

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“C GS”

Volume 97, Number 21

4,751st Meeting

Friday, December 9, 2016



Last Saturday, December 3rd, saw Rotarians hard at work planting shrubs at Eden Gardens.

—Photos by Ian Williams

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

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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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Meeting Notes from December 2nd, 2016

By Janeane Coutu



President Debbie Narver chaired our meeting which began with the national anthem followed by **Jane Currie** delivering invocation. Up next was **Christine Parsons** introducing visiting Rotarians and guests. We were host to a large group of visitors including **Past District Governors Norm Watts, Michael Proctor** and **Chris Offer**, as well as Rotarians **Lisa Henderson** and **Marion Watts**. Guests included **Pam White, Christine McAuley, Russ Burke** and **Carlene Shaw**.

President Debbie gave a warm welcome to **Frank Shoemaker** who joined us for the first time since his heart attack. **Yvan Gosselin** reported on the health of the club, noting Frank's presence and that he obviously was doing well based on the good appetite at lunch!



We also heard from **John Heisterman** that **Bob Fenty** was seeking alternative treatments to the chemo that isn't agreeing with him. John told us he had stopped at **John Barsby School** to talk about cooking the turkeys and the two staff went on and on about how great Bob is and how much they missed him.

Announcements

President Debbie reminded us next week is our **AGM** and last regular lunch meeting in December.



Janeane Coutu called for extra hands to sort books in the next week, every day from 9:30am to noon. She also mentioned she was collecting donations for the **Salvation Army** and would again next week.



Joan Ryan reminded the **Christmas breakfast** is Dec 11th 9-11am at **Bowen Park Clubhouse**. Please sign up and don't forget about the gift from Santa for your child or grandchild.

Joan also announced the **Christmas Dinner** tickets are \$37.50 each, \$75 /couple for Thursday, Dec 15th at the Coast hotel. Tickets are presale only, so please let Joan know ASAP if you will be attending. She has the tickets now and will have them next Friday too.

Douglas Anderson had his membership hat on to remind us that participation counts for attendance so remember to notify **Secretary Bob Janes** if you have attended a committee meeting or work party. Email rotary-nanaimo@shaw.ca. He also had flyers to use as a recruitment tool and encouraged us to place publicly at our businesses.

John Heisterman reminded us the **Bayview School Christmas lunch** is Wednesday, December 21st so please book the date to help out. It is



a lot of fun and one of the best hands on projects we do each year. **Barsby School** is cooking the turkeys and **Mrs. Riches** is cooking the vegetables. We need lots of help and for new members, this is a great experience so please come out and be part of a heartwarming event.

Sgt-at-Arms Report

Sgt-at-Arms Wahid Ali levied a few fines and we heard happy bucks from **Frank Shoemaker** thanking **Ross White** for stepping in for the Foundation committee and organizing the recent events to celebrate Foundation month in Rotary. And of course he was happy to be back with us!



Wahid commented that guest **Russ Burke** poured coffee for the entire table, something rarely seen these days and Russ happily paid for the honours.

Movember Shave-Off



The great shave-off for **Movember** then took place. Wahid said he had many compliments he had lost weight which isn't the case, it's just that the ugly beard made him look thinner! He then roasted **Dave Hammond** and **Wayne Anderson** for being twice as old and not able to grow a mustache. **Ian Williams** agreed to be shaved if we raised \$1500 at the meeting for **The Rotary Foundation**. We had no trouble reaching the goal, particularly with **Dave Connelly** offering \$500 to put a big dent in the total and 20 other Rotarians pledged donations. **John Heisterman** brought an assortment of tools and duct tape, but in the end the honours were done with an electric shaver.

Well done Rotarians, we raised over \$1900 for Rotary Foundation at the meeting!

Ian Williams drew the tickets and pulled his own for the card draw but had no luck.



More of the Eden Gardens shrub planters—photo by Janeane

We are 'this close' to ending polio in the world

Reported by John Shillabeer

Ross White introduced **Chris Offer**, a retired member of the Vancouver police force. He was District Governor for Zone 24 and held other senior roles in Rotary. He is now a member of the Ladner Rotary Club and is Advisor to the Foundation for Endowments/Major Gifts. He has received the Distinguished Service Award from the Foundation and in recognition of his major giving to the Foundation is a member of the Arch Klumph Society.

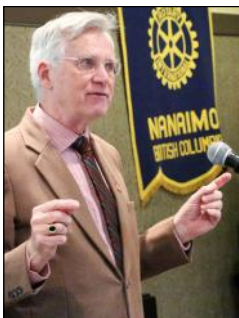


Chris reminded us that in the 1950s and 60s almost everyone was touched by polio: we all had a family member or friend suffering the ravages of the disease. There were institutions with halls filled with iron lungs keeping paralysed people alive. The first polio vaccine became available in 1952. As late as 1988 there were 350,000 new cases of polio in 125 countries; now, so far in 2016, we are down to only 33 cases in three countries worldwide. The end is in sight. We are so close.

Unfortunately there is no cure for polio. The most we can do is prevent it and provide ongoing care and support to those few people unlucky enough to catch the paralysis.

Chris told of his experience two years ago when he went to India for their National Immunization Day. It was actually a three day event in which 172 million children were immunized. Clearly Chris was deeply impressed, not only with the logistics of the program, but also with the peasant children and parents he met. He showed many pictures of the kids.

Immunization in the Indian campaign is not like here. Children are given drops by mouth and their little finger is marked with indelible ink to show they have been done. The big rush is on the first day, the second and third days are follow ups searching for people who did not get the news and had been missed. Chris said the kids used to be given a whistle after the drops, but now for obvious reasons they get a (quieter) ball or a paper mask instead.



Chris visited Nigeria this year as a member of a Polio Surveillance team organised by the UN. There have been several cases in Nigeria this year, some from areas dominated by Boko Haram. The team was there not to audit but to help ensure that procedures are being carried out correctly and the organisations are in place to deal with an outbreak. The first sign of polio is paralysis. Other diseases can cause similar paralysis. A stool sample is taken as soon as possible and analysed. A second stool sample is taken within 24 hours and, if it too is positive, it triggers an emergency response protocol.

Chris showed photos of an emergency response centre in



Nigeria. It is similar to our own here in Canada, with all agencies represented, the ability to mobilize resources, make on the spot decisions and excellent communications.

This is one of the legacies of the polio campaign because the systems used to track polio can be used to fight other common diseases such as malaria, yellow fever and measles. Likewise the people who administer immunization also can give free, simple and effective medicines to poor peasants for such common and serious diseases as asthma, worms and dehydration.

ATTENDANCE

By Janeane Coutu

Attendance for **Dec 2nd** was **57%**.

We missed Rotarians:

Brand, Breuker, Gerrand, Hais, Henderson, Janes, Jiang, Knutsson, Laing, Pratt, Raedler, Salem, Samson, J. Smith, Stetar, Tessier, Woodward, Woychuk, Zhang

Visiting Rotarians:

Lisa Henderson, Courtenay Michael Proctor (PDG), Marion Watts & Norm Watts (PDG), Qualicum Beach

Guests of Rotarians:

Pam White, guest of husband Ross
Christine McAuley, guest of Lynne Pankratz
Russ Burke, guest of Lucie Gosselin
Carlene Shaw, guest of Carey McIver

Make-ups:

W. Anderson, Board & committee meetings
C. Parsons, Richmond

Birthdays:

Allan Smith, Dec 12
Donna Hais, Dec 18
Lynne Pankratz, Dec 31
Douglas Anderson, Jan 3
Wahid Ali, Jan 5

Spouse Birthdays:

Barbara Gordon [Bruce] Dec 15th
Nancy Ford [Wahid] on Dec 16th
Wendy McFarlane [Keith] on January 3rd

Wedding Anniversary:

Charles Ramos & Sari Saunders, 17 yrs on Dec 18
John & Sherry Heisterman, 47 yrs on Dec 20
Bright & Shaoliang Zhang, 26 yrs on Jan 1st

Club Anniversary:

Bob Patrick, 25 yrs on Dec. 11th
Jane Currie, 24 yrs on January 1st

In addition to immunization and response, the authorities also carry out periodic environmental testing of raw sewage to check for the presence of the bacteria. They also work with and complement the efforts of native medicine men as they too can help identify cases of paralysis.

The polio program is not standing still and it is modernizing. Field staff now have cell phones with GPS so that immunizations can be mapped daily. By 2019 immunization will transition to a technique using nano -particle technology administered rather like a nicotine patch.

In closing Chris reminded us that as Rotarians our roles are to:

- **Advocate:** especially with politicians since governments are a major source of funds for fighting polio
- **Educate:** ourselves and the public at large about the benefits and progress
- **Raise funds:** just as we did today and every day.

Brenda Grice thanked Chris for his talk, for sharing his information, educating us and for sharing his passion. Brenda then presented Chris with a treasured handmade Rotary pen.



Guests of Rotary at our last meeting ...



DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec 11th—Family Christmas Breakfast—more information coming.

December 15th—Rotary Christmas Dinner, Coast Hotel, \$37.50 PP

Wednesday, Dec 21st—Bayview Christmas Lunch, in the capable hands of John Heisterman

May 4, 5, 6, 2017—Spirit of Rotary DTA & Conference, Suquamish, WA. More details at www.rotary5020.org

If you have any Rotary event you would like to advertise, please contact a COGS committee member

As this is the final COGS Bulletin
of the 2016 year,
we of the Bulletin Committee
would like to wish all of our members
and their families the
Very Best of the Season
and a Happy and Prosperous
New Year!

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS & MEMBER DUTIES

MEETING DATE	December 9th	Thursday, Dec. 15th	January 6th, 2017
GREETERS	Joan Ryan, Wahid Ali, Wendy Pratt	ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER 	Mikel Knutsson, Barbara Blinston, Brent Barootes
CASHIER	Egon Holzwarth		Egon Holzwarth
SGT-AT-ARMS	David Hammond		Wayne Anderson
INVOCATION	John Salem		Brenda Grice
HEAD TABLE	Pres Debbie, Lynne Pankratz, Bob Janes, Lila Tanner, Carey McIver, Jane Currie, John Salem		Pres Debbie, Joyce Smith, John Salem, Mikel Knutsson, Barbara Blinston, Charles Ramos
INTRO GUESTS	Susie Stephens		Nattalie Tessier
INTRO SPEAKER	—	NO ROTERY LUNCHEON	John Salem
PROGRAM	ANNUAL GENEREAL MEETING <i>President Debbie Narver</i>	MEETINGS ON DECEMBER 16, DECEMBER 23 AND DECEMBER 30	Joy of Rotary Friendship Exchange <i>Joyce Smith</i>
THANK SPEAKER	—		Charles Ramos