

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, combined Real-Virtual Meeting

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APRIL IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

Happy Birthday

Apr 26: Shashanka Vangari
Apr 28: Peter Boekhorst

Happy Anniversary

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Apr 26:

May 3:

May 10:

OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Sharon Kyle presided.



The Maple Ridge Community Foundation has selected Matt DeBruyn as Citizen of the Year.

Matt is sharing this award with Sandi Temple.

Program: Video entitled: "My Enemy, My Brother"

Mark Forster introduced the above-noted video, which was our program. Mark said he was recently at a Masonic Lodge meeting that was open to the public, and he met and got talking to a visitor, by the name of **Zahed**, about the Ukrainian war. Mark commented to the visitor that he didn't understand in this day and age (when we have modern forms of communication including social media, and with visitors from Western countries allowed into visit Russia) how the Russian people can go along with what the government wants them to do (i.e., attacking Ukraine in such a brutal way). Zahed told Mark that he was once an Iranian soldier in such an authoritarian society when Iraq and Iran were at war with each other. That war which started in 1980 (when Iraq invaded Iran) went on for almost 8 years and resulted in deaths estimated to be between one million and two million people.

Zahed (words to the effect that) "we had no choice; if we didn't do what we were told, we would have been put to death and they would have killed our families if we did not comply." Zahed referred Mark to the video (which was shown to us at our Rotary meeting), in which Zahed related the story of how, as a 16-year-old Iranian soldier in the Iraq/Iranian war, he saved the life of a wounded enemy Iraqi soldier by the name of **Najah** (who he was supposed to kill); and by some miracle they ended up in the exact same place at the exact same time when they met again by chance in Vancouver many years later, and his former Iraqi "enemy" became like "brother" to him.

The 16-minute short presentation as shown to us today by Mark is available on YouTube at:

[My Enemy, My Brother | Op-Docs | The New York Times - Bing video](#)



Let's celebrate this!

Mark also advises that there is a full length 1 hour 30-minute documentary

[My Enemy, My Brother \(myenemymybrothermovie.com\)](http://myenemymybrothermovie.com) with the following commentary:

The true story of 2 enemies from the Iran-Iraq war; one saves the other's life on the battlefield, then they meet again by sheer coincidence 20 years later in Canada. Inspired by their miraculous reunion, Najah and Zahed face down their fears and post-traumatic stress and head back to Iraq and Iran to search for missing loved ones. Their journey takes them into the heart of present-day conflicts in a region ravaged by war and ISIS. Their journey is a surprising affirmation of humanity and redemption. (This feature length film is DIFFERENT from the short film of the same title, which was nominated for an Emmy and shortlisted for an Oscar)

The full-length film is available free on [Tubi TV](#)

Happy and Sad dollars included:

Sharon: recently visited her 101 year-old "auntie" (who still lives by herself), whose secret to a long life is: "You have to be a little wicked".

Matt: who in the past has declined the nomination for "Citizen of the Year" on more than one occasion, was forced by the nominators ("on the pain of death") to accept the nomination this year (the other nominees are Sandi Temple and Robert Masse). The recipient of the award will be announced Saturday, April 23, at the fund raising dinner held by the Maple Ridge Community Foundation.

Quote for the Day:



Also heard:

I asked an employee at the supermarket where they kept the canned peaches. He said, "I'll see", and walked away. When he didn't come back after a few minutes, I asked another employee, and he also said, "I'll see", and walked away. In the end, I gave up waiting for them, and found the peaches myself, in Aisle C.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson