

# ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

# “C O G S”

Volume 97, Number 25

4,755th Meeting

Friday, January 20, 2017



**Greg Brady speaking to us about the God's Hope School he established in Haiti.** —Photo by Ryan Williams

**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**

## **DIRECTORS**

Henry Jiang      Susie Stephens      Moe Lessan  
Norm Myden      Wayne Anderson      Charles Ramos

## **President Rotary International**

John F. Germ, Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tenn., USA

## **District Governor**

Joanne Croghan  
Bainbridge Island, Washington

## **Assistant Governor**

Bev Hilton  
Nanaimo Oceanside

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

## Meeting Notes from January 13th, 2017

By Lucie Gosselin



**President Debbie Narver** opened the meeting and **Brent Barootes** led the invocation in Latin. At least that's what it sounded like or maybe they were just verbal sounds. Most of us could be fooled. **Frank Shoemaker** introduced visiting Rotarians and guests.

**Yvan Gosselin**

reported on the health of the club...

**Art Vanidour** fell on the ice but other than bruises he feels he will be OK.

**Yvan** checked up on **Bill King** who has not attended our meetings for some time but Bill assured him that he is okay. He just has been very busy.

**Barb Blinston** is still recovering from a stroke and is currently house bound. She apparently appreciates visitors.

**President Debbie** reminded everyone of the Rotary Leadership Training workshop which will be held in Nanaimo on February 11. She will follow up with an e-mail. The organizers need an indication of numbers so they can decide on the venue. Please look for Debbie's e-mail message and follow the link.



**Norm Myden** gave us a heads up that the club is planning a major project in Ghana in the coming Rotary year. The project will be either US\$52,000 or US\$97,000 depending whether we are successful in accessing some Canadian Federal funds. In any case \$20,000 will come from our club with some contribution from the Mid-Island Group. The Rotarians in Sunyani, Ghana gave us a list of needs and wants. If you have any questions, please ask **Norm** or **Brent Barootes**.

**Joan Ryan** asked everyone to be prepared to discuss ideas for club programs and membership promotion at next week's meeting.

**Wayne Anderson** gave notice that there will be seating shuffles for the month of February in an attempt to get members to visit with ones they do not normally sit with.

**Douglas Anderson** gave notice that we will be celebrating **Robbie Burns Day** next Friday. Haggis will be served and everyone is encouraged to wear tartans.



**President Debbie** announced there will be a Community Project brainstorming session after the meeting today.



**Brent Barootes** was Sergeant-at-Arms. He ranted about Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> being his lucky day as he met, proposed, and married his wife on different Fridays the 13<sup>th</sup>. **Yvan Gosselin** was quick to note how unlucky the date is for **Brent's wife**. Brent fined himself for forgetting he was

Sergeant-at-Arms today. A number of people gave happy and sad dollars and **Norm Myden** had a happy 100 pesos bill because he is leaving for Mexico for two months.

**Douglas Anderson** paid \$2 to challenge the club in coming up with other theme events such as Chinese New Year and St. Patrick's Day. **Henry Jiang** took the opportunity to tell us this is the year of the Rooster and wishing us all a Happy Chinese New Year which is on January 25<sup>th</sup> this year. **Charles Ramos** said that, as an American, he suggest celebrating Inauguration Day. It brought chuckles and groans.



**President Debbie** presented a cheque of \$1,000 to **Ryan Williams** who was here representing the Rotaract Club as well as doing his grandfather's photo & AV duty. The money is for the work Rotaract members contributed to our last book sale.

**Bob Wilson** won the table stakes and **Bob Janes** won the chance to draw the Ace of Spades but failed to get it. As the weeks go by the 50-50 pot continues to grow, so get your ticket every week—you can't win if you're not in!



### Rotary Training Workshop

As was mentioned at the last couple of meetings, there will be a special Rotary training workshop held here in Nanaimo on Sat. Feb 11. Here's a link to some info:

<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50092/SitePage/rotary-leadership-institute>

This first session will be Rotary Basics. So it is highly recommended for newer members, but also a good review for longer term members. The board will cover the cost for registration. But we need to know who is attending as soon as possible. If you are interested, please respond to this message ASAP.

# God's Hope School in Haiti

By Charles Ramos

**Brent Barootes** introduced today's speaker: **Greg Brady**, who is speaking to us about God's Hope School in Haiti. Greg is originally from Saskatchewan, where he lived for his first 20 years; from there, he moved to the Northwest Territories, where he spent another 20 years working for the government. He's also worked in BC's interior and north for 13 years. Greg



now lives in a float home in Cowichan Bay, and this is where Brent first met him while visiting the bay with his wife and daughter. Brent was impressed with Greg's story about his work in Haiti, and invited him to present to our club.

Greg's history with Haiti began when he was working on a humanitarian mission through a religious group in 2009-2010. He left the country on January 12, 2010, just one hour before the earthquake hit and devastated the country. During the restoration efforts, Greg returned to Haiti and founded an elementary school through his own funds, and those of some Canadian contributors. Through the years, Greg has maintained his support of the school while also fundraising through religious organizations, Rotary and other organizations.

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, and is greatly lacking in much of the amenities taken for granted by most of the western world. Adequate drinking water, sanitation, and education are available for only a



small proportion of the residents and the rest are left to fend for themselves. The amount of money Greg and his funders have been able to contribute is small, but is so much more than is otherwise available, that it has allowed the school to operate for the last 6 years. At this time, there are 230 elementary age children attending a school housed in a 20'x60' building.

The ongoing funding supports school improvements such as concrete flooring, walls and roof, and helps to pay for teaching services and supplies. The teachers are certified by Haiti's government, and have elementary school teachers' credentials. On each trip, Greg tries to bring as much second hand clothing and supplies as he

can get on the plane.

There were a number of questions and comments by club members following the presentation. **Lila Tanner** thanked Greg and said he is an admirable role model with incredible dedication. Greg was presented with a wooden pen handmade by **Al Smith** as a token of the club's appreciation.



Above—Brent, John and Joan involved in one of the many committee meetings that go on to take care of the club's business.

At left—President Debbie presents a cheque to Ryan Williams of the Rotaract club in appreciation of their help at the last book sale.

## ATTENDANCE

By Bob Janes

Attendance for January 13th was **48%**

**We missed the following Rotarians:**

Brand, Coutu, Cowling, Currie, Forgani Targhi, Hais, Hammond, Henderson, Knutsson, Lessan, McIver, Parsons, Raedler, Salem, J. Smith, Stetar, Tessier, Wittkofski, Woodward, Woychuck

**Visiting Rotarians:** Ryan Williams, Rotaract

**Guests:** Greg Brady, Moira Jenkins

**Makeups:** Gerrand, D. Anderson, W. Anderson, Ali

**No Birthdays this week**

**Wedding Anniversary:**

Eric Brand & Ashley Nadeau, 4 yrs on Jan 25th

**Club Anniversary:**

Wahid Ali, 13 years on January 23rd

E.& O.E.

## RI VP JENNIFER JONES TO SPEAK AT CENTENNIAL DINNER

District 5020 will celebrate 100 Years of The Rotary Foundation 'doing good in the world' at a special Centennial Celebration Dinner in Victoria B.C. on Saturday, March 18, 2017. The keynote speaker is Rotary International (RI) Vice-President Jennifer Jones.

Jennifer is President and CEO of Media Street Productions Inc. She actively participates on many boards in her community, including as chair of the Board of Governors of the University of Windsor.

She has served Rotary as Rotary International (RI) president representative; RI training leader; committee adviser, member, and vice chair; Rotary public image area and zone coordinator; leaders' seminar trainer; moderator, and district governor.

The dinner is both a celebration and recognition of Rotarians and friends of Rotary who have made new contributions or bequests, in this Rotary year, of \$10,000 US or more to The Rotary Foundation.

Everyone is invited to attend this optional black-tie event to celebrate the centennial of our Rotary Foundation. Tickets are \$95 Cdn. or \$75 and there are only 120 tickets available, so get a table of 10 together and register NOW! Our event will be held at the prestigious Oak Bay Beach Hotel in Victoria B.C., and special rates are available at the hotel for those who require overnight accommodation.

This is the year to make an extra special gift to our Foundation – all donors who have contributed or pledged \$10,000 USD or more to the Foundation since July 1, 2016, up until March 15, 2017, will be

recognized at the dinner as District 5020 Centennial Donors.

Everyone will get a chance to meet and mingle with RI Vice-President Jennifer Jones at the no-host reception, and Centennial Donors will have their picture taken with her individually. There will also be time for a Q and A with Jennifer as we take advantage of having the Vice-President with us - she likes nothing better than to talk to people, answer questions and just generally get to know as many Rotarians as possible.



Our dinner on March 18th will be a joyous occasion with good food, good fellowship, good entertainment and a celebration of the combined efforts of all of us doing good in the world!

by Joan Firkins, Past District Governor (2005-6); Chair Foundation Centennial Committee - See more at:

<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/50092/Stories/ri-vp-jennifer-jones-to-speak-at-centennial-dinner#sthash.ufRsAz36.dpuf>

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**January 27**—Centennial Committee meeting after our regular meeting

**February 11**—Rotary Leadership Training to be held in Nanaimo. More info contact Richard Clarke [137clarke@gmail.com](mailto:137clarke@gmail.com)

**April 21 to 30**—Rotary Used Book Sale, Nanaimo North Town Centre

**May 4, 5, 6, 2017**—Spirit of Rotary DTA & Conference, Suquamish, WA. More details at [www.rotary5020.org](http://www.rotary5020.org)

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

## WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS & MEMBER DUTIES

MEETING DATE	January 20th, 2017	January 27th, 2017	February 3rd, 2017
GREETERS	Douglas Anderson, Bill King, Bob Patrick	Laurie Beinert, Mike Knutsson, Wendy Pratt	Guenter Raedler, Wahid Ali, Donna Hais
CASHIER	Lila Tanner	Lila Tanner	Henry Jiang
SGT-AT-ARMS	Bruce Samson	Wayne Anderson	Dave Hammond
INVOCATION	Susie Stevens—haggis address	Jane Currie	David Woodward
HEAD TABLE	Pres Debbie, Douglas Anderson, Tamara Cameron, Susie Stevens, Bill King, Bob Patrick, Carey McIver	Pres Debbie, Will Chambers, Susie Stephens, Yvan Gosselin, Laurie Beinert, Mike Knutsson	Pres Debbie, Maxine Therrien, Bob Janes, Bruce Gordon, Egon Holzwarth, Dave Connolly
INTRO GUESTS	Carey McIver	Joyce Smith	Guenter Raedler
INTRO SPEAKER	Douglas Anderson	Susie Stephens	Bob Janes
PROGRAM	<b>ROBBIE BURNS DAY</b> <i>Tamara Cameron, piper</i>	<b>Shuguy Project—Shoes for the Homeless ... Will Chambers</b>	<b>Travels to the Arctic on an Icebreaker ... Maxine Therrien</b>
THANK SPEAKER	President Debbie	Wendy Pratt	Dave Connolly