

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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## JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	June 6: Dave & Lisa Macpherson

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

June 6:	June 13: Ineke Boekhorst Report on International Convention	June 20:	June 27: "30 plus Year" Anniversary Celebration and Installation
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### RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Speaking to you through the pages of *Rotary* magazine this past year has brought me so much joy. I have especially enjoyed sharing the incredible stories of the wonderful people Nick and I have met on the Imagine Impact Tour.

From Patzún in the mountainous western highlands of Guatemala to a small village outside of Lusaka, Zambia, we have been greeted by countless people who imagine and work toward a better world.

We were inspired by teachers who imagine a better education for girls and boys facing gender-based violence, by Rotaractors in a refugee settlement who created a flour mill to provide for their families in a critical food shortage, and by brave polio workers who push tirelessly to reach every last child.

All of us have imagined Rotary this year. This means looking past what we are today and reaching for what we could be tomorrow. We imagine a Rotary that will continue to tell our stories in impactful ways, work to reduce our carbon footprint, and focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts that lift every voice in our organization and beyond.

Nick and I want to thank all of you for the moments we've shared and for your efforts to *Imagine Rotary*. And now, we look forward to continuing these efforts as we *Create Hope in the World*. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve with each of you.

**Jennifer Jones**  
RI President 2022-23

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

**Brenda Jenkins** presided.

Guests: **Jim Michals** (former club member)



Happy and Sad

To quote **Matt**, our happy and sad tracker, "Today was one of the quieter luncheons we have had this year."

But **Sharon** was happy to report that she and Ron returned from a successful fishing trip where they caught 30 rainbow trout that they promptly put in their smoker.

(Editorial suggestion:

Next time, try to catch fish that are already smokers.)



And speaking of smoked fish:



## Fine Master

Fine Master **Eric** reminded us of the Seinfeld episode where Jerry told George, "If every instinct you have is wrong, then the opposite would have to be right"; and Eric based his fines on this "theory of opposites" by, for example, fining everyone who had a name badge or Rotary pin.

### Program: Sharon Kyle's "Who's Who"

Sharon was born in Kingston Ontario, and at age 4 led her family on their trek westward, eventually landing in British Columbia. Their first stop was Field, BC, where they resided at the CPR hotel which her grandfather managed. Her father got a job as a train conductor, enabling the family to travel for free back to visit their other grandparents in Kingston, and eventually to Vancouver where her mom and dad bought their first home in East Vancouver.

Sharon graduated from high school with an Economics Major, and had several jobs (before and after graduating) including working as a server in the dining room on the CPR ferry and at a restaurant in Vancouver (with a promotion that resulted in a transfer to the restaurant's Burnaby location where she met her first husband, Gerry Kyle, whom she married in 1963). In 1964 she was approached by BC Vocational School in Burnaby to help set up the cafeteria in its new school, and in 1965 completed a chef training course.

In 1965, Sharon and Gerry purchased their first home, being a 900 ft.<sup>2</sup> house on 3 acres of land for \$11,000 (located behind where Maple Ridge Chrysler now sits). Gerry worked for Les Robson (Gordon Robson's father) at Buckerfields, that was located where Mark's Work Wear now sits. (Buckerfields was a country store in Maple Ridge and other communities that sold livestock feed and supplies and many other farm, garden and family products.) Because of Jerry's employment at Buckerfields, their little hobby farm became the home for 2 welch ponies, 2 pigs, 2 calves, bunnies, chickens, a turkey, a dog and a cat; and they also purchased Sharon's mare, a Morgan Arab Cross who became her pet.

Sharon's first child Scott was born in 1966, and their daughter Kerrie was welcomed in 1970. In 1973 Gerry purchased a highway tractor and went on the road truck driving, subsequently purchasing four more tractor-trailers and hiring drivers for them. Tragically, Gerry died of a heart attack in 1992. Around 2002, Sharon she met up with one of Jerry's drivers "Ron Langley" and eventually became partners in life with him. Sharon and Ron have now lived together for almost 21 years.

In 1967, Sharon began her long relationship with Meadow Gardens Golf Course, by working for Mr. and Mrs. Ed Liva at the Meadow Gardens Steak House and Motel, working through the years until she became the Head Chef in preparation for the move to the Golf Course which Mr. Liva was building at the time.

(The first green fees were sold from the Steak House for \$6 for 9 holes - and the first clubhouse was Mr. Liva's renovated hay barn.)

Following her maternity leave (for Kerrie's birth in 1970) Sharon went back to work at the golf course with the kitchen staff preparing all the meals for Golf Tournaments, Memberships and the public. They had one banquet room that would seat 120 guests and the cafeteria that would seat about 100 guests. In 1979 Mr. Frank Hui and family purchased the Golf Course, and Sharon moved from the Food and Beverage operations to the Pro Shop running the tee, and at the same time taking accounting courses for payroll etc.

In 1985 the new owners built a 35,000 square-foot clubhouse, and in 1990 sold Meadow Gardens to Greenlife Group from Japan (the current owners). Greenlife retained Ming Hui as General Manager and Sharon as Assistant Manager of Meadow Gardens (positions which they held for several years following the purchase). After operating Meadow Gardens for only two years, Greenlife purchased additional lands and shut down the operation to construct the new golf course with a new 35,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> clubhouse (resulting in the demolition of the 35,000 ft.<sup>2</sup> clubhouse that had been built only seven years previously). The new Meadow Gardens Golf Course and clubhouse opened in August 1994.

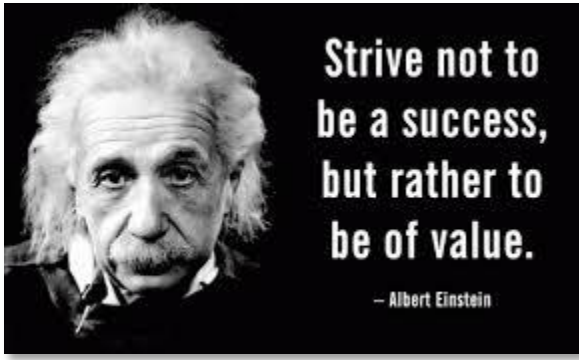
In 1990, Greenlife also purchased the Fort Langley Golf Course. Sharon was given the opportunity to advance her education by attending Club Managers Association conferences all over the United States and British Columbia. Eventually, Sharon became the Managing Director overseeing the operations of both Meadow Gardens and Fort Langley Golf Courses. Sharon tried to retire in 2008, but the owners would not accept her request. Instead, they offered Sharon the position of Honorary Managing Director to consult with the General Managers of both golf courses, thus respecting her desire to substantially reduce her time commitments. Today Sharon sits on the Board of Directors consulting and operating out of Greenlife's Head Office in the World Trade Centre in Vancouver.

Says Sharon: "My favourite hobbies are hunting, fishing, camping and travelling. I joined Meadow Ridge Rotary in 2001 and have over the past 22 years tried to help make a difference in the lives of folks in our community and abroad".



"Would it really help our relationship, Ron, if I threw it back?"

President's Quote for the Day (Sharon has done both)



Submitted by Laurie Anderson