

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH**

<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a>	<a href="#">Happy Anniversary</a>
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**UPCOMING SPEAKERS:**

Aug. 01: Mark Vosper My trip to Japan	Aug. 08: Tyler Westover Economic Development Maple Ridge	Aug. 15: Chris Loat Shelter Box
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**LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

President **Brenda Jenkins** presided.

Guests:

- Melanie Pellicano** – outgoing STEP exchange student.
- Heloise Mariette** – incoming STEP exchange student from France.
- Raj Talmsi** – acquaintance of Michael

**Sharon Kyle** introduced our STEP exchange students and explained a bit about the program.



Happy and Sad Dollars

**Sharon** got her car broke into.

**Ineke** was relieved to get her basket back (containing Duck Race tickets, etc.) that she left behind when visiting her daughter Marjolein, delivered to Ineke by Libby's daughter Caroline who recently returned from a trip to Kelowna.

**Eric** had a great trip floating on the Danube for a couple of weeks (despite complaining of the self-sacrifice of his body and mind by eating himself to death and then coming home to a pile of work to catch up on).

Program: **Katerina Pogrebinsky**



Katerina is a French Language Teacher with 20+ years of experience and who currently teaches at Garibaldi Secondary School where she has worked since August, 2018. Prior to that, she taught at Meadow Ridge School from 2006 until she joined the staff at Garibaldi. Prior teaching positions in BC included Archbishop Carney Secondary school and BC Christian Academy, and she was an ESL teacher in Kharkov, Ukraine. She has a Master's Degree (Curriculum and Instruction with Honors) at UBC (1998 – 2002), and a master's degree in languages at the Kharkov University. She speaks Russian, Ukranian, French and English.

Although Katerina is not currently a Rotarian, she got introduced to Rotary in the early 1990s when she was approached to start a Rotary club in Ukraine, and was instrumental in helping to establish Rotary clubs in her country after attending a Rotary convention in the city of Nice in France. When she moved to Canada in 1996, she joined a Rotary Club in Vancouver. After leaving Rotary, she was involved in raising money to care for premature babies, resulting from the significant increase in premature births which occurred among children whose mothers were exposed to radiation as result of the Chernobyl disaster.

After Russia invaded Ukraine, Katerina met with Gordon and Mary Robson, who were on the **Ridge Meadows Ukrainian Welcoming Committee** to help Ukrainian Refugees in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. As a teacher, she understood that language would be a barrier for adults and students, and Katerina became involved in offering English language's lessons with **Ksenia Beliaeva**, a Ukrainian refugee who moved to Maple Ridge and was a professor from the Kharkiv University and an ESL teacher in Ukraine. The **Golden Ears United Church** provided the location for free. The types of classes varied, for those who had no, or minimal, English and who needed to learn some basic language quickly, and evening classes for those who had some minimal level of English and who may already have a job during the day but needed to improve their communication skills.

Katerina said: "When the war started, I had a lot of relatives in Ukraine and it impacted me personally. My family decided to host for people who arrived in May, 2022. I reached out to the Welcoming Committee to ask how I can help because I speak the language and host people".

In an effort to offer continued support for Ukrainian refugees, they also recruited volunteers to babysit the children, while the mothers attended classes or had to attend doctor's offices or take care of other family business. Most of the refugees were women and children because the husbands had to stay behind in Ukraine to fight the war by the Russians against the Ukrainians.

Many Ukrainian refugees found it hard to sustain a life in Canada because of difficulties in obtaining housing and employment and many (roughly 50%) went back Ukraine or other cities in Europe, as there were too many barriers for them to stay here; and adjusting to life here without family support was very difficult.

#### Club announcements:

All members are reminded to pay their dues by the end of July.

If you can't sell (or purchase yourself) all of the duck race tickets that you have been given, be sure to give them back to Ineke, so that she can pass them on to others, because there is only a limited number of tickets available.

Remember to help out and or supply items to the "boot sale" that will be held on August 12.

And be sure to help get the rubber duckies ready for the Duck Race by attending at Brenda's on August 11 to stick the numbers on the bottom of the ducks. Some of our club members are away, so be sure you volunteer to help out.

#### Quote for the day:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson

## CLUB CALENDAR:

July 27 at 5:30pm Pub Hub at the Witch

July 31: Dues are due.  
Invoice was emailed July 3<sup>rd</sup> about 1pm.

Aug 11 at 4pm till done: Duck numbering party at Brenda's place: 21757 122 Avenue, Maple Ridge.  
ALL invited - with friends! Dinner will be provided.

Aug 12: 10-2pm Rotary Garage Sale ("Boot sale").  
Please bring items to donate to club meetings, Ineke can PU, or bring on 12th.

Aug 13 (help before!) 11am to 2pm  
Duck Race at Maple Ridge Park: ALL urged to help as some members are away that weekend

Aug 15 at 5:30pm Executive Meeting

Aug 25 District GolFun Day  
at Homestead Farms Golf Club in Lynden, WA

Aug 27 starting at 2pm "Sip and Nibble with a View"  
at Adrienne's home

Aug 31 at 5:30pm Pub Hub at Kingfisher

Sep 4-11 Rotary Camp Weekend  
at Fort Brae Campground at Fort Langley

Nov 18 - Foundation Dinner - Bellingham Golf & Country Club

Dec 2 - Pre-PETS - Silver Reef Casino Resort

Jan 27, 2024 - Grants Management Seminar - Rotary Fieldhouse, South Surrey

Mar 2, 2024 - Grants Management Seminar - Silver Reef Casino Resort

Apr 13, 2024 - District Assembly - Kwantlen Polytechnic - Langley Campus - new location!