

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“C O G S”



Volume 97, Number 06

4,736th Meeting

Friday, August 12, 2016



Humpback whale on its back feeding at Telegraph Cove—*Photo by Robert Wilson*

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

CLUB OFFICERS 2016-2017

President ----- Debbie Narver
Vice President ----- Carey McIver
Secretary ----- Bob Janes
Treasurer ----- Lynne Pankratz
President Elect ----- Jane Currie
Immediate Past President ----- Lila Tanner



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

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Norm Myden Wayne Anderson Charles Ramos

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Nanaimo Oceanside

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Meeting Notes from August 5th, 2016

By Kathy Smith

After *Oh Canada*, **Behzad Targhi** led us in an invocation that talked about being grateful. **Lucie Gosselin** then had **Charles Ramos** introduce **Elaine Young**, a guest from the Parksville AM club.



President Debbie thanked Lucie and Behzad for stepping in at the last minute as those listed for duties were not at the meeting today. President Debbie also had a message from **Henry Jiang**, who is currently in China. He was happy to report that his hometown is starting a Rotary club and he will be helping them with that process.

Although birthday songs are usually only sung on the day that someone's birthday falls on a meeting date, it was hard to resist from singing to **Doug Cowling**. As we all know, Doug started the tradition in our club to sing off key and out of sync – and we did a very fine rendition of doing this in honour of Doug's birthday.

President Debbie announced that the fall book sale will be held from October 14 – 23 and is urging members to note that on their calendars and keep those dates free so they can work lots of shifts at the sale.

Announcements



Joyce Smith was thrilled to announce that she and Ron have been chosen to participate in the friendship exchange with Australia. They will be on the exchange from Nov. 5 – 19 but will add travel time to the front and back of this trip to enjoy more of Australia. The returning Aussies will be in Nanaimo May 17-19 and so Joyce will be looking for people to host them and to help with planning things to showcase Nanaimo and our Island.



Elaine Young, from the Parksville AM club, announced that she had tickets for a 50/50 draw. Tickets are \$5 each and if all are sold, the winning amount will be \$10,000.

Douglas Anderson reminded us that August is membership month and he encouraged us to invite friends to come for lunch and share our enjoyment of Rotary.

Doug Cowling spoke to a Notice of Motion that he presented 3 weeks ago. The motion is to authorize the board to support the *Travellers Lodge Eden Park* benches project for amounts between \$0 – 10,000. The Board will then have the flexibility to determine the amount the club donates. **Norm Myden** and **Ross White** are working on a District grant



Doug Cowling brought forward the motion to spend up to \$10,000 for benches at Eden Place, subject to matching grants from District

will include some hands on work for the club in staining the tables and benches. After some questions and discussion, the vote was called and carried.

Bruce Gordon had the new Rosters to hand out today.

John Shillabeer noted that the *COGS* committee has met and he has circulated the notes from that meeting. If anyone has more input, they should do so this weekend.

Sgt-at-Arms Dave Hammond – with esteemed assistant **Brenda Grice** – first fined was **President Debbie** for whining about trying to find replacements for those duties that needed to be filled. Bruce was thanked for the great picture of Dave in the Roster – for some reason Dave continues to look very young! **Doug Cowling** was fined



for our great singing for his birthday. Then there were questions to each table regarding the Olympics. Some of the tables had parts of each answer but few knew all parts of the questions. What we do know is that the next Summer Olympics will be in Tokyo, Japan.



Doug paid for the club's rendition of Happy B'day

Happy/Sad Bucks

Art Vanidour let us know that when a friend's son who had won the Governor General's Award and was called by the Governor's office, he hung up as he thought it was a prank call.



Charles Ramos had a great week hiking the Nootka trail with his family. **Ellen Ross** is thrilled that her son is now happily married. **Donna Hais** had a bragging moment. Her son's girlfriend is a swimmer and has qualified for the Canadian swim team. She has

application that, if approved, would see us getting up to \$3500 US towards the project. If the grant is declined, then with this motion, the club can back out. The project



now been recruited by a university in South Dakota and, as a dual citizen, hopes to swim in the Olympics in Japan. **Elaine Young** was grateful to all who bought tickets for the 50/50 draw. And **Susie Stephens** had another Olympic story – her niece's boyfriend, **Erin Brown**, will be competing in two track events at the 2016 Rio Olympics. And finally, **Brent Barootes** was happy to announce that it was one year ago that he moved to Nanaimo.

The Draws

President Debbie won the table stakes and **Yvan Gosselin** had no luck in pulling the winning card. The pot continues to grow and now is more than \$300.00!



Gem Stones and Gem Hunters

By Ellen Barbara Ross

Joyce Smith introduced us to **Bernard (Bernie) Gaboury** a professional Lapidary. His was educated in Winnipeg. His original university degree was in chemistry then he switched to a B.Sc., M.Sc. in Geology and began his professional career with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC. (APEGBC).



Bernard Gaboury

As a geologist **Bernard Gaboury** acquires rough gemstones for the purpose of manufacturing and marketing and offers lapidary services for custom cutting as well as re-cutting. Other services that his company offers include geological and gemmological consulting with

emphasis on development of mining properties, as well as lapidary testing of gem materials.

Since 1978, Mr. Gaboury has been active in the exploration and mining industry. In addition to a broad range of experience gained in mineral exploration (specializing in the last twenty years in gemstone exploration and development both in North America and worldwide). He has owned and operated a gem business for the past 42 years; where he has been engaged in the selection, purchase, cutting and sale of all types of gem rough for the purposes of sale to the retail jewelry industry.

He is the CEO of Syner Gem Limited and co-founder of True North Gems, a publicly trading company, where he raised seed capital, planned and executed gemstone exploration and development programs. Gaboury has expertise in geological exploration in uranium, gold, base, platinum, precious metals, industrial minerals, and gemstones, as well as the maintenance of mechanical and electrical systems

pertaining to field camp operations. He is well versed in planning underground development and conducting underground mapping and diamond drilling. He does domestic cutting which is expensive, precision work. The benefits in domestic cutting are aesthetics. Ensuring that the gemstone parameters of the finished product displays uniformity for maximum optical performance. The stone is then very attractive.

Bernie then told us characteristics of various stones. For example, the Blue Sapphire is next in hardness to diamond. Sapphires crystallize forming barrel-shaped crystals. They can originate by interaction of alumina-rich magmas with carbonate-bearing rocks (limestones) or as inclusions within alkaline magmas such as some types of basalt. Blue is the most well-known and sought after colour of sapphire. The best blue is a strong commonly known as a "cornflower blue". Varying lighter varieties of blue are also common. Weights for blue sapphire can exceed 10 carats, but are uncommon especially in better grades. They are generally pricey as a result, with values exceeding \$4,000 US per carat. The discovery of the huge alluvial deposits in Ilakaka and the hard-rock deposit of Andranondambo, Madagascar

ATTENDANCE

by Bob Janes

Attendance for August 5th was **62%**

We missed the following Rotarians

W. Anderson, Fenty, Gerrand, Henderson, Jiang, King, Lessan, McIver, Myden, Parsons, Patrick, Pratt, Raedler, Salem, Samson, Stetar, Tanner, Tessier, Wilson, Woychuk, Zhang

Visiting Rotarians:

Elaine Young

Guests: Bernard Gaboury

Makeups: Brenda Grice and Susie Stephens

Birthdays:

Kathy Smith, Aug. 12

Wedding Anniversaries:

Michael & Catherine Knutsson, 21 yrs., Aug 12

Al & Kathy Smith, 11 yrs., August 13th

Club Anniversaries:

Moe Lessan, 2 years, Aug 15th

Bob Peters, 35 yrs, Aug 17
E.& O.E.

has claimed the number one area in the world for sapphires. Other blue sapphire countries include; Myanmar, Australia, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Malawi, Rwanda, and the Helena, Montana area of the United States.

Fancy sapphires include all colours apart from blue. Pink sapphires rank next in value and popularity to the blue sapphire. It can exhibit colours approaching that of ruby or it may have overtones of violet or orange. The best pink sapphire can be described as being “bubble gum pink”, a vibrant pure bright pink. Like blue sapphires, pink, varieties exhibit remarkable luster as well as liveliness (sparkle). Approximately 80 % of the sapphires produced from the sapphire fields of Ilakaka, Madagascar are pink, violet, orange and yellow. T Madagascar is the number one source for fancy sapphires.

The ruby is the most valuable variety of stone made from aluminum oxide. Its glowing red colour is similar to a glowing ember. The colours change depending on the direction from which the gem is viewed. You can see a shift from brick red in one direction to reddish purple in another. Other gems that may be confused with ruby include garnet and red tourmaline, these are semi -precious stones. Myanmar remains the main location of rubies. There are also deposits on the border with Cambodia where rubies are generally of lower quality. A ruby can exceed diamonds in value, carat for carat, and stones of good quality over 3 carats are rare. From 2011 until 2014 Bernie was the co-host of the Travel Channel series “Gem Hunt”. The episodes follow the team as they hunt down and acquire gemstone materials in different countries around the world. **Bernie Gaboury** is the only member of the team who cut gemstones, and so his target in the Gem Hunt episodes was to find rough gemstone materials. The series follows a gem dealer and his team as they maneuver through mines, markets and tense negotiations in search of the world's biggest, brightest and most profitable

jewels.

Bernie told us that the gem business is not for the faint of heart. It is a “buyer beware” market, and there can be violence at any given moment. In the series “Gem Hunt,” viewers are taken inside the high-stakes business of gems, the program travels directly to the world's busiest and riskiest trading regions. Fascinating, exciting, unpredictable and traveling to some very remote locations.

Bernie in the near future plans to start “tourist safaris” to some the locations he has been to allowing individuals to enjoy the adventure of “Gem Hunting”. He was thanked for his presentation by **Brenda Grice** who presented Bernie with our coveted Rotary pen.



50-50 Draw Prize over \$300

In addition to his weekly cashier duties, Egon Holzwarth also sells the 50-50 tickets at the front desk and this week it was an easy sell when the prize topped the \$300 mark. Many Rotarians bought more than one ticket, but the ticket winner failed to draw the Ace of Spades so the pot continues to grow.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct 1st**—Foundation/Grant Management Seminar, Nanaimo
- Oct 14th to 23**—Rotary Book Sale at Nanaimo North Town Centre during mall hours. Many hands needed to work the sale
- November 24th**—Nanaimo Theatre Night, program to be announced
- Dec 11th**—Family Christmas Breakfast
- December 15th**—Rotary Christmas Dinner
- May 4, 5, 6, 2017**—Spirit of Rotary DTA & Conference, Suquamish, WA. More details at www.rotary5020.org

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS & MEMBER DUTIES

| MEETING DATE | August 12th, 2016 | August 19th, 2016 | August 26th, 2016 |
|---------------|---|--|--|
| GREETERS | John Shillabeer, Dave Connolly, Mike Herold | Frank Shoemaker, Behzad Targhi, Janeane Coutu | Doug Cowling, Al Smith, Bob Janes |
| CASHIER | Brent Barootes | Brent Barootes | Brent Barootes |
| SGT-AT-ARMS | Wahid Ali | Dave Hammond | John Heisterman |
| INVOCATION | John Woychuk | Wahid Ali | Bright Zhang |
| HEAD TABLE | Pres Debbie, Douglas Anderson, Kathy Smith, John Shillabeer, Dave Connolly, Mike Herold | Pres Debbie, Club Executive, Bill Horman, John Heisterman, Janeane, Frank Shoemaker, Behzad Targhi | Pres Debbie, Club Executive, Bill Horman, John Heisterman, Janeane, Frank Shoemaker, Behzad Targhi |
| INTRO GUESTS | Lynne Pankratz | Bob Patrick | Chris Parsons |
| INTRO SPEAKER | President Debbie | — | — |
| PROGRAM | MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM <i>Douglas Anderson</i> | CLUB COMMUNICATION MEETING <i>President Debbie</i> | ?? <i>President Debbie</i> |
| THANK SPEAKER | — | — | — |