

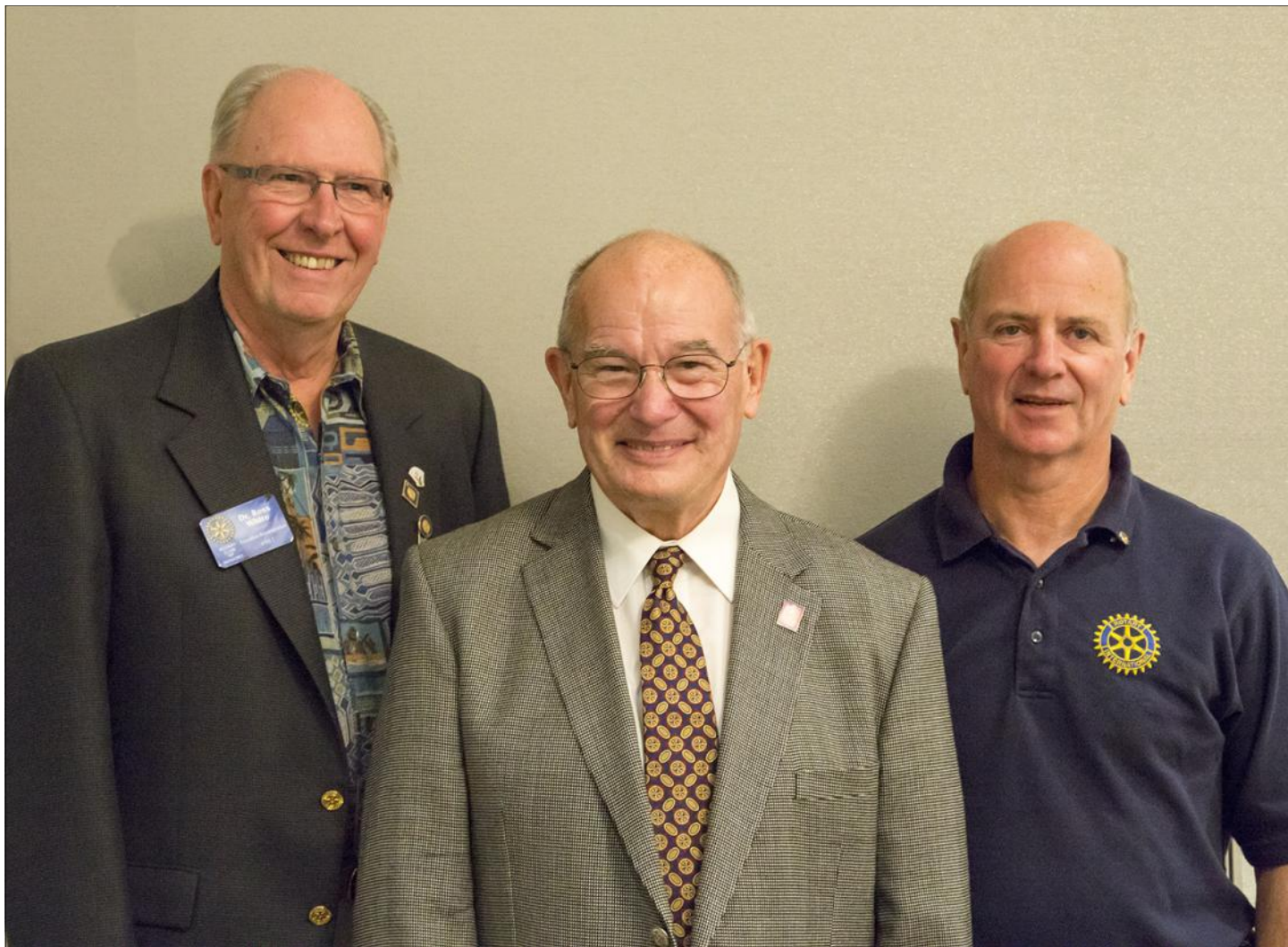
# ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

# “C O G S”

Volume 96, Number 3

4,638th Meeting

Friday, July 11, 2014

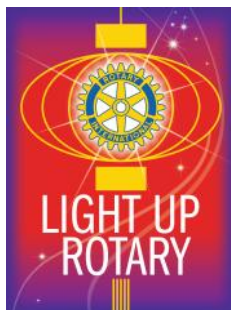


District Governor Michael Proctor of Qualicum Beach is flanked by Past DG Ross White (*who celebrated a milestone birthday this week*) and newly elected President of our Rotary club Bob Wilson.

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

## CLUB OFFICERS 2013-2014

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 July 4th

By Kathy Smith



**President Bob Wilson** reminded us that we are an international district and this week both countries celebrated their birthdays. In light of this, we all sang both *Oh Canada* and the *Star Spangled Banner*.

This was followed by **PDG Ross White** delivering a very thought provoking invocation.

**Wendy Pratt** asked visiting Rotarians to please stand and introduce themselves: guests included the new **District Governor Michael Proctor** from Qualicum, our **Assistant Governor**



Rotaractors Mathieu Ennis and Erin Lee joined us last Friday.

**Barry Sparks** from Lantzville, the Rotaract president **Erin Lee** and Rotaract member

**Mathieu Ennis.**

**Yvan Gosselin** reported that he had no report for the health of the club.

### Announcements:

**Erin Lee**, Rotaract president, announced that they will be having a Burger and Beer night on July 24 at The Queens. Tickets are \$15 and are available from her or any other Rotaract member.



**Susan Gerrand** announced that they are hoping to have a BBQ at Travellers at the end of the month. If interested, please let her know.

**Joan Ryan** announced that the picnic will be on

Aug. 10 at Huddlestone Park; and that she has hard copies of the criminal



Joan reminded us about the required criminal record check

record checks if members do not want to do it online. All members are encouraged to complete a criminal

record check.

**Doug Cowling** reminded the Community grants committee that there would be a meeting today.

**Douglas Anderson** let members know that they could go to Beban Park today to sign up as a volunteer for the BC Summer Games.



**Frank Shoemaker** reported that the International Service Committee has sent \$750 to the Comox Rotary club to assist with the Water project in Honduras and has sent \$2200 to the Victoria Rotary club as

part of a toilets in schools project that will take place in Tenbo, Kenya.

### Sgt-at-Arms Report

**Sgt-at-Arms Wayne Anderson** announced that since it is our Rotary District countries' birthdays and those not wearing a Rotary pin were fined. He plans to fine **Mike Knutsson** next week for Thrifty's winning so many *Best of the City* awards; speaking of Best of the City, in the same paper was an article about **Allen Wilson** who is a geo cacher – dad Bob got fined for living in his son's shadow; **Bruce Gordon** had about 7 Canada flags out for our countries birthday – **Wayne** fined all those who did not fly a flag.

### Happy and Sad bucks:

**Dave Hammond** paid to remember Rotarian **Dick Bond** who used to light firecrackers under the table on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July; **Doug Cowling** paid \$10 happy bucks for good news from his doctors;



**Mike Herold** let us know that **Charles Ramos** has been sailing to Hawaii and has lost 30 pounds; **Ross White** paid to welcome **Michael Proctor** as our District Governor and showed all that his own



Governors jacket still fits him and he is celebrating a major milestone birthday on Tuesday and is happy to be healthy; **Egon Holzwarth** arrived in Canada on July 1, 1955 with \$5 in his pocket – he paid a symbolic \$5 for this memorable event; **Michael Proctor** told a story about Ross encouraging him to become a Governor before he is too old and now Michael has learned that he is older than Ross; **Joan Ryan** attended the final graduation ceremony at Cedar Secondary before it closes and her grand daughter, **Autumn Ryan**, was one of the graduates; **Wayne Anderson** also put in a happy \$10 for getting the same good news that Doug C. received.



### Club Draws

The table stakes were won by **Lucie Gosselin** and the 50/50 draw was won by **Bruce Gordon** who failed to choose the winning card.

## District Governor's Official Visit

Report by Janeane Coutu

Assistant Governor **Barry Sparkes** of the Lantzville Rotary Club introduced our guest speaker, newly installed District Governor **Michael**



District Governor Michael Proctor pays us an official visit

**Proctor.** Mike was born in Vancouver, BC and attended UBC. He was trained in Europe at the British Motor Corporation and then returned to Canada, working for BMC Canada, and then Chrysler in Vancouver and Red Deer before moving to the Peace River with his

own dealership in 1977. He was very involved in his community in the Peace River serving on town council and then as mayor for 12 years. He became an honorary member of the *Rotary Club of Peace River* in 1986 when elected as mayor, and then joined as a member

once he left that office. Mike moved to Vancouver Island in 2003 and joined the *Rotary Club of Qualicum* where he has served as Secretary, Conference Chair and as Assistant Governor. Mike is a multiple PHF, Major Donor and Level 7 Benefactor.

DG Mike stated he would cover the obligatory topics of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and membership, as well as the theme for the Rotary year. But to quote Henry the Eighth's statement to his wives "I won't keep you long". And so the stage was set for a frank and humorous talk.

The **Foundation** is an important part of Rotary providing the fund generating arm that allows the great Projects of Rotary to happen around the World. Closer to home, the *District Matching Grant* funds are directly related to the funds donated by members in our District 5020. We reap benefits of our own giving locally. Mike visited **Ghana** and was impressed with the various projects that have been completed in Sunyani that we and other area clubs sponsored.

He stated that contributions to the *Annual Giving Fund* have declined due to the Polio Plus initiative. He mentioned that a most rewarding event is travelling to another country for an immunization day or to visit a project site – what a great opportunity to see up close the good works of Rotary.

Mike shared his *Rotary Moment* – the moment when you realize that you are a Rotarian (and not just a member of a Rotary club). His was in Ghana where he observed a group of children sitting on the steps with the arms around each other and he realized that is probably all they have in the world – each other.

**Membership** continues to be a hot topic in Rotary. Almost as many members left Rotary last year that joined Rotary – retention is a challenge. Engagement of members seems to be the issue and clubs need to look inside and see if they are doing all they can to make new members feel welcome and involved. His club in Qualicum has developed a questionnaire for new members that they have them fill out at the 8 month mark and it asks some key questions on engagement. Statistics tell us that only 15% of members ever invite

another person to join their Rotary club, "Do the other 85% not have any friends or business associates?" We all do, so why don't we ask people to come as a guest? The worst that can happen is they say no. "Get your ASK in gear!" There are now a variety of membership types, less focus on owners or managers, and far less importance is placed on regular meeting attendance – allow members to participate when they can.

DG Mike touched briefly on **Youth Exchange** which he described as a wonderful experience for young people and Rotary Clubs. It is challenging to find host families and the financial burden can be difficult for a club. Participation has dropped over the years in the District but he encouraged us to press on and continue to support the program.

## LIGHT UP ROTARY

This year's Rotary theme is "*Light up Rotary*". To quote **RI President Gary Huang**, "it is said, there are so many people that need help, there is nothing I can do. That is not the Rotary way. The Rotary way is to light a candle. I light one candle, you light one candle – and so do 1.2 million other Rotarians. Together we can do so much more that we would ever do alone. Together, we can light up the world."

Each club will know their strengths and community needs. Celebrate your club in your community, host a Rotary day to show what Rotary is and what we do, involve your extended Rotary family. Light up Rotary in Nanaimo.

The **District Conference** will be held in **Nanaimo June 19-21, 2015**. Our District has 88 clubs and 5000 members, one of the largest in RI. We have had pressure over the years to split or farm off some clubs to another District

but have always resisted, it would be like breaking up our family. One of our uniqueness' is that we are an International District with members in Canada and the USA.

DG Mike ended with a cute story about progression and a hunting dog that finally gets replaced (like a DG that reaches the top) "because all he does is sit on his arse and bark". But in all seriousness, think about progressing beyond just being a member of your club. Consider positions at the district level and beyond.

**President Bob Wilson** thanked Mike for his enjoyable talk to our members, and also for being a great listener at the prior meeting with the Board members, as was AG Barry Sparkes. Bob enjoyed Mike's epiphany on when he became a Rotarian, it was unique to hear from a visiting DG, and he recognized that Nanaimo can do better in support of Youth Exchange. DG Mike was presented with the gift of a hand crafted pen to commemorate his visit with the Rotary Club of Nanaimo.

**President Bob's** quote for the day "*By working faithfully for 8 hours a day you may eventually get to be boss and work 12 hours a day*".

## MEMBERSHIP PROPOSALS:

Unless written objection is received by the Secretary within seven (7) days from this date, the following applicants will be invited to join the Rotary Club of Nanaimo:

### Moe Lessan

Classification: Commercial Real Estate, DTZ

Proposed by Douglas Anderson

### Dr B K Mehta

Agricultural Officer, Transferring member

Proposed by Douglas Anderson

## ATTENDANCE

By Janeane Coutu

Attendance for **July 4<sup>th</sup>** was **62%**.

### We missed these Rotarians:

Ali, Blackmore, Blinston, Cantelon, Grice, Hais, Heisterman, Hewitt, Janes, King, Knutsson, Lewis, McIver, Patrick, Raedler, Ramos, Walker, Welch

### Visiting Rotarians:

Erin Lee, Rotaract  
Mathieu Ennis, Rotaract  
AG Barry Sparkes, Lantzville  
DG Mike Proctor, Qualicum

### Birthdays:

Sharon Welch, July 16th  
Norm Myden, July 17th

### Club Anniversaries:

Debbie Narver, 3 years on July 15th



## WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS

### Friday, July 11th

GREETERS	Keith McFarlane, Art Vanidour, Lucie Gosselin
CASHIERS	Ed Borisenko
SGT-AT-ARMS	Yvan Gosselin
INVOCATION	Joan Ryan
HEAD TABLE	Pres. Bob, Melanie Craik, Richard Finnegan, Sharon Welch, Norm Myden, McFarlane, Vanidour, Lucie Gosselin
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Ian Williams
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Richard Finnegan
PROGRAM	<b>TRAVEL INSURANCE TIPS</b> <i>Melanie Craik</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Kevin Cantelon

### Friday, July 18th

GREETERS	Susie Walker, Carey McIver, Yvan Gosselin
CASHIERS	Ed Borisenko
SGT-AT-ARMS	Dave Hammond
INVOCATION	Wahid Ali
HEAD TABLE	Pres. Bob, Janeane Coutu, Richard Finnegan, Dave Hammond, Dave Connolly and Debbie Narver
INTRODUCE GUESTS	John Salem
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Dave Hammond
PROGRAM	<b>CLUB RUNNER / COMPUTER TIPS</b> <i>Janeane and Richard</i>
THANK SPEAKER	President Bob

### Friday, July 25th

GREETERS	Keith McFarlane, Art Vanidour, Lucie Gosselin
CASHIERS	Ed Borisenko
SGT-AT-ARMS	John Heisterman
INVOCATION	Douglas Anderson
HEAD TABLE	President Bob, Joan Ryan, Dave Hammond, Art Vanidour, Keith McFarlane, Lucie Gosselin
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Joan Ryan
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Dave Hammond
PROGRAM	<b>R.I. CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA</b> <i>Joan Ryan</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Brenda Grice

## DRUG WARS, FINANCIAL SETBACKS NO MATCH FOR MEXICO CLINIC

About 300 miles south of Ciudad Juarez, one of Mexico's most dangerous cities, is the small town of Guerrero in central Chihuahua. The community is home to the Guerrero Clinic, which has weathered neighboring drug wars and financial setbacks to treat the poor since 1980.

Walter Branson, a member of the Rotary Club of Brazosport, Texas, in the United States, has been involved with the clinic since 1983. Branson says the governor of Chihuahua credits the clinic with providing 60 percent of indigent care in the state.

The drug wars in Mexico, which began in 2006, initially scared away U.S. volunteers. At one point, volunteers to Guerrero dipped to 20 volunteers from a high of 50. And in 2010, the clinic had to be canceled for six months after the U.S. State Department issued a travel ban to Mexico. Despite the cautious approach, Guerrero is not typically viewed to be as dangerous as some of the border towns in Chihuahua like Ciudad Juarez.

"I tell [volunteers] we're not going to take them to an area where we know there's a problem. We don't take that chance," Branson says.

It's taken not only the support of the community in Guerrero, but the cooperation of Rotary clubs in Southeast Texas and in northern Mexico to grow and sustain the clinic.

The clinic opens its doors and offers free health care services as often as six times a year. Optometry is its primary focus with up to 550 cataract surgeries performed each year, but it also offers cleft palate surgeries, skin grafts, cancer screenings, and pap smears. As many as 1,000 patients come through the clinic each week it operates.

Branson says people have been known to travel over 1,200 miles to be treated at the clinic, many because the services are free. He recalls one couple bringing their baby in to repair a cleft palate. "They traveled from Acapulco to Guerrero because they had no money to pay for the surgery," he says.

### FUNDING GAPS

As the clinic has grown so has the cost to keep it running. To help with funding, several clubs in Mexico formed the nonprofit Rotary Foundation of Guerrero (Fundación Rotaria de Guerrero A.C.) in 2003. The foundation won loans through the federal health care program until loans were suspended in 2012.

Celso Reyes, of the Rotary Club of Torreón, says that the clubs in both countries have had to renew their fundraising tactics to recoup lost funding. Additionally, they have applied for various Rotary grants throughout the years; most recently they secured a matching grant sponsored by several clubs in Mexico. The clinic also relies on non-Rotary organizations such as Alcon Labs, a health and eye care company, for donations of medical supplies.

"It's one thing to hear about the work being done," Reyes says. "But [only] until you visit, until you're actually there and you see the profound change made in the lives of the people who get their vision back or have a cleft palate surgery, do you see how wonderful it is. It is a great experience."

Visit the Guerrero Clinic's website and Facebook page  
Learn more about how Rotary is fighting disease

Daniela Garcia - Rotary News - 2JUL-2014 [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**July 16**—Rotary Club of Port Alberni Boots & Rails Lumberjack Wine Steam Train Tour. Tickets available from contact Kenn Whiteman, <parider@shaw.ca>

**July 24**—Rotaract Beer & Burger Nite at The Queens Hotel

**August 10**—Rotary Summer Picnic at Huddlestone Park

**June 19-21, 2015**—Rotary District 5020 Conference, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, Nanaimo, BC



Winner of  
District 5020  
Best Bulletin  
Awards

"COGS" is the official bulletin of the  
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Meeting Reporter: Kathy Smith / Program Reporter: Janeane Coutu / Photos: Ian Williams  
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