a centenarian among their members. On July 17, 1963 Billy Lewis celebrated his 100th birthday. He was made an honorary Life Member by Club President Ian McLeod by presentation of a framed scroll.

To recognize his lifelong interest in gardening, the Club provided \$300.00 to establish the Billy Lewis Centenary Memorial Rose Garden with a sundial in Bowen Park in 1963. His happy disposition endeared him to all who knew him for he possessed a ready wit and a fund of humorous stories. When asked at his 103rd birthday if he expected to be present a year hence he replied, "*Oh yes, not many people die at 105, you know.*" He remained active and alert almost until the end. Billy Lewis died at 104 years and 7 months of age on February 25, 1968.

After he died in 1968 a plaque on the sundial was unveiled in a ceremony led by Club president Alex McKeachie and Archdeacon Harry Greenhalgh. The plaque reads, "*The Rotary Club of Nanaimo wishes to recognize the respect and esteem in which*

Nanaimo, B.C.  
60 Bourse St.  
July 25/63.

President Ian  
& officers &  
fellow Rotarians:- Words cannot  
express my feeling in the way you  
all helped me celebrate my 100th  
Birthday. It is an honour to  
establish a Rose Garden in Bowen  
Park in my name, and for the  
most beautiful scroll, flowers  
& cake.

Sincerely  
Rotarian.  
Billy Lewis

▲ Thank you note from Billy Lewis for recognizing him with the Billy Lewis Centenary Rose Garden, Bowen Park 1963.



▲ Plaque on sundial unveiled in 1968 following Billy Lewis' death.



*William (Billy) Lewis is held and to honour a fellow Rotarian and good citizen on his 100th birthday July 17, 1963. July 17, 1863 - February 25, 1968."*

## SOAP BOX DERBIES - BMX TRACK

The first Soap Box Derby sponsored and run by the Nanaimo Rotary Club was held in May 1958, using Fitzwilliam Street hill. After a couple of near accidents in that locale, it was changed to Fraser Street, which unfortunately ended on the Trans-Canada highway. Most Club members were involved in some capacity.

Soap Box Derbies were popular in those days in many centres and contestants from all over Vancouver Island arrived in Nanaimo to compete. The winners went on to compete in the Provincial Finals in Mission City, at Rotary expense. After four successful years with many boys

competing, the races were discontinued in 1961 following protests from Nanaimo Ministerial Association because the races were run on Sundays, the only day the streets could be blocked off and made available. A Rotary Soap Box Shield was among the awards.

Although Soap Box Derbies were cancelled, boys and girls of today do have a healthy outlet for competition, thanks in part, to Rotary. The community service projects committee put forward a motion in 1985 to support the construction of a BMX bicycle track in Cedar.

## GOODWILL ENTERPRISES STORE - 1965

In 1956, Fred Blakeney approached Dr. Reg Wride, President of the Rotary Club of Victoria for help. Fred had established a firm he called Goodwill Enterprises Ltd. Handicapped and in a wheelchair Fred had been trying to provide employment for himself and a few others but it was a struggle as he lacked capital.

Under the chairmanship of Rotarian George Gray, Goodwill Enterprises for the Handicapped was born. A non-profit society was incorporated in 1957. George was the founding president, Fred Blakeney was one of the first employees.



▲ Presentation of Soap Box Derby Trophy to Richard Lundgren by Rotarian Len Lovick, 1961.



BMX track in Cedar. ►



In 1960 the province granted Goodwill a lease on the Bay Street property and thanks to generous community donations, the Head Office building and later the Cafeteria, the Rehabilitation centre and the warehouse and manufacturing areas were all built, free of debt.

Goodwill provides employment for special needs people producing a quality product from donated materials which they sell in their retail outlets in several locations on Vancouver Island, including Victoria and Nanaimo. All goods donated are refurbished by the Goodwill staff; furniture is repaired, toys are fixed, and clothing is either dry cleaned or laundered. All work is done by special needs people and the goods are distributed to a different centre than the one they came from.

In the latter part of 1965 discussions began with George Gray of the Victoria Rotary Club to construct a Goodwill Enterprises Store on Crace Street to assist local handicapped. The Nanaimo Rotary Club was asked to "raise \$7,000.00 towards equipment and furnishings." This was a lot of money to raise in one year, but President Bob Fawdry and Projects Committee Chairman Ted Barsby felt that it could be done. In April 1966, \$3,500.00 was

donated from accumulated funds and during the summer months a camper-truck was raffled off at \$1.00 per ticket towards the balance. By June the Projects Committee was able to present a cheque for \$3,825.00, the building was completed, and Mayor Peter Maffeo officiated at the opening ceremonies.

Fourteen local handicapped people were hired. All proceeds from the sale of used merchandise received go to employ and help these people. On Vancouver Island there is now a chain of stores for the handicapped, in Duncan, Nanaimo, and Courtenay, with a large headquarters in Victoria, all supported by local Rotary Clubs.

An additional \$1,600.00 was later earmarked to purchase laundry equipment. Another \$1,000.00 was donated in 1970-71 to equip an electrical repair shop.

President Bob Fawdry was subsequently appointed to the Board of Directors of Goodwill Enterprises and served for approximately 20 years. He was joined in 1970 by Bruce Coleman. Bob resigned in April 1990 to be succeeded by Doug McFadden, John Oleson and Doug Greer in 1993/1994.



*Goodwill store on  
Crace Street,  
Nanaimo.*

Goodwill celebrated its 39th anniversary in 1994. At this time it was located in Duncan, Nanaimo, Courtenay, Victoria, Colwood, Saanich and Sidney and had some 240 employees of which there were 60 in management positions. There were a number of 32-year employees among the ranks. After receiving initial training at Goodwill Enterprises many go on to find work in the business community with 300 people placed in jobs in the period 1992-1994.

## **BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PROJECTS - 1972-1982**

The former Forestry building on Franklyn Street had been used as a centre for the Boys and Girls Club since 1972, but an unexplained fire gutted the building a year or two later making the premises unusable and beyond economic repair. To help them recover the Rotary Club made a donation of \$1,800.00 towards equipment replacement in 1975.

The Boys and Girls Club first approached the Nanaimo Rotary Club with a proposal to develop and improve Harewood Dam Park; the Rotary Club to provide the financing, the Boys and Girls Club to supply the labour. After prolonged negotiation the Club advanced \$4,000.00 (\$3,500.00 for labour, \$500.00 for equipment) and the work progressed during the summer and autumn of 1974. The young people did a good job of clearing and widening trails and spreading fine gravel. They repaired the change house and improved the swimming beaches. When the work was completed the Rotary Club arranged an evening meeting to tour and inspect the Park, on September 20, 1974, followed by a barbecue and social evening at the Nanaimo Fish and Game Club.

A special projects development committee had been set up by Club president Newt Hopkins in 1974, with Ted Stroyan as Chairman, to find a Club project to present proposals to the Club. Although



*Rotarians examining the Boys & Girls Club project at Harewood Dam Park, 1974.*

several suggestions were made none was approved. Finally it was decided to replace the burned-out quarters of the Boys and Girls Club. Plans were drawn up by architect member Dick Weismiller for a spacious modern facility to be built in Bowen Park at a cost of close to half a million dollars, subject to financial grants and assistance from the Provincial Government and the City of Nanaimo. However, none of this materialized, there was no support at the government level, and two or three years work on the part of the project development committee had to be abandoned and the committee disbanded.

Eventually, in early 1978, Harry Cicconi learned that the Haliburton Street United Church property was for sale, and he suggested that the Club investigate the possibilities of purchasing the property to renovate the old church for the Boys and Girls Club, thus replacing our original project but on a smaller scale. The suggestion was handed over to the projects committee, now headed by Bruce Tait, a

consulting engineer, who reported back to the Club that the property could possibly be purchased for \$55,000.00 and that the City would co-operate with re-zoning. The Club approved the proposal, the purchase was subsequently made, and plans were drawn up to renovate the building appropriately and update the services. On the renovation committee were Bruce Tait, Dick Weismiller and building contractor Norval Wheatcroft.

In July Dick Weismiller reported that the total cost was estimated at \$125,000.00 (it actually cost \$128,000.00) and an application would be made to the Provincial Government for a grant. The Club voted to go ahead. Funds raised that year included the first successful Octoberfest which produced a profit of \$2,200.00, and the 200 Club netted \$3,460.00. All this, and the accumulated fund, disappeared in the purchase of the property. We now, at long last, had a project.

Fortunately, a new source of revenue had been found. The monthly Provincial



*Boys and Girls Club,  
Haliburton Street,  
Nanaimo, 1979.*



Lotteries had started in 1977, and Bob Fawdry investigated the possibility of the Club becoming an agent for the sale of tickets. The licence was granted, and with Bob in charge, the Club soon had an unexpected and valuable income. Then the Western Lottery was introduced; sales were made to and through individual members; Rotarians and Rotaryannes manned the booths in Harbour Park and Northbrook Malls; and after eighteen months Bob reported that \$21,000.00 had been raised to apply against the outstanding debt.

Bob had carried the ball for the entire period, it had mushroomed into too big a job for one man to handle, and it had impaired his health. So the ticket sales were taken over by a committee led by Roy Hancox, with 20 Rotarians working 2.5 hour shifts in the malls each week. Ultimately it became evident that this could not be sustained as a voluntary effort, and a paid manager was hired.

The renovations to the church got underway in the fall of 1978 and continued during the winter months under the guidance of Norval, Dick and Bruce.

The Boys and Girls Club was opened for use on February 1, 1979, and the official opening was held on March 23rd in the presence of Mayor Frank Ney and District-Governor D. P. Peggs. Club president Bob McDougall turned the keys over to President Wally Glendenning and Manager Chris Beresford of the Boys and Girls Club. An assurance from the Provincial Government of a grant of \$39,900.00 became a reality some months later.

At the 65th Annual District Conference held in Nanaimo during April 1979, the Rotary club of Nanaimo won the District Community Service Award, the Cliff Laver Shield, for "the outstanding Boys and Girls Centre."

This project was the culmination of five years of committee planning, Club fund-

raising, and effort on the part of individual members. It was the largest financial undertaking ever tackled by the Rotary Club of Nanaimo. The opportune Lottery ticket sales would have to continue before the outstanding indebtedness would finally be retired. However, by January 1980 Rotary Cogs, the Club bulletin, reported that the debt had been reduced by \$35,600.00.

With some consternation and considerable disappointment the club learned in April 1981 that the Boys and Girls Club was in serious financial difficulty and its board of directors had decided to close the facility on April 30 and move out. The situation was thoroughly discussed at the next club luncheon meeting. As the bank loan had been reduced to \$16,000.00 the club assumed full responsibility for the final payment, thus releasing the title to the property. The title



*Rene Williams demonstrates liquid embroidery to Belle Raud at Rotary Activity Centre on Haliburton.*

was subsequently turned over to the City of Nanaimo through Frank Ney, so that the facility could continue under the Parks and Recreation Commission.

At this point the Club began negotiations with the City of Nanaimo to use the building as a local community activity centre. The interior of the premises was cleaned up and redecorated, linoleum flooring laid, the kitchen facilities refurbished, and new washrooms installed in the basement. Outside the grounds were landscaped with lawns and shrubs.

Alderman Dick Winkelman suggested to Nanaimo city council that the facilities now be known as the *Rotary Activity Centre*, to acknowledge the contribution made by the club.

On April 17, 1982, Mayor Frank Ney and president Gordon McGavin cut the official ribbon at the official opening of the renovated centre. President Gordon outlined the part Rotary had played in the development of the facility and expressed hope, on behalf of the club, that the activity centre would be valuable to the South End community and be used extensively by its citizens for years to come.

## ROTARY BOWL, TRACK AND FIELD PROJECT

On September 18, 1981 Elwood Wylie and Jim Phillips from the Nanaimo Track and Field Club spoke on the proposed redevelopment of present track facilities to provide all-season usage, with the ultimate objective of holding the B.C. Games or even perhaps the Canada Games. On October 2 1981 Chairman Jim Shabbits presented a brief on the project to build an all weather track facility in Nanaimo. It was supported by 100% of the club. We are now committed to raise \$60,000, the round figure shortage after expected government grants. In 1982

Committee chairman Nev Stannard told the Club *"At the meeting of the Nanaimo Track and Field Club on June 23 it was announced that the All Weather Track Facility slated to commence on July 17, 1982 will be known as ROTARY BOWL."*

Community commitments from sources other than Rotary included \$60,000.00 from District 68 School Board, \$30,000.00 from the Nanaimo Track and Field Club, \$15,000 from the City of Nanaimo and \$1500.00 from the Regional District. The total cost was estimated at \$175,000.00. Another \$150,000 in labour, equipment and materials was donated by several groups. The Upper Island Truck and Equipment Operators Association donated their earth moving equipment and labour. Duncan Kondra their labour to plan and engineer the project and Canpak the electrical engineering.

Norval Wheatcroft agreed to be construction manager and work began on Saturday, July 24 when the Upper Island Truck and Equipment operators Association volunteers stripped the site of 3,000 yards of topsoil. By late August volunteers had moved a total of 17,000 cubic yards of material from the site and compacted 11,000 yards onto the site from surrounding banks. Fifteen hundred feet of ditching and 700 feet of drainage tile were installed by mid October and the fall work was completed by mid November.



*Rotary Club members far left: Nev Stannard, President Elect, Herb Welch; President, Dick Weismiller and Jim Phillips with Elwood Wylie, Nanaimo Track & Field Club President.*



◀ Rotarians at the newly completed Rotary Bowl Track, 1983.

Elwood Wylie receives cheque from Rotary President Herb Welch, Dick Weismiller, and Past President Gordon McGavin.



This project was completed in the fall of 1983 at a cost of \$408,000. After the noon luncheon on October 28 about 50 members boarded a bus arranged by Morris Soer, to go out to the Rotary Bowl Track and Field Facility adjacent to the high school. Glen DiGeorgio, Canadian National Throwing coach, with member Jim Phillip, gave a presentation on the project. President Herb Welch presented a cheque for \$60,000.00 made out to Hub City Paving as our share on this facility.

## GATEWAY PROJECT

This project is yet another major project where Rotarians volunteered not only professional expertise but also manual labour along with funding to make it work.

An article in the Aug. 20 edition of the Nanaimo Daily Free Press stated;

*"Visitors in 1985 saw a very unattractive entrance," Gateway committee chairman Howard Johnson told an estimated 30 people attending the opening ceremony. "It was a good reason for visitors to keep moving." Therefore a group of businessmen began the gateway project.*

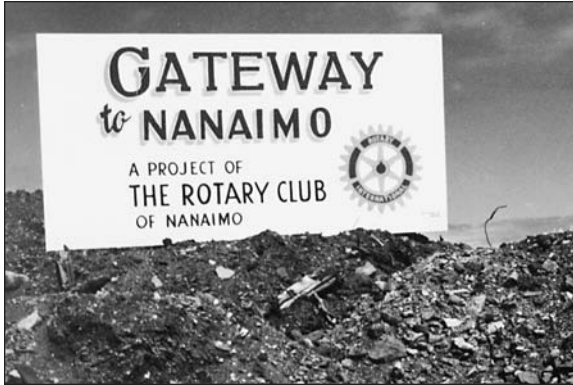
*A big boost came in the form of a \$50,000.00 pledge from the Nanaimo Rotary Club with the Ministry of Transportation and Highways adding another \$50,000 to the*

*project. The Club continued its support by providing volunteer labour and expertise. Rotarians filled and placed 1,725 bags of drain rock for drainage. The trees along the highway from the ferries exit were planted by club members. Site topographical grades were measured, recorded and mapped out by Rotarians. Members also performed on-site supervision of concrete and rock work. Catch basins were fabricated and installed by Rotarians. And club members negotiated with B.C. Hydro and B.C. Tel to relocate poles and lines."*

*"Our club was very pleased to take on and complete phase one," said Roy Hancox, Nanaimo Rotary President. "Members have donated 2000 hours of volunteer professional and bull-labour manpower."*

A Free Press, Aug. 20 1987 Photo Caption stated; *"Today was a big day for Nanaimo, with the official opening of the city's gateway project at the B.C. ferries terminal."*





▲ Rotary Club signage on Gateway Site, 1985.



▲ Preconstruction site for Gateway project, 1985.



▲ Rotarians riding "manual front end loader". Willis Ganderton, Bob McDougall & Terry Robinson, July 1986.



▲ Rotary work party, Mike Patton, Art Vaidour, Ray Kulai, Bill Morgan, Gordon Proctor, Ed Marzocco, Phil Abey, Roy Hancox, Ken Inch, Bill Horman, Bruce Tait and Bruce Gordon, 1986.



▲ Opening ceremonies for Gateway, August 1987. From left: Roy Hancox, George Lawlor, Howard Johnston, Cliff Michael (Minister of Transportation and Highways), Willis Ganderton speaking, and Mayor Frank Ney.

Willis Ganderton lowering time capsule.



Time capsule to be opened in 2020, Historian Len Lovick, President Willis Ganderton and Project Engineer Bruce Tait, 1987.





*Plaque located on sealed end of time capsule chamber.*

An unique aspect to this project was a time capsule embedded in the cement. The capsule contained the following;

1. 1986 tourist guide for Nanaimo.
2. Group photo of 23 Past Presidents, named and dated.
3. A "COGS", the club bulletin with 1987 district awards.
4. A "COGS" with reference to the photo of past presidents.
5. Club Banner.
6. Club Roster.
7. Brief history of the club; emphasis on community projects.
8. Twenty five year report for the Nanaimo harbour Commission.
9. New \$1.00 bill sealed in plastic , donated by Nev Stannard.
10. Canadian stamps, mint miniature sheet for CAPEX '87 and used assortment, donated by Len Lovik.
11. Photograph of work parties at Gateway Project.
12. Discarded "scratch and win" lottery tickets to show funds raised.
13. Model of "Nanaimo Bathtub" , donated by Andy Wizinsky.

14. Fifty business cards from members.
15. Bottle of Cutty Sark Scotch Wiskey donated by Basil Hobbs.
16. Promotion material from Madill's who donated the capsule canister.
17. Cowie Machine Shop manufactured the brass capsule plaque.

The time capsule is scheduled to be opened in the year 2020 on the Club's 100th anniversary.

The Peace and Environment Committee organized a clean-up of Barsby Park in June of 1991. Members from the Nanaimo North Club joined our club to repair pathways, remove litter and fill sink holes.



*Denis Lyseng hoisting wheelbarrow while Bob Peters supervises and Bruce Roberts observes.*

The park, located behind the Tally-Ho on the banks of the Millstone River is designated as a "natural" park commemorating Ted Barsby's fathers love of nature. Rotarians grabbed shovels, loaded wheel barrows and filled holes caused by rotting lumber left by a former lumber mill which occupied this site. Dale Huck and Jack Steveson rewarded hard





▲ Work party at Barsby Park, 1991, From left, John Ripley, Bob Burnett (NN), Keith McFarlane, Roy Saunders, Tom Krall, Ed Borisenko, Denis Lyseng, Frank Johnson, (NN), Jack Stevenson, Mike Patton, Bob Peters, Dave Hammond, Larry Rumming (NN), Dale Huck, Ted Barsby, Nick Evanoff, Bob Roberts and Dale Huck's grandchildren.

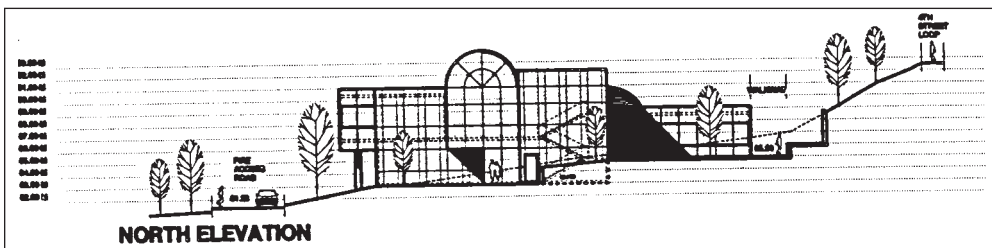
◀ Dale Huck and Jack Stevenson, chef supreme, at Rotary Mobile Canteen.

working volunteers with hot dogs and refreshments served from the Rotary Mobile Canteen.

In 1991 two major projects were conceived. The first was an International House to be built on the Malaspina University campus. This project was inspired by Director Basil Hobbs based on his experience at International House on the University of British Columbia campus. The intention was to provide classrooms where international studies could take place and meeting rooms where

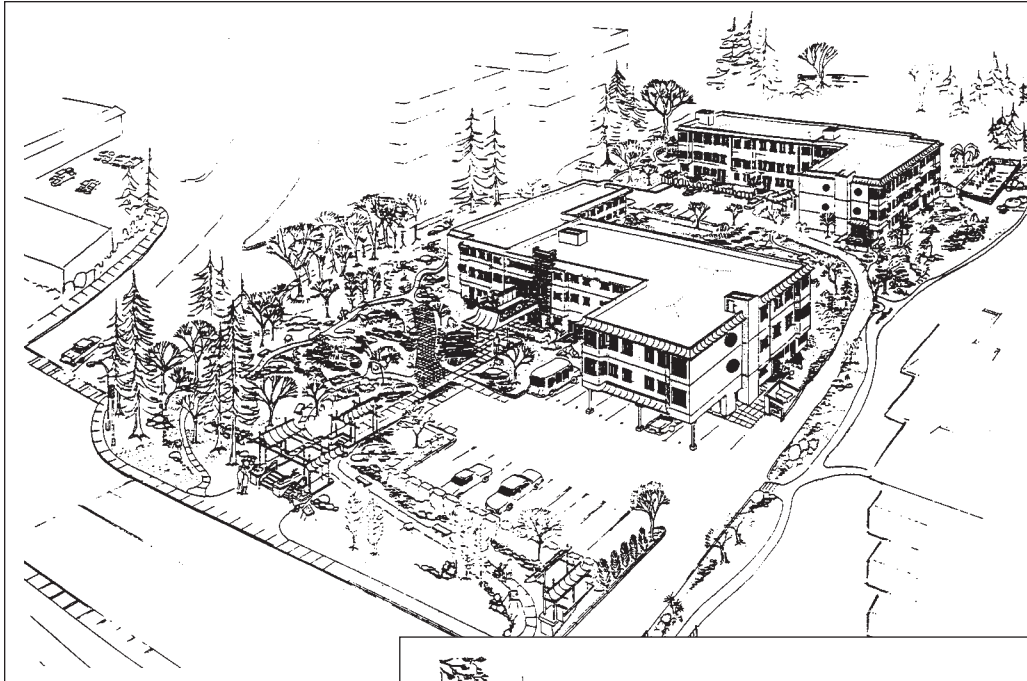
international students could socialize with local students. This project has been difficult to fund and has been put on hold.

The second project is the Rotary Seniors Housing Project. The design has been approved, the city and the Chinese community have provided the land close to the Hospital, and the club has applied to the Provincial Government for a grant to help build this much needed facility. We are hopeful this will be approved after four years of hard work by the projects committee led by Willis Ganderton.



Architects sketch of proposed International House.  
◀



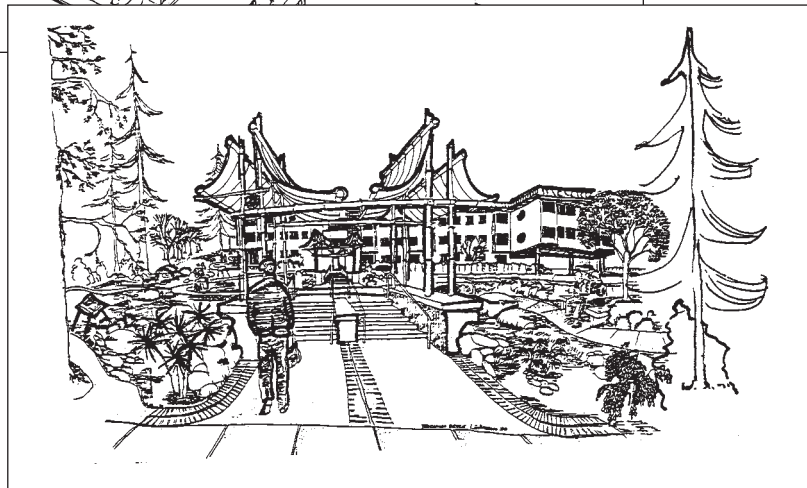


◀ Architects sketch of Seniors' Housing Project.

Architects sketch of entrance to Seniors' Housing Project.



▲ District Governor Gordon Quick, Basil Hobbs, Bob Wall and Bob Fenty examine plans for senior housing project.



▲ Lions Great Bridge bricks bought by Rotary to assist in the completion of the Nanaimo Lions Club Project.

As well as promoting, organizing and implementing major projects, the Rotary Club has been involved in a number of smaller projects. These have included;

A donation of \$5,000 in 1987 to *Project Operation Lifeline*, a personal emergency response system aimed at elderly and infirm.

A donation of \$1200 in 1991 for computer software to support *Literacy Nanaimo*.

Other recipients have included the *Salvation Army*, *West Coast Disaster Relief for the 1964 Alberni floods*, *Junior Sports Associations*, *Miss Nanaimo Committee*, *Nanaimo*

*Ambulance Fund, Vancouver Camp for Special Children, NARCO Daycare Centre, Childrens International Summer Village, Tillicum House, and the Nanaimo Symphony Society to mention only a few.*

Youth projects funded annually include scholarships and bursaries to local high schools and Malaspina College. Also representatives from high schools are selected by their teacher to participate in Adventures in Citizenship, funded by Nanaimo Rotary Club. Greater than 200 youth from across Canada gather in Ottawa where they are hosted by Ottawa Rotary Clubs. The following excerpt from an article in the Monday, April 14, 1969 edition of the Nanaimo daily Free Press describes a typical visit;

*"The Nanaimo Rotary Club was treated to an account of a trip to Ottawa, by 17-year-old Nanaimo student Kathie Lovik. Miss Lovik was presented with the trip, after being named*

*winner of the Rotary Club's citizenship award this year. She and more than 200 students from all parts of the country were guests of the Ottawa Rotary Club while in the capital.*

*Miss Lovik said her stay in the capital consisted of many interesting facets, including a visit to the House of Commons, a tour of the city and a visit to one of Ottawa's largest high schools, the Sir John A. MacDonald.*

*One of the highlights of her four days in Ottawa, Miss Lovik said, was an informal discussion session, in which subject matter was wide open. In her group, there were two French students, one completely bilingual and the other speaking very little English.*

*"It was during this discussion, that I realized that this is truly a bilingual country," she said. She said that here in western Canada, we are inclined to think of this country as being entirely English, because of the general lack of exposure to the French element. "But, being in Ottawa, with Quebec just across the river, it was pointed up to me and to everyone else on the trip, that two languages are an important part of the Canadian scene."*

Another important youth experience provided by the Club is participation in Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA). Once a year selected students from the district gather together to hear inspirational speakers, participate in discussion and share fun and fellowship. The Rotary Club of Nanaimo sponsors one student each year to attend.



Lance Follett receiving  
Rotary scholarship  
from Rotarian Tom  
Harris, 1985. ►



Ann Chalmers receiving  
Rotary scholarship in  
1989. Rotarian Ross  
White presenter. ◀

# IV



Group of Taiwanese businessmen sponsored by Rotary,  
visiting Pacific Forest Products Mill, Ladysmith, April 1981.



# VOCATIONAL SERVICE

*"Each club member has an obligation to represent his vocation to his fellow Rotarians; at the same time he is obligated to exemplify the spirit of Rotary to others, particularly those associated with him in his daily work. These twin responsibilities form the foundation of Vocational Service."*

(Rotary Basic Library, Vol 3).

One of the keys to vocational service is the 4-Way Test. The 4-Way test evolved out of a challenge to help save a company from bankruptcy. Rotarian Herbert Taylor, attributed his success in bringing the company from serious debt to solvency to this code of ethics he authored in 1932.

He said *"I've been asked how I happened to write in question form and I really don't know. It just came out that way."* The Test was proposed in 1942 by Richard Vernor and adopted by Rotary International Board in 1943.

The Rotary Club of Nanaimo has put the Test to the test. An example is the

service provided by members to drive party goers during the Christmas season in order to reduce drunk driving in Nanaimo. The members require both stamina and a liberal dose of tolerance as they spend several weeks chauffeuring inebriated folks into the wee hours of the morning.

Another is the repair and replacement of a vandalised cairn built originally by the family of a local youth who drowned in the Nanaimo River. The Cairn is both a memorial and a warning of the dangers of swimming in this stretch of River.

*Nanaimo River Cairn rebuilt by Rotary. President Hobbs and Marion Lamb replace plaque.*



## THE 4-WAY TEST

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



*Rotary work party which demonstrated Goodwill in rebuilding Nanaimo River Cairn.*

President Basil Hobbs organized a group of Rotarians in 1994 to rebuild this cairn. This story was subsequently made into an educational video on water safety.

Nanaimo Rotarians also bring the ideals of Rotary in professional life to local school children. A cross section of our members volunteer to disseminate information on their professions to high school students so they can gain an understanding of both the opportunities and the obligations of the various professions. In the 1970's students were picked up at 9:00 a.m. at the High School to spend a day with a Rotarian in his business or profession. The students were guests at a Rotarian luncheon, with an appropriate guest speaker.

The Rotary Club of Nanaimo awarded its first Vocational Service Award on Nov. 17, 1989 to Mr. Barry Linden. Mr. Linden was selected by the Vocational Service Committee for his dedication to his

profession, working with disturbed youth through the Corrections Branch.

The annual **Group Study Exchange** is another activity which focuses on vocational service. **Group Study Exchange** is an educational activity in which two Rotary Districts, in different parts of the world, agree to exchange teams of six young business and professional people. One year the sending district selects the team members, prepares them for their experience abroad, and arranges travel plans. The following year the receiving district becomes the sender. The visit may not last less

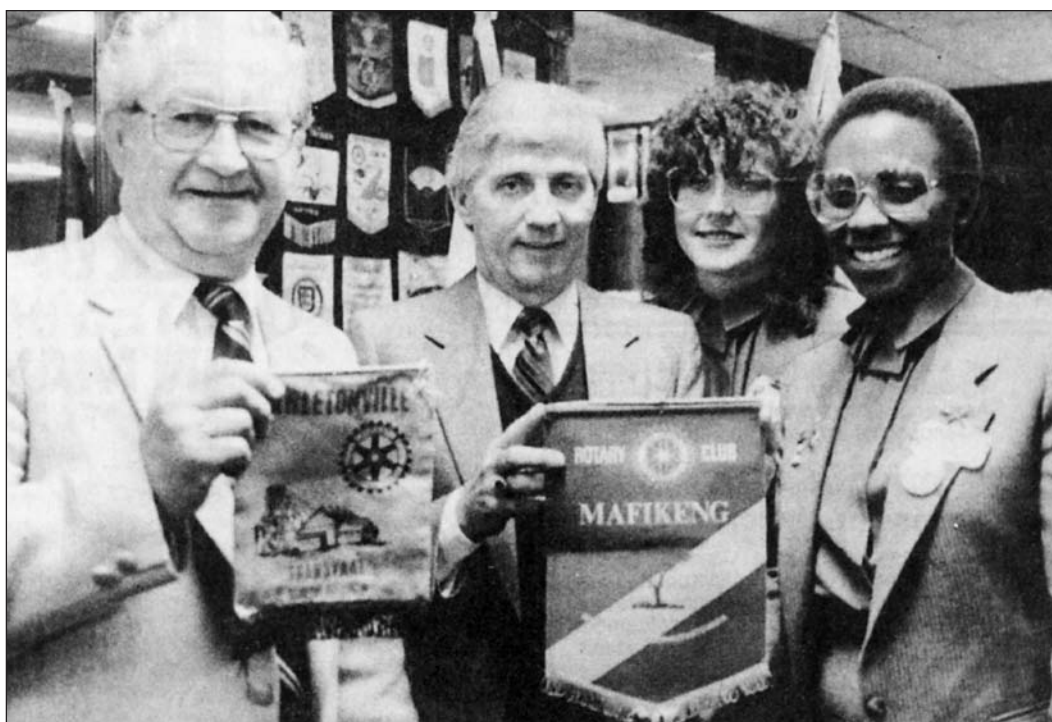


*The first Rotary Vocational Service Award presented to Barry Linden by President Bob Pulleyblack, 1989.*

than one month or more than two months, the exact period to be agreed upon by the two districts. The host district develops an itinerary for the team, pays for its travel within the district and arranges lodging and meals. The Rotary Foundation, which must approve the study plans, pays for the round trip transportation between the two districts for the team and the District Governor's representative who accompanies it. This has provided an opportunity for a small number of young adults from Nanaimo to travel to a foreign country, be exposed to their business or profession and gain an understanding of others

frustrations and achievements in their chosen vocation. Those that have been selected bring inspirational messages back to the Club.

The Club has also hosted incoming groups from all over the world, including Japan, Philippines, Hong Kong, Australia, England, and Germany to mention a few. Local professionals and business people are exposed to these individuals so that they can exchange ideas and experiences across international boundaries regarding their vocations.



*Rotary President (Nanaimo North) Al McLean far left and President of Nanaimo Rotary Club, George Lawlor with members of the April, 1985 Group Study Exchange from South Africa, Jenny Peck and Dawn Mokhobo.*



# VI



Nanaimo Rotary Club and Arusha Rotary Club  
school desks project.

# INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

International service “..promotes understanding of international relations and intelligent goodwill toward all nations as an essential ingredient for world peace...” (Rotary Library Vol 1).

Paul Harris in a broadcast on Rotary's 36th anniversary said “Rotarians believe that the universal application of tolerance and friendliness would bring about the international peace so earnestly desired by everyone.”

ROTARY FOUNDATION is a program that over a million Rotarians worldwide, (Nanaimo Rotarians included), have focused on to promote world understanding.

The seed for creating an international agency of Rotary was sown at the 1917 Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A. The late Arch Klumph, president (1916-17) of the International Association of Rotary Clubs stated at this meeting “Rotary should accept endowments for the purposes of doing good in the world in charitable, educational, and other avenues of community progress.” Following World War II, the agency of Rotary called **The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International** was seen as the vehicle for building a better world through educational and charitable projects. Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, died in January 1947 and Rotary International founded the Rotary Foundation as a memorial to Paul.

One of the principal fund raising vehicles for Rotary Foundation was through the formation of the Paul Harris Fellow award in 1957. This award is granted to individuals who contribute \$1000 U.S. or more to the Foundation. In 1971 Director Roy Saunders became the FIRST Paul Harris Fellow in the Nanaimo Rotary Club by donating \$1,000.00 to

Rotary Foundation. This only came to the club's attention when his name was announced at the district conference that year. Since that time others have achieved a Paul Harris Award by contributing to this great cause. These include Herb Welch (1984), Lionel Berry (1988), George Lawlor (1988), Bob McDougall (1988), Doug McFadden (1989), Gordon Proctor (1989), Dale Huck (1989), Mills Clarke (1995) and Joe Garner (1995).

The impact of contributions from these Rotarians is best stated in a COGS August 18, 1989 report as follows;

*“What it means to be a Paul Harris Fellow.*

*An individual who contributes, or in whose honour or memory is contributed \$1000 US to the Rotary Foundation is recognized, upon request, as a Paul Harris Fellow. But a Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges more than just a monetary contribution, it recognizes the donor's commitment to help meet human needs worldwide. A contribution of \$1,000 US supplies 200 prescription eyeglasses to needy citizens in Mexico; purchases 40 rainwater collection tanks to provide drinking water to 29 provinces in Thailand; immunizes 6,500 children in Bolivia against Polio; provides all the medical equipment needed for an ophthalmologist in Zanzibar to perform cataract surgery.”*

POLIOPLUS Campaign was a major success for Rotary International as documented in the following presentation from the August 1988 copy of the Rotarian magazine;

*“Today, in some nameless village,” the speaker began, “a child greeted a new day unaware that during the night polio passed him over because he was immunized. Today, 75 families are not mourning the loss of a child to polio; and 750 children are not among the*

*world's crawlers... and are walking, running, and playing because of you, the Rotarians of the World." The speaker was Les Wright, International PolioPlus Chairman who addressed Rotarians at the convention in Philadelphia.*

*The PolioPlus Campaign Committee final roll-call report at the 1988 R.I. Convention totalled \$219,350,449 US in contributions and pledges. This amounts to 183% of the original minimum set at \$120 million US.*

*This is a magnificent achievement, but much of the work remains to be done. It is imperative that all PolioPlus pledges are fulfilled.*

*The huge success of the PolioPlus fundraising campaign has brought Rotary International positive media attention unparalleled in the organization's history. Coverage has included television and radio news stories and interviews as well as extensive newspaper reportage. Editorials have graced the pages of the leading newspapers in the US and Canada, praising Rotary Clubs throughout the world for this unparalleled fundraising achievement.*

*Typical of the praises to Rotary is this excerpt from the Sun-Times of Chicago - "Some endeavours are so grand, so beyond ordinary expectations, that they are hard to believe. One such endeavour is the Rotary International campaign to raise enough money to immunize 400 million Third World Children against polio..."*

## **Canada's Contribution To The World**

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney is the proud recipient of a PolioPlus memorial statue, presented by Gerald R. Wooll, national chairman of Canada's PolioPlus Campaign Committee. The prime minister accepted the statue in recognition of Canada's contributions to childhood immunization in developing countries. With the support of the Canadian

International Development Agency, the Canadian Public Health Association allocated \$1,691,777 for PolioPlus projects in nine developing countries.

The statue was presented by National Chairman Wooll and other leaders of Canada's PolioPlus Campaign. The 22-inch limited edition bronze cast depicts a Rotarian administering polio vaccine to an infant while two smaller children watch. The statue was created and donated by US sculptor Glenna Goodacre of Sante Fe, New Mexico.

The Canadian Funds are being used to immunize children in Burundi, Comoros, Congo, Ghana, Haiti, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritius, Nigeria and Zambia.

Rotary's PolioPlus Efforts Recognized by U.N. (Rotary News Basket)

Rotary International President Rajendra Saboo will attend a special celebration of "the greatest public health success story of the past decade" at the United Nations New York headquarters this Tuesday, October 8th, Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, UNICEF and the World Health Organization will officially declare that the average global child immunization level increased from below 50% in 1985 to more than 80% in 1990. Rotary has played a major role in this fantastic increase in immunized children through the PolioPlus Campaign.

Because of the impact of Rotary's PolioPlus program, President Saboo will be the one nongovernmental organization speaker in the U.N. Trusteeship Council Chamber. He will symbolize private sector immunization efforts during the event, involving U.N. and its agency leaders, celebrities and heads of state.

Highlighting the successes of Rotary's \$230 million PolioPlus Campaign, President Saboo will urge governments to renew their commitment to polio eradication and 90% immunization coverage by the year



2000. He will stress that 80% coverage is a milestone, not the final goal. Complacency could jeopardize current immunization level, placing future children at risk. Further, polio eradication is not possible without quantum expansions of both commitment and resources.

Paul Harris Fellow recognitions have been granted by our Club to both Rotarians and non-Rotarians, in whose honour \$1000 U.S. is donated to Rotary Foundation for projects like Polio Plus. Club recognition of fellow Rotarians is detailed in an earlier section under Club Service. Gladys Clarke was the first non-Rotarian awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Nanaimo. In June of 1986 Gladys was recognized for her continued active support and participation after the death of her husband, Rotarian Jack Clarke. Elwood Wylie another non-Rotarian was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow posthumously for his work in the community, especially in

partnership with Rotary to build Rotary Bowl. Evelyn Cicconi, wife of Rotarian Harry, was recognized in 1990 for her hard work and commitment to Rotary, especially as a key person in the success of the district conferences hosted by the Nanaimo Rotary Club. The late Frank Ney, a former mayor of Nanaimo and colourful character who promoted Nanaimo as a tourist destination, was recognized in 1991. Mr Henry Wong, a prominent Nanaimo businessman was recognized in 1993 for promoting the ideals of Rotary in his business and personal interactions throughout the city. The most recent Paul Harris award was presented on Feb. 23, 1995, when 218 Rotarians and spouses from the Nanaimo, Nanaimo North and Lantzville Clubs gathered to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Rotary. At this celebration, the Rotary Club of Nanaimo recognized Bob Rowledge for his contributions to the City of Nanaimo on behalf of all it's citizens.



▲ Paul Harris Recipients. Mrs. Elaine Wylie on right receives Paul Harris Award posthumously for husband, Elwood. Also in picture, Willis Ganderton and Mrs. Dick Weismiller (posthumous Award).

Mr. Henry Wong, Nanaimo businessman presented with Paul Harris Award, flanked by Dale Huck on left and Bill Horman on right. ►



▲ Mayor Frank Ney with Paul Harris Award along with recipient Ted Barsby. Dale Huck in centre.

People have also recognized the efforts of their spouses by giving a Paul Harris Fellowship in their name. The first non-Rotarian so honoured was Peggy Lovick, wife of Rotarian Len Lovick. Len, upon receiving his award, felt it was unfair that Peggy did not share the honour considering the years of support she had given to him and to the club. He therefore donated \$1,000 to Rotary Foundation in order that Peggy should share the recognition with him. Alan Pearse was honoured by his wife Dorrie with a Paul Harris Fellow in 1984 and later the same year, Alan reciprocated with a Paul Harris Fellow for Dorrie. In a similar way Edith Tait honoured her husband Bruce with a Paul Harris Fellow in 1985. In total, Rotarians from The Nanaimo Rotary Club have contributed \$75,000 U.S. to Polio Plus and other Rotary Foundation projects.

Rotary Foundation has become one of the world's largest foundations for granting scholarships for international study. This began in 1938 when Rotary commenced a drive to raise two million dollars to fund graduate scholarships. This was achieved in May 1951. By 1955, Rotary's 50th anniversary, 606 students from 57 countries chose 35 other countries on six continents for their studies. The Foundation Scholarships were later expanded to include undergraduates, technical and vocational trainees, teachers of the handicapped, the Group Study Exchange and Special Grants. By the late

1980's, well in excess of \$128,000,000 U.S. had been appropriated to send more than 30,000 qualified young men and women as "goodwill" ambassadors into over 130 countries as Rotary Scholars and Group Study Exchange team members.

The first Nanaimo resident to successfully compete for the prestigious Rotary Scholar award was Wayne Lytton, a graduate of the University of British Columbia. The 1964 award was for post graduate studies of Japanese language in Japan. Jennifer Handley, Rotary Foundation Scholar during Bob McDougall's year was selected to address the Rotary Foundation session at the international convention in Rome Italy in May, 1979. The March 16, 1979 COGS reported that;

*"Our own Jennifer Handley (Rotary Foundation Student) has been singled out along with another student from Italy to be one of the guests of Rotary International Conference in Rome. What an honour she has brought to our Club when you consider she was selected from students all over the world."*



*Rotary Foundation Scholar, Jennifer Handley, posing with William Robins, chairman of Rotary Foundation Trustees and Hugo Leiter Italy, 1979 Rome, Italy.*

Byron Horner is the most recent Nanaimo recipient of the Rotary Scholar Award. Byron was awarded a Graduate Scholarship in 1991. The following was reported in COGS (Dec 27, 1991);

*"Byron Horner was raised in Nanaimo and attended school at Shaughnigan Lake. At 21 years of age he is attending University in Ottawa, and has been a page in the House of Commons this past year. Selected as a Rotary Foundation Scholar by the committee, Byron will be attending university in Paris in October, where he will be taking political science. Byron first offered his thanks to the Rotary Club for the opportunity to be a Foundation Scholar, telling us he will be attending the same university in France that Pierre Trudeau and two past presidents of France attended..... Many members of our club agreed that this young man provided one of our better programs, and that he definitely will be prominent in the Canadian political scene in years to come."*



*Byron Horner, Foundation Scholar, speaking to a group of Rotarians in Paris, France.*

A past recipient wrote, "I met with industrialists, teachers, servants, and farmers to gain differing views of society and more understanding of myself and people. All this was made possible by Rotarians helping to bridge the seemingly impossible chasms that separate peoples and nations..."

The Club has undertaken International Projects which are funded by matching grants from Rotary Foundation. On April 26, 1971, Nanaimo Rotary Club donated \$1,000.00 to the Rotary Club of Kampala, Uganda, to assist in the establishment of a medical clinic to treat spastic children. This was the FIRST INTERNATIONAL project ever undertaken by the Nanaimo Rotary Club. It would be interesting to know what happened to this project under Idi Amin.

In 1987 the Club donated \$500 to Water for Life program to provide clean water to villages in Africa. Since that time the club has supported other projects in Tanzania



*Manual sewing machines donated to Tanzania, Africa.*

where Rotarian Gord Proctor was working on the development of a water system. He was instrumental in two projects, the first to supply sewing machines to Africans and

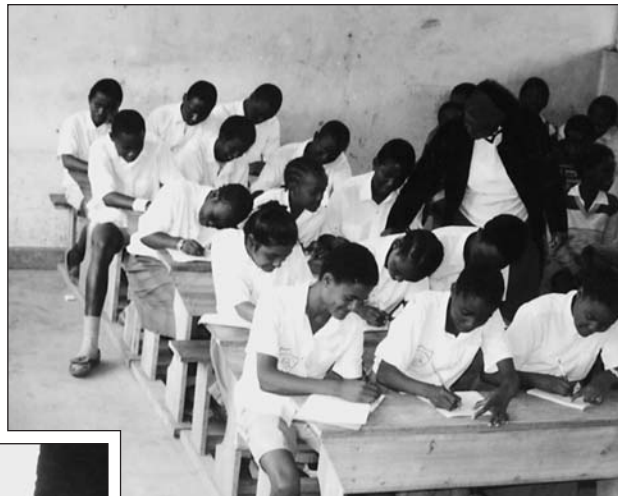


the second, school desks for the children of Arusha Africa. On Dec 7, 1990, Gord Proctor put forward a motion to spend \$1500 for purchase of school desks for the children of Arusha in Africa in a joint project with the Rotary Club from there. This was amended by Ed Marzocco to include "and other auxiliary equipment". This motion was approved. COGS April 3, 1992, reported that the last of the desks will be in place by mid-April. Cost of project was \$14,000, half of which comes from the district.

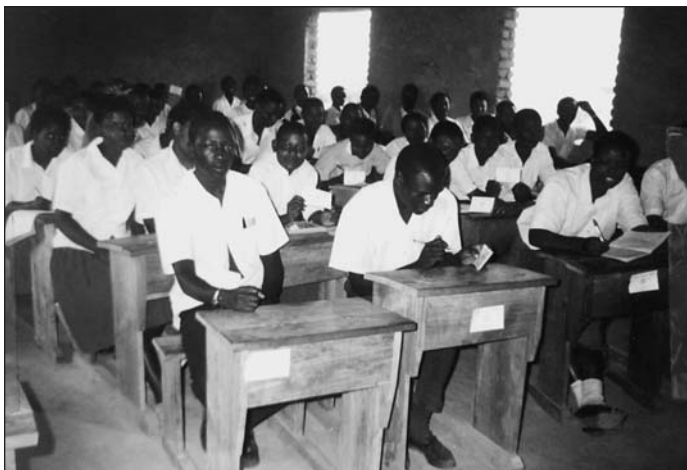
Another popular international project is operation eyesight which has varied from a donation of \$100 in 1987 to help two men and two women in Manipal India to the \$1000 unanimously approved on Jan 3, 1992 to support an Operation Eyesight International facilities in India for one year. Following the donation in 1992, the club received a letter in early December 1992 from Medical Administrator N. K. Saha of the Eye Operation Camp at Baduria, India.



◀ Presentation of school desks to Ministry of Education officials at Arusha Rotary Club meeting.



▲ Donated school desks at Meru primary school, Tanzania, Africa.



◀ School desks Mbugwe secondary school in Tanzania, Africa.

*"Project: a35h0072*

An Eye Operation Camp was held in a rural area, named Ashoknagar. This village is located in the 24 pags(N) district. We hold regular monthly clinics in this area and also the Survey Camps. The place is inhabited by a large number of poor people where there are no Medical facilities for treatment of eyes. We held our survey camps in this area two months prior to holding of camps. Screening was done on 12.10.92 when 88 patients turned up and after pre operative test of these patients 80 patients were selected for operation.

2. The patients are all within the age group of 40-80 years. There is no complication in any case and all the patients were discharged on 24.10.92. The operation was done by our qualified opthamologists with the help of our para medical staff. The post operative check up of these patients will be done 15 days after

the date of the operation. Specs would be given to them free of charges six weeks after the date of operation, after proper testing of eyes. The patients are very poor and indigent.

3. The local people were very cooperative and the local organisers helped us in providing accommodation of the patients for one week that of our staff on duty and in providing volunteers, attendants, sweepers and so on. Light, fuel etc. were supplied by them.

All the medical care was born by VWS including pre and post operative check ups of the patients.

4. I am enclosing herewith Identification cards and photos of the patients. The banner showing the name of the Sponsor has been shown in the photos sent herewith. The banner is also enclosed in a separate packet.

Patients recovering from eye surgery sponsored by Nanaimo Rotary Club 1992.



Identification card ► for a 40 yr. old female.

OPERATION EYESIGHT UNIVERSAL, CANADA	
Sundrani Charitable Eye Hospital Samiti	
AGRA-282003 U.P. [India]	
Greeting: NAME <u>SMT. RUPWATI</u>	
ADDRESS <u>SHAH GANJ</u> <u>AGRA</u>	
AGE <u>40 Yrs</u>	SEX <u>FEMALE</u>
Was discharged with Sight restored because of your gift.	
Appreciatively	
Surgeon J/C	
Sundrani Charitable Eye Hospital Samiti	
AGRA-3	



◀ Light for surgery provided by locals.

*The patients, their relatives, friends & the local people were all very enthusiastic and expressed their thanks and gratitude to the sponsor for donating our Society in organizing such Camp."*

The following is an excerpt from another letter, dated 2.11.92, by Jethanand, President of the Free Eye Relief Camp in village Midakur;

*"Village Midakur is on main metal road leading to Jaipur, Rajasthan State. It is about 18 km away from Agra. It is flung on both sides of the roads.*

*It is a tiny village but has a number of villages around and students from these villages come to have education in spacious school run by Ministry of Education of Government of U.P.*

*We Hold free Eye Relief Camp in School campus. Our surgeons could operate 37 Cateract patients".*

In addition the Club has donated funds to construct homes for displaced families due to hurricanes in Fiji and in 1993 donated funds to help our district supply a mobile blood collection unit for the Chilean Red Cross, servicing approximately six million people in South America.

## Student Exchange Program

The Rotary Club of Nanaimo has supported the International Student Exchange Program since 1966. Local Rotary Clubs select grade 11 & 12 students from their communities to send to another country. These students gain an understanding of communities in other countries and also act as an ambassador for their own community. The first incoming student hosted by the Nanaimo Club was Jorge Romberg from Beunos Aires, Argentina in March of 1966. Since that time the Club has hosted 17 students from 12 countries around the world. The students typically spend their year divided between 2-3 host families. They attend school in Nanaimo to meet other teenagers and attend many Rotary functions both in and out of town. They are required to give talks at these and other functions, usually about their home town. Exchange students are considered the responsibility of all club members and as such generally are exposed to a wide variety of activities during their stay.



*Rotary exchange students from around the world, hosted by the Rotary Club of Nanaimo.*





*Astrid Brummer, Holland, Hans Funck, Germany and Trish O'Neil, Australia at 1977 picnic.*



*Daniel Gruffman, Rotarian Bruce Roberts supply hot dogs and refreshments to participants in Participation Day.*



*Exchange student Hans Funck waterskiing at a Rotary picnic in 1977.*



*Daniel Gruffman from Sweden, boarding plane to Hot Springs Cove.*

## Incoming exchange students hosted by Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

Year	Month	Name	City	Country
1966	March	Jorge Romberg	Buenos Aries	Argentinian
1969	September	Clive Sefton	Deniliquin	New South Wales
1970	January	Jennifer Gates	Albany	West Australia
1976	January	Dean Reid	Auckland	New Zealand
1977	January	Trish O'Neal	Gladstone	Australia
1977	August	Hans Funck	Bad Weidungen	Germany
1978	September	Lucy Valente		Argentina
1978	September	Ryoko Tokita		Japan
1979	September	Alfredo Reyes	Manilla	Philippines
1981	September	Timo Valli	Tornio	Finland
1982	August	Elisa Senties	Tehuacan	Mexico
1983	September	Makiko Abe	Sendai	Japan
1984	September	Naoyoshi Ema		Japan
1985	July	Fabio Severzut	Sao Carlos	Brazil
1986	July	Daniel Grufman		Sweden
1988	January	Lisa Richardson	Perth	West Australia
1994	August	Nana Staermore	Odense	Denmark

In addition, 16 students from this area have been sent to 11 different countries around the World. The first outgoing student was Janice Mabey, who was sent to Warrnambool, Victoria, Australia in 1969.

Melanie McCallum from Gabriola Island, has been chosen for 1995 along with Erin Davies. These students are treated similarly to those hosted by Nanaimo from other countries.



▲ Nanaimo Rotary exchange students sent around the world.

Trevor Zado with Japanese classmates, Fukuoka, Japan 1988.



Nana Staermore, 1994 Rotary Exchange Student from Denmark flanked by 1995 outgoing students, Melanie McCallum and Erin Davies



Trevor Zado and friends preparing to board the Bullet train in Japan.



## Outgoing exchange students representing the Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

Year	Month	Name	Destination	Country
1969	September	Janice Maber	Warrnambool	Australia
1977	September	Allison Brierley	Upper Hut	New Zealand
1977	September	Doris Gerk	Tetuiti	New Zealand
1978	September	Jennifer Wipper	Beenleigh	Australia
1978	September	Moirra McCarthy	Manilla	Philippines
1979	September	Shannon Wyndlow	Santa Cruz	Bolivia
1981	September	Mia gravelle	Ogi Machi	Japan
1982	July	Margaret White	Manilla	Philippines
1983	July	Ann Warton	Sendai	Japan
1983	July	Mary Ann Perkins	Sao Paulo	Brazil
1984	July	Jennifer Lyall		Thailand
1985	July	Cynthia Dyson		South Africa
1986	July	Aurela Westhead		Finland
1987	July	Trevor Zado	Fukuota	Japan
1989	July	Alison Bledsoe		West Germany
1989	July	Jodi Sinclair		West Germany
1995	July	Melanie McCallum		Brazil
1995	July	Erin Davies		Germany

An excerpt from a letter written by Jennifer Lyall and published in COGS, Nov. 2, 1984, perhaps epitomizes the attitude of exchange students after having a chance to "settle in";

*"....I figured I better write you a real letter and fill you in. Basically I'm having a really great time! About a month ago I had a bout of what must have been culture shock, apparently brought on by the sudden (belated) realization of how different Thai society is. The main difference, for me, is the restricted freedom of the average Thai teenager, and I admit I was somewhat distressed when I found out how strict my host father is. Anyway, don't worry*

*as that is all in the past now. I have realized that I am not losing freedom so much as changing the sorts of freedoms I have been used to. Life is a lot more fun now that I have really accepted the society. I feel as if I have cleared the major hurdle and its clear sailing from here."*



# VII



Memories of Rotarians at Malaspina Galleries 1933

## MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

*Membership in any Rotary Club is continually changing. Many members join and then leave after a short period of service. There are others who remain in the club and in the community for many years, building a notable record of service in both.*

*These are some of the members who have served the club and the community with honour and distinction that we would like to commemorate in this chapter; "Members to Remember." Written by club historian Len Lovick, and edited by Bruce Gordon, classifications denoted are original classifications upon entering the club.*

### **JOHN (JACK) BARSBY**

**1883- 1967**

Classification: Plastering

Joined Rotary in March 1938. President 1947-48. His 46 years in public office, 1920-1966, on City Council, School Board, and Water Board is unmatched by any other Rotarian, and quite probably by any other citizen. He was an Alderman for 7 terms from 1920-1931, Mayor 1932-1937, and was made a Freeman of the City of Nanaimo in 1958 for his years of outstanding service.

John Barsby Junior High School, opened in 1957, was named after him in recognition of his service on behalf of education, at the local, provincial and national level. His son Ted, was Club President in 1971-72.

### **CARMAN BROWNE**

**1906 - 1979**

Classification: Surgeon

Joined Rotary in October, 1941 and served for 38 years. Named a Rotary Pioneer in 1961, Carman served as a Director of this club.

Particularly remembered in the Rotary Club of Nanaimo for the annual Robbie Burns Day celebrations every January. Carman, dressed in his Nova Scotia tartan, for many years piped in the haggis held high by Jim Scales, also in kilts.

Carman was born in North River, Nova Scotia in 1906, the son of Rev. Robert and Lelia Browne. He graduated from Dalhousie University medical class in 1929 at age 23, and came out west and worked on the staff of the Vancouver General Hospital.

In 1931 he came to Nanaimo and worked with Dr. D. S. Ingham. In 1936 he was joined by Dr. A. H. Meneely and they established the Browne-Meneely Clinic on Bastion Street. The clinic was moved to Wallace Street in the late 1950's and renamed the Caledonian Clinic.

Carman Browne was invested as a Serving Brother of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem by Governor-General Roland Michener in 1967. The citation read: "For 38 years of lecturing and conducting exams in first aid for St. John's Ambulance Society from 1929."

He was a past commodore of the Nanaimo Yacht Club, member of the Doric Masonic Lodge, the Nanaimo and District Shrine Club, the Vancouver Gizeh Temple Shrine Band and the Caledonian Society. Carman was a member of the Nanaimo Pipe Band and was a well known local piper, often attending social functions to pipe in the head table.

### **ROSS CASHMAN**

Classification: Baking - Wholesale

Joined Rotary in February, 1951 and served for 30 years. Life Member, 1981.

During his business career Ross was manager of McGavin's Bakery, expanding the business until they had a staff of 80 people. They delivered bread all up and down the east coast of Vancouver Island, as well as to several points on the mainland.

Ross was a mover and a shaker in both his business and in the community. During the 1940's he was a live-wire Kinsman and, when they turfed him out at age 40, Ross joined Rotary and we benefited from this man's enormous energy and drive. He was also an active Free Mason and long ago helped to organize DeMolay for teenagers.

In Rotary, Ross' contribution came in many ways. He was at all work parties, worked on the Bowen Park project, judged at May 24th parades, helped at pancake breakfasts, and cooked at annual picnics. Ross and Mabel Cashman donated 150 rose bushes in 1968 that still bloom in Bowen Park to this day in a bed adjacent to the Rotary cairn at the Wall Street entrance to the park.

Ross and Mabel were avid gardeners, and were regular visitors to the hospital loaded with flowers for others to enjoy. They were always taking a carload of people for Sunday drives, and only the benefactors of their generosity truly know the extent of their kindness.

In May of 1981 Ross was made a Life Member of Rotary and the executive chose Len Lovick to make the presentation to Ross.

### **JOHN ST. CLAIR (JACK) CLARKE**

**1907 - 1980**

Classification: Ocean Shipping

Joined Rotary in 1964 and served for 16 years.

Jack was an active and dedicated Rotarian. He served as a director and for years he said the grace at the weekly luncheons, usually with a supplication suitable to the day or occasion.

He served as a commissioner on the Nanaimo Harbour Commission for 12 years—longer than anyone to date. Jack was a devoted and a "Happy Christian," and gave many years of devoted service to the St. Paul's Anglican Church. His friends remember his puckish grin and crinkling eyes as he sidled up to you to recount another of his endless repertoire of jokes.

In June of 1988, at the annual installation of officers, a Paul Harris Fellowship was presented to Jack's widow, Gladys, from an anonymous donor in memory of Jack.

### **NORMAN T. CORFIELD**

**1889 - 1983**

Classification: Automobiles - Retail

Joined Rotary in September, 1929 and served for 50 years.

Norman was Vice President of our club in 1935-36. A Rotary Pioneer, was made a Life Member in Rotary in 1979 after 50 years membership.

Born in Duncan to George T. and Christina Corfield, Norman was raised on the family farm located on Cowichan Bay delta adjacent to the mouth of the Koksilah River. He was an enthusiastic and an above average tennis player as a youth, competing in tournaments in western Canada and the U.S. At one time he was rated 8th internationally, and a cabinet full of trophies dating back to 1910 attests to his prowess on the courts.



Although Norman was a very astute and successful businessman, and despite his many personal achievements, he has always been a reserved and undemonstrative person. At one time he had nineteen different companies in his organization. He opened the first Ford dealership on Vancouver Island in Duncan and later expanded his dealerships to Ladysmith, Nanaimo, Parksville, Courtenay and Port Alberni. Nanaimo became the headquarters of his business. He also established the Standard bulk plant, the first bulk petroleum plant on the island.

Norman retired to a comfortable apartment overlooking English Bay in Vancouver, and in December, 1979, Nat Martin and Len Lovick journeyed to Vancouver to present him with a framed scroll declaring him a Life Member on the completion of 50 years of continuous service to Rotary.

Norman suffered a heart attack early in 1983, and passed away in his 94th year in April of that year.

#### **D. M. (DON) CUNLIFFE**

**1924 - 1988**

Classification: General Law Practice

Joined Rotary in 1953, and served for 35 years. Club president 1962-63; Rotary Pioneer 1973. Both Don and his father, Frank, were presidents of our Rotary club, an honour shared with Jack and Ted Barsby.

Don went overseas with the Canadian Army early in the Second World War and was taken prisoner for several years. His subsequent ill health can probably be traced to these years. After the war he served for some years with the militia, retiring with the rank of Lt. Colonel.

On his return from the war, Don attended U.B.C. and obtained his degree in

law. He joined his father's practice in 1952. He was eventually honoured as a Queen's council.

During the 1960's he was particularly active in the community. He was instrumental in the formation of the Nanaimo Harbour Commission and the Vancouver Island Publicity Committee to encourage the tourist industry. Like his father before him, Don was active in the Chamber of Commerce and served that body as president. He also served six years as director of the B.C. Chamber, and six years with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

#### **ANDREW (ANDY) DUNSMORE**

**1892 - 1955**

Classification: Education - Music

Joined Rotary in February, 1921, and served for 34 years.

Andrew Dunsmore was the 37th member in the fledgling Rotary club when he joined in 1921. He served as Vice-President in 1931-32 and for 33 years was club pianist. A close friend of Jim Scales, the two teamed up as pianist and song leader, bringing many memorable programs to the club.

Although Andy was a Mason as well as a Rotarian, music was his real life. For many years he was organist and choirmaster of the Methodist Church (later St. Andrew's United Church) and in addition became the music instructor at Nanaimo Senior High School.

Andrew Dunsmore's most notable and long-standing achievement was the formation of the Upper Island Music Festival, which celebrates its 67th anniversary this year. He began the organization in 1927, and with the help of R. T. Covenay, the first competition was held in May, 1928. Andy was the first

president of the festival, and used his influence as a Rotarian to persuade our club to sponsor the newly formed organization. His contribution to the festival and the development of music in this community is recognized by the community as a whole.

A succession of Rotarians played a prominent part in the early development of the Upper Island Music Festival. Andy continued as president until 1935, and served on the committee until 1942. He was succeeded as president by Dr. Earle Forester for three years, to be followed by another Rotarian, John Barsby, for four years until 1942 when the festival was discontinued for the duration of the Second World War.

In 1954, despite failing health, Andrew Dunsmore was again persuading community members to re-activate the festival. Another Rotarian, Dr. Doug Kirkbride, a former pupil of Andy's and successful competitor in the festival himself, took over where Andy left off and served as president for four years. In 1971-72 one other Rotarian, K. D. McClure, served as president of the festival, making a total of five Rotarians to date who have presided in that office.

On Andrew's death in 1955, the Rotary Club of Nanaimo established the Andrew Dunsmore Memorial Bursary in the amount of \$25.00. Through the years this sum has been increased and it eventually became two bursaries, each one worth \$250.00, a continuing tribute to the early service of a dedicated Rotarian.

Andrew Dunsmore is remembered in the community as indicated in a press report at the time of his death: "Committee members who worked with him remember a gracious and helpful man who won the respect of all who knew him."

## **A. R. (ROD) GLEN**

**1918 - 1980**

Classification: Credit Unions

Joined Rotary in 1970, and served for 10 years.

Rod was born and raised in Ladysmith, the son of Arthur Percy Glen, a Rotarian from 1927-1940, and our club treasurer from 1935 until 1940. During World War II he worked in Powell River for a weekly newspaper and in 1948 came to Nanaimo to work as a Linotype operator at the *Nanaimo Free Press*. Rod was on the union executive and was elected a trustee in the Harewood district for several terms.

He was a founding member of the Nanaimo Credit Union and, as president, spearheaded the planning and construction of the present headquarters on Albert Street. As a senior executive of the Credit Union in Canada, Rod travelled extensively promoting the co-operative movement. He was an excellent public speaker, and was keenly interested in the historical backgrounds of both Ladysmith and Nanaimo.

On November 23, 1978, at a civic dinner attended by the foremost citizens of the city, Rod Glen was made a Freeman of the City of Nanaimo, the highest award the city can bestow upon one of its citizens. The citation, read by Mayor Frank Ney, gave recognition by City Council to "A. Rod Glen for outstanding public service, who has served with dedication on the Greater Nanaimo Water District Board for 25 years, 17 years as chairman, and presently serving as chairman; 14 years on the Greater Nanaimo Sewer and Drainage Board, 9 years as chairman; for 22 years, from 1950, trustee of the Harewood Improvement District; and chairman of the City of Nanaimo Restructuring Committee." At that time Rod was the ninth citizen to be made a Freeman of the City of Nanaimo.

"Rod Glen is one of those rare individuals who are endowed with the far-

sightedness which enables them to visualize change beyond the imaginations of most, and even more importantly, the energy and fortitude to work toward the realization of those visions." –*Nanaimo Times*, reporting on the Freeman civic dinner.

Mayor Frank Ney was guest speaker at the weekly Rotary luncheon in 1980 when he said, "The city of Nanaimo has saved millions of dollars because Rod Glen insisted that an adequate sewage disposal system be built to accommodate the needs of the area for years to come."

Rod passed away April 4, 1980, survived by his wife Rita and two daughters, Adrienne and Allison.

#### **LAWRENCE ARNOLD HANNA**

**1892 - 1979**

Classification: Judiciary - County Court

Joined Rotary in November, 1936, in Port Alberni, and became president of that club. He joined the Rotary Club of Nanaimo in 1951. He was Senior Active and a Rotary Pioneer with 27 years of perfect attendance in 43 years membership. Arnold was made a Life Member in 1974.

Arnold was a successful lawyer and politician. He was first elected to the Provincial Legislature in 1928, re-elected in 1931, and made Deputy Speaker of the House by Premier Pattullo. Soon after his re-election he resigned in favour of George Pearson, and then ran and won the Comox riding and served one term in Victoria.

Arnold did not seek re-election, and returned to his law practice and was elevated to the bench in 1940 as a Provincial Court Judge. He was honoured on April 5, 1965, for 25 years on the bench, and retired in 1967 at age 75.

Arnold had three sons, Laurence, Neill and Richard by his first wife, Anne, who passed away in 1959. He then married

Flora, who nursed him through the long final years until he passed away on March 27th, 1979.

#### **WILLIAM G. (BILL) HUNTER**

**1900 - 1988**

Classification: Refined Oil Products, Retail

Joined Rotary in 1962, and served as a director. Was made a Rotary Pioneer in 1982, and an Honorary Life Member on February 4th, 1983.

Bill's service club activity began in 1937 when he was a charter member of the Nanaimo Kinsmen Club. He was president in 1940.

He served on the first Arena Commission when the Civic Arena was opened in 1939. He eventually became chairman of the Nanaimo Parks and Recreation Commission after serving on that body for several years. He was elected to Nanaimo City Council for seven terms from 1968 to 1974, representing the South End.

Bill was proprietor of the Chevron gas station on Nichol Street at Needham, which he built when the Trans-Canada highway went through.

Bill's great-grandfather arrived with the first group of settlers on the "Tory" in 1852 at Fort Rupert, now Port Hardy. His grandfather was the first white baby born on Vancouver Island.

He married Winnifred McLennan in 1922 and they had a son, Bill, and daughter, Winona Laurie. Bill and Winnie celebrated 60 years of marriage in 1982. Winnie died in 1987, and Bill passed away June 7th, 1988.



**W. J. (BILL) LUPTON**

**1914 - 1991**

Classification: Newspaper Publishing

Joined Rotary in 1955; Club President 1959-60. Left Nanaimo for Port-O'Spain, Trinidad, in 1963; then to Oshawa in 1969; back to Nanaimo in 1979 when he retired and rejoined the Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

Bill started in the newspaper business with the *Chatham Daily News*, then went on to Brantford, Guelph, and finally to Nanaimo in 1953 when the Thomson newspaper chain purchased the *Free Press*.

Bill married Cae in Chatham, Ontario, March 25th, 1934, and they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Nanaimo. They have five children; Allan in Nanaimo, Keith in Toronto, twins Beth in San Francisco and Brian in Vancouver, and Vicki Brent in North Vancouver.

**McGREGOR CHARLES**

**(CHARLIE) IRNSIDE**

**1875 - 1946**

Classification: Ship Brokerage

Joined Rotary in 1920, charter member No. 5. Of the 24 charter members, Charlie was the only one absent from the charter meeting April 30, 1920. He made up for this lapse when he took over as club secretary from Jim Galbraith and continued for 26 years until his death in 1946 from a heart attack, the first and only illness of his lifetime. Charlie was suitably recognized by our Rotary club with a presentation after 25 years of service. He held a commendable record of perfect attendance for 26 years.

His work as secretary was outstanding, the meticulous care with which he kept all the club's records and wrote up the minutes was a matter of comment. As the efficient services of a secretary are essential to the success of any organization, so it may truly be said the without Charlie

Ironside, this club would not have had the record which it has enjoyed during the first quarter century of existence.

Charlie Ironside came to British Columbia in 1898 at age fourteen. He gained employment on Canadian Pacific Steamships, eventually becoming a purser on coastal runs. He settled in Nanaimo in 1910 as the first company agent on the CPR Wharf. Some years later he established himself in business as a steamship line agent, marine notary, and harbourmaster.

Besides his long tenure as secretary of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo, he also served for 25 years as secretary of the Nanaimo Board of Trade and the Vancouver Island Affiliated Boards of Trade. He was recognized by the Board of Trade with a silver-on-oak plaque.

He also served as secretary of the original Nanaimo Golf Club. Charlie was a Mason, and a Past Exalted Ruler of Elks Lodge No. 26. He was elected as a city alderman in 1925 and again in 1927 and 1929. Much of his time was given to community work despite the long hours he put in at his office at the foot of Bastion Street.

For years his wife, Kathleen, assisted him with his daily business. They had two sons, Algoma C. and Edmund D. Charlie and Kathleen celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in 1945.

To quote from the memorial printed in the November 15, 1946 edition of *COGS*, "... we shall miss his warm smile, his hearty handshake, the eloquence of his speeches, the beauty of his poetry, and the exceptional mastery of the English language which he disclosed in both. We shall remember him as a close, loyal, personal friend. We shall remember him for his broad outlook and human sympathies and for his ever-ready help to his friends in time of trouble. We shall remember him for his community activities, his high ethical

standards, and for his undeviating adherence to the path of rectitude. We shall miss him and remember him as a true Rotarian whose life is an example for us all to follow."

**JOSEPH (JOE) NICHOLSON KNEEN**

**1883 - 1967**

Classification: Builders Supplies -Retailing

Joined Rotary October 18, 1929. Club President in 1940-41. Senior Active and a Rotary Pioneer. With his wife, Emily, attended three Rotary International Conferences in San Francisco, New York, and Tokyo. Was a Rotarian for 38 years.

Joe came to Canada in 1907, staying briefly on the prairies where the winter cold drove him to the west coast and to Nanaimo. He worked for the Western Fuel Company as surface construction supervisor. Using mine slag, Joe supervised the filling of "the Ravine" which was a waterway at that time and is now the Terminal Avenue section of the Trans-Canada Highway through downtown Nanaimo.

Joe left Western Fuel when it was sold to the Dunsmuir interests in 1928, and formed his own building supply company, Central Wharf and Builders Supply. It was located on what is now the west parking lot of Harbour Park Mall. After World War II the company name was changed to Kneen's Builders Supplies Ltd. Joe retired in 1953 and sold out to Evans, Coleman and Evans of Vancouver in 1958.

Joe passed away November 5th, 1967 at age 83. He achieved 32 years of perfect attendance.

**WILLIAM (BILLY) LEWIS**

**1863 - 1968**

Classification: Light and Power

(Nanaimo Light & Power)

Joined Rotary June 20, 1920, just three weeks after the club was chartered. Billy served as club treasurer from 1923 to 1935, and again from 1941 to 1946. He was made an Honorary Member for Life in July 1963 on his 100th birthday by President Ian MacLeod.

Born at Portwine, California July, 11th, Billy Lewis' parents and four children arrived in Nanaimo at midnight on the steamer "Maude" on November 15, 1875, having left Victoria at 7:00 a.m. His parents are buried in the Comox Street cemetery. (The headstone is mounted on the wall.) Billy lived at 54 Dawes Street since 1891. He joined the staff of the Nanaimo Electric Light Co. in 1886 as a collector.

A much-loved citizen, Billy possessed a remarkably sharp memory and retained an active interest in local and world affairs. He lived through the terms of every Canadian Prime Minister since confederation, all 14 of them, and through the terms of 23 provincial premiers. He met some very famous people in his lifetime, including Judge Matthew Begbie, Sir John A. MacDonald and General William Booth of the Salvation Army. He knew Robert Dunsmuir as well.

From *Nanaimo—A Short History* (1974) by Patricia Johnson: "By 1904, a large brick powerhouse was operating on the Millstream, near the site of the old Hudson's Bay Company waterwheel, and it produced electricity generated by water power under the management of William Lewis."

Billy Lewis was first in the clothing business with his brother-in-law James Caldwell. He became manager of the Nanaimo Electric Light Co., also Nanaimo

Duncan Utilities. Billy retired in 1928 at age 65. Past Master of Ashlar Lodge, member Scottish Masons, member St. Andrew United Church, and honorary member Nanaimo Historical Association. Billy was predeceased by his wife Mary Caldwell by several years, and his niece, Miss Caldwell, became his housekeeper until he died.

The Billy Lewis Centenary Rose Garden in Bowen Park was established by the club in 1963 under president Ian MacLeod in celebration of Billy's centenary. It also recognized his lifelong interest in gardening. A sundial cairn was unveiled in 1968 in a ceremony led by club president Alex McKeachie and Archdeacon Harry Greenhalgh.

The story of Billy's 100th birthday and the establishment of the rose garden in his honour was written up in *The Rotarian* in August of 1963.

By living to the remarkable age of 104, almost 105, Billy Lewis became quite a local celebrity; a legend in his own time. The club frequently feted him on his birthday with a special birthday cake. His happy disposition endeared him to all who knew him, for he possessed a ready wit with a fund of humorous stories. When asked at his 103rd birthday if he expected to be present a year hence, he replied, "Oh yes, not many people die at 104, you know." Billy remained active and alert until the end.

## **N. E. (NAT) MARTIN**

**1902 - 1988**

Classification: Groceries Retail

Joined Rotary in 1950 at Trail, B.C., before moving to Nanaimo in 1952 and joining our club. Served as Director 1954-1955, Treasurer 1975 to 1978, Rotary Pioneer, made a Life Member in 1986. Nat took a very active part in the Bowen Park development during the 1950's when this

was the major club project. He organized Radio Auctions to raise funds for that project.

Born in Vancouver in 1902, Nat was sent to England for his education at Blundell's School in Devon. Upon his return he worked for about three years with the Royal Bank, where he met his future wife, Kay.

Nat decided to follow his father in the grocery trade, working for Kelly Douglas from 1926 until 1952. He spent three years in Trail as buyer for the company, moving to Nanaimo in 1952 to take over the business of Speller and MacRae on the corner of Townsite and Millstone. The business grew and expanded, but competition from larger stores eventually forced Nat to close the business, and he sold real estate with H.J.W. Evans Ltd. until he retired.

Nat participated actively in the community; serving on the Nanaimo District School Board from 1956 to 1959, at which time he represented the board on the City Planning Commission. He was president of the Nanaimo Symphony Society in 1968, inaugurating the very successful annual Symphony Ball. Nat was an active Mason and Shriner, and after twenty years association with Homemakers he retired in 1983.

His sporting interests were curling and yachting. Nat first owned a sailing yacht, but switched to a cruiser. He was an enthusiastic yachtsman in the Nanaimo Yacht Club, and during his retirement years he and Kay have travelled extensively all over the world.

Nat and Kay had two sons and a daughter.



**THOMAS B. (TOM) McARRAVY**

**1900 - 1979**

Classification: Architecture

Joined Rotary in 1951, made an Honorary Member in 1979 after moving to Vancouver.

Born in Glasgow, Tom came with his family to Vancouver in 1911 and moved to Nanaimo in 1934 and started his own architect firm. He eventually joined up with Les Barley, another local architect.

Tom rose to some prominence as an architect during his forty years in Nanaimo, designing such buildings as Nanaimo City Hall, Nanaimo Senior Secondary School, Branch 10 Legion, the Addison Building and the Lutheran Church in Harewood.

He served for many years on the Nanaimo Planning Commission, was a former president of the Nanaimo Symphony Society and played violin with the symphony for many years. Tom also belonged to St. Andrew's United Church.

Tom and his wife Gwen had one daughter, who resides in Vancouver.

**A. D. (ARNOLD) McGILLVRA**

**1903 - 1987**

Classification: Power Supply

Joined Rotary in Port Alberni in 1949, and our club in 1957 until he moved to Victoria where he remained until his retirement in 1968. Arnold returned to Nanaimo and to our club at that time and remained a member until his death at age 84 in 1987. He had been a Rotarian for 38 years. He was made a Life Member of our club in 1986.

Arnold first came to Canada in 1913 and the family settled in Port Alberni where he attended school, graduating at age 16. After the death of his step-father, his mother moved back to Scotland and Arnold joined the Bamfield Lifeboat Crew.

In 1920 Arnold went back to Scotland and took eight years of electrical engineering, returning to Canada in 1928 to form his own business as an electrical contractor. Two years later he joined the City of Port Alberni, and shortly thereafter the B.C. Electric Co. bought out the city's electrical system and Arnold stayed on.

The Province formed the B.C. Power Commission in 1943 and took over local electrical companies, and Arnold became manager for the power commission in Port Alberni, and in 1957 he was made manager of Nanaimo. Promoted in 1962 to become regional manager for Vancouver Island, Arnold held that position until 1965 when he became regional manager for British Columbia.

His community service included eight years as city alderman in Port Alberni, president of the Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Red Cross and United Appeal for two years. He was an ardent golfer and an enthusiastic boater, building his own meticulously crafted cruiser.

Arnold married Helen in 1935 and they had two children; Rod, a doctor, and Margot, a school teacher. In 1985 Arnold and Helen celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

**A. G. (ALEX) McKEACHIE**

**1913 - 1988**

Classification: Stevadoring

Joined Rotary in 1962. Club President 1967-68; Rotary Pioneer 1982; Director 1964-65. Rotarian for 26 years.

Born in Victoria on September 3, 1913, Alex was a member of an athletic family, and he was talented in both bowling and softball. Perhaps best known for his many roles in Victoria basketball, Alex played on two national championship teams of the 1930's; the Victoria Blue Ribbons and the Victoria Dominos.

He was manager of Empire Stevadoring in Nanaimo for many years, and served on the Nanaimo Harbour Commission from 1980 to 1985.

**George Sharratt Pearson**

**1880 - 1966**

Classification: Groceries Wholesale

George Pearson must be remembered as the man who organized and founded the Rotary Club of Nanaimo, and was the first president from April 30, 1920 to June 30, 1922, the only President who served two terms. During a long and successful political career in the Provincial Legislature he retained his interest in the Nanaimo Rotary Club. He eventually resigned from the club in September 1950, for health reasons at age 70.

He became Minister of Labour in 1933, originating much of the early labour legislation in the Province. After 1941 he was the first Minister of Health and Welfare when he set up the framework for public health insurance. He also held portfolios as Minister of Mines and Railways, Commissioner of Fisheries, and was Provincial Secretary.

In 1951, "in recognition and sincere appreciation of his public service as a Minister of the Crown and as a private citizen" he was made a Freeman of the City of Nanaimo, the second citizen to be so honoured.

He resigned from politics in 1952 and lived to 86 years of age.

**W. H. (BILL) POWER**

**1902 - 1990**

Classification: Chartered Accountant

Joined Rotary in 1950. Club auditor for 17 years, Rotary Pioneer in 1970, and was made an Honorary Life Member in December, 1986.

As a young man, Bill Power showed promise as a professional hockey player, only to have that goal cut short when, working on the railway one summer when he was at university, Bill experienced an accident which resulted in the loss of his left leg. Bill retained his life long interest in hockey, and was extremely proud when his brother was named to the Canadian Hockey Hall of Fame.

After the Second World War, despite his disability, Bill was a founding member of the Nanaimo Flying Club and flew his own plane regularly, earning the admiration of ex-RCAF pilots like Pete Hanna.

He established himself in business in Nanaimo as a chartered accountant in a partnership of Pickard, Power and Lane.

**A. W. J. (JACK) RATHLEF**

**1883 - 1944**

Classification: Electrical  
Supplies Distributing

Joined Rotary December 7, 1934, member No. 100. Was vice president in 1942-43. Jack served on the Nanaimo Hospital Board for 23 years, with three years as president. He was a member of Ashlar Masonic Lodge and Omaha Lodge 288, as well as a member of the Elks Lodge B.P.O.E. #26. He also served on the Nanaimo Board of School Trustees from 1940 to 1944, and had filed nomination papers to run again when, as the December 15, 1944 edition of COGS put it, "... he received a sudden and unexpected call to the 'Great Beyond' and has laid aside his working tools and entered into the land of Rest and Light." He was 61.

Jack's son Bob joined Rotary in 1948 with the same classification and has been a member for 47 years, now senior active with excused attendance due to ill health. A third generation Rathlef, Bill, was a member of our club for a time, but left to

pursue an interest with Nanaimo Emergencies Services.

### **FRANK ROWBOTTOM**

**1905 - 1979**

Classification: Auto Courts

Joined Rotary in 1958. A native son of Nanaimo, Frank was a Rotary Pioneer with 20 years perfect attendance. He was a popular cashier on the reception desk at the weekly luncheon meetings, taking the job over from Joe Kneen in 1967 and sharing the reception desk with Percy Cowman and Jim Scales.

Frank was a member of the Nanaimo Regional Hospital board for 11 years and served on the Court of Revision of Property Assessment. He was a member of Ashlar Lodge No. 3 AF & AM and served as Worshipful Master and District Grand Master.

Frank worked for many years for Mayo Singh, founder of Mayo Mills at Paldi, as a forestry consultant. After that he managed Evergreen Auto Court on Esplanade with his wife Susan.

### **JAMES JARVIS (JIM) SCALES**

**1896 - 1993**

Classification: Periodicals

Joined Rotary in 1940 in Port Alberni, sponsored by Arnold Hanna. Jim was president of our club in the 50th year of Rotary International, 1954-55, and was made a Paul Harris Fellow by this club in February, 1980, on the 75th anniversary of R.I. He was active in Rotary for 39 years, and had 30 years of perfect attendance. When Jim was presented with his Paul Harris award he said, "I've waited a long time for this." Jim was songleader for almost all of his years in our Rotary club.

Jim was born in Scotland and first went to work in a fish curing plant at age 14. In

1912, at age 16, he apprenticed in the steel works in Colville. When war broke out Jim joined the army at Hamilton barracks, trained at Rippon, and eventually found himself in France in 1916. He served with the Black Watch, the Gordon Highlanders, and the 51st Highland Division (the Ladies from Hadies). Wounded in the arm at Vimy Ridge, he received the Military Medal for his part in the action, and was invalided back to England. Back in France in 1918. Jim was more seriously wounded at Arras, this time he convalesced at an Edinburgh hospital.

In 1919, after the war, his regiment was sent to Glasgow to quell a strike, and while there Jim contracted pleurisy and subsequently received his discharge with 100% pension disability. He returned to Montrose and the fish curing plant.

Jim was advised to get outdoors for his health, so in 1922, with his bride Minnie, he emigrated to Canada and established a chicken farm on the soldiers settlement at Hilliers. The venture proved unsuccessful and, after a couple of years, the couple returned to Scotland. In 1925 he and Minnie returned to Canada, this time to Nanaimo. They bought a corner grocery business from Joe Lindsay and settled down for 14 successful years.

At the outbreak of World War II, Jim joined the Canadian Legion War Services, trained at Gordon Head, and went to Port Alberni with the first troops when the military established a camp there, providing entertainment and programs for the troops. Minnie continued to run the business in Nanaimo until 1942 when they sold it.

In 1946 Jim left Port Alberni to return to Gordon Head to help rehabilitate prisoners of war returning from the Far East. A year later Jim and Minnie returned to Nanaimo and bought the Nanaimo News Stand from Ernie Ilott. On March 28th, 1947, Jim joined the Rotary Club of Nanaimo, sponsored by his good friend Andrew Dunsmore.



Jim was organist and choirmaster in St. Andrew's United Church, and sang in the choir. He sang in church choirs for over 50 years and also competed in many Upper Island Music Festivals as a baritone soloist and in quartets, where he won many awards for his Scottish folk songs. Over the years Jim brought many fine choirs and musical programs to the Rotary luncheon meetings.

Jim and Minnie lived on the old Sloan property on Stewart Avenue. He was an avid gardener, winning the Rotary Garden Trophy several years in succession for the best all-around garden. Tommy Gould, Rotarian and nurseryman, put up the trophy, and Herb Bate and Dave Jenkins were two other keen Rotarian competitors. Jim also enjoyed golf, and was a member of the first Nanaimo Golf Club.

After 44 years of happy marriage Minnie passed away in 1966, and Jim remarried in 1967 to Jessie, a widow and long-time family friend. They lived quietly on Victoria Road, continuing to be active in their church and in Rotary.

Jim was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion for over 50 years, and marched with the veterans in most Armistice Day parades, unless prevented by ill-health, regardless of weather. For years Jim provided our club with suitable Remembrance Day programs, and sold poppies at the club luncheon every year.

Jim devoted his life in service to his country, to his church, his community, his old comrades, to Rotary and to his fellow man. His record is a tribute to "Service Above Self." Jim passed away January 20th, 1993, at the age of 96 years.

## **JOHN SHAW**

**1863 - 1933**

Classification: Education - Secondary

Joined Rotary, Charter Member #9, in 1920, and was a Rotarian for 13 years.

John Shaw had a distinguished career as a civic politician and as an educator. He was elected to serve seven times as a city alderman, and was mayor in 1912-13. He taught school for 27 years, and was principal of the Central High School on Selby Street. It was later renamed John Shaw High School in his honour.

For 52 years John Shaw was prominent in education circles in this province, spending 15 years as Chairman of Schools in British Columbia. He died July 4th, 1933, on his 70th birthday.

## **E. G. (TED) STROYAN**

**1917 - 1991**

Classification: Pulp Manufacturing

Joined Rotary in 1954 in Port Alberni and was president of that club. Ted joined our club in 1964, and was Chairman of two District Conference Committees, 1974 and 1979. In 1979 he was made a Paul Harris Fellow by this club, and in 1990 Ted was made a Life Member of the Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

Ted obtained his university degree as an education administrator. He was a teacher, a principal and an administrator before accepting a position with MacMillan Bloedel as public relations officer for all of Vancouver Island. After moving to Nanaimo, Ted served a full term on the Board of Malaspina College with Rotarian Carl Opgaard, first college president. In 1991 a scholarship was established in his memory. Ted also served for a term on the Nanaimo Harbour Commission, was a staunch supporter of the Chamber of Commerce and served as its president. He

also was named Vice-President of the Vancouver Island Chamber of Commerce.

In 1974, when his friend Cliff Laver of Courtenay was District Governor and Bill Crellin was our club president, Ted became chairman of the District Conference Committee for our club. He did such an outstanding job that five years later he was again asked by District Governor D. P. Dean Peggs of the Victoria Rotary Club to chair the 1979 District Conference. Ted agreed, provided all those who had served with him on the 1974 conference would serve again. They did. The conference was an outstanding success, setting an attendance record, and Ted was made a Paul Harris Fellow by President Bob McDougall and a grateful Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

### **EARLE CATHERS WESTWOOD**

**1909 - 1980**

Classification: Funeral Parlours

Joined Rotary in 1945. Resigned in 1956 when he was elected to the provincial legislative assembly. He was reinstated immediately as an Honorary Member of our club, and re-elected annually. He was again reinstated as a Rotarian in 1964, but again had to resign when he was appointed Agent-General for the province to London, England. He returned to Canada in 1968 and was again reinstated into the club as Senior Active - Funeral Parlours and remained a member until 1973 when he resigned due to ill health.

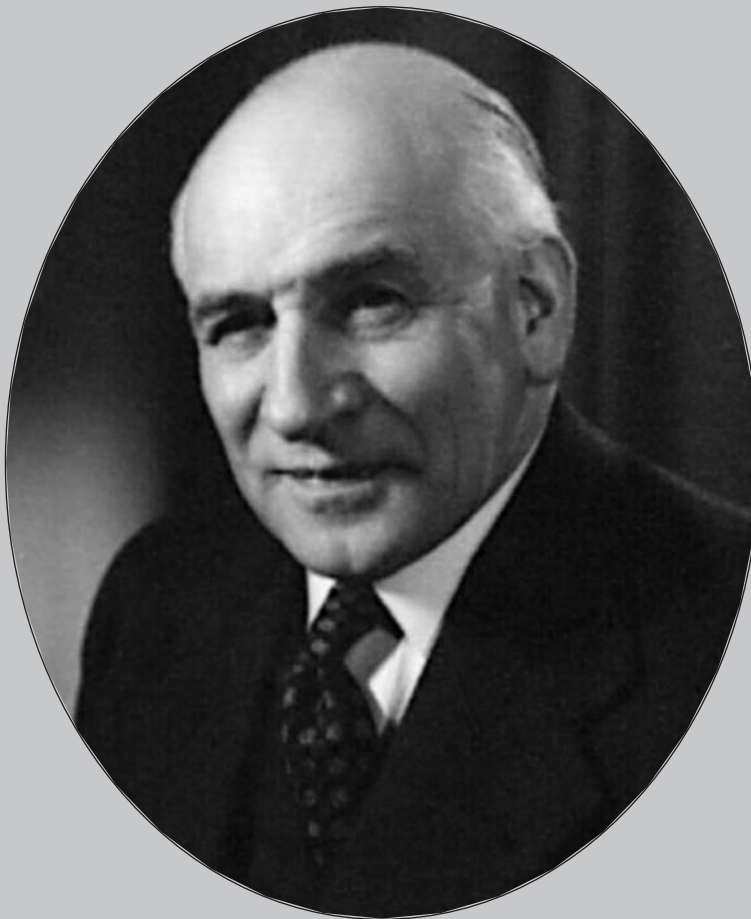
Earle had a remarkable record of political service to the City of Nanaimo and the Province which inevitably interfered with his membership in Rotary, and it was to his credit that he consistently persevered to maintain his membership through the years. During his term in the provincial cabinet, Earle was the first appointed Minister of Recreation and Conservation, at which time he gave the Westwood Lake property to the city to be used as a park.

He was a charter member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Kinsmen club, and was a member and chairman of both the school board and the hospital board. He served as city alderman and was elected mayor 1950 - 52, and during his term the new city hall on Wallace Street was opened. With Pete Maffeo as campaign chairman, Earle promoted the Nanaimo District Senior Citizens Housing Development.

In 1958 Earle was made a Freeman of the City of Nanaimo, along with John Barsby and George Muir, also former mayors and Rotarians.

*In this, our seventy-fifth year of Rotary service to our community and the world, there are many members of our club that we remember who have "laid down their working tools and entered into the land of Rest and Light." Space does not permit recording all of their service to club and community, but they are remembered by their fellow Rotarians for their untiring efforts and dedication to the Rotary creed, "Service Above Self." –EDITORS*

# VIII



George Pearson, Rotary Nanaïmo's first president.



# ROTARY NANAIMO PAST PRESIDENTS



*Bob Ormond*  
1922-23

*Jud McPhee*  
1923-24

*Norman Carter*  
1924-25

*Ernest Bird*  
1925-26



*Frank Cunliffe*  
1926-27



*Wilbert Clemens*  
1927-28



*Oliver Eby*  
1928-29

*Fred Grant*  
1929-30

*Jim Partington*  
1930-31



*Irving Bearce*  
1931-32

*Joe Dickinson*  
1932-33



*Percy Cowman*  
1933-34

*Bill Mitchell*  
1934-35

*Arthur Hitchen*  
1935-36



*Phil Creagh*  
1936-37

*Tom Gould*  
1937-38

*Charlie Monroe*  
1938-39



*Bob Wilson*  
1939-40



*Joe Kneen*  
1940-41



*Harold Eakin*  
1941-42



*John Cook*  
1942-43



*Earle Foerester*  
1943-44



*Earl Fletcher*  
1944-45

*Joe Filmer*  
1945-46



*Herb Bate*  
1946-47



*Jack Barsby*  
1947-48



*John Hart*  
1948-49



*Ken Alexander*  
1949-50



*Nat Bevis*  
1950-51



*George Muir*  
1951-52



*Jack Litch*  
1952-53



*Dave Jones*  
1953-54



*Jim Scales*  
1954-55

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PAST PRESIDENTS

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*John Thompson*  
1955-56



*Tommy Bennett*  
1956-57



*Clare Morrison*  
1957-58



*Harry Cicconi*  
1958-59



*Bill Lupton*  
1959-60



*Bill Cochrane*  
1960-61



*Gene Koster*  
1961-62



*Don Cunliffe*  
1962-63



*Ian MacLeod*  
1963-64



*John Dunham*  
1964-65



*Bob Fawdry*  
1965-66



*Jim Thorpe*  
1966-67

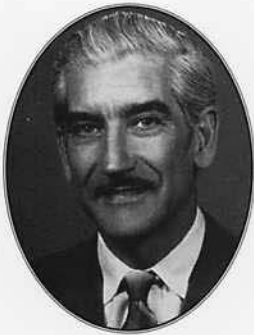


*Alex McKeachie*  
1967-68



*Bruce Coleman*  
1968-69





*John Morris*  
1969-70



*Len Lovick*  
1970-71



*Ted Barsby*  
1971-72



*Bill McFarlane*  
1972-73



*Bill Crellin*  
1973-74



*Newt Hopkins*  
1974-75



*Bruce Tait*  
1975-76



*Bill Horman*  
1976-77



*Harry Wipper*  
1977-78



*Bob McDougall*  
1978-79



*Frank Turley*  
1979-80



*Eifion Pritchard*  
1980-81



*Gordon McGavin*  
1981-82



*Dick Weismiller*  
1982-83

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PAST PRESIDENTS

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*Herb Welch*  
1983-84



*George Lawlor*  
1984-85



*Ken Inch*  
1985-86



*Willis Ganderton*  
1986-87



*Roy Hancox*  
1987-88



*John Marlow*  
1988-89



*Bob Pulleyblank*  
1989-90



*Dale Huck*  
1990-91



*Ian Williams*  
1991-92



*Doug Bradford*  
1992-93



*Basil Hobbs*  
1993-94

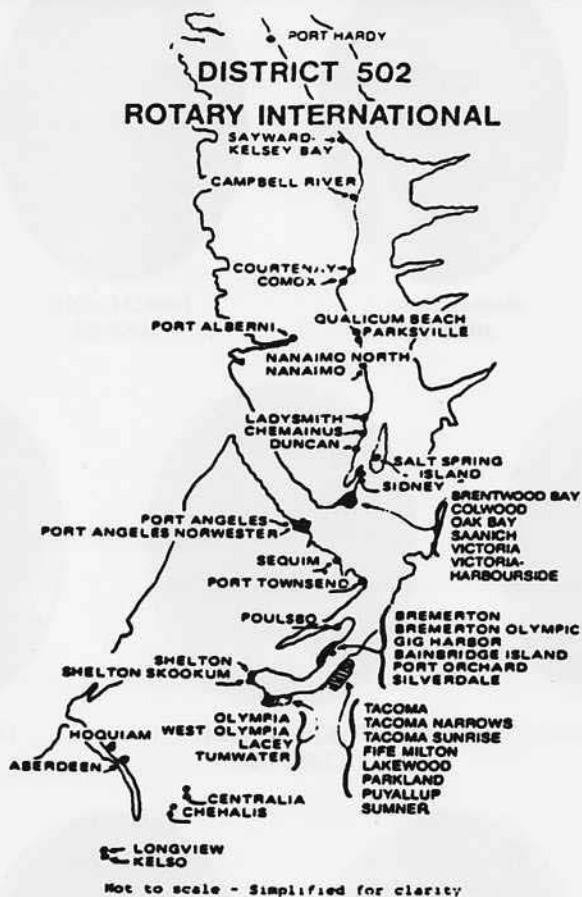


*Bob Fenty*  
1994-95

IX



# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 502



Rotary International District 502, 1973 Map.



# HISTORY OF DISTRICT 5020

The following history of District 5020 was originally compiled in 1978 by Past District Governor L. Evert (Ev) Landon, from Tacoma Washington, is from the book Rotary in Canada, 1910 - 1985. The following text has been edited and updated.

Rotary was brought to the Pacific Northwest only four years following its founding in 1904 by chartering the Rotary Club of Seattle. Then followed the organization of the Rotary Club of Tacoma, No.8 and Portland, No.15, both in 1910; Spokane, No.21 in 1911; Vancouver, B.C. No.61 in 1913 and Victoria, B.C. No. 90 in 1914.

Recognizing the need for decentralization, in 1912 the Rotary world was divided into eight divisions, each led by a vice-president who was a member of the Board of Directors of the International Association of Rotary Clubs. Their duties were largely confined to organizing new clubs in the rapid extension of Rotary. These divisions were designated: Eastern, Central, Southern, Western, and Pacific in the U.S.A., the Eastern and Western Divisions of Canada, and all of Great Britain and Ireland. The Western Division comprised of Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona and Montana.

The first area Conference ever held, met in Tacoma on February 21, 1914. It included the six clubs in the Northwest area and two from Canada. The Eastern Division held a similar meeting in the New York City on August 15th of that year.

The Divisions were replaced by Rotary Districts by resolution adopted at the International Convention held in San Francisco in 1915. Each District had an elected District Governor. The Pacific

Northwest Clubs were placed in District 15. Vancouver and Victoria were in District 18, which included the Provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The Vancouver and Victoria Clubs petitioned Rotary Headquarters in 1916 to be transferred to District 15. The request was granted and thus the First International District was formed, with Claude Eckert of Seattle the first District Governor. In 1918-1919 the number was changed to District 22.

The District number was changed to 1 in 1922 in recognition of the first district conference, held in 1914. District 1 included Oregon, Washington, Alaska, the panhandle of Idaho and British Columbia.

As Rotary grew so did District 1, with a membership of 4,645 in 77 Clubs by February 1937. This was considered too large, both in number of clubs and geographic area for practical administration. Notice was given by Rotary International, that under a redistribution program adopted by the Board of Directors, District 1 had been divided into three parts. This was effective July 1, 1937 unless three-fourths of the clubs of the District filed protest on or before March 1, 1937. The proposed division was considered very arbitrary, with the clubs having very little time or opportunity to suggest possible boundary lines. More than three-fourths of the clubs protested. District 1 remained intact but the number was changed to 101 on July 1, 1937.

A second attempt to divide the District in 1945 was successful. Ninety five clubs with a membership of 6,006 were divided into three Districts, effective July 1. District

101 now included Alaska, Western British Columbia, Western Washington, with the exception of four clubs along the Washington side of the lower Columbia River. Harold Hicks of Chilliwack, B.C. was the first Governor of revised District 101. The District's number was changed from 101 to 151 on July 1, 1950. Two clubs were added in 1956, when the Rotary clubs of Kelso and Longview were granted their petition to become part of District 101.

District 152, comprising Western Washington and Vancouver Island, was split from District 151 July 1, 1956, after 151 had grown to 70 clubs. The first Governor of District 152 was Warren Fraft of Seattle. On July 1, 1958 the number was changed to District 502.

By 1972 the District had grown to 57 clubs. A District split was considered best due to increasing demands on District Governors for administration of many new programs. However a direct split of District 502 would reduce the number of clubs below 40, the number considered adequate by Rotary International. An earlier split had left District 504 with a similar problem. Therefore in the fall of

1972 the Districts agreed to a proposed three-way split and this was submitted to Rotary International for approval.

The Clubs of the affected Districts were given an opportunity to protest the split. While there was some dissatisfaction over the manner in which the division was arranged, the protests were minimal and the split became effective July 1, 1973. District 502 retained all the Clubs on Vancouver Island and lost the clubs from King County, Washington and two clubs along the border of Snohomish County. The goal of maintaining the international character of all three resulting Districts (502, 503, 504) was met.

The District number was changed once again on July 1, 1991 from 502 to 5020 to allow for growth. District 5020 now has 65 clubs with 4859 members.



**Rotary Club of Nanaimo's President, Bob Fenty.**  
**1994 - 1995**



# PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

## MY FELLOW ROTARIANS

The accomplishments and contributions to the community by our Club over 75 years have been many and varied. From the Bowen Park Complex, the Gateway Project, to the Cairn on Nanaimo River; a small sampling of the dedication and commitment towards our community, both monetarily and through fellowship toward each and every cause. If we as Rotarians were able to achieve so many accomplishments during our 75 years, just stop and think for a moment of what tremendous achievements we will have in the coming challenging years.

Where is our community going during the next twenty five years, as we move toward our Club's Centennial? Our community is now the World - The Future is now! Is technology advancing quicker than we can assimilate, is it necessary or can we achieve a balance between what was and what is yet to come?

I personally don't have a fax machine. For shame you say. However 85 - 90% of the manufacturers and suppliers we deal with all have 800 phone numbers. We converse with each other on a one to one, something we all need to do more often, and we accomplish the same results that a fax machine would provide.

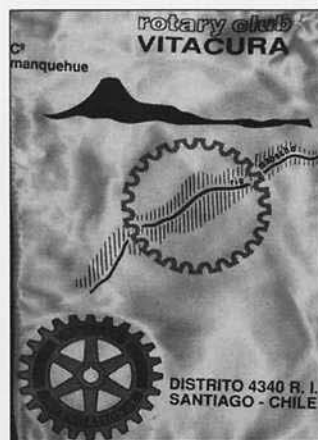
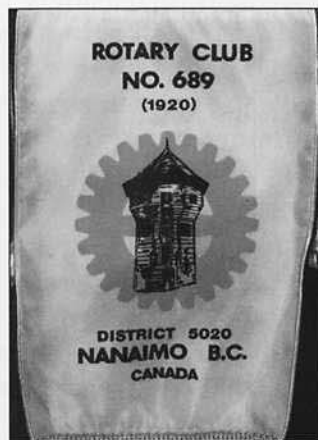
However technology is knowledge, and that leads to challenges. Cyberspace is the land of knowledge, and the exploration of that land can be a civilizations truest, highest calling. What price do we pay for this advancement, when the day to day routines and chores we all do, become less and less time consuming? Will we have more free leisure time, or will we keep trying to stay ahead of this galloping technological change? Will we see that access to the information highway may even determine our basic ability to function

in a democratic culture? In an era in which success is increasingly identified with the ability to use computers and gain access to cyberspace, will this technology only widen the gap between rich and poor, educated and uneducated?

Will these technological changes make everyday life, for most people, somewhat easier and less irritating? To that end, the new age of technology is already well launched, fuelled by a long stream of techno-driven goods and services, that are flooding the consumer marketplace to change the ways people live and work. So advanced is this transformation that even some of the most recent innovations are already being taken for granted.

All of these and other questions, will indeed receive answers, as we stride through this maze of knowledge and information. I am confident that you as a Rotarian will not allow this technological change to take away your free time. I am confident that a portion of your time will be designated as not **My** time, but my **Community's** time. Rotarians will reach out to the future. Rotarians will give of themselves, of that I am confident.

Respectfully Submitted  
R.A. (Bob) Fenty  
President  
1994/95



Rotary International Club Banners

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

From international exchange students to music bursaries in the Upper Island Music Festival, from Polio Plus to Bowen Park, Rotary Bowl and the Gateway Project, the Rotary Club of Nanaimo has maintained a spirit of "Service Above Self" for the last 75 years. The history of Nanaimo is intertwined with the history of Rotary. The Rotarians who made the history came from a variety of backgrounds, professions and businesses and all had a strong commitment to the ideals of Rotary. These ideals are currently being carried by 1,197,308 Rotarians in 27,173 clubs in 185 countries and districts worldwide (January 30, 1995). The success of this organization is perhaps best explained by a quote from Winston Churchill;

"When great causes are on the move in the world ..we learn that we are spirits, not animals."

The Nanaimo Rotary Club is but a small part of this organization, but many individuals who have contributed to the Nanaimo and World communities over the last 75 years are giants among their peers. Some of these people have been recognized in this book but many more prefer to work in the background and we appreciate your efforts in spite of not including you in the book. It is my belief as the challenges of modern society continue to intensify, Rotary will be presented with more opportunities to play a meaningful role in the development of local and world community. If history is a pattern for the future then Nanaimo Rotarians will respond to change, rise to the challenges, lend their hands to service and steer us successfully into the next century.



*Rotary Club of Nanaimo group photo 1993.*

## ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO CLUB ROSTER 1995

ALEXANDER, KEN • ALLEN, JOE • BARSBY, TED • BENOIT, LIONEL • BENSON, MIKE •  
BERESFORD, GAY • BERRY, LIONEL • BORISENKO, ED • BRADFORD, DOUG  
BUCHHOLZ, HELMUT • CICONI, HARRY • CLARKE, MILLS • CONNOLLY, DAVE  
COOPER, DEAN • COUTU, JANEANE • DE GASPÉ BEAUBIEN, FRANCE • DOWNS, FRED  
DUNLEAVY, BRIAN • ELLINS, JERRY • FAWDRY, BOB • FENTY, BOB • FLOOD, ROBERT  
FORD, DAVID • GANDERTON, WILLIS • GARNER, JOE • GORDON, BRUCE  
GOSSELIN, LUCIE • GOSSELIN, YVAN • GRAHAM, GERRY • GRAY, DUNCAN • GREER, DOUG  
HAMMOND, DAVID • HANCOX, ROY • HAY, ELIZABETH • HAY, KEITH • HEBDEN, GORDON  
HEROLD, MIKE • HOBBS, BASIL • HOFFSTROM, BOB • HOLZWARTH, EGON • HORMAN, BILL  
HRYHORKA, JOHN • HUBLEY, GORDON • HUCK, DALE • INCH, KEN • JACKSON, AL  
JARVIE, DOUG • JOUBERT, KENNETH • KEMP, DON • KING, BILL • KING, KIM  
KOLODRUBSKY, FRED • KOSTER, GENE • KULAI, RAY • LAWLOR, GEORGE  
LEMOINE, CAROL • LINDSAY, BLAIR • LOVICK, LEN • LYSENG, DENIS • MACRAE, DON  
MCDUGALL, BOB • MCFADDEN, DOUG • MCFARLANE, KEITH • MCMILLAN, DOUG  
MARLOW, JOHN • MARZOCCO, ED • MIELNICHUK, MIKE • MORGAN, BILL • MORRIS, JOHN  
MURPHY, DENIS • NEAVES, OLIVER • OLSEN, DON • PATRICK, BOB • PATTON, MIKE  
PEARSE, AL • PETERS, BOB • PROCTOR, GORDON • PULLEYBLANK, BOB • RATHLEF, BOB  
RODGER, JOHN • SALEM, JOHN • SAUNDERS, ROY • SCHULZ, FRED • SMART, MICHAEL  
STARK, JOHN • STEVENSON, JACK • SWEETT, VICTOR • TAIT, BRUCE • TELFORD, MALCOLM  
TESKEY, NORMAN • THORPE, JIM • TUCK, JOHN • VANDER VOET, ARLA • VANIDOUR, ART  
VAN TOOR, MARIANNE • WALL, BOB • WARNER, FLOYD • WEIDEMAN, MARTY  
WELCH, HERB • WHITE, ROSS • WILLIAMS, IAN • WILLMON, GREG • WILSON, BOB  
WILSON, PHIL • WIPPER, HARRY • WIZINSKY, ANDY • YOUNG, ROBERT