

ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

“COGS”



Volume 96, Number 11

4,646th Meeting

Friday, September 5, 2014



Nanaimo Community Hospice

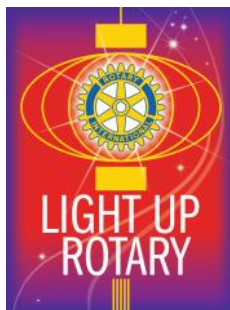
Rotarians at work—Work party at Nanaimo Community Hospice building and painting fences.

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**

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Meeting Notes from Sept. 5th

By Mike Herold



Past President Douglas Anderson gave a very Scottish invocation today and **Brent Stetar** had the honour of introducing guests and visiting Rotarians.

Wayne Anderson brought guest **Rick**

Fielden who is in data processing and there were no visiting Rotarians today.



President Bob Wilson announced that past friends of our club who passed away and have been honoured by the club with bursaries in their names. **Henry Wong** from Nanaimo and **Helmut Graff** from Germany, who often

visited our club, each recognized *Vancouver Island University* students with \$500 Bursaries. Helmut gave a Bursary to a student in the *Bachelor of Arts Program* and Henry Wong gave a Bursary to a student in the *Culinary Arts Program*.



Janeane Coutu reminded all club members of the painting planned for this Satur-

day at *Hospice House* starting at 9:00 a.m. Brushes and paint will be supplied but bring painting gloves. Food and beverages will be supplied by *Hospice House*.



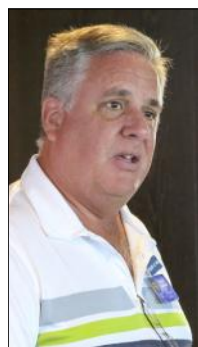
Richard Finnegan reminded us of the car rally on September 20th starting at Bowen Park at the upper picnic shelter. A BBQ will follow this fun event.

Susan Gerrard asked if anyone was interested in attending the

Travellers Lodge lunch on the 17th at 11:45 a.m.

President Bob reminded us of the

Book Sale on October 17th and the *District Great Management Seminar* on October 18th from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at VIU Campus.



Sgt-at-Arms Bruce “I am wearing shorts” Samson started by fining everyone at **Charles Ramos’** table for having the opportunity of eating with the *Ancient Mariner*.

Bruce was a little shy on fines today so asked for an out pouring of happy and sad dollars. **Art Vanidour** gave a happy buck to announce that his eldest daughter became a grandmother which, I think, makes Art very, very old.



Douglas Anderson gave a happy buck for being able to get away on their boat with his wife and fellow club member **Brenda Grice**.

Lila Tanner was happy to have her niece and her two sons visit her and also announced that she was getting a new puppy on Sunday.

Keith McFarlane gave a happy buck for wife **Wendy** who just had successful nasal surgery and **Mike Herold** gave a wondering buck for wondering when club member **Charles Ramos**

was going to show up for work after his four month sojourn at the sea and subsequent fishing trips. Charles’ rather cheeky response was, “the sun is shining and the fish are biting; who wants to go to work?”

President Bob gave his end of the meeting question regarding volume of water flowing in Niagara Falls and Janeane’s table was the winner at 350,000 cubic feet per minute.



Club Draws

The table stakes were won by **Janeane Coutu** and **Susan Gerrard** won the chance to draw for the Ace of Spades for the second week in a row but again was unsuccessful.



Tour de Rock: Cops for Cancer Tour

by Joyce Smith

Keith McFarlane introduced the speakers for the day—**Cpl. Norm**



Cpl. Norm Smith

Smith and **Constable Misty Dmytar** who came to speak to us about the *Tour de Rock*. Norm, besides admitting to being the fastest draw on writing a traffic ticket, is one of the motorcycle guides for the *Tour*

de Rock. Each year since 1998, 24 volunteers all from the RCMP participate in a 14 day trek from the top of Vancouver Island to the bottom (covering over 1,100 km) all to raise funds for kids with cancer. Cpl. Smith spoke first, explaining that to qualify to ride, volunteers have to ride over 4,000 km and practice three nights a week. It was even more impressive when Misty spoke since she rode last year and mentioned that she had to ride up Mount Washington non-stop as the final qualification of fitness. By this time I was exhausted just thinking about it.

But this event is serious business and it helps raise funds to help innocent children who have had the bad luck of getting cancer at a very young age. The proceeds for the ride helps these kids go to *Camp Good Times*. A camp where kids suffering with cancer can be normal again by canoeing, wall climbing, zip-lining and swimming and just being themselves. As Misty explained *Camp Good Times* is a magical place a little like Disneyland. Last year 1.3 million dollars was raised for cancer, not all if it goes to *Camp Good Times*, the balance

goes to pediatric cancer research for kids.



Constable Misty Dmytar spoke of her own personal experience, not just participating in the ride last year, but being a mom who is raising a son (Griffin) who was born with cancer. She spoke of the horror of finding out he had cancer at 6 days old, the trauma of the operations and hospital visits and the stress on her family. For her, being a rider was her time to give back. Next year, Misty and her son Griffin (now 3 ½ years old) are planning to go to *Camp Good Times*.

Examples of how little towns and schools have participated were given, for example Sayward with a population of 900 raised over \$16,000. Reynold's School in Victoria raised over \$110,000. There are three other Tours in B.C.—*Tour de North*, *Tour de Valley* and *Tour de Coast* but what has been raised here on the island tops all others. There has been a total of 27 million raised and *Tour de Rock* has raised over 20 million of these funds.

Regardless of your physical fitness, if you have ever watched the *Tour de Rock* cyclists pass by in complete synchronization you can't help but feel pride in our police force and their involvement in raising funds for cancer. Norm encouraged everyone to get involved for more information they can visit Tour de Rock.ca.

Norm finished by saying we want

**District 5020
Conference
June 19 - 21**



Vancouver Island Conference Centre
NANAIMO, B.C.

these kids to be kids again, families can go, brothers and sisters can go. We need help to send more kids to camp.

Debbie Narver thanked the speakers and was amazed at their commitment,

then gave Norm his favorite weapon of choice—a new pen to write more tickets courtesy of **Rotarian Dave Connolly** who creates these momentous keepsakes for our speakers.



This past weekend a group of Rotarians and family members volunteered their time to stain fencing materials at Nanaimo Hospice Society. Our club is providing funding for some of the fencing materials, but more importantly, provided about 85 hours of free labour that a huge piece is making the garden project happen for Hospice.

A big **THANK YOU** to these Rotarians that came out to help; Brent Stetar, Bob Wilson, Wayne Anderson, John Shillabeer, Lynne Pankratz, Charles Ramos, Egon Holzwarth, Frank Shoemaker, Janeane Coutu, Kathy Smith, Doug Cowling, Lila Tanner, Debbie Narver, Dave Connolly and John Salem.

And a special **THANK YOU** to some hard working kids that came out to help; Abigail and Bailey Stetar (the junior starters) and Alex Ramos (Saturday morning mop up), Allan and Kara Wilson and their cousin Tate (the "A" team Saturday afternoon). Emily Coutu (part of Sunday's "Hammer" crew)

And **THANK YOU** to Diane Salem (John's wife) - what a working machine both Saturday and Sunday!

Above: President Bob, Janeane Coutu and Frank Shoemaker painting the boards—notice who has the smallest brush!!

ATTENDANCE

By Janeane Coutu

Attendance for Sept 5th was **48%**

We missed these Rotarians;

Borisenko, Brand, Cantelon, Currie, L. Gosselin, Y. Gosselin, Grice, Hais, Hammond, Heisterman, Henderson, Hewitt, Janes, King, Knutsson, Lewis, McIver, Myden, Pratt, Raedler, Ryan, Salem, K. Smith, Walker, Welch

Guests;

Rick Fielden, guest of Wayne Anderson

Make-ups;

Al Smith 6 X book sorting, Susie Walker, Susan Gerrand, Brent Stetar, book sorting

Birthdays:

Susie Walker on Sept. 12—**TODAY!**

Spouse Birthdays: *None to report*

Anniversaries:

Carey McIver & Annabel Kirby, 8 years, September 16th

Club Anniversaries:

Lila Tanner, 13 years, Sept. 14
Bob Wilson, 20 years, Sept. 16

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS

Friday, September 12th

GREETERS	Egon Holzwarth, Joan Ryan, Wendy Pratt
CASHIERS	John Shillabeer
SGT-AT-ARMS	Lila Tanner
INVOCATION	Janeane Coutu
HEAD TABLE	Pres Bob, Moe Lessan, Derek Lewis, Eric Brand, Susie Walker, Egon, Joan Ryan, Douglas Anderson

INTRODUCE
GUESTS Lila Tanner

INTRODUCE
SPEAKER Douglas Anderson

PROGRAM
CLASSIFICATION TALKS
Moe Lessan Eric Brand, Derek Lewis

THANK
SPEAKER President Bob

Friday, September 19th

GREETERS	Barbara Blinston, John Salem, Gord Hubley
CASHIERS	John Shillabeer
SGT-AT-ARMS	John Heisterman
INVOCATION	Doug Cowling
HEAD TABLE	Pres Bob, Charles Ramos, Mike Herold, Douglas Anderson, Barbara Blinston, John Salem, Gord Hubley

INTRODUCE
GUESTS Susie Walker

INTRODUCE
SPEAKER Mike Herold

PROGRAM
SAILING ADVENTURES
Charles Ramos

THANK
SPEAKER Douglas Anderson

Friday, September 26th

GREETERS	Ed Borisenko, Bruce Samson, Bob Janes
CASHIERS	John Shillabeer
SGT-AT-ARMS	Joan Ryan
INVOCATION	Bob Fenty
HEAD TABLE	Pres Bob, Rebecca Kirk, Alan Smith, Lila Tanner, Ed Borisenko, Bruce Samson, Bob Janes

INTRODUCE
GUESTS Sharon Welch

INTRODUCE
SPEAKER Alan Smith

PROGRAM
LITERACY: PROGRAM SUCCESS
Rebecca Kirk

THANK
SPEAKER Lila Tanner

Giving Voice to Children with Hearing Loss - Ryan Hyland *Rotary News*

Misheelt Batjargal and her fellow club members are giving a voice to infants and toddlers in Mongolia who would otherwise live in a silent world.

As part of a large-scale community project, the Rotary Club of Ulaanbaatar Peace Avenue, Mongolia, is equipping hospitals with screening devices to test newborns' hearing. Batjargal, an ear, nose, and throat physician, says screening to detect hearing loss is not routine nationwide in Mongolia. She estimates that more than 200 hundred children in the country lose their hearing each year.



But Batjargal believes this is preventable. Early screenings are crucial for infants because, left undiagnosed, hearing impairment can impede children's development in speech, language, and cognition.

"If we can detect hearing loss before babies turn six months old, we can fit them with hearing aids or cochlear implants and give them good early intervention programs that will allow them to communicate normally at school and with friends," says Batjargal, who noted that only one hospital in Mongolia conducted screenings before club members launched the project in 2013. "Our club is helping prevent hearing-impaired babies from growing up in a world of isolation."

The club has held two fundraisers since January, including a performance of the ballet "Swan Lake." They raised more than \$10,000 -- enough to outfit two hospitals with screening devices. The Ministry of Health worked with the club on both events, which indicates the issue's importance for Mongolia, says Enkhtur Sodnomtseren, chair of the club's service committee.

"Hearing disability has been largely ignored by the government, as it is seen as low-priority in the overall list of pressing health issues," says Sodnomtseren. "It's also been under the radar of most charity and grant organizations. We as a club want to fill this gap. We can see that with a little extra effort and time, we can dramatically improve the quality of life, for not only the affected babies, but their families as well."

Sodnomtseren says that the club, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Health, can expand the project. It hopes to raise enough funds to supply every maternity ward with screening devices and training over the next few years. More than 78,000 infants will be tested each year, he estimates.

Batjargal, who plans to train other medical practitioners in how to use the screening devices, says this project exemplifies the positive change Rotary can make.

"Instead of waiting for the government to address this problem, our Rotary club has decided to solve it," says Batjargal. "We're making a major contribution to society. This is simply what we do."

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 20—Rotary Fun Car Rallye, 10 am to 2 pm. Registration \$20 per vehicle.

Oct 17 to 26—Rotary Fall Book Sale at Nanaimo North Town Centre. *We are in need of Quality Used Pocket Books.*

Oct 18—Rotary District Foundation/Grant Management Seminar, 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. VIU Campus, Nanaimo. More info on website at www.rotary5020.org

June 19-21, 2015—Rotary District 5020 Conference, Vancouver Island Conference Centre, Nanaimo, BC



Winner of
District 5020
Best Bulletin
Awards

*"COGS" is the official bulletin of the
Rotary Club of Nanaimo, published each
Friday by the Bulletin Committee*

Bulletin Committee Chair — Janeane Coutu

Meeting Reporter: Mike Herold / Program Reporter: Joyce Smith / Photos: Ian Williams

Editing & Production: Bruce Gordon / Web Posting: Ian Williams

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