

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“C GS”

Volume 98, Number 36

4812th Meeting

Friday, May 4 2018



Lynn Rollinson and Mary Anne Holby gave a presentation on VIU Nurses to Mexico.

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
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Meeting Notes for April 27, 2018

by Peggy Richardson.

The lovely inspiration offered by **Frank Shoemaker** focused on the recent events in Toronto, and encouraged us to remember the families of the deceased, those injured, the first responders who are bound to have been also traumatized by the event, the outstanding work of the arresting police officer, and the bystanders. He also encouraged us to recognize the significance of the Cosby decision in the US, all of which are an indicator of the health of our communities. He then encouraged us to dine with gratitude, speak with respect, and act with love.

President Jane called for the introduction of guests: **Charles** responded, and called for guests and visiting Rotarians. **Jason Bradley** introduced **Matthew**

Dunstan whose son **Hayden** is going on exchange to Germany. **John Salem** introduced his friend **Viraat Thammam**, who is ex-military.

Viraat unfortunately had to retire because he's waiting for a kidney, but incredibly, he spent a year traveling around the world by bicycle to raise awareness for kidney disease.



Matthew Dunstan Viraat Thammam



Ross White introduced his son **Jeff**, who until recently has worked and lived on the mainland, and is now staying with Ross here in Nanaimo. But recently Geoff made a surprise announcement: that he's retiring and moving to Belize! Ross just wants to know how much longer he's living with his parents.



Debbie Racher

Brooklyn Barootes

Wendy introduced repeat visitor **Debbie Racher**, visiting up in the Nanaimo area for weekend.

Bob Janes introduced Brent's daughter **Brooklyn**, also a repeat visitor. She appears to have grown a few inches since her last visit, and at only 12, she's still got many inches to go!

Announcements were called for by **President Jane**, who took the opportunity to remind everyone that next Friday the Coast Hotel is full for a conference, so we're meeting at Eden Gardens. This announcement is being repeated because in the past, we had people who were not aware and accidentally came to the wrong location.

Denise Wittkowsky approached the microphone and asked if everyone who is coming to Eden Gardens next week can please RSVP right away. Denise suggested that we should arrive early, at 11:30, just in case for parking. Lunch will be served promptly at noon.

Frank Shoemaker then stepped up to remind us that **Lila** has started collecting for Rotary Foundation, and she asked Frank to find a video to illustrate what happens to funds given to foundation. A great example is the Guatemala literacy project, supported by us for 10



Some of the kids helped by the Guatemala Literacy Project.

years. We are 1 of about 200 clubs that contribute to it. Clubs contribute about \$200k, district about \$140k, and Government of Canada another \$40k, plus more. All together, about \$700k is contributed to this project. In Feb 2019, there is an opportunity for any of us to go to Guatemala to participate in the activities, and we will hear more about this in future. The 2.5 min video presented by Frank shows how this project has impacted the Community and school in the area. Read more about the project at GuatemalaLiteracy.org Frank has more details and the annual report for those who are interested.

Jane thanked **Frank**, and announced some upcoming happy events, such as **Brent Stetar** has a birthday coming up on April 29th, **Holly** also on May 2nd, and **Keith McFarlane** May 4th.

Janeane Coutu reported on the April 2018 book Sale held at Nanaimo North Town Centre.

APRIL 2018 BOOK SALE A HUGE SUCCESS!

We've come a long way in 10 years.

Janeane Coutu, Chairperson of the Book Sale Committee reported on the book sale results! The organizing for this sale began with the conclusion of the fall 2017 sale. Rotarians began the job of collecting, sorting and storing books which occurred every day but Christmas. The book sale began with the setup on Thursday evening April 12. Over 100,000 books were put on display. The sale ran from Friday April 13th to Sunday April 22nd. We had a total of 85 unique volunteers that filled 260 shifts. Seventy three percent of the shifts were filled by Rotarians from our own club!!! (This



Lila Tanner and Susie Stephens sorting books on February 10, 2018
made Janeane particularly happy.)

We sold about 56,000 books with total sales of over \$92,000!!!! This is a new record for the spring sale, job well done!



Just some of the 85 volunteers that made this Book Sale a success



Customers gathering at one of the entrances to the book sale taken at 7:58 AM April 13, 2018



Customers eagerly searching for books to purchase.



One of the many Teachers who bought buggy loads of books.

Many customers said that they had attended many book-sales and this was the best they had seen. Incredibly, 17 people showed up for tear-down after the sale closed a 5 PM. The job was so well-prepared and so well-executed that they were walking out to cars by 6:10, and beer was being consumed by 6:30.

On all points, that's a

record! This year, 21 out of 36 schools used vouchers which is excellent.

Congrats to us! Other shifts were filled by spouses of Rotarians in this club, Altrusa, Rotarians from other clubs, and volunteers from Literacy Nanaimo.

Janeane emphasized a **HUGE thanks to Nanaimo North Town Centre** for hosting us again at \$0 cost. They are an incredible supporter, and Janeane emphasized that we could all choose to use merchants in that mall, as we could not do this without them.

A few more thank yous: **Lucy Gosselin** for organizing the bankers and cashiers, **Rudy and Brent** who are there virtually every single day of the year, except Christmas. Another point from **Janeane** is that our donations *doubled* as soon as signs went up. The book donation bin was emptied up to twice a day, plus more stacked outside the bins, proving that our signage works!!! Setup for signs was done by **Bob Wilson, Charles Ramos, Doug Cowling, Brent Stetar, and Susan** in Yellowpoint. Thanks also to our regular sorters; **Ed Borisenko, Bruce Gordon, Susie Stephens, Doug Tanner, John Shillabeer, Al Smith**, and last but not least, to "**Costco Mike**" for sorting our sci-fi! And neighbours **Lee and Jan** who now come all the time! To those who were able to adopt a category and do the micro-sorting in the big room, thank you!

Regarding book sale, what now? Books are continually donated for our sale. We're going to keep sorting every day 9am to 1130! We need to come back now



Ed Borisenko and Bruce Gordon helped Bob Wilson (inside Bob's Van) unload books on Wednesday, May 2, 2018

and look at what's left, as we're donating some books that are worn out, and this needs to be done in the next couple of weeks! Thanks to everyone who participated, we are obviously super-pleased with the results!

Jane then returned to the microphone, and as you may have already heard, she pointed out that this is now an

award-winning book sale, the recipient of the District Literacy Award. This will be presented at the DTA.

Janeane added this is our 10th year - and more than our 10th sale - and we have now hit over a **million dollars** in sales in all years combined. **MILESTONE ACHIEVED!**

Sgt at Arms Report

Bruce greeted all here, and began by stating, "I'm not fining anyone today!", but invited anyone to come up and confess their crimes. Nobody volunteered - which is not a surprise considering the Members we are lucky to have in this club! Bruce then asserted that it was too beautiful a day to waste, so he launched right into happy and sad dollars.

Joan began by offering \$10, but it's not her \$10. (?!?!?) Her story was that at PETS, she asked **Charles** to pick up something for Interact, but when he asked Joan to pay it back, he didn't include exchange. So, this \$10 represents the exchange difference which was donated to the club. How honest of you, Joan.



Joan Ryan

Also from **Joan** was a happy twonie, because on the day of the Toronto van attack, Joan phoned her "adopted" Nigerian family, now living in Toronto. She is their "Canadian Grandma". She was happy to learn they were all OK, but discovered that incident was 1 block from where the mother Florence works. Thank goodness for small graces.



Joyce Smith and Keith McFarlane

Joyce offered a happy \$3, she is off for three months to Europe! She is going to Holland and France. She also had a second happy \$3, because they are doing a home exchange. As part of the exchange, in preparation for the other couple to stay here in Nanaimo, they have to fix everything at their house. For 20 years, they have had a broken

exterior light fixture, and it has been "repaired" with duct tape. The lamp finally got fixed this week.

Brent's daughter **Brooklyn** had a happy \$2 to thank those who bought chocolate and gave other donations to support her hockey team. **Brent** also gave a second happy buck as a round of recognition for **Janeane** and all her work on the book sale.

Guenter put in a happy dollar, as it's the first time he's



Guenter Raedler and Pat Cox

beat **Janeane** to be the last to arrive at the meeting. (Is there a special recognition for being the last to arrive? If not, perhaps we should invent one! Let's make

it a special duty at the following meeting.)

Doug Cowling had a happy buck because Keith is not



coming to Eden gardens because his 39th wedding anniversary. **Keith** responded to say his wife is happy, and he just participates. He also repeated what a friend in the RCMP had told him: in Canada, you get less time for murder. This reporter

wonders if there might be one of those in the near future, to retaliate for that remark.



Guenter Radler won the card draw but missed the Ace of Spades for half the pot.



We had a great turnout resulting in several overflow tables being set up by the greeters table

Program Notes for April 27, 2018

By Joyce Smith

Program -VIU nurses to Mexico

David Woodward introduced the speakers for today who are two of his fellow co-workers at VIU.

Lynn Rollinson worked for VIU for 25 years and has held many facility positions in the HAS, LPN and RN programs. Lynn completed her PhD in 2015 and she is pursuing research pertaining to student learning and international learning. **Mary Anne Holby** has been on faculty of the BSN program at VIU since January 2003. She has travelled extensively in Europe and Asia. She has taught across all levels of the BSN program and has a passion for nursing practice with students.



Lynn Rollinson

Mary Ann explained the partnership that Nursing department of VIU has with the Non-profit organization **Apoyo a Gente Emprendedora** in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico. Apoyo helps poorer people in Mexico either start



Mary Anne Holby

their own business or strengthen existing ones to help break the cycle of poverty in this Mexican community. Apoyo was started by **Ezequiel Mojicac** who came from poverty himself and feels very passionate about trying to keep the Mexican families together by creating successful businesses in Mexico, instead of the fathers and children having to leave to work in El Norte (USA). It has made over 200 loans and has been in existence since 2004. The organization began to realize that the success of breaking the poverty cycle was not just about building successful businesses but about many other contributing factors and has developed many innovative programs.

The Nursing department of VIU joined Apoyo in a working partnership about three years ago, to improve health education particularly around sex education. Nursing students gain work experience outside of Canada while helping to promote health education in the community as part of one of the Apoyo's programs. In San Miguel for the past two years the partnership has

evolved. In the first year (2016) fourteen third year nursing students went and they primarily involved with health promotion and education with the adolescents in the area. It was a time of relationship building and sharing of life stories and understanding what they had in common. In the second year, in 2017 nine fourth year nursing students went and did a lot of the same presentations but also where in involved in measuring the effect of the program.

When **Lynn** and **Mary Ann** went back they amazed at the change in the community that they worked at the year before. For example, there was a Mexican lady who had 14 children (11 of them boys that had gone to work in the US whom she had not seen for 17 years and as well as grandchildren who she had never seen) who at age 70 opened up a bakery with the help of Apoyo and has been very active in the community. One of the Apoyo programs --the moms' program-- involves sustainable food supply and they have been teaching the women how to garden. Where the people lived is very rustic and Apoyo connected them with federal and state funding as well as Rotary funding to improve the buildings they lived in and improve the water systems and sanitation. Another Apoyo program is involved with children, teaching them to dream bigger and how to give back into the community.

The Nursing department from VIU has been involved primarily in the moms' program and health education. For example, they did an exercise with a number of balloons to illustrate the difficulty of substance abuse and juggling other areas of their life. Based on what they learned from the two visits, they realize there are big visions for the community. The students participated in an evaluation exercise involving the people of the community which helped shape future goals for the community and one of the goals was to bring health services into the community. They want improvements in the current services, perhaps by bringing in a mobile health clinic. Apoyo is looking at what would be the appropriate model and coming up with long and short-term plans.

The students that are coming in San Miguel this November will be involved in training community health workers as part of the short-term plans of bring health services into the community. They will be involved in training the trainer on basic medical services, in addition part of the nurses' assignment is researching how to apply and implement the long-term vision of permanent health care. Mary Ann mentioned that are many other programs that are being initiated by Apoyo and VIU could partner with them in different areas such as Child

and Youth Care. **Mary Ann** said the programs is growing by leaps and bounds.

One of the projects the students did was a video that explained what they got out of the trip to Mexico and what it means to them, for many it has a big transformation.

View the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7qHLMX1Ml0&t=216s>

Some of the nurses have taken volunteer jobs in the country they come from. The impact to the student has been significant after seeing poverty, poor water, lack of education and comparing it to what they have at home, they realize how little it takes to make changes for the best. About twelve students a year are selected each year and the students have to pay for their own travel costs. But as Mary Ann and Lynn both said it is not just a trip but an education on helping others.

Susie Stephens thanked the speakers and as a retired nurse she understands how important her practicum was and how it changed her life.



Image from the student video



Speakers were presented with pens by Susie Stephens

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Member Birthday

Currie, Jane May 09

Spouse Birthday

Knutsson, Catherine, Mikel May 10

Anniversaries

Keith and WendyMcFarlane, May 04 39 years

Norman and Barbara Myden, May 10 49 years

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 4 - Meeting at Eden Gardens

May 4-5 2018, District Training and Conference

June 22 - Installation - noon Coast Bastion Inn

June 23-27 2018, Rotary International Conference

May 15 - Rotary Board Meeting 5:30 PM

Charles Ramos Office, #206 - 335 Wesley St.

Incoming Board Members encouraged to attend.

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS AND MEMBER DUTIES

Meeting Date	May 4, 2018	May 11, 2018	May 18, 2018
Greeters	Pat Cox, Carlene Shaw, Dave Connolly, Denise Wittkofski	Kathy Smith, Mikel Knutsson	Bob Wilson, Denise Wittkofski
Cashier	Egon Holzwarth	Egon Holzwarth	Egon Holzwarth
Sgt at Arms	Dave Hammond	Joan Ryan	Wayne Anderson
Inspiration	Yvan Gosselin	Peggy Richardson	Brenda Grice
Head Table	Pres. Jane, Toni Wheeler, Janeane Coutu	Pres. Jane, Wendy Pratt, Michelle Hillier	Pres. Jane, Michelle Hillier, Carlene Shaw
Intro Guests	Ross White	Brenda Grice	Barbara Blinston
Intro Speaker	Dave Connolly	Wendy Pratt	Carlene Shaw
Program	EDEN GARDENS Toni Wheeler	Building Community thru Art Julie Bevan	LITERACY Central Vancouver Island - Michelle Hillier
Thank Speaker	Denise Wittkofski	Jane Currie	John Shillabeer