

# ROTARY CLUB OF NANAIMO

## “C O G S”

Volume 98, Number 13

4787th Meeting

Friday, September 29, 2017



**Ross White** (left) and **Charles Ramos** (far right) presented a cheque for \$11660.95 to representatives of the Vancouver Island Mental Health Society, **Gillian Baker** - Human Resources/Development and **Jan Arkell** - Manager Finance. This project was chaired by Past President **Debbie Narver** with Laurie Bienert, Wayne Anderson and Ross.

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  
DIRECTORS

Henry Jiang ~ Susie Stephens ~ Moe Lessan  
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## MEETING NOTES - September 22, 2017

*By Charles Ramos*

President-elect **Charles Ramos** called the meeting to order, and led the singing of the national anthem.

**Donna Hais** delivered the inspiration.

### Visiting Rotarians and Guests

**Dave Hammond** called for visiting Rotarians and guests. **Ross White** introduced visiting Rotarian **Pat Cox** from Daybreak, and guests **Gillian Baker and Jan Ardell**.

### Presentation

**Ross White** presented check for \$11,660 to the Vancouver Island Mental Health Society. This was donated to purchase new beds for residents. Gillian and Jan accepted the donation, and thanked the club. The



**Gillian Baker - Human Resources/Development gave a huge thank you to our club.**

bed-building activity and barbeque was held August 26, 2017, and was attended by many clubmembers. Ross attempted to get a photograph with members who had volunteered, but was unsuccessful in rounding them up.

### Health of the Club



**Egon Holzwarth** is thankful that his wife, **Ann**, is home from the hospital.

### Announcements

**Peggy Richardson** announced that she will be holding a Facebook use seminar, in coordination with the



Chamber of Commerce. Want help and coaching for social media? Get to know our club Facebook page, and help us promote Rotary events and Membership.

Drop in - Wednesday, October 11 from 3-6pm at the public library on Hammond Bay road.

Bring your laptop, iPhone, Android, iPad, tablet, or your human brain! Ask questions and get 1:1 help. Please email Peggy to sign up, at [peggy@peggyrichardson.com](mailto:peggy@peggyrichardson.com).

**Janeane Coutu** announced that more signups for the booksale are needed on the first Friday and Saturday. She encouraged people to take some posters and place them at their place of work. There has also been a huge donation, and sorting help is desperately needed.



**Joan Ryan** announced that Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is approaching, and is open to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. Please help get the word out.

**Dave Hammond** read the obituary for longtime club member Honorary Rotarian **Bob Peters**. He was a member from 1981 to 2008. Dave announced A celebration of Bob's life will be held at 2:00 PM on Friday, October 20th at the Nanaimo Golf Club, 2800 Highland Blvd, Nanaimo (250) 758-2451. If desired, donations in Bob's memory could be made to Dufferin Place c/o the Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation, 1801 Bowen Road, Nanaimo, BC V9S 1H1 [nanaimohospitalfoundation.com](http://nanaimohospitalfoundation.com).



### Sergeant at Arms



**Dave Hammond** was today's Sergeant at Arms. He levied some fines, and opened the floor to Happy and Sad bucks.

### Happy and Sad Bucks

**John Shillabeer** confessed that he's indulged himself by purchasing a peppy yellow BMW sports car, and is planning a weekend cruise on the mainland.



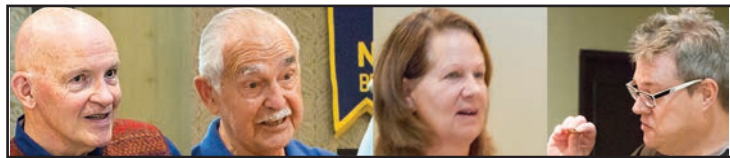
**Frank Shoemaker** gave happy bucks that his cardiac arrest 1-year anniversary is approaching

**Ed Borisenko** gave remembrance bucks about Bob Peters, and related a story when both their families were on vacation in Cuba, and Fidel went out of his way to shake Bob's hand.

**Kathy Smith** gave remembrance bucks about regularly golfing with her good friend Bob Peters

**Geoff Clay** gave sad bucks that he's heading off on vacation, and will miss the club

**Joan Ryan** won the chance in the card draw for the second week in a row. Her draw for the winning card



**Shoemaker    Borisenko    Smith    Clay**



was equally as unsuccessful as last week.

**ROTARY  
SPEAKER  
NOTES - Sept.  
22, 2017**

**Karen Fry - My  
Journey As a**

### **Female Fire Chief**

Kathy introduced our speaker today, and as her former teacher, was proud to say that she remembers her as exceptional.

Life has had a few surprises for **Karen Fry**! She is one of the few Fire Chiefs in Canada, but didn't arrive



at this post through a conventional route. Karen has always had a sense of adventure, and her unusual childhood, growing up on a sailboat, was just the start. This was encouraged by a year-long exchange to Australia as a teenager, which encouraged her adaptability and curiosity.

As a young mother, Karen was a cashier at

Overwaitea, but felt the urge to do something different. A friend who worked in the fire department asked Karen if she would consider becoming a dispatcher. After hesitating, she decided to make the leap, and applied. She didn't get that job, but this rejection gave her the kick she needed to upgrade her skills and make herself more employable.

By 1999, she had re-applied, and this application was successful. It was the first time she thought of a job as a career. She was soon promoted to Captain from her position in dispatch: unusual because most captains must be a firefighter first. In 2006, she was running the communication centre and other management duties, when the City of Surrey lured her away. During her 10 years there, she amalgamated multiple departments, and made numerous successful changes. She was then asked to apply on Vancouver Island, where she is today. Nanaimo now has 81 career firefighters, 4 prevention staff, including inspectors and investigators, and 8 full time plus 4 part time dispatchers. We also have many volunteers and others in support roles. It's a strong department, and a great team.

Karen has a special passion for helping firefighters cope with the most difficult parts of their jobs. Firefighters see people at their worst, and many incidents can be quite traumatic. PTSD is on the rise, and there is much work to be done to help those who need it. She is working hard to challenge stereotypes and cultural attitudes that may prevent some from getting help.

As a woman in a job that is still strongly dominated by men, Karen is acutely aware that she can't simply be as good as the men at her level - she has to be better. At the beginning of her career, she was tentative about having her voice heard, but she's no longer shy, nor is she interested in fitting into any molds. She clearly has the confidence that comes with knowing what she knows. The culture of women in the firefighting community has changed dramatically in the last 10 years, but there is still far to go.

Karen cares deeply about her staff, the city, and her community. She jokes that many people she meets would never guess what she does for a living, but Karen is clearly not one to conform to anyone's expectations - especially her own.



**Denise Wittkofski thanked our speaker and presented her with a hand made pen by Al Smith.**

**Thanks to Lila Tanner** who, on behalf of our club, presented a cheque for \$1000.00 to the **Nanaimo Canoe and Kayak Club** on Saturday Sept. 23, 2017. The Nanaimo Canoe and Kayak Club is a non-profit amateur sport organization that provides entry-level to high-performance canoe and kayak training to people of all ages and skill levels within the Nanaimo region.

They believe that recreational and competitive sports are healthy ways of building mature and responsible citizens, developing leadership skills, providing social interaction, and promoting full participation in society.

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Oct 11 - 3-6 PM - Rotarians Learn Social Media.** Drop in - Library at 6250 Hammond Bay Rd

**Oct 13-22 - Rotary Fall Book Sale** at Nanaimo North Town Centre.

**Oct 21 - Roses from Rotary - Qualicum Beach Club.**  
**Order Roses now!** \$32 per dozen in red, yellow or cream.  
 Order online -  
<https://www.qbsunriserotary.ca/roses2017/>

#### **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

##### **Birthdays**

John Shillabeer,	Oct 01
Lila Tanner,	Oct 04

##### **Anniversaries**

Connolly, Dave - Connolly, Pat,	61 yrs	Sep 29
Guenter Raedler, - Rita Raedler,	51 yrs	Oct 01

##### **Club Anniversaries**

John Heisterman,	22 years	Sep 29
Art Vanidour,	50 years	Sep 29
Guenter Raedler,	14 years	Oct 03

Meeting Date	September 29, 2017	October 6, 2017	October 13, 2017
Greeters	Doug Cowling, Al Smith, Moira Jenkins	Behzad Forghani, Henry Jiang, Mike Herold	<b>ROTARY BOOKSALE</b>
Cashier	Mike Minhas	Lila Tanner	
Sgt at Arms	Brent Barootes	Bruce Samson	
Inspiration	Doug Anderson	Wayne Anderson	
Head Table	Pres. Jane, Lynne Pankratz, Brent Barootes	Pres. Jane, Tim Knight, Bruce Samson	<b>NO MEETING</b>
Intro Guests	Charles Ramos	Peggy Richardson	
Intro Speaker	Pres. Jane	Doug Cowling	
Program	<b>Lynne Pankratz Budget Discussion</b>	<b>The Scouts Movement and the Nanaimo Troop Update - Tim Knight</b>	<b>ROTARY BOOKSALE</b>
Thank Speaker	Pres. Jane	Bruce Samson	