

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

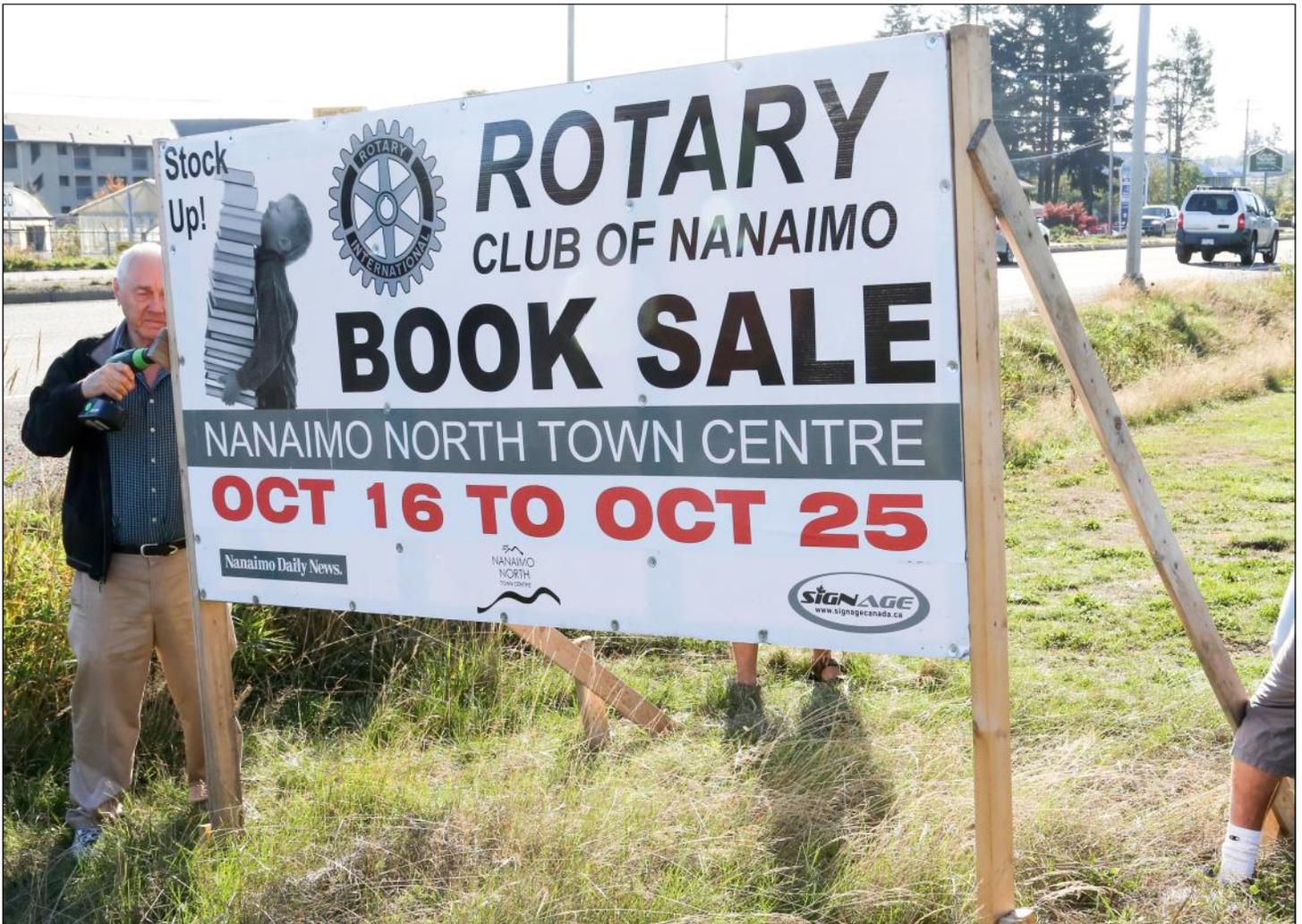
“COGS”



Volume 96, Number 15

4,698th Meeting

Friday, October 9, 2015



Rotary Book Sale signs go up as the sale nears. Assisting Rotarian Dave Connelly in this endeavour were: Bob Wilson, Brent Stetar and Doug Cowling. - *Photo by Ian Williams*

**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**

DIRECTORS

Bob Patrick Bob Fenty Bruce Samson
Norm Myden Kevin Cantelon Charles Ramos

President Rotary International

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka

District Governor

Rose Bowman
Chehalis Rotary, Washington

Assistant Governor

Bev Hilton
Nanaimo Oceanside

Meeting Notes from October 2nd

by Kathy Smith

We all squeezed into our new room, had a wonderful meal and then **President Lila** brought the meeting to order with Oh Canada. This was followed by **Wendy Pratt** having us think about how blessed we are to live where we do and be able to help others in our community and the world.

We had four guests today – all of which might be interested in joining Rotary. **Ross White** introduced **Debbie** and

Tim Dickson who showed interest in learning more about Rotary at our last book sale. He also introduced **Christine Parsons** who works for CARE Canada. Then **Moe** introduced **Vina Chen** who owns a spa in downtown Nanaimo. We hope that

all enjoyed the meeting and continue to consider joining our club.

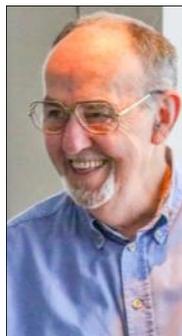
For the birthdays, **President Lila** was able to announce her upcoming birthday along with a reminder to **Bill King** that his wife's birthday is coming up. **Guenter R.** and **Sharon W.** both have club anniversaries this week.

Announcements:

Doug Cowling thought we should all sing Happy Birthday to **President Lila**. He beamed as this was probably the worst rendition our club has ever done! Doug then announced that at any time if any club member has questions or comments about any decisions by the community grant committee that we should all feel comfortable in asking. Doug also informed us that on Sunday, Oct 4, **Richard Finnegan** would be at the Shaw TV telethon for the Child Development Centre where he would present our \$5000 cheque to this worthy organization.

Notice of Motion:

Bob Fenty presented a notice of motion with a special request that we vote on it next week. The Notice is to approve up to \$4000 for our club to purchase two AED devices – one for *Nanaimo North Town Centre* and the other for *Rotary Bowl*. Bob also thanked **Brent S.**, **Dave C.** and **Bob W.** for their help in putting up all the signs for the upcoming book sale.



John S. reminded us that there are two weeks until the start of the book sale and we need more people to sign up for shifts. He appreciates all those who are able to help.

Sgt-at-Arms Report:

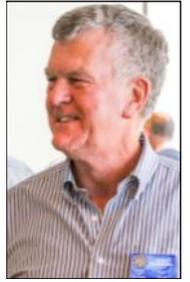
Sgt. @ Arms. – **John H.** was in such a great mood that he didn't want to fine anyone! He had some M&M's to present to **Brent S.** and **Bruce S.** for stepping up and helping arrange

more seating for our room. **Bright Zhang**, our newest member, had an apology dollar for being inducted and then immediately missing two meetings. **Mike H.** had \$5 to thank **Joyce S.** and **Kathy S.** for stepping in to do notes when he was out of town. **Wendy P.** had happy bucks for the guest today and sad bucks as she will miss the next two weeks due

to holidays in Halifax and Cape Breton. **Wahid** had some guilty bucks for having missed most of the last 1 1/2 yrs. but has now paid up and is an upstanding member again! **Douglas A.** had happy bucks for the great holiday he and **Brenda** has in the Pacific Northwest where they had no time constraints due to his recent retirement. **Charles** was happy to see the blood moon as he waited for 5 hours to get through Dodds Narrows on his sailboat. **Moe** was paying it forward and giving money for whatever he might do. **President Lila** has happy bucks for the great book that she is reading from our presenters last week – *The Dark Side of the Rainbow*. **Doug C.** had sad bucks as we are missing **Wayne A.** who is having radiation treatments in Victoria. **Debbie Narver** had a great trip to Canmore where she visited her son. **Bruce S.** had lots to be happy about – first to have been on the causeway to Cape Breton when it opened and then to thank the stranger who gave \$50 at the drive thru at McDonalds to pay for other peoples breakfasts – paying it forward!.

Club Draws

The table stakes were won by **Ross White** and the birthday girl, **President Lila**, missed the card draw by one card!



Top: Mike Herold pays a 'thank you' buck, **Middle:** Charles pays a 'happy' buck, and **Bottom:** PE Debbie Narver pays a 'great trip' buck.



Iranian by birth, Canadian by choice

Reported by Mike Herold

Our guest speaker today was club member **Moe Lessan** who was going to talk about his birth country, Iran. Moe was introduced by **Bruce Samson** who said that he listened to Moe's "Baby Talk" about a year ago and was fascinated by his previous talk and was looking forward to today's talk. Bruce said that after his 37 years in the military he can understand the fear people have of Middle Eastern countries but that Moe was a true example of the many good people that are from those countries.



Moe Lessan

Moe started his talk by saying more people are afraid of public speaking than death but he did not seem that way inclined and he has been involved in many media training courses in North America.

He said that it is very easy for North Americans to confuse Middle Eastern countries and traditions. Countries like Iran and Iraq are totally different in culture, politics and religion and pointed out the following example. People think curry is an Indian food where in reality it is a British food developed when Britain invaded India.

Iran borders many countries including Iraq, Turkey, Russia, Pakistan, India and Afghanistan.

Iran is the modern name for the country that was previously named Persia. Over 2500 years ago, Persia had a Charter of Rights and Freedom.



Iran is not an Islamic Country and the Country's main religion is Shia Muslim, with Sunni Muslims, Zoroastrians, Christians and Jews making up the difference.

Moe left Iran when he was 18 years old and travelled with others across the desert in search of a new start and came to Canada with a Humanitarian Status. Moe says that he is Iranian by birth but Canadian by choice and denounced his Iranian Citizenship in 1992.

Moe said that Iran is not an oil rich country but is very rich in minerals including uranium, copper, gold and you can get temperature fluctuations from middle of summer temperatures to minus 10 degrees within a two hour drive. Iran also borders the Caspian Sea which produces great caviar.

The 1988 census showed Iran with a Population of 53.25 million people which today is about 70 million. The capital

Tehran has 12 million people.

Iran is an Islamic Republic on the Persian Gulf and has many historic landmarks including the 435m high Milard Tower with many ruins dating to the 6th century. The Golestan Palace in Tehran was the seat of the Qajar Dynasty from 1794-1925.

Dave Connolly thanked Moe for this great talk and presented him with the coveted wood pen made by him or club member **Al Smith**.



ATTENDANCE

By Bob Janes

Attendance for October 2nd was **63%**

We missed these Rotarians

W. Anderson, Blinston, Borisenko, Finnegan, Ger-rand, Y. Gosselin, Hais, Hammond, Lewis, McIver, Pankratz, Patrick, Raedler, Ross, Ryan, Salem, Al Smith

Guests of Rotary:

Vina Chen, Christine Parsons, Debbie Dixon, Tim Dixon

Makeups: Grice, A. Smith, Stetar, White, Shillabeer, Fenty, King, Borisenko.

Birthdays:

Carey McIver, Oct 18th

Spouses' Birthdays:

Robert Hais [Donna] on October 10th

Dawn Henderson

[Carmon] on October 14th

Pat Connolly [Dave] on October 18th

Wedding Anniversaries

Wayne & Gayle Anderson, 46 years, October 11th

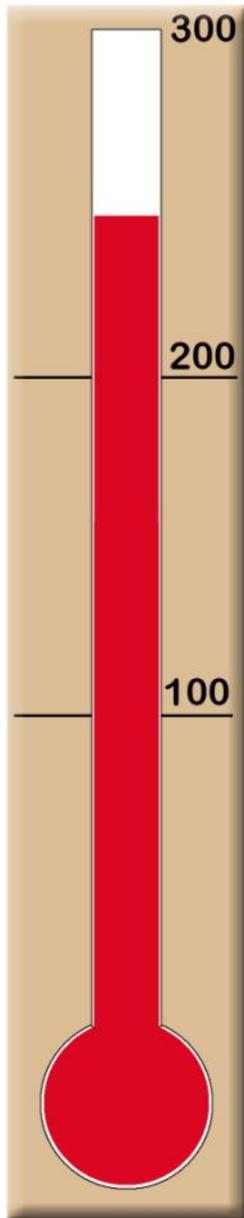
Wahid Ali & Nancy Ford, 19 years, October 12th

Club Anniversaries

Jane Currie, 8 years, Oct 12th

Carey McIver, 9 years, October 15th

Bill King, 28 years, Oct 16th



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

First - Many Thanks to the people who have already volunteered. Your dedication to Service Above Self is much appreciated.

We are one week away from the start of our Book Sale and as of Wednesday still have 49 more shifts to fill.

In particular we need **Bankers** for Saturday afternoon on the 24th and Sunday morning the 25th.

Also we have vacant positions as follows;

Foreperson - 17

Cashier - 14

Tables - 15

If you have not signed up yet please do so. Simply click on "VOLUNTEERS NEEDED" at the top of this column.

If you have signed up consider adding another shift.

Rotary Leadership Session – Saturday Oct 24



If you are not going to work the Book Sale you may be interested. Leadership and Rotary come together to create a dynamic service and humanitarian organization.

Learn more about both at District 5020's next Rotary Leadership Session – Saturday Oct

24, 2015 in Courtenay, B.C.

A Level One and Level Two course will be offered simultaneously. Capacity for Level One is up to 30 and for Level Two up to 15 Rotarians. Registrations will be taken on a first come first serve basis.

The sessions are fast-based, highly interactive and great opportunity to meet and learn from other Rotarians, facilitated by skilled knowledgeable Rotarians. Perfect learning experience for all but especially for new Rotarians and Rotarians assuming leadership roles.

To register please go to the RLI item on [October's District Event Calendar](#).

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct 16-25—Rotary Book Sale at Nanaimo North Town Centre. All hands required for our biggest (only) major fund-raiser!

Oct 23—Oktoberfest in Nanaimo Armoury 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 9th	Friday, October 16th	Friday, October 23rd
GREETERS	Eric Brand, John Salem, Derek Lewis	NO	Kevin Cantelon, John Shillabeer, Mike Knutsson
CASHIER	Henry Jiang	REGULAR	Henry Jiang
SGT-AT-ARMS	Joan Ryan	MEETING	Bruce Samson
INVOCATION	Brenda Grice	♠	Donna Hais
HEAD TABLE	President Lila, Leanne Kristofferson, Yvan Gosselin, Eric Brand, John Salem, Derek Lewis, Henry Jiang	FIRST DAY	Pres. Lila, Barry Sparkes, Brenda Grice, Barbara Blinston, Cantelon, Shillabeer & Knutsson
INTRO GUESTS	Barb Blinston	OF	Ed Borisenko
INTRO SPEAKER	Yvan Gosselin	BOOK SALE	Brenda Grice
PROGRAM	Storybook Dads: Guthrie House <i>Leanne Kristofferson</i>		The Man Behind & Before Rotary <i>Barry Sparkes</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Wendy Pratt		Ellen Ross