

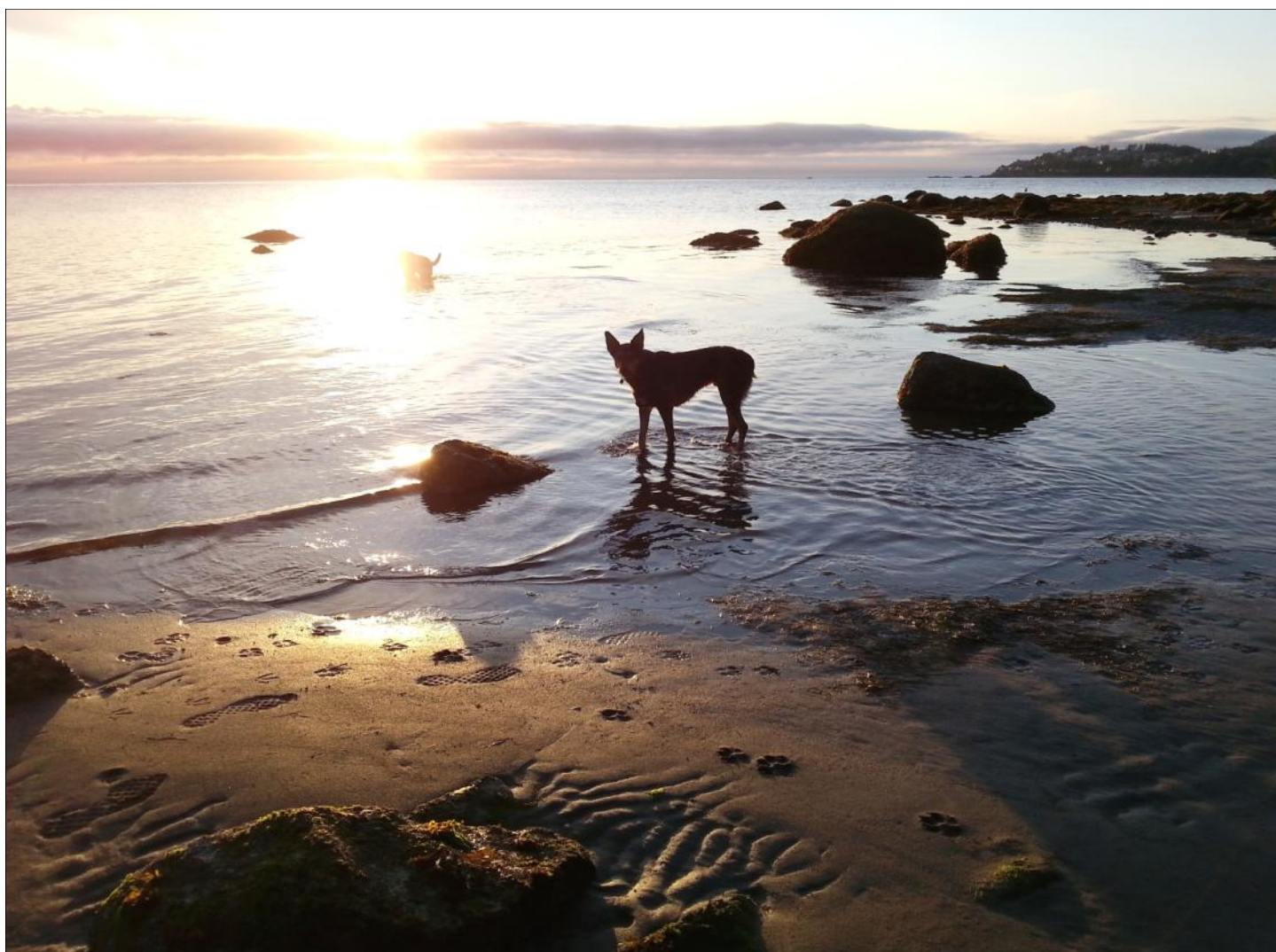
ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“C O G S”

Volume 96, Number 10

4,645th Meeting

Friday, August 29, 2014

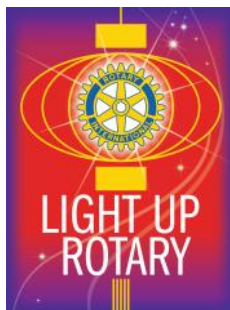


Taking Darko and Finn for an early morning walk at Invermere Beach Park in Nanaimo—*Photo by Lee*

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

CLUB OFFICERS 2014-2015

President Bob Wilson
Vice President Brent Stetar
Secretary Bob Janes
Treasurer Lynne Pankratz
President Elect Lila Tanner
Immediate Past President Douglas Anderson



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

DIRECTORS

Debbie Narver Richard Finnegan Bob Patrick
Frank Shoemaker Bob Fenty Bruce Samson

President Rotary International

Gary C. K. Huang, Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan

District Governor

Michael Proctor, Qualicum Beach

Assistant Governor

Barry Sparkes, Lantzville

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 405, Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 5L3 — Web: <http://rotarynanaimo.org>

Meeting Notes from Aug. 22nd

By Lucie Gosselin



President Bob Wilson opened the meeting and **Bob Fenty** led us in O'Canada. **Lila Tanner** gave an invocation and **Joyce Smith** called for the introduction of guests and visiting

Rotarians: **Gord Levin** from the Duncan Daybreak club, **Barry Sparks** from the Lantzville club and **Erin** and **Matt** from the Rotaract club were introduced. **Dave Connolly** introduced his wife **Pat**.

Yvan Gosselin reported that **Ed Borisenko** is still experiencing health challenges. He is not aware of any other ill health in the club.

Motion to Buy Tables

Motion made by **John Shillabeer** and seconded by **Bob Fenty** to purchase 90 additional tables for the book sale for a cost of \$4,533. It was unanimously carried. John suggested that everyone take note of the wall mural at Nanaimo North Town Centre next time they are there. The mall, at its expense has had large posters printed in support of Rotary and other organizations they support.

Bob Wilson informed the club that books are coming in like crazy right now which shows that adver-

tising works. He asked that anyone having a free morning should drop in at the mall at 9:30 in the vicinity of the lottery ticket booth to help with sorting the books which come in. There is a group of regulars who can be found there everyday.

Susan Gerrand invited members to join her for lunch at Travellers' Lodge next Wednesday at 11:45. All that is required of us is some conversation to keep the minds of the residents active.

Gord Levin from the Duncan Daybreak club invited us to their *Music & Art Under The Stars* fundraiser happening September 5 from 6:00 to 11:00 at Birdseye Cove Farm on Genoa Bay Road. For more information or to buy tickets go to duncandaybreakrotary.org. He encouraged us to make a fellowship event of it by booking a bus to take a group to it.

Bob Fenty announced that the club had donated \$500 to the Upper Island Music Festival and \$1,000 to Stock the Lockers program.

Notice of Motion

Janeane Coutu made a notice of motion to donate \$5,015 to the Hospice Society. This is a joint project with the Lantzville club and an application will be made for a District grant. Because of all the parties involved who are waiting on each other to make the decision, Janeane asked that we reduce the notice period from 2 weeks to 1 week.

Moved by **Lucie Gosselin** and seconded by **Bob Fenty** that the notice period be reduced to one week. The motion will therefore be brought to the club for voting next week.

Bob Wilson informed members that the committee organizing the District Conference to be held in Nanaimo in June 2015 is looking for volunteers. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Bob.

Rotary Minute

Lucie Gosselin gave the Rotary minute on the subject of Student exchanges and travel. She went over the long term exchange program, the short term exchange program and RYLA which is Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. She finished by reading a letter of thanks from Mackenzie Alyse Cumberland, one of the participants we sent to Tacoma for the RYLA meeting in March 2014.

Sgt-at-Arms

Sgt-at-Arms **Dave Hammond** auctioned off one ticket for the Music & Arts Under the Stars festival which was donated by **Gord Levin**. **Lila Tanner** was the happy winner for a bid of \$55. He followed that with a Beatles quiz in honour of the 50th anniversary of their performance in Vancouver. There were several happy and sad bucks including a number of happy \$20 and \$10 stories. These included \$20 from **Jane Curry** who fought a parking ticket in court and won; \$20 from **Guenter Raedler** who was selected by UBC for a study on aging; \$10 from **Yvan Gosselin** as a thank you to all the Rotarians who for the past several years have gone with him to pick up and return tables to the University twice a year for the Book Sale; and \$10 from **Susan Gerrand** who announced an expansion to her animal farm.

Club Draws

Lila Tanner won the table stakes and **Helen Blackmore** won the chance to draw a card for the progressive draw but failed to find the Ace of Spades.



NanGo Grannies in Africa:

Paxie Vreede, MD

by John Shillabeer

Lucie Gosselin introduced the speaker, **Dr Paxie Vreede** who was borne in Holland and has lived in Canada for most of her life. She retired approximately two years ago from a career in family practice medicine spent largely on Vancouver Island.

Paxie was one of 22 Canadian grandmothers selected to participate in 2014 at their own expense in an educational visit to partner grandmother organisations in Ethiopia, Rwanda and South Africa.

The HIV/AIDS epidemic has decimated a whole generation of parents. **The Stephen Lewis Foundation** launched the Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign in 2006 in response to the crisis faced by African grandmothers as they struggled to care for millions of orphans. Today there are over 240 grandmother groups in Canada involving more than 10,000 people. They have sent over \$21 million to their partner grandmother organisations in Africa. *NanGo* (Nanaimo Grandmothers) was one of the first groups formed in Canada.

The group visited grandmother projects in and around Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. The city is incredibly poor, with almost no paved streets, few cars and few significant buildings. It appears to be a vast shanty town. The grandmother projects work on a cooperative basis, sharing almost everything. The grandmothers feed, clothe, educate the children and take care of the sick. It is a holistic approach that is doing great work through sharing and helping to mend the community.

They make things by hand for sale, including spinning, dyeing, weaving and embroidering locally grown cotton. Paxie demonstrated a beautiful example of their work.

HIV/AIDS is very far from being under control in Ethiopia. Modern ARV drugs are not readily available: So they use the older variety that causes serious reactions and for which the patients need lots of care during treatments.

About 1,000 babies per year are born in Addis Ababa with HIV/AIDS.

The Rwandan Village of Hope has been established longer than the project in Addis Ababa and it is more mature. Still run as a cooperative and sharing organisation, it has moved on to meeting more advanced requirements. They are training paralegals to assist HIV pregnant women who may lose all their property rights and even today may be rejected by their family. While there, Paxie participated in a march to celebrate International Women's Day.

Paxie visited a grandmothers' project in The Valley Of One Thousand Hills just outside Durban, South Africa. This too was a more mature, well established project than in Addis Ababa. The arrangements remained very much cooperative and sharing. Activities included grief counselling



A typical African grandmother helping a child orphaned by HIV/AIDS

for grandmothers (through doll making), nutrition, education, etc. They met several young people who had grown up in the project and now were giving back by helping the older folks. Paxie learned that 75-80% of those severely ill with AIDS in palliative care are now being released back into the community in adequate health. This is possible because modern ARV drugs are available, because local support is available and engagement with the community helps restore the will to live.

Ross White thanked Paxie for her talk and remarked that the talk underlined that "One should never underestimate the power of a woman". Ross too had seen the devastation caused by AIDS when he visited to Rotary projects in Africa. He presented Paxie with a handmade Rotary pen.

ATTENDANCE

By Janeane Coutu

Attendance for **Aug 22** was **73%**.

We missed these Rotarians;

Borisenko, Brand, Grice, Hais, Heisterman, Henderson, Hewitt, Janes, Knutsson, Lewis, Narver, Patrick, Ramos, Ryan, A. Smith, K. Smith, Stetar, Williams

Visiting Rotarians;

Dr. Gordon Levin, Duncan Daybreak
Erin Lee & Mathieu Ennis, Rotaract
AG Barry Sparkes, Lantzville

Guests of Rotarians;

Pat Connelly, guest of hubby Dave

Make-ups:

Kevin Cantelon, Membership committee

John Shillabeer, Bob Fenty, Yvan Gosselin, Susie Walker, Susan Gerrand all at the book sale sorting room

Birthdays:

Bill Horman on August 23rd
Ed Borisenko on August 28th

Spouse's Birthday:

John Shillabeer, Jacqueline Bonneau has a birthday on August 23rd

**District 5020
Conference
June 19 - 21**



Vancouver Island Conference Centre
NANAIMO, B.C.

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS

Friday, August 29th

GREETERS	Wayne Anderson, Guenter Raedler, Mike Herold
CASHIERS	Wendy Pratt
SGT-AT-ARMS	Wayne Anderson
INVOCATION	Kevin Cantelon
HEAD TABLE	Pres Bob, Leah LaBerge, Morgan Brimacombe, Rebecca Miller, Bas Bakker, Maggie Hinbest, Bob Fenty
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Bruce Gordon
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Bob Fenty
PROGRAM	ROTARY YOUTH <i>Leah, Morgan, Rebecca, Maggie, Bas</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Debbie Narver

Friday, September 5th

GREETERS	Douglas Anderson, Charles Ramos, Jeremy Hewitt
CASHIERS	John Shillabeer
SGT-AT-ARMS	Bruce Samson
INVOCATION	Dave Connolly
HEAD TABLE	Pres Bob, Norm Smith, Misty Dmytar, Keith McFarlane, Guenter Raedler, Douglas, Charles & Jeremy
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Brent Stetar
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Keith McFarlane
PROGRAM	TOUR DE ROCK <i>Cpl. Norm Smith, Const. Misty Dmytar</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Dave Connolly

Friday, September 12th

GREETERS	Egon Holzwarth, Joan Ryan, Wendy Pratt
CASHIERS	John Shillabeer
SGT-AT-ARMS	Lila Tanner
INVOCATION	Janeane Coutu
HEAD TABLE	Pres Bob, Moe Lessan, Wendy Pratt, Susie Walker, Egon Holzwarth, Joan Ryan,
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Lila Tanner
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	President Bob
PROGRAM	CLASSIFICATION TALKS <i>Moe Lessan and Wendy Pratt</i>
THANK SPEAKER	—

ROTARACT AWARD WINNERS CELEBRATED FOR THEIR LIFE-CHANGING PROJECTS

The village of Kumbharwadi is one of many in a drought-prone region near Mumbai, India. Until recently, its residents had access to only one well with drinkable water. During the summer months, the well runs dry, and the women and girls of the village travel three to four hours a day to search for water.

Enter Project Boond, undertaken by a Rotaract club, a Rotary club, and the Watershed Organization Trust to provide clean drinking water and sanitation facilities in Kumbharwadi. Nikunj Pherwani, 2013-14 president of the Rotaract Club of Hassaram Rijhumal College of Commerce and Economics in Mumbai, India, says that droughts are a serious problem in India and often exacerbate malnutrition and illness in remote regions.

"Our major aim through this project was to provide clean water for drinking and domestic purposes to the drought-affected areas of Maharashtra," he says. "These villages not only suffer due to shortage of water but also due to several waterborne diseases."

Pherwani's Rotaract club teamed up with the Rotary Club of Bombay, Maharashtra, India, to raise funds for the project through donations and events, including a comedic play and black tie dinner. The project has over \$13,000 in its coffers, and the clubs are using the funds to dig wells and install toilets.

Pherwani's club also worked with the Rotary Club of Bombay to choose a local nonprofit organization to partner with. They found the Watershed Organization Trust, a nonprofit dedicated to ending water scarcity and poverty in rural India. After meeting with officials and signing an MOU, the Watershed Organization Trust helped them choose a village, and the Rotaractors traveled there to speak to locals about the credibility of their partners. Pherwani says they continue to visit Kumbharwadi every two months to check in with the village and see if additional resources are needed. Village leaders have been trained to maintain the new facilities.

In addition to providing clean water and sanitation facilities, Pherwani says they also aim to provide villagers with chlorine tablets and a workshop on basic health and hygiene.

Among the seven Rotaract projects that were honored at this year's Rotaract Preconvention, Project Boond was chosen as the international winner of the Recognition of Outstanding Rotaract Project.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 5—Duncan Rotary "Music & Art Under the Stars" 6 to 11 p.m., Birdseye Cove Farm. \$75 includes food, music.

Sept 20—Rotary Fun Car Rallye, 10 am to 2 pm. Registration \$20 per vehicle.

Oct 17 to 26—Rotary Fall Book Sale at Nanaimo North Town Centre. *We are in need of Quality Used Pocket Books, so check your book cases and please donate to the cause.*



Winner of
District 5020
Best Bulletin
Awards

"COGS" is the official bulletin of the
Rotary Club of Nanaimo, published each
Friday by the Bulletin Committee

Bulletin Committee Chair — Janeane Coutu

Meeting Reporter: Lucie Gosselin / Program Reporter: John Shillabeer / Photos: Ian Williams

Editing & Production: Bruce Gordon / Web Posting: Ian Williams

PRINTING COURTESY OF ISLAND OFFICE EQUIPMENT NANAIMO - BOB JANES