

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Virtual Meeting

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## AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP & NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

### Happy Birthday

Aug 16: Chili Yalamanchili

### Happy Anniversary

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Aug 10:

Aug 17:

Aug 24:

### OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING:

Patrick Dobbyn presided.

**This was the first "in person" meeting since the COVID pandemic forced us to meet via Zoom in early 2020**, and was held at our temporary meeting place, the Meadow Gardens Golf Club, at 12 o'clock on August 3, 2021. It was also accessible by Zoom.

Those attending in person included **Ineke Boekhorst, Clint Callison, Chili Yalamanchili, Mike Davies, Laurie Anderson, Brenda Jenkins, Ken Holland, and guests Warren Dale, Gordon and Mary Robson, Brenda Norie, and our speaker Captain Kit Little** of the District of North Vancouver Fire and Rescue. Those attending by Zoom included **Mark Forster, Sharon Kyle, Roger Powley, Libby Nelson, Deborah Hyslop and Dave Rempel.**

**Brenda Norrie**, who is the Business Relationship Manager of the Maple Ridge Community Foundation (MRCF), sold tickets for the MRCF Dream Raffle where over \$45,000 worth of prizes are to be won. The final draws will be held on August 21, 2021. Tickets may be purchased at [mrcf.ca/yourdream](http://mrcf.ca/yourdream).



Our speaker was **Captain Kit Little** of the District of North Vancouver's Fire and Rescue. He is in charge of their #1 Rescue Station, and has been a Captain in that fire department for 10 years. He also teaches swift water rescue, rope rescue, confined space, tower crane and trench rescue. (He is also very busy with two young boys.)

**Note:** In 2017, Kit was honoured with a rare medal of bravery for his courageous actions in saving the life of a woman being

trapped in an apartment fire. **See below for a newspaper article regarding the circumstances which resulted in this honour being bestowed.**

#### Kit's Presentation

Kit Little said they don't get a lot of fires in North Vancouver compared to other districts, but they are kept very busy with rescue calls, medical calls, and drug overdoses. North Vancouver has many hiking and biking trails, and recent years have seen an influx to their area of persons taking advantage of the back country but who are not prepared for the experience. Many of the rescue calls are as a result of young people who take unreasonable and crazy risks, sometimes causing their deaths. They sometimes received two or three calls a day to rescue mountain bikers who suffer broken bones or neck injuries, and not all of them are young people. (*"The part of the brain of males that recognizes what is an unreasonable risk must not develop until they are about 27 years old!"*) He told us about an 18-year-old from Coquitlam who wanted to impress some girls by cliff jumping into the Capilano River one March day when the water was frigid cold and very high. Sadly, it took three weeks to recover his body. Kit said that, at that time of year, the water is so cold that hypothermia can set in within three minutes.

Many of the houses in North Vancouver are built right up to the tree line. Wildfires are a major concern. North Vancouver is tinder dry and air quality is bad due to the fire situation. These days, the wildfire side of the department is busier than the structural side. Captain Little discussed various ways to fireproof your property. (He noted that many houses have vinyl siding which melts and burns at a very low temperature – not that he is suggesting you rip off your vinyl siding - but you might consider not leaving plastic chairs and tables in the line of fire to add a melting pile of petroleum to the blaze). Bark mulch near your house, and dry needles in your eaves troughs, are dangerous and definitely a fire hazard. Trees should be pruned at least 10 feet up in the air, to reduce the risk of flames from a grass fire getting into

the canopy of tall trees. The North Vancouver fire department, like the one in Maple Ridge, will answer requests for assessments of property to assess the fire risks and make suggestions how to make your house and property more safe.

### Happy and Sad

Several members shelled out the bucks as they were very happy to get back to an in-person meeting. Our Finemaster **Brenda** fined anyone who had not watched some Olympic event on TV, but raised only one dollar (from an in-person attendee who will remain unnamed to avoid harassment).

### Announcements and Club News

**Betty Levens** has now moved into the Westbrook Pitt Meadows Retirement Home in Pitt Meadows.

**Ineke** reminded all members that there is a Rotary table being set up at the community **garage sale** to be held on **Saturday, August 14 from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm (set up time at 10:00am)** in the parking lot of the Hospice Thrift Store. Those interested in helping or ask to meet at 10 AM on that date to help set up tables and tent. All members are asked to contribute items that can be sold to raise money for Rotary. If you can't bring items to the site, phone Laurie Anderson at 604-465-4364 (as early as possible and before the day of the sale) to arrange for them to be picked up.



**The Second weekly Sunday Rotary Social Walk:** Three Rotary dogs got together with their owners for a social walk (aka a "Sniffari") on Sunday morning, August 1, at the Kanaka Creek Park along the Fraser River. Those attending included **Matt and Lynda DeBruyn**, and **Laurie Anderson**, together with owners **Adrienne and Warren Dale** and owner **Mark Forster**.

The next Rotary social walk will be held Sunday August 8<sup>th</sup>, same place, but this time at 9:00 am (and not 8:30) to accommodate the sleepy heads.



**Directions:** Coming from the west, proceed a very short distance (about ten barks) on the Lougheed Highway past the point where the Highway intersects with the Haney Bypass, Kanaka Creek Way and Cottonwood Drive, and turn south across the railroad tracks onto River Road and you are there – meet in the gravel parking lot at 9 AM. See map at

<https://www.vancouvertrails.com/trails/kanaka-creek-riverfront/>

**P.S. Remember to bring your owner and plastic bags!!!**



### Today's Quote:

In lieu of today's quote, our president **Patrick Dobbyn** recited the following poem by **Robert Service**:

### THE QUITTER

**W**HEN you're lost in the wild and you're scared  
as a child,  
And death looks you bang in the eye;  
And you're sore as a boil, it's according to Hoyle  
To cock your revolver and die.  
But the code of a man says fight all you can,  
And self-dissolution is barred;  
In hunger and woe, oh it's easy to blow—  
It's the hell served for breakfast that's hard.

You're sick of the game? Well now, that's a shame!  
You're young and you're brave and you're bright.  
You've had a raw deal, I know, but don't squeal.  
Buck up, do your damndest and fight!  
It's the plugging away that will win you the day,  
So don't be a piker, old pard;  
Just draw on your grit; it's so easy to quit—  
It's the keeping your chin up that's hard.

It's easy to cry that you're beaten and die,  
It's easy to crawfish and crawl,  
But to fight and to fight when hope's out of sight,  
Why, that's the best game of them all.  
And though you come out of each grueling bout,  
All broken and beaten and scarred—  
Just have one more try. It's dead easy to die,  
It's the keeping on living that's hard.

*Robert W. Service.*

From "Rhymes of a Rolling Stone,"  
Dodd, Mead & Co.

[More about our guest speaker:](#)



This is a picture of Captain Little being honoured with a medal of bravery for his courageous actions in saving the life of a woman being trapped in an apartment fire. The following is the report found in the March 17, 2017 edition of the Asian Journal, a weekly English language newspaper covering both local South Asian and Canadian mainstream issues:

*On the morning of July 18, 2016, firefighting crews from both the North Vancouver City and the District of North Vancouver fire departments responded to an engulfed apartment building. Upon arrival, firefighters found residents calling for help on the balconies of the upper floors. As interior fire conditions were too extreme to undertake rescues from the interior hallways, crews instead used ladders to reach the balconies. A firefighter went up one of these ladders, but was unable to reach a senior occupant who was unable to get over the railing. Following the first unsuccessful rescue attempt, Captain Little went up the ladder in a second attempt to rescue the senior occupant. When it became apparent to Captain Little that his breathing apparatus and helmet would prevent a successful rescue, he further placed himself in harm's way by removing this safety equipment in order to reach the trapped occupant. While standing on the top rung of the ladder, Captain Little reached over the balcony to access the occupant, and then carried her down the ladder where he safely passed her to other firefighters on scene. Captain Little then returned to the balcony to retrieve the occupant's small dog. Sadly, there was also a tragic outcome to this fire as a tenant in a separate area of the building perished in the blaze. The British Columbia Firefighter Medal of Bravery is awarded to firefighters who have performed acts of courage and bravery without concern for their own personal safety. Only two other such awards have been handed out in the past 10 years – one in 2011 and one in 2014.*

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**