



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**MARCH IS WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE MONTH**

Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary
Mar 11:	Patrick O'Brien,	

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS:**

Mar 05: Chad Neufeld Community Garden donation	Mar 12: Glenn Laughlin	Mar 19:
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**RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



There are many pathways to peace, and in Rotary, we are fortunate to have Rotary Peace Fellows who demonstrate this truth time and again.

Each year, Rotary awards up to 130 fellowships for leaders around the world to study peace and development, and what these peace fellows learn prepares them to work in conflict prevention and resolution and promote Positive Peace. Here are a few examples of the creative ways peace fellows advance peace:

**Promoting sustainability**

Alejandra Rueda-Zarate combined her Rotary Peace Fellowship in peace and conflict resolution with her master's degree in energy and resources to support her dream of protecting the Colombian countryside.

She founded the organization NES Naturaleza in 2011 to help farmers in Colombia and across rural Latin America gain access to knowledge and training to uphold sustainable farming standards. That support has improved the lives of nearly 4,500 farmers, inspiring many of them to become entrepreneurs. And it's helped promote both natural and social sustainability throughout Latin America.

**Ending racism**

Peace fellows Geoffrey Diesel and Kathy Doherty have applied their fellowships in peace and development studies toward co-founding the Racial Equity Project, a subcommittee of Rotary Positive Peace Activators in North America committed to studying ways to create a more peaceful society through anti-racism efforts.

The Racial Equity Project takes a deep look into how the eight Pillars of Positive Peace could support efforts to address racism, and it works to spread this message to communities across North America. The organization initially grew from Rotary's strategic partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace, a global think tank dedicated to promoting Positive Peace.

**Managing disasters using data**

Through a Rotary Peace Fellowship, Jamie LeSueur earned a master's degree in social science within peace and conflict research. He now leads emergency operations for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, setting a management and operational framework for agency collaboration in emergency response situations.

Jamie has found that research data is a powerful tool to bring calm to the complex world of disaster response. No matter what an organization's protocols might entail, letting research be the foundation for decision making helps clarify even the most complicated emergencies.

These stories — and hundreds like them — show how Rotary is creating a generation of leaders ready and able to build peace worldwide. Nearly 1,800 peace fellows have graduated from Rotary Peace Centers, and they are applying their craft in more than 140 countries.

May the continuing work of peace fellows and the Rotary members who support them inspire you to continue to *Create Hope in the World* through service, fundraising, and creative thinking.

**R. Gordon R. McNally**  
President 2023-24

President **Brenda Jenkins** presided.

Guests:

**Mary and Gordon Robson**

Program: Who's Who – **Laurel Hickman**



Laurel (together with all of us fellow Rotarians) cannot believe that she has been on this planet for 51 years, and will be 52 this coming September. She arrived on planet Earth in Toronto, born to parents Jan and Ron Hickman. Her mom and dad travelled for about five years after they got married, living in England, Holland and other places, before they

decided to have kids. Laura was the first to arrive, followed by her brother Brent. The family lived in Ottawa until Laurel was 11 years old. Laurel must have been persuasive even at a young age because when her parents asked Laurel and her brother where they wanted to live, Laurel said Vancouver, and the rest is history.

Her family has lived in Maple Ridge since about 1982, and since that time there have been a lot of changes in her family. Her brother Brent, like Terry Fox, was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma (bone cancer); as a result, Brent had to have his left leg amputated when he was only 13 years of age. (Terry Fox was 18 when his right leg was amputated 6 inches above the knee in 1977.) That was obviously very traumatic for the family, and for Laurel who was in grade 12 at the time. Her father Ron suffered from colitis and thyroid problems, and passed away 16 years ago. Laurel herself is a type 1 diabetic. So, her family has had more than its fair share of health problems.

Despite these setbacks, her family has carried on. Her mom Jan (who, as we all know, has for years belonged to the Haney Rotary Club) at age 76 is still working hard as a real estate agent. Her family likes to travel, and Laurel has caught the travel bug (which fortunately is not considered a health problem). She went on her first trip when she was 15 or 16 years old. Her family has gone to the same place in Mexico for over 30 years. Laurel and her mom just got back from a holiday together in Mexico, and in August she is going to Greece with her family. Laurel has backpacked six times through Europe.

After graduating from High School, Laurel did some modelling which led to her joining an acting/singing group who performed at car shows and the like, and even performed on the Canadian television show called 'Switchback', which aired on CBC television in the 1980s. [Switchback was an interactive youth variety show for children and teenagers, that featured mixed music videos, celebrity interviews, comedy and puppetry segments and viewer contests.] A decision to go to a beauty show led Laurel to start an aesthetics business at the age of 20, which she then operated for 30 years. For about 15 of those years, Laurel's business, called LA Body Retreat & Aesthetics, was situated in Pitt Meadows at or near the intersection of Ford and Harris Roads.

At the age of 45, Laurel decided it was time for a career change and decided to get more education. After obtaining a degree, she then worked for Alouette Addictions, where she went into the homeless camps to help people and see for herself who and why they were there and what their needs were.

She liked the work and found it challenging, as well as opening up opportunities for her. Within two years, she was responsible for managing the Homeless Outreach Program that provides outreach services to individuals who are experiencing homelessness and need assistance in locating housing or shelter space, and Laurel now holds a position of Outreach Manager. Two years ago, Laurel decided to take courses at Simon Fraser University which she successfully completed. Starting this year while still working for Alouette Addictions, she will be taking courses with the Royal Roads University leading to a Master's Degree in Leadership [which, as stated on the University's website, is designed for "mid-to senior-level organizational leaders in the private, civil or public sector, to develop your capacity to lead organizational culture, change and innovation, recognizing the importance of values and cultural alignment"].

In her private life, Laurel loves to paddleboard in the summer, has a dog, and works towards bringing people together to get better outcomes. (Speaking of better outcomes, **Leslie Michael** says he will soon be celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his divorce from his first wife. Somehow, Laurel has managed to remain single for the first 51 years of her life, and therefore will not have the opportunity to participate in a similar commemoration.)

Installation of New Member: **Susan Pynn**, Clinical Diet Technician



Assistant Governor **Ken Holland** had the privilege of installing **Susan Pynn** as our newest member, now bringing our total membership to 34. Susan was sponsored by our President **Brenda Jenkins**.

Susan was born and raised in Corner Brook, Newfoundland. Her parents drove across the country to Burnaby, BC, in 1969, with five kids in tow from age 9 months to 12 years old. This was before the days of mandatory seatbelts, but they all managed to survive. [If you wonder why they risked the lives of all their children, maybe it's because, according to Google, Corner Brook is the snowiest city in Newfoundland where it gets on average 14 feet of snow per year.] Susan graduated from high school in 1979 and then took a vocational school two-year course for Food Services Supervisor. This led to a career in all aspects of food services in health care. She has worked a majority of her working life (40+ years) in this field, including being a Dietary Aide, Cook, Head of Production, Food Services Supervisor and Clinical Diet Technician. She has worked 10 years in Long Term Care, and has celebrated the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of her work with the Royal Columbia Hospital. (Speaking of Anniversary Celebrations, Susan was married for 32+ years before divorcing her 'significant other'.)

Susan has a passion for baking and cooking. She loves nature, especially the ocean. She says she loved camping, “till I got too old and achy”. Her and her mom loved going to Vegas every spring for many years. She has no kids, but loves all animals of the four-legged variety. She is auntie to numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews, who are all spoiled by her. (Says Susan, “they’re better than kids – you can send them home when tired of them”). Despite the love of her work, Susan is looking forward to retirement in the next two years more or less.

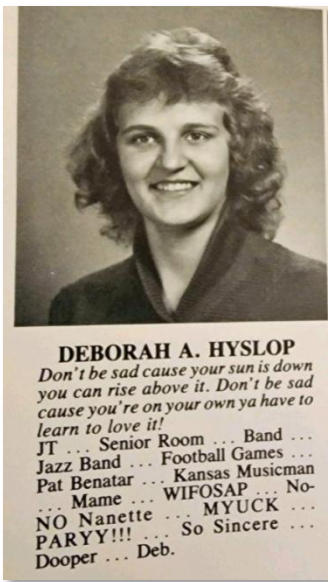
In Memoriam - Deborah Hyslop



We were all saddened by the news that a member of our Rotary family and club member, Deborah Hyslop, died on Friday, February 23, after a period of illness. As we all know, Deborah loved her cats, and Deb’s favourite cat is now in the care of Mark and Linda Vosper. Our Club Secretary Libby Nelson (who was a particularly close friend of Deb)

arranged for Rotarians to meet with Deb’s brother Scott at Brown’s Social House at 5 PM on February 29<sup>th</sup> 2024. Scott has flown in from the Boston area to settle his sister’s affairs.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to a Rotary donation to Katie’s Place in Deborah’s name, may forward their donation to Walter, our club Treasurer.



Deb in High School

YAIL - Youth Adventures In Leadership

Sharon Kyle advised that on March 1 – 3, we will be sending two grade 11 students from Garibaldi Senior Secondary School to YAIL.

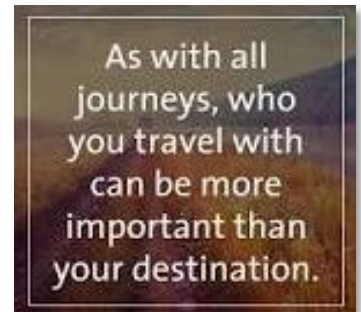
Club Business and Announcements



Adrienne Dale, our Club Services Chair, reminded us of our Saint Pat’s fellowship function at **Patrick and Stephanie O’Brien’s** home on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at 6 PM. Bring your own drinks. The meal will be catered and the cost will be \$35 per head. Please let Adrienne know if you are coming so she can make appropriate catering arrangements.

Ineke will be going to Belize from April 3-13, 2024 on a Rotary trip with the Port Moody Rotary Club, and they will take with them self-contained electronic devices, that provide teaching aids and course materials to people who are unable to connect with the Internet. Also, at the end of March, that club is shipping a container containing school supplies for school children in Belize, as well as “gently used” men’s clothing to a prison that the local Rotary Club helps to operate. The clothing will help the inmates to have proper attire when they are released from prison and looking for employment. So, anyone who as any gennntly used men’s clothing to contibute, contact ineke.

President’s Quote for the Day:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson