

# ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

# “C GS”

Volume 96, Number 38

4,721st Meeting

Friday, April 22, 2016



Rhododendrons are now blooming in Bowen Park

Photo taken 4-20-16

**Club Meeting Friday at 12:00 p.m.  
at the Coast Bastion Inn**

#### **CLUB OFFICERS 2015-2016**

President ----- Lila Tanner  
Vice President ----- Janeane Coutu  
Secretary ----- Bob Janes  
Treasurer ----- Lynne Pankratz  
President Elect ----- Debbie Narver  
Immediate Past President ----- Bob Wilson



**Serving Our Community Since  
May 1, 1920 - Charter Number 43**

#### **DIRECTORS**

Bob Patrick                      Bob Fenty                      Bruce Samson  
Norm Myden                      Charles Ramos

#### **President Rotary International**

K.R. “Ravi” Ravindran, Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka

#### **District Governor**

Rose Bowman  
Chehalis Rotary, Washington

#### **Assistant Governor**

Bev Hilton  
Nanaimo Oceanside

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## Meeting Notes from April 15th, 2016

By Bob Janes

**President Lila** opened the meeting by inviting us to sing our National Anthem. The invocation was delivered by Donna Hais, who gave thanks for how fortunate we were to live in Nanaimo, the friendships we enjoy because of Rotary, and the wonderful work Rotarians do to help others throughout the world.

**Charles Ramos** scanned the room and announced that we had no visiting Rotarians and told us that our only guest today was our speaker **Renato Anacleto**.

**President Lila** made the first announcement today, which was to tell us it was **Wayne Andersons** birthday, to which we sang a rendition of "Happy Birthday" that would have made Doug Cowling proud!

**President Lila** then opened the floor for announcements. **John Shillabeer**



gave us a quick update on the progress of the book sale. As a bench mark, he told us that last Springs Book Sale netted approximately \$66,000 and by the Thursday of that Sale, we had taken in proceeds of \$54,000. As of

Thursday at 5pm, this years sale had proceeds of \$56,000. The bottom line is that we are on track for another successful event!

**Donna Hais** announced that Vision 20/20 is hosting an event at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre this coming Tuesday. The trade Show component runs from 4 – 7 pm and the Speaker Series runs from 7 – 9 pm. The speakers for this event include the President of Emily Carr University and the Editor of Douglas Magazine.



**Brent Barootes** circulated a flyer to each table and announced a Gala event at Aspengrove School on May 14<sup>th</sup> of this year. The event will be held at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre and will also include a 10k Bike ride with keynote speaker Clara Hughes.

**Norman Myden**

moved that we donate \$2,000 US to the Rotary Club of Ibague in Columbia for a water dispensing system for Student access to clean clear water. Seconded



by Carey McIver. Carried.

**Sergeant-At-Arms** services by **John Heisterman** today, assisted by Ed Borisenko!

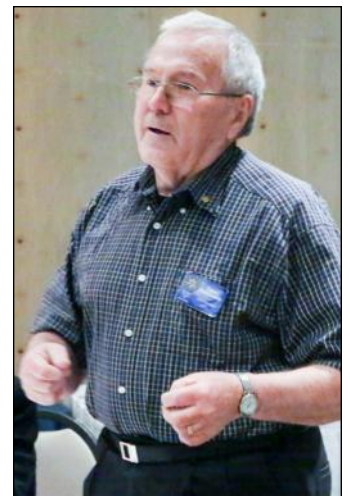
**Yvan Gosselin** offered up a loonie to announce that he had made a cake for Lucie's birthday. He also mentioned that she thought it was very good cake! Lucie then gave a happy \$2 for each of the other "Aries" celebrating birthdays in the past couple of weeks!

**Donna Hais** gave \$75 bragging dollars to tell us about her youngest children.

Her 17 year old son, recently spoke at the Trades Information session held last month, and her youngest daughter recently graduated from the Visual College of Art and Design with an Honours designation in the 3D animation and modeling program.



**Egon Holzwarth** proudly gave thanks to John Heisterman for his perfect timing this week. A phone call came in from the Sergeant at Arms just as Egon was coming out of his morning shower. Anne brought the phone to him and said you have to take this, it's John Heisterman. She then proceeded to dry Egon (like the good old days) while he prolonged his call with John. Bob Janes gave a happy dollar stating, "I'm happy that I'm still young enough to get towel dried by my partner without the need of a phone call"



**Bruce Samson** gave a buck to announce that he received a good deal on a used Greenhouse purchased from a friend. He said that he was going to use it to grow vegetables, not marijuana, however I'm not sure even he believes that!

Wayne Anderson gave a happy buck for the terrible rendition of Happy Birthday.

**John Heisterman** paid for everyone's stories today. It



is still not clear whether the money came from his pocket or the Rotary cash drawer!

**Lucie Gosselin** won the table stakes.

**Carey McIver** won a chance to pull the Ace of Spades. Today it was the 2 of Hearts that left the deck!

## Rotary's Affect on My Life

By *Lucie Gosselin*

Speaker **Renato Anacleto** was introduced by **Joan Ryan**. Renato was a Rotary exchange student from Brazil to Comox in 1999.

Renato gave us a glimpse of who he was in 1998. He didn't know anything about Rotary, he was shy, very much an introvert and he did not know any English. He was approached by someone in his school with an offer to go to Canada on an exchange. He was 16 years old at the time and the thought of getting away from his parents for a year was appealing. He said yes.



Once in Comox, he got right into it and did not miss one Rotary meeting all year but he did not make friends right away. Being from Brazil, he arrived in January when most of the other exchange students in the District had been together for 6 months. He continued to be shy and introvert for the first half of his visit but 6 months in, he made a conscious decision to change. It started with a comment from his host mother who pointed out that he never smiled for pictures. Following that, he made lots of friends, he got involved with other exchange students to learn the various cultures and countries, he went to Rotarians for advice, he joined Interact, he learned about the various programs and most important he learned to love Canada.

In 2000 when he returned to Brazil, his mother was shocked at the change. She did not recognize her son. In Brazil, he joined Rotaract which was at the time struggling to get organized. He took the lead and went

to Rotarians for help. They undertook some major projects of which he mentioned 2. They started a wig project for cancer patients and a mobile clinic for dental care. He even met his wife through Rotaract. He stayed in until the age of 30.

Renato has an MBA in project management, has taught at a university and was the corporate manager for a chain of 780 stores. He, his wife and their 11 year old daughter immigrated to Canada 2 months ago and they live in Nanaimo.

In closing, he encouraged us to support all the youth programs of Rotary. The programs change lives. He says he owes a debt to Rotary and now spends much time volunteering.

**Charles Ramos** reminded the club that we are still looking for two host families for 3 to 4 months each next fall and winter. The student will be attending Wellington Secondary and will have a bus pass to get to school.



**Lucie Gosselin** thanked the speaker and told the club that as someone who has taken students in the past, the reward of having them in your home is priceless.

Please give it some thought and let **Bob Fenty** know if you want more information about hosting.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**June 24-25**—District 5020 Conference in Olympia Washington. District Governor Rose Bowman and the Rotary District Committee at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia to celebrate Rotary!

### ATTENDANCE

By *Bob Janes*

Attendance April 1<sup>st</sup>:  
**42%**

#### We missed Rotarians;

Wahid Ali, D. Anderson, Blinston, Coutu, Cowling, Currie, Fenty, Gerrand, Grice, Hammond, Henderson, Jiang, King, Knutsson, Lessan, Narver, Pankratz, Parsons, Patrick, Raedler, Ross,

Salem, A. & K. Smith, Stephens, Stetar, Tessier, Wilson, Woodward, Woychuk, Zhang

**Guests:** Renato Anacleto

**Make ups:** Jane Currie

**Spouse Birthdays:**

Cindy Hammond [Dave]  
April 22nd

John Currie [Jane] on  
April 23rd

Schaoliang Zhang  
[Bright] on April 26th

E.& O.E.



## Excerpt from the Rotarian - April 1, 2016

The boxing day tsunami in 2004 was caused when an earthquake with the estimated force of 23,000 atomic bombs rattled the floor of the Indian Ocean. All told, more than 230,000 people died in 14 countries, and 1.7 million were left homeless. More than half of the dead were in Indonesia, followed by Sri Lanka, where 35,000 people were killed.

A decade later in Sri Lanka, Mahamodara Teaching Hospital's only ward that has not been replaced or refurbished after the tsunami stands empty. "When this hospital got damaged and we had to evacuate, it was an absolute calamity. We didn't know what to do," says Malik Goonewardene, the head of the obstetrics and gynecology department at the University of Ruhuna in Galle and a consultant at Mahamodara Teaching Hospital. "Without our donors, including Rotary, who came to our aid from the start, I don't know how we would have managed."

The project has included many steps over the years: first, operating rooms and intensive care units for mothers and babies; then the prenatal wards; and, finally, training. Jeska-Thorwart, whom Rotary honored as a Global Woman of Action at the United Nations in November, says they plan to celebrate the completion of the project in January 2017.

Since 2010, a team of doctors, midwives, and nurses has traveled once a year from Sri Lanka to Germany, and another from Germany to Sri Lanka, for training. At the biggest hospital in Nuremberg, where Jeska-Thorwart lives, only a couple of babies are born each day. In contrast, the Mahamodara Teaching Hospital delivers 70 babies daily. Because of the number of births in Sri Lanka, the German

doctors get more experience in the neonatal intensive care unit dealing with birth complications. Meanwhile, Sri Lankan doctors get experience on state-of-the-art equipment in Germany.

The neonatal intensive care unit, one of the few air-conditioned buildings at the hospital, is a world of beeps and scrubs and needles. A 19-day-old infant lies in an incubator, connected to a neonatal CPAP machine to support her breathing, donated by Rotary, which equipped the entire unit. The newborn, who arrived two months premature, was transferred here because the hospital has some of the most advanced equipment in the country.

"When I started here, I was amazed," says Selvi Rupasinghe, the chief neonatologist. "Rotary's contributions have made a tremendous change to neonatal care."



Neonatal intensive care unit Photo Credit: Rotary International / Alyce Henson

Outside the unit, a woman holds a sleepy toddler in her arms. The child's eyes are closed and her head droops as her mother, a dance teacher, smiles and hugs her daughter tight. The child, now 21 months old, was born premature, weighing only 2 pounds. She spent a month in the neonatal intensive care unit and today loves to dance, like many girls her age. "Without all of this equipment, she would not have been able to survive," says Sumith Manathunga, the hospital's deputy director.

English isn't the mother's first language, but she does know four words: "Thank you very much."

[Read the full article on line](#)

## WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS & MEMBER DUTIES

MEETING DATE	<b>April 22nd, 2016</b>	<b>April 29th, 2016</b>	<b>May 6th, 2016</b>
GREETERS	Keith McFarlane, Jane Currie, Susie Stephens	Carey McIver, Bob Fenty, Brent Stetar	Susan Gerrand, Norm Myden, Art Vanidour
CASHIER	Henry Jiang	Henry Jiang	Ed Borisenko
SGT-AT-ARMS	Bruce Samson	Joan Ryan	John Shillabeer
INVOCATION	Derek Lewis	Mikel Knutsson	Keith McFarlane
HEAD TABLE	Pres Lila, Suzanne Son, Frank Shoemaker, Susie Stephens, Keith McFarlane, Jane Currie	Pres Lila, Deryk Norton, Derek Lewis, Brent Stetar, Carey McIver, Bob Fenty, Lynne Pankratz	Pres Lila, Fay Laing, Ian Williams, Bruce Samson, Susan Gerrand, Jane Currie, John Marlow
INTRO GUESTS	Dave Connolly	Janeane Coutu	Doug Cowling
INTRO SPEAKER	Frank Shoemaker	Derek Lewis	Ian Williams
PROGRAM	<b>VIU NURSES TO MEXICO</b> <i>Suzanne Son</i>	<b>Canadian Executive Services</b> <i>Deryk Norton</i>	<b>TRAVEL ADVENTURES</b> <i>Fay Laing</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Carey McIver	Lynne Pankratz	Ed Borisenko