

# ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

# “C GS”

Volume 96, Number 35

4,670th Meeting

Friday, March 13, 2015



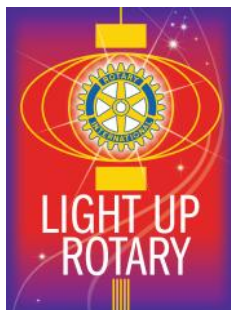
Departure Bay Daffodils in the fog ....

Photo by Ian Williams

**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 March 6th

By Derek Lewis

**President Bob** asked all to rise for the singing of O'Canada. **Bruce Samson** provided the invocation giving thanks for the food we had for lunch, Rotary's service to others, and another beautiful sunny day.

### HARRY CICCONI 1915—2015



**President Bob** asked **Dave Hammond** to say a few words about honorary club member, **Harry Cicconi**, who passed away recently. Harry was born in Vancouver 1915 and earned his

Bachelor of Commerce degree at UBC. His family had relocated to Port Alberni during his youth and Harry worked in their two hotels before joining the RCAF as a navigator during World War II. After the war, Harry worked as a confectionary salesman and that's how he met his wife, **Evelyn**, who worked in her family's business on Commercial Street in Nanaimo, Galford Florists. Harry retired at the age of 44 to manage the family's real estate holdings and wrote a column for the local paper about gardening and the adventures of his daughter, **Rosalind**. Harry is a Paul Harris fellow and was a member of Rotary for 70 years. His hobbies included fishing and wine making. **Dave Hammond** then asked for a moment of silence for the Club to honour our fellow Rotarian **Harry Cicconi**.

**Mike Herold** called for the introduction of visiting Rotarians and guests. **Bruce Gordon** introduced regular guests, **Erin Lee** and **Matthieu Ennis** from the Rotaract Club of Nanaimo. There were four guests at our meeting: **Charles Ramos** introduced **Bas Bakker**, our Rotary exchange student from the Netherlands who is staying with Charles and his family until the end of March; **Bob Fenty** introduced



**Christine Young** from the Nanaimo District Resource Centre; and **Eric Brand** introduced returning guests, **Nick Barrett**, who works with St. John Ambulance, and **Ashley**

**Nadeau**, Eric's fiancée.



**Janeane Coutu** advised the club that **Art Vani-dour** is recovering from a heart attack he suffered in February. After a brief stay in the hospital, he is back at home recovering.

Club anniversaries for **Janeane Coutu**, 23 years; **Lucie Gosselin**, 23 years; and **Frank Shoemaker**, 17 years.

### Announcements:

**Bob Fenty** informed the Club that he was interested in the club supporting a \$6,000 district community grant for the Nanaimo Disability Resource Centre. His guest, **Christine**



**Young**, provided the Club with a brief outline of the services provided by the centre including providing seniors with computer literacy skills and helping seniors with disabilities. The Nanaimo District Resource Centre holds classes at local libraries to teach computer skills relevant to seniors' lives (i.e. online banking, Facebook, email, checking out books from the library, etc.). Each senior is permitted to attend a maximum 12 classes, which run for 2 hours once a week. The proposed \$6,000 would provide services for the seniors computer literacy program for approximately nine months. All programs are free to the end users. Bob was looking for Club volunteers for the program, as there must be Rotary involvement to qualify for the district community grant.

**John Shillabeer** reminded the members of the *Rotary Book Committee* that they would be meeting after regular club meeting on the March 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss the upcoming book sale.



**Matthieu Ennis** invited all members of the Club to the *Rotaract Beer & Burger Night* at the Queens on March 7<sup>th</sup>. The event includes a silent auction and a 50/50 draw to help raise

funds in support of Rotaract.

**President Bob** reminded the Club to sign up for the *Rotary Car Rally* on May

23<sup>rd</sup> at Bowen Park. Entry is \$10 each.

### Sergeant-at-Arms:

The Sergeant-at-Arms this week was **Dave Hammond**, who started off by offering a \$5 reward to the person that found his nametag. The missing name tag was quickly found by our Rotary exchange student, **Bas Bakker**.

Dave next fined **Moe Lessan** \$1 for volunteering his phone services and **Lucie Gosselin** for her discouraging remark about Dave probably not even knowing how to use his phone.

Dave then asked out presenter for the day, **Mayor Bill McKay**, and Councilor **Wendy Pratt** to stand. He mentioned that they had both been elected and in council for 2 months and six days and there was still no new hotel breaking ground, no additional cruise ships stopping in Nanaimo, no fast ferry from downtown Nanaimo to downtown Vancouver, and no resolution for to the Colliery Dams issue. He fined them each \$1 for their slow progress.

Dave then auctions off 4 - \$25 gift certificates to Wine Works as two \$50 lots.

**Charles Ramos**

stepped up with \$40 and **Bob Wilson** chipped in \$35.



### Happy/Sad Bucks:

**John Heisterman** has a happy \$1 that his day out prawning went well and that he'd be able to again provide food for his family.

**Bruce Samson** had a sad \$1 as he remembered Harry Cicconi, who introducing him to Rotary. At one point Harry was Bruce's landlord and did not need Bruce to sign a lease, as he believed that a man should be good to his word and a handshake. Bruce remembers Harry as a true gentleman and exemplary Rotarian.

**Bob Janes** had \$1 to thank **Keith McFarlane** for his good advice on where to stay in Mexico on his recent trip.

**Frank Shoemaker** had a happy \$1 as he reminisced about the antique car

show put on by a Rotary Club in Mexico to support and provide cleft lip surgery for free.



**Charles Ramos** had a notification \$1, letting the Club know that the herring are in.

#### **Draws:**

Table stakes were won by **Suzie Walker**. The Card

Draw was won by **Moe Lessan**, who did not draw the ace of spades, so the pot continues to grow.

## **Nanaimo Report**

*By Joyce Smith*

**Wendy Pratt**, City of Nanaimo Councilor and fellow Rotarian introduced her boss **Mayor Bill McKay**. Wendy, one of the new councilors has worked with the New Mayor for three months. One thing she has noticed in this short period of time is that he is very interested in practicing best practices and looks at all of the alternatives.

Bill moved to Nanaimo in 2004 to work for Harbour links as Captain. His interest in the water started when he was fourteen years old and worked on the protection island ferry as a summer job.

Bill's first three months have been very interesting and certainly a different job from being a councilor. As a councilor he spent his holidays at conferences learning how different people were doing things and he developed



many contacts. Because of this he is amazed at how many people are helping him with his work.

Bill compared the existing council to nine partners in a law firm all with different atti-

tudes and interests. All nine people are independent and are focused on different areas of the community some focused on sports and recreation, some on the poor and others on the economy etc. All members are strong willed and di-

verse and very engaged. He feels his most important job is to create an effective council to manage the city in the next four year. In the next four years this council will be responsible for spending 1.2 billion dollars of our money.

So what have been his priorities during the past three months?

**Core Review:** Bill compared the core review to a little like an engine that keeps getting modifications and eventually you have to strip it down to the basics and rebuild the engine so that everything works together. Some of the questions being asked are 1. What service should the community provide 2? How many resources should we put into it 3 How does the city want to deliver the services etc. Bill gave two examples where the city has outsourced services and it has worked effectively.

**Colliery Dam:** What is the next step? Bill gave the alternatives:

- Naturalize the stream
- Remove and rebuild
- Rebuild the existing structure
- Do nothing?

He discussed the various options and what the council is faced with as far as the regulations and how difficult the decision will be to make. He did mention that the province has an order to give a plan by March 27<sup>th</sup> to them.

**Passenger Ferry:** currently two boats are at Singapore waiting for delivery. The city has applied for a sponsored infrastructure grant since last June, 2014 but to get approval it has to be supported by the Province of BC. The Province has said they will not support it. Finally the council designed a system where passengers will pay \$.25 for each ride for the next 10 years to support infra-

structure however at this point the City does not know whether the Province will approve this even with this incentive.

Two new projects are happening right now at City Hall.

**Transportation:** Seaspan has two brand new truck ferries that will be ready for the third quarter of next year that will be running from the 28 acre facility in Duke Point. The Rail service will stay downtown.

Wednesday morning of this week an inaugural run of Helijet will take place operating from the Cruise Ship Terminals.

The City introduced a 2% hotel Tax which should generate \$400,000 per year this will help fund Economic Development in the City. Most important is Newcastle Island where Chief Wesley wants to build a facility like Tillicum Village in Washington State to draw tourist dollars to the city and act as a draw for the Cruise Ships

**Update on Gordon Street Hotel:** They are not likely to meet the deadline for building code. They are bringing a new design and the city is hoping that they move along by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**New companies into Town:** Tilray and Real Estate Webmasters. Between these two employers they currently employ 330 employees and are continuing to expand.

**Dave Hammond** thanked **Mayor**



## **ATTENDANCE**

*By Bob Janes*

Attendance for February 6<sup>th</sup> was **70%**

### **We missed these Rotarians**

Ali, D. Anderson, W. Anderson, Blinston, Gerrand, Y. Gosselin, Grice, Henderson, King, Raedler, Ross, Ryan, Salem, Tanner, Welch

### **Guests:**

Mayor Bill McKay, Christine Young and Fay Laing

### **Visiting Rotarians:**

Erin Lee, Mathieu Ennis

### **Make ups:**

Joan Ryan

### **Birthdays:**

Joyce Smith, March 18th

### **Wedding Anniversary:**

Derek & Kim Lewis, 7 years, March 13th

### **Club Anniversaries:**

Douglas Anderson, 7 years, March 14  
John Shillabeer, 5 years, March 19

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5020**  
**CONFERENCE—JUNE 19-21**  
**Conference Centre, Nanaimo**





## WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS

### Friday, March 13th

GREETERS	Barbara Blinston, Derek Lewis, Yvan Gosselin
CASHIERS	Norman Myden
SGT-AT-ARMS	John Heisterman
INVOCATION	Ed Borisenko
HEAD TABLE	Pres. Bob, Chris Beaton, Bob Janes, Barbara Blinston, Derek Lewis, Yvan Gosselin, Doug Cowling
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Debbie Narver
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Bob Janes
PROGRAM	<b>NANAIMO ABORIGINAL CENTRE</b> <i>Chris Beaton</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Doug Cowling

### Friday, March 20th

GREETERS	Mike Knutsson, Brenda Grice, Ed Borisenko
CASHIERS	Norman Myden
SGT-AT-ARMS	Dave Hammond
INVOCATION	Frank Shoemaker
HEAD TABLE	President Bob, Kirsty MacDonald, Carmon Henderson, Mike Knutsson, Brenda Grice, Yvan Gosselin
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Lynne Pankratz
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Carmon Henderson
PROGRAM	<b>CENTENNIAL PROJECT POSSIBILITIES</b> <i>Kirsty MacDonald</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Guenter Raedler

### Friday, March 27th

GREETERS	Keith McFarlane, Donna Hais, Kevin Cantelon
CASHIERS	Norman Myden
SGT-AT-ARMS	Bruce Samson
INVOCATION	Joyce Smith
HEAD TABLE	President Bob, Holly Frost, Bill King, Susan Gerrand, Susie Walker, Donna Hais, Kevin Cantelon
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Bob Patrick
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Bill King
PROGRAM	<b>HABITAT HUMANITY VOLUNTEERING</b> <i>Holly Frost</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Susie Walker

## March is Literacy Month

Worldwide, 67 million children have no access to education, and more than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. Our members support educational projects that provide technology, teacher training, vocational training teams, student meal programs, and low-cost textbooks to communities. Rotary International's goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.



Children reading one of the many books donated by our Club to local schools

We support these programs both locally and internationally.

Programs funded by our club are many including

- Funding meal programs in our local schools,
- Funding computer technology for local and international schools.
- Funding the purchase of textbooks for international schools.
- Funding improvements in Sunyani (Gahna) school including a fence and proper toilets which resulted in a significant increase in female students.
- Donating approximately half the net proceeds of our fall book sale to Literacy Central Vancouver Island. This organization promotes, encourages and enhances literacy skills for children, adults, families, and in the workplace, through their ongoing support of coordinators, tutors and mentors.



Books are sorted and loaded onto pallets throughout the year in preparation for our bi-annual book sales

The rate of low literacy skill among those in prison is three times that of the general population. We have supported programs at the local prisons by providing free books from our book sale inventory.

Addressing Literacy reduces poverty, unemployment and isolation, all factors that lead to socially unacceptable behavior.



# "COGS"

Winner of  
District 5020  
Best Bulletin  
Awards

"COGS" is the official bulletin of the  
Rotary Club of Nanaimo, published each  
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