

60 YEARS OF SERVICE

November 2nd marked the 70th anniversary of the Club Charter granted to us by RI.

As the City of Quesnel so perfectly said, "Although 70 years is a milestone, (Rotary has) decided to focus on Dr John Havens' inspiring 60 years of active service to the club and our community."

And that we did on Saturday night, by way of a wonderful get-together involving club members and a multitude of Havens' family members, marking Dr John's first 60 years with

- the 9th level of Paul Harris Fellowship Award, the highest form of recognition available to a club to bestow;
- the commencement of the "Dr John Havens Rotary Healthcare Scholarship", a \$1000 graduation award, the first recipient of which will be a member of the Class of 2026;
- a commemorative book of his first 60 years in Rotary, and
- awarding him free membership, beginning with the 2026-27 year (because he's already paid for this year and wouldn't accept a Dues refund if we tried!)

We also recognized Keith Corbett for his 35th anniversary of membership on November 1st. Just another 25 years to go til you get your book, Keith!



President Linda:

Thank you all for coming to this 70th anniversary party for Rotary Club of Quesnel.

Before we get started, I want to thank our gracious hosts, Liane and Bill for opening up your house, again and making us all feel so welcome. It's very much appreciated! Thank you to Kim and Debi Kolenchuk – you'll be hearing Kim's beautiful music in about 15 minutes or so. I appreciate you making this time to help make this evening so special.

Welcome to all of you and I'd like to say, as someone rapidly approaching 70, that the time does indeed fly! 70 years in this wonderful community, contributing much to the safety, happiness and liveability of Quesnel. We've contributed to this place just about everywhere you look around – whether it's the Soccer Facility, the racetrack, Hospice, Community Gardens, Live Arts – we've been there! So much good work to be proud of, and so many lives have been touched by the kindness, generosity and integrity of this great club. Working together, we achieve great things.

Rotary, and our Club in particular, inspire loyalty and dedication to serving the community. We have some very experienced Rotarians in our Club! Celebrating 10 years with our Club: Connie; 13 years: Paul, Christy, and Sandra; 14 years: AG Laurey-Anne; 15 years: Diane; 16 years: Rebecca B and Debbie; 18 years: Linda V; 19 years: Sheila; 23 years: Bev and our hostess, Liane; 24 years: Petrie; 25 years: Rebecca Mac and Simon. 28 years: Jack and Kathy. Wow! To all of those I just mentioned and to the rest of our wonderful Club – thank you for your time, your talents, and your treasures!

I'd now like to thank a Club member who has been with us a whopping 35 years – leading the way with his generosity and devotion to Rotary and community service. He joined in 1990 and was Club President in 2012/13. We've all benefited from his wisdom and, of course, the presence of his beautiful wife Peggy. Thank you for 35 years of great service, and here's to many more – Keith!

And now it's time to especially thank one member of this Club for his exemplary service to Rotary. He has, believe it or not, been with us for an astounding 60 years!! He has always been an example of what Rotary means and does. I personally want to thank him for always being so supportive and kind to us fledgling members. Ladies and gentlemen, Dr. John.

John, you've been at the heart and soul of this Club for 60 years. I'd like to ask Simon to say a few words please.

Simon spoke...for far too long!

Thank you, Simon. Now, I'd like to ask Assistant Governor Laurey-Anne to come up and say a few words on behalf of District 5040.

Sorry that I am unable to be in Quesnel this weekend to celebrate your club's 70th Anniversary.

Please pass my congratulations to your club and its members. My club also chartered in 1955 and to celebrate 70 years of service in a community is a real accomplishment. Think of what would be missing in your community if Rotary was not in Quesnel.

I also want to extend my congratulations to John Havens. 60 years in Rotary is amazing and to be in your club as it went through the many changes through those years is truly an accomplishment.

Well done, John. You are an inspiration to us all.

Please raise a glass in toast of your club and all your members that have made Quesnel such a special place.

Yours in Rotary

Jan Gisborne

DG 2025-26

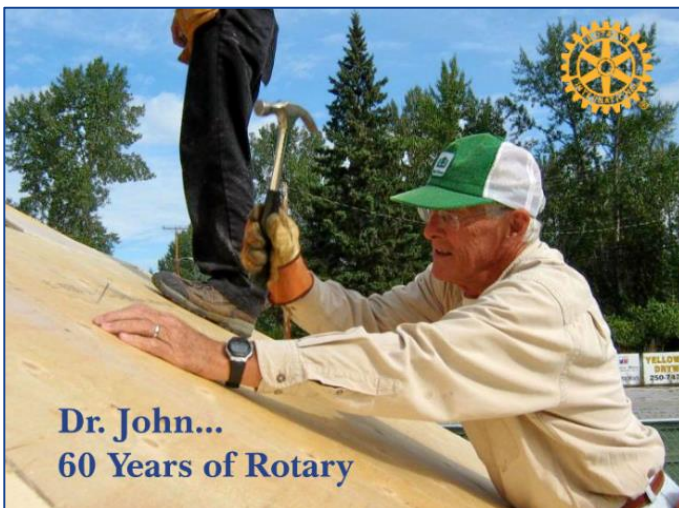
Thankyou Laurey-Anne! Congratulations, Dr. John. But wait – there's more to come. I'd like to ask President-Elect Tim to come up and speak on behalf of the Board.

Tim spoke...Simon should take note as to how it's done!

Thank you, Tim. In addition, Rotary Quesnel would like to offer you, Dr. John, free membership for however long you decide to be in Rotary. This is full membership, not honorary, and entitles you to all privileges of being a Rotarian.

Finally, John, with the assistance of your lovely wife, Simon and I have put together a little memento of your first 60 years with the Club. We give it to you with much love and affection. Let's all raise a glass as we toast your dedication, generosity, integrity and heart.

Here's to you, Dr. John!



Dr John...	60 years of Rotary Service	21915 days...	3,130 weekly meetings
November 2, 1965	Registered as a new member	Club President: Cliff Leslie	Our 10th anniversary
December 2, 1966	Bidding war during the Radio Auction with Jack Simpson over a cord of logs worth \$18		Simpson won it with a bid of \$27!
July 1, 1969	First term on our Board, as a Director	Club President: Lon Godfrey	3 weeks later, man landed on the moon. Coincidence?
July 1, 1970	Elected to the position of Secretary	Club President: Al Hood	3 weeks later, the Aswan Dam was finished in Egypt
January 2, 1972	Host family to first Rotary Exchange Student	Jeanette Cox via Albury NSW	
October 1, 1980	Visit to Shiraoi, Japan	Went again in 1982	
July 1, 1981	First term as Club President	RI Theme: "World Understanding and Peace through Rotary"	Planted the second-ever tree on Citizens Row, Lebourdais Park, in recognition of Citizen of the Year, Rev Gary Landers
February 21, 1984	Proposed the Japanese Garden for the Rec Centre		
July 1, 1987	Chair of PolioPlus and rep for Q, WL, and 100 Mile	3/5 of the world's children had not been immunized.	\$25000 goal (\$71,000 today); \$25869 achieved!
20 year gap – seems to have done nothing except for...	...hosting Exchange students, working the Billy Barker Days Pancake breakfast, Radio TV Auction, championing The Rotary Foundation...		
June 11, 2006	Attended the RI Convention in Malmo & Copenhagen	First (and so far only) Convention to take place in two cities across two countries	
July 3, 2007	Our first Shelterbox, to Karachi, Pakistan	ShelterBox #242, Cyclone Yemyin	Earthquakes, flooding, drought, conflict - China, Somaliland, Gaza, Namibia, Java, Haiti, Kenya, Cameroon, Tanzania, Fiji
August 7, 2007	First ShelterBox by Sunrise, to Nepal	ShelterBox #297, Kathmandu flood victims	
October 30, 2008	District recognition from DG Bob Blacker	<i>"For your endless dedication and support of international projects. As well as the community ShelterBox drive which saw several boxes donated from Quesnel, Sunrise, and Interact, John is now the area representative for ShelterBox."</i>	
July 1, 2010	Second term as Club President	RI Theme: "Building Bridges - Building Continents"	
September 1, 2009	Trip to Mumbai to meet with RC of Bombay Seafare re the mobile library project		
May 31, 2014	Peace Champion!	Helped arrange the installation of the Peace Pole in West Quesnel Community Garden	<i>"Peace isn't just about the absence of war. It's about peace of mind, community, the environment, interactions with one another"</i>
June 21, 2021	One of the inaugural recipients of the District's Don Evans <i>People of Action</i> Award	<i>"For outstanding work in one or more of Rotary's five Avenues of Service"</i>	
	Has since helped clean up Dunrovin gardens, collected garbage for Earth Day, moved book from one Literacy location to another, grown sunflowers for Ukraine, and peeled <u>6 billion</u> potatoes for Meals for Seniors		