

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“C GS”

Volume 98, Number 43

4819th Meeting

Friday, June 22, 2018



STANDING OVATION for Rotarian President Jane Currie for her great leadership in a successful 2017-2018

Club Meeting Friday at 12:00 p.m.
at the Coast Bastion Inn
CLUB OFFICERS 2017-2018

President ----- Jane K. Currie
Vice President ----- Carey McIver
Secretary ----- Bob Janes
Treasurer ----- Lynne Pankratz
President Elect ----- Charles Ramos
Immediate Past President -- Debbie Narver



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

DIRECTORS

Henry Jiang ~ Susie Stephens ~ Moe Lessan
David Woodward ~ Christine Parsons

President Rotary International

Ian H. S. Riseley, Sandringham, Australia

District Governor

Tom Carroll

Assistant Governor

Bev Hilton

Gateway Rotary, Olympia, WA Nanaimo Oceanside

Meeting Recap – Friday June 8, 2018

Submitted by Brent Barootes

Kathy Smith greeted all our members and guests at the door. **Egon Holzwarth** supervised as **Lila Tanner** collected payment for lunch and set up the tickets for table stakes and the 50-50. The lucky winner of the table stakes was **Elizabeth Clay** (daughter of **Geoff Clay** and **Peggy Richardson**). It was so great to see **Elizabeth** at the meeting again and of course so great to see **Peggy Richardson** back who has been away for several weeks sick with a nasty bug. The lucky winner to try and draw the Ace of Spades was none other than **Yvan Gosselin**! He seems to be a regular at the deck of cards now as well! But alas, no pot for Ivan this time around!

President Jane, who was presiding over her last meeting of the year as President of our Club called the meeting to order sharply at 12:30 pm. **Douglas Anderson** stepped in for **Brenda Grice** who was away sick on this day. (Speedy recovery Brenda and looking forward to seeing you back soon.) Douglas delivered two quotes for our inspiration. One by Desmond Tutu who reminded us of our role to make the world a little more hospitable. The second inspiration came from the Dali Lama who reminded us “If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito”!

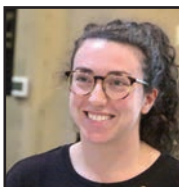
Doug Cowling then welcomed our guests and had their hosts introduce them. Again, this week a plethora of guests

- **Bruce Forward** – Past Club Member and a Guest of President **Jane Currie**
- **Nadia Blanchette** – wife of **Pierre Simard**
- **Elizabeth Clay** – guest of and daughter of **Peggy Richardson** and **Geoff Clay** and winner of the table stakes this week
- **Matt Downs** - Guest of President **Jane Currie**



Bruce Forward Nadia Blanchette Elizabeth Clay Matt Downs

- **Caitlin Mangiacasale** – President of the Rotaract Club of Nanaimo



- **Esther Robson** – Guest of **Lynne Pankratz** and also a lawyer at Mont and Walker Law Firm and a potential new member
- **Rebecca Taylor** – Guest of **President Jane** – newest member of the Nanaimo Hospital Foundation as the lead on the Capital campaign and a possible member as her paperwork has been submitted.
- **Norm Howe** – guest of **Brent Barootes** – local neighbor and avid miniature train aficionado and possible new member



Esther Robson

Rebecca Taylor

Norm Howe

- **Pierre Simard** – the Artistic Director of the Vancouver Island Symphony and opuir speaker for the day

Announcements:

John Salem stepped in for the golfing / oops supposedly working **Dave Hammond** to remind everyone of the Club Golf Tournament following the installation of President Elect **Charles Ramos** this Friday June 22. Tee off is about 3 pm, so lots of time post luncheon to get on your best golfing duds and make it to the tournament at Winchelsea Golf Course.

Keith McFarlane who will be the emcee for the upcoming installation of President Elect Charles Ramos and his Board this Friday reminded everyone that the meeting will start a little earlier this Friday and there will be a cash bar. So, bring your appetite, your thirst and come early!

Past President **Lila Tanner** encouraged all that wanted to partake in the year end bridge wind up to get signed up soon. The evening is being hosted at John Heisterman's home and there will be designated drivers for transporting “players” home.

Lila also brought us a terrific update on the Awards Ceremony she attended on behalf of the Club. She said it was an amazing event and we were showcased well. **Lila** presented the Rotary President's Award to a worthy student, as well she presented an award behalf of

Mathew in his memory. **Trish** and **Zorka Horman** presented the award in remembrance of Past President **Bill Horman**. As well **Brent Fenty** presented the award in memory of his father Past President **Bob Fenty**. **Lila** noted that in all, there were 150 student recipients who received in total over \$300,000 in scholarships and then another \$200,000 were given away elsewhere. That is over \$500,000 is scholarships.

Sargent at Arms

Wahid Ali was the official SAA for the day but had to leave before he was granted the floor. Graciously **Doug Cowling** stepped in to handle the SAA duties as the substitute. Due to limited time the quiz on World Cup Football was postponed and Doug went to quick happy bucks which were all accepted and logged!

President Jane Closing Remarks

President Jane then took some time to let us know that **Debbie Narver** would be stepping in for her this coming Friday for the turnover meeting and President Elect **Charles Ramos**' installation due to the fact that her husband **John** will be admitted to hospital that day for surgery. **Jane** and **John**, our thoughts and prayers are with you both this week leading up to and during the operation. As President Jane noted, Past President **Debbie Narver** will read her transition role, but **President Jane** wanted to take a few minutes at this meeting, her last as President, before **Charles** "takes charge" to read her closing Presidential remarks. It was an emotional reading both as she passed the torch to Charles but also with the weighing of John's situation upon her. Rather than try to precis or recap her remarks I have chosen to include them in full so they are captured for our historical notes. Here is **President Jane's** turnover presidential closing remarks.

Rotary Committee Thank You's - June 15, 2018

*Today is my last time chairing a weekly meeting as your Club President: next Friday June 22, **Charles Ramos** will be installed as President, and the following week, Charles will be in charge!*

I will miss the installation meeting, because my husband is going into hospital that morning.

Past President Debbie Narver

has kindly agreed to stand in for me, reading my remarks to the club and making the President's Award on my behalf. But there is something I absolutely must say in person and will do so now.



My deepest thank you, with respect and admiration to the 14 committee chairs and teams that make the Rotary Club of Nanaimo a true champion. What do I mean by champion?

Our club members are ethical, dynamic & progressive people of all ages, professional & cultural backgrounds,...working together and persevering on three of the biggest goals one can imagine: humanitarian support, world peace and Polio eradication.

This is especially important for some of our *newer* members to hear, because Rotary is so much *more...* than a tasty lunch, interesting talk & exchange of business cards. The reality is that our club's key accomplishments, those that bring *help & hope* into the lives of others, whether locally or internationally, mostly...happen...through committee work.

I will name our 14 Committee teams now, please hold your applause to the end:

1. **Cashiers – Egon Holtzworth, chair.** You are 100% dependable 100% of the time to get here early, sign-in members & guests, & cheerfully take their lunch money. Thank You.



2. **Centennial Project – Dave Hammond, chair.** You and your team are leading us forward to our club's Centennial Year in 2020, with a major gift to Nanaimo: an architecturally designed, environmentally-inspired Peace Garden in Maffeo Sutton Park. Thank You.



3. **COGs – John Shillabeer, chair.** You and your team record our club's living history and create a comprehensive weekly bulletin, including future events and member duties. Honorable mention to **Peggy Richardson**, for updating and *refining* our social media presence on FB. Thank You.



4. **Community Grants – Douglas Cowling, chair.** For many years this team has conducted an open, fair and respected process for receiving

and vetting numerous requests for financial aid, often working with local proponents to confirm the worthiest projects for rotary support & recognition. Thank You.



5. Community Partnerships

– **Debbie Narver, chair.** This is our newest committee, created when **Past President Debbie** recognized a strategic opportunity for hands-on projects in partnership with other service organizations. Already this team *has engineered two great successes*: - the new beds project with Vancouver Island Mental Health Society, supported by District Community Grant funding, and the winter clothing drive with the Unitarian Shelter for homeless in Nanaimo. Thank You.



6. Fellowship – David Woodward, chair.

Fellowship highlights include a Merry Christmas party and classy installation event every year, plus more. Thank you.



7. Foundation – John Salem, chair.

This fall our club achieved a record 10 new Paul Harris awards, with another on the way. This team, with some extra help from **Lila Tanner**, encouraged our club generosity to the Rotary Foundation, for the world Polio eradication campaign and Annual Fund. And part of these gifts comes right back to help *our* service projects, each time we win a Rotary Foundation District or Global Grant. Thank You.



8. Fundraising/book sale – Janeane Coutu, chair – and everyone else here, team!

Our club's fall and spring booksales have become *legendary* in Nanaimo. This fundraiser generates \$200K in cash, allowing us to fund many high-impact local and international aid projects. This is the real power in our club's budget. Thank You.



9. International Service – Norm Myden, chair.

Each year this team qualifies and supports more than a dozen humanitarian aid projects in Africa, Latin America and global disaster relief. I give honorable mention to member **Brent Ba-rootes**, for becoming a *guru* of the Rotary Foundation Global Grant Application process. Thank You.



10. Membership – Douglas Anderson starting chair, Denise Wittkofski, current chair.

Membership cultivation, recruitment and retention is a club priority, as we need stability to function well and growth *to flourish*. The Public Image committee has been merged into this team, to streamline our collaboration with the 5 other local rotary clubs on various Rotary communications & awareness efforts. Thank You.



11. Program – Wendy Pratt, chair.

Our weekly program speakers, covering *a full spectrum of timely topics*, ensure we are *continually learning* and *challenged to explore...* in our personal lives *and* in the world of rotary. Thank You.



12. Roster – Bruce Gordon, beginning chair and now honorary member, Janeane Coutu current chair.

Our pocket-sized membership directory, shared with 5 local rotary clubs, is priceless for finding *who's who, where & when*. Thank You!



13. Sgt. At Arms – Dave Hammond, chair.

This charismatic, entertaining and highly creative fundraising team is always.... *poised to pounce....* for the good of rotary. Funds raised ensure we can offer a complimentary lunch for program speakers & visiting exchange students, and occasionally send a get-well or condolence



Distribution of Funds (\$101,515.22) - Rotary 2017 - 2018

Community Service	
John Barsby Chef's Program	185.00
Cedar Opportunities Co-op Coco	250.00
Nob Hill Community Association	250.00
Departure Bay Scout Troop	500.00
Upper Island Music Festival	500.00
Write to Read	500.00
Nanaimo Unique Kids Organizatio	750.00
Bayview Christmas Lunch	948.11
City of Nan- Cottle Creek Park	1,000.00
Nanaimo Canoe & Kayak Club	1,000.00
Shuguy Ministries	1,000.00
VI Compassion Dogs Society	1,000.00
Altrusa Club of Nanaimo	2,000.00
Loaves and Fishes	2,000.00
Nanaimo-Ladysmith Schools Foundation	6,750.00
Culture Days in The Big House	7,000.00
Nanaimo Hospice Society	10,000.00
VI Mental Health Society	11,660.95
Literacy Central Vancouver Isl	20,000.00
TOTAL	\$67,294.06

World Community Service	
Mid Island World Community Service	850.00
Gateway Rotary Foundation	974.70
Blood Fridges Project	976.75
Care Canada	1,000.00
Mercy Ships of Canada	1,000.00
Shelterbox	1,000.00
Sleeping Children Around World	1,000.00
Vancouver Island Nurses	1,000.00
School in Kathmandue	1,250.00
Project Amigo Canada Society	1,298.50
Etta Projects	1,328.09
Guatemala Project	1,399.72
Latrine Project	1,438.08
Tembo Kenya	2,200.00
Haiti Latrines	2,250.00
Club Rotario Bahia de Jaltemba	2,655.32
Disaster Aid Canada	4,000.00
Ghana Project	8,600.00
TOTAL	\$34,221.16

bouquet on behalf of the club - without having to dip into our publicly raised booksale funds for these discretionary club costs. Thank You.

14. Youth Services & Youth Exchange – Joan

Ryan, chair. This team is focused on a brighter future, by providing important life-learning & leadership development opportunities for young people in our community (through RYLA & Interact), and around the world (through international youth exchange). **Honorable Mention to Joan Ryan**, who is our club's **Youth Protection Officer** and our district's **Youth Services Chair**; and **Honorable Mention to Jason Bradley**, who is our club's **Youth Exchange Officer** and our district's **District Trip Coordinator**! Thank You.



NOW – CHAMPIONS.....give yourselves all a hand!

Jane K. Currie, M.Sc., PHF

17/18 President, Rotary Club of Nanaimo

Program Notes, June 15, 2018 by Denise Wittkofski

Peggy Richardson introduced Vancouver Island Symphony Conductor **Pierre Simard** and his wife **Nadia**, who also performs with the symphony.

Pierre thanked the club for welcoming him here and



asked how many of us had not attended the VI Symphony. To the many raised hands, he cheered, “yay!... which means I am not only talking a converted group but am hoping to convert a few more souls to the symphony’s cause.”

He continued with a brief history of the symphony here in Nanaimo, which existed in the 1920s, it

disappeared, then re-emerged as a community orchestra, the Symphony Society, which had its ups and downs. It was 24 years ago that a group said we should have a symphonic force in town and be serious about it.

Thus the Society approached **Marlin Wolf** to lead the

organization. He insisted that the group be professional, and this is when it became the Vancouver Island Symphony. The goal was to offer classical music to not just VI, but to other cities.

With that, Pierre drew our attention to the VI Symphony brochures on our tables and talked of his pride of being conductor for over 10 years. When he took over it from Marlin it had just seven programs per year. They stayed with that structure for a few years, and has made a breakthrough in the last few years to expand beyond the seven main programs of a classical nature, with a chamber orchestra series, some afternoon series and other special programs.

He stressed the fact that this orchestra is very closely tied to its community and does a lot of outreach, especially with schools. They send the symphony into



schools, like a “mini Rotary club” for children. Being part of this club makes the children feel special and part of important events.

The symphony also maintains a children’s choir that is invited to join the symphony choir as a feature during a performance. And the symphony extends its outreach to a community day in October, offering a “petting zoo of instruments” that allows children to try out an instrument of their choosing.

As for economics, the VI Symphony is a non-profit, separate from the Port Theatre, with its own board of directors. It works in synergy with the Port Theatre, its principle venue. The symphony does extend its outreach throughout the island from Courtney/Campbell River to



Duncan to Victoria.
Vancouver Island Symphony Childrens Choir

Funding sources include ticket sales, which account for about ¼ of their revenue. Another ¼ comes from government funding, including Canada Council, the City of Nanaimo and the BC Arts Council. They also get monies from individual foundations, service clubs and corporate sponsorships.

But because of the size of the organization is a fragile organization that has carried a structural deficit for all of its 24 years of existence.

The part-time personnel include 7-8 in Nanaimo, others from elsewhere. The symphony is just a small part of members’ revenue as most have other jobs in other professions and in music. Most live in Vancouver and Victoria because there is not enough work here.

The Symphony prides itself in innovation – every concert is a special event and has in the past 5 years commissioned 5 new compositions by 5 new composers, which had a great impact on its funding.

In light of that innovation, Pierre presented a portion of one new work featuring Inventions, which he wrote, created electronic tracks and wife Nadia sang and wrote the script. It also featured both the adult and children choirs. Short films augmented the 7 different pieces. His excerpt was “Printing Press,” and most impressive with Nadia’s song, the choirs, audiovisuals and electronic tracks.

Q&A ensued, including:

Kathy: What is the average salary of a musician?

Pierre: What would you guess?

Kathy: For just our own orchestra? \$25-30,000? (to which **Nadia** burst out laughing)

Pierre: Thank you for that because that is the common conception. Someone who attends all shows here in the year will make \$5-6,000 per year. They do it because they have a tremendous sense of belonging to this orchestra. We treat them well beyond the money aspect. We create a respectful work environment; we are very vigorous and strive for excellence.

Bruce Forward: How as individuals can we make sure this stays always in Nanaimo outside of just spending money on a ticket?

Pierre: So you brought me to my closing words: Today, I am not here to ask for money, but asking for this group to be aware that this orchestra is playing an incredible role. We have been striving as this city has been trying to strive ... we see a lot of people coming in ... and this orchestra needs to be the cultural reflection of a town. Because we are so flexible. We also deal with dance, we deal with theatre, we deal with visual arts, we include literature, we go to schools, we do community stuff...so we are a cultural hub. So the answer to your question is "Bring your friends." Be ambassadors. Be proud of the fact that this city boasts an excellent orchestra that is on par with Victoria productions, Vancouver productions. It's quite incredible.

Lila thanked **Pierre** for his inspirational presentation and offered a pen hand-made by a Rotary member.



Lila Tanner presents hand made pen to Pierre Simard

NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL

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

Esther Robson - Sponsor - Lynne Pankratz

Classification: Law

Rebecca Taylor - Sponsor - Jane Currie

Classification: Capital Campaigns
& Special Projects

Stephen Wortley - Sponsor - Jane Currie

Classification: Video Production / Photography

A photograph of a golfer in a blue shirt and khaki pants, wearing a white visor, preparing to hit a golf ball on a green. The background shows a golf course with trees.

Rotary Golf Tournament and Dinner
Fun Food Fellowship!

Winchelsea Golf Course
7655 Harby Rd, Lantzville
June 22, 2018 - \$25
3:00 PM start
BBQ Dinner - \$25
6:00 - 6:30 PM
Steak or Chicken

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Member Birthdays

Mikel Knutsson, Jun 28

Spouse Birthdays

June Shoemaker, Frank Jun 23

Anniversaries

Ian and Barbara Williams, 52 years Jun 25

Club Anniversary

Susie Stephens, 8 years Jun 25

Joan Ryan, 15 years Jun 27

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 22 - Installation - noon Coast Bastion Inn

June 22 - Golf Tournament and dinner -

Winchelsea Golf Course

June 23-27 2018, Rotary International Conference