

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“COGS”



Volume 96, Number 14

4,697th Meeting

Friday, October 2nd, 2015



B.C. Ferry passes under the Blood Moon (a total eclipse of a supermoon) emerging from low clouds on September 27, 2015. The next blood moon will occur on October 8, 2033

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

CLUB OFFICERS 2015-2016

President ----- Lila Tanner
Vice President ----- Janeane Coutu
Secretary ----- Bob Janes
Treasurer ----- Lynne Pankratz
President Elect ----- Debbie Narver
Immediate Past President ----- Bob Wilson



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

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Meeting Notes from September 25th

by Kathy Smith

Lila brought the meeting to order with O Canada and then Susie Walker asked us to think about change as she delivered a thoughtful invocation.

John Salem had an easy task of introducing guests – there were none. This was followed by mention of Bob Wilson's birthday, some wedding anniversaries and club anniversaries that included John H. at 20 years and Art V. at 48 years.

Announcements: Lila has met with the Coast Bastion Hotel and they have agreed to give us a small room, near the lobby, while they continue to repair the damage from the flood. Although the space will be small, she is sure that we can cope. Lila presented Janeane with the Rotary Rock star of the month award for all she does for our club.



Lila, the rock and Janeane

Ian Williams spoke of the upcoming book sale and asked all the sign up for shifts. Go to our Rotary webpage and click on events and then sign up.

Sgt. @ Arms: Dave Hammond didn't have many people to pick on today. He started by fining himself for once again leaving his name badge in his car but then had no money to pay the fine! HMMMM – how does that work? He then fined Wayne Anderson for his beard. This was followed by a quiz about the fall equinox. Most tables did very poorly – the smartest person in the room today seemed to be Wayne Anderson who knew that the Poem – To Autumn – was written by John Keats.



Happy and Sad bucks included Bruce Gordon thanking Brent for the work he did for Barb in their condo and Janeane acknowledging how great it is to be back at the Coast Bastion having a great lunch!

Barb Blinston won the table stakes and Bruce Gordon tried his hand at the



card draw but failed to draw the Ace of spades!



Dark Side of the Rainbow A Recent History of South Africa

Reported by Kathy Smith

Our speakers today were Neil and Caren Powell. Ross White introduced them letting us know that they lived in South Africa for 40 years and that Caren has written a book about the revolution.



Caren and Neil co-presented. They were both born in South Africa and lived there for 40 years. They have now lived in the Victoria area for over 20 years but still have family in

South Africa. Caren wrote a book, *The Dark Side of the Rainbow*, about what their life was like when they were there. The book is loosely based on true stories.

Growing up in Africa, apartheid was all they knew. It was "normal" for them to go to white schools, white only beaches and white only recreation facilities. As children they didn't know any differently. As adults, they owned a farm and they did what they could for their staff and the children. The staff were well taken care of, paid, given adequate housing and the children were sent to school. Things were happy on the farm until.....

Terrorism started. There was huge anger between the Dutch and English descents. And there were major issues between the blacks and the whites. Caren and Neil have vivid memories of relatives getting car jacked and almost raped, neighbours being murdered and the need for security guards, barbed wire fences, guard dogs and firearms.

Then Nelson Mandela was elected. There was a strange calm after this. South Africa had electricity, low cost housing and a country that was proud of itself. But Nelson Mandela was not in power long.



The new president, Jacob Zuma, has not been a democratic leader. There is major corruption among the government officials and the police. Zuma has been accused of corruption, fraud and racketeering! At one point he was accused of rape – when asked if he was afraid of contracting HIV/AIDs, he commented that he couldn't catch it because he takes a shower after! Zuma is spending money exponentially more than any other president.

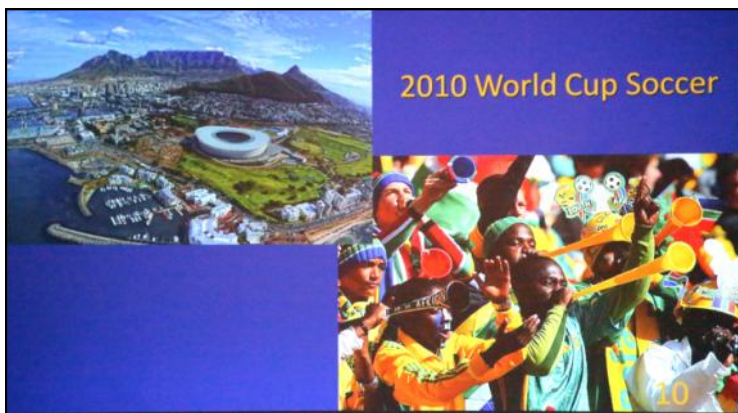
Caren and Neil told us of lack of water when they were there recently. They had to use water from the swimming pool to flush the toilets! Their daughter talks about having candlelight dinners – sounds romantic but it is due to no electricity much of the time.



Police response to a inadvertent false alarm

They talked of near fatal issues at the nuclear power plant and a near meltdown at a steam plant facility. The infrastructure in South Africa is in peril.

South Africa produces gold, cotton, farming, wine, automobiles (all right hand drive cars are made here), and coal. They have also produced the G6 RHINO – a self propelled artillery gun – the Hawk, The Cheetah and the Rooivalk helicopter. They have gorgeous resorts and are an amazing holiday destination. And they



hosted the 2010 World Cup Soccer. This is the South Africa that many of us hear about. A country that has it all – or should have it all!

What we don't hear about is the corruption that continues. The parliament seems to be a joke with fists fights breaking out on a regular basis. There is 25-40% unemployment and fewer than 36% of children finish school. Without an education and without job prospects, many turn to crime. Police cannot be trusted. Workers who protest for their rights, better housing and decent pay are killed. Caren and Neil showed us a country that is in a disastrous state!

The country needs a new leader who walks in Nelson Mandela's foot steps. President Zuma and the government have put the country in a state that is worse than during apartheid. Our government might want to question what the ANC are doing for the people of South Africa.

Carey McIvor thanked the speaker with some interesting personal comments. From the work she did in Ghana, Carey has done a great deal of research on South Africa. She has always wanted to travel to this beautiful part of the world and can do so as it is legal to be gay in S. Africa. Carey could be arrested for being gay in Ghana. We are so lucky to live in Canada!



For a copy of Caren Powell's book – The Dark side of the Rainbow – please go to Amazon or other online sources.

ATTENDANCE

By Bob Janes

Attendance for September 25th was **40%**

We missed the following Rotarians

Ali, D. Anderson, Borisenko, Cantelon, Cowling, Fenty, Finnegan, Y. Gosselin, Grice, Hais, Heisterman, Henderson, King, Lessan, Lewis, Myden, Narver, Patrick, Pratt, Raedler, Ross, Ryan, Samson, Shillabeer, Al Smith, J. Smith.

Visiting Rotarians: None

Guests: Caren and Neil Powell

Makeups: Gerrand

Birthdays:

Lila Tanner on October 4th

Spouse Birthdays:

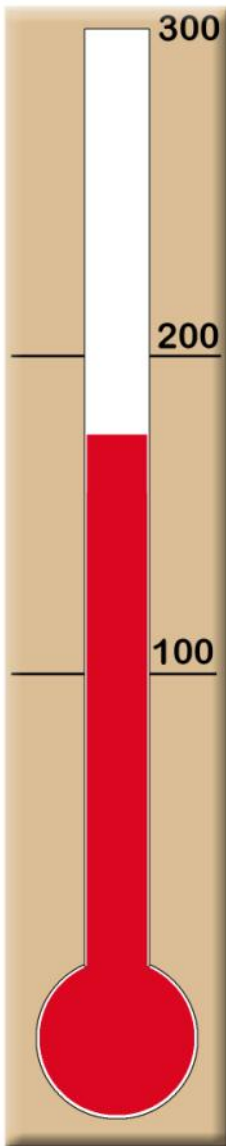
Marie King [Bill] on October 2nd

Club Anniversaries

Guenter Raedler, 12 years on October 3rd

Sharon Welch, 5 years on October 8th

2 weeks to the Book Sale—Volunteers needed



124 out of **300** shifts still need to be filled. Please help maximize Our Club's ability to improve the lives of many in Nanaimo and surrounding areas.

Cliff Dochterman's theme for his Presidential Year 1992-93 was

"Real Happiness is Helping Others"

Paul Harris Said-

"What a privilege it is to be linked with one hundred and fifty thousand other men of more than eighty nations, differing in languages, customs, and historical back' grounds; and yet alike in one respect—all businessmen, held together by a common ideal applicable to all phases of life, the ideal which is popularly known as the ideal of service."

(Paul Harris, *This Rotarian Age*, page 80)

In the more than 70 years since Paul Harris wrote these words, some things have changed, while others have remained the same. Rotary membership has grown by 800% in those 70+ years, and now both men and women share that common ideal. But the ideal of service, which is the core of Rotary, has not changed.

Reprinted by permission of the Rotary Global History from the Newsletter Nuggets Section of "What Paul Harris Wrote" (www.whatpaulharriswrote.org).

24 October will be World Polio Day

24 October will be World Polio Day and Rotarians, clubs and districts around the world will come together to fight polio.

To mark the occasion there will be a live stream event the preceding day, Friday October 23 at 3:30 PM PDT. This is the third year for the live stream event. To add the event to your calendar go to: Add the streamed event to your calendar.

Tune in to the event to receive a global update on the current status of polio eradication, hear inspiring stories, and learn how Rotary is making history. The event will be streamed live at livestream.com/rotaryinternational/worldpolioday.



Photo courtesy of Rotary.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 23—Oktoberfest in Nanaimo Armory Drill Hall, 709 Nanaimo Lakes Rd. Hosts: Daybreak Rotary. Tickets \$31.50—1 beer stein, 1 beverage, 1 pretzel, 2 great bands.

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS & MEMBER DUTIES

MEETING DATE	Friday, October 2nd	Friday, October 9th	Friday, October 16th
GREETERS	Ed Borisenko, Joan Ryan, Moe Lessan	Eric Brand, John Salem, Derek Lewis	NO REGULAR MEETING ♥ FIRST DAY OF BOOK SALE
CASHIER	Henry Jiang	Henry Jiang	
SGT-AT-ARMS	John Heisterman	Joan Ryan	
INVOCATION	Joan Ryan	Brenda Grice	
HEAD TABLE	President Lila, Moe Lessan, Frank Shoemaker, Joan Ryan, Ed Borisenko	President Lila, Leanne Kristofferson, Yvan Gosselin, Eric Brand, John Salem, Derek Lewis, Henry Jiang	NO REGULAR MEETING ♥ FIRST DAY OF BOOK SALE
INTRO GUESTS	Douglas Anderson	Barb Blinston	
INTRO SPEAKER	Frank Shoemaker	Yvan Gosselin	
PROGRAM	Memories: Growing up in Iran <i>Moe Lessan</i>	Storybook Dads: Guthrie House <i>Leanne Kristofferson</i>	
THANK SPEAKER	Dave Connolly	Wendy Pratt	