

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH**

**Happy Birthday**

**Happy Anniversary**

Sep 25:	Adrienne & Warren Dale
Sep 26:	Mark & Linda Vosper

**Upcoming Speakers:**

Sep 24: Keisha Rosario Trip to British Honduras Islands	Oct 01: Teri Holland (Toastmasters) 3 Keys to Goal Achievement; Secrets of High Performance	Oct 08: Stephane Doulet Pitt Meadows Fire Chief
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**LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

President **Laurie Anderson** presided.

As reported in the August 20, 2024 edition of this Four Way Flasher newsletter, the prizes won by those who purchased tickets for our **Rotary Duck Race** (that was held on August 11, 2024 at Maple Ridge Park) were given out at our Rotary meeting held on August 13, 2024.

As reported in The News:

*Thousands of yellow rubber ducks made their way along the Alouette River on Sunday, August 11, in a race to win a grand prize of \$15,000 and to raise much needed money for local community groups. About 9,000 tickets were purchased for the 13th annual Rotary Duck Race, raising money to support local youth and senior groups. Prizes were awarded for the first five ducks to cross the finish line. Grand prize winner was Jaycee Benson of Maple Ridge who took home \$15,000 cash.*



*Benson and his wife realized at the last minute they double booked the air show on the same day as the duck race and decided to head to Abbotsford because it was a full day event. "We were like, we'll go to the air show, we'll be there longer, and, you know, we're probably not going to win anyways, the duck race," he laughed. His neighbours, who were at the duck race, were the first to tell him of his big winnings.*

*"They just started messaging us saying, you guys won," he said. Benson and his wife purchased the winning ticket from their son, a member of the 1st Haney Scout Group, who was left with six extra tickets he was having trouble selling. So, Benson and his wife bought all of them, to help him out. "This is crazy. I've never really won anything, like, substantial. This is definitely the most I've ever won, for sure," he said.*

Funds raised from the event are used to provide financial support to not-for-profit youth and senior organizations like: school Parent Advisory Councils, hockey teams, arts groups, dance groups, softball teams, in addition to Rotary youth and senior projects in the communities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. Each community organization that sells tickets for the event receives 80 per cent of their club's ticket sales. Over \$90,000 worth of tickets were sold.

Today's Program: Cheque presentations to the community organizations selling Duck Race tickets

At today's meeting, cheques were given out to those organizations selling tickets. The largest benefactors this year were the local Scout Troops.

The following organizations received their 80 per cent of the tickets which they sold:



*Leanne McMaster received \$240 for Maple Ridge Elementary PAC*



*Gay Conn received \$1,600 for North Fraser Therapeutic Riding Assn*



*Laura Ribeiro received \$800 for Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre*



*Brenda Jenkins received \$1,600 for Maple Ridge Concert Band Assn.*



*Rick Trickett received \$968 for Kids Sport MR / PM*



*Karl Dagenais received \$1,600 for Laity View Elementary PAC*



*Athlete Natasha Dusault received \$1,208 for Special Olympics Ridge Meadows*



*Greta Borick-Cunningham received \$1,712 for Alouette River Management Soc.*



*Grant Frend received \$1,976 for MRSS Wrestling*



*Gayle Lyons, Margaret Attwell and Patricia Gordon received \$3,344 for Ridge Meadows Seniors Society*



*Simon Matthews received \$2,400 for KEEPS (Kanaka Education & Environmental Partnership Soc.)*



*Sherri Robinson received \$4,080 for Pitt Meadows Elementary PAC*



*Grant Frend received \$2,536 for MRSS Basketball*



*Kate Doucette and Shawna Hunter received \$6,064 for Ridge Meadows Minor Softball Assn.*



*Elaine Billing received \$2,992 for Ridge Canoe & Kayak Club*



*Nichole Rogan, Jeff Nason and Ryan Neufeld received \$6,240 for 1st Pitt Meadows Scouts*



*Jonathan Donaldson received \$9,920 for 1st Haney Scouts*

Happy and Sad Dollars included:

**Libby Nelson**, who was again this year the hard-working Chair of our Duck Race committee, was happy to welcome the recipients to today's meeting, and encouraged the groups to sign up for next year's event.

**Ineke Boekhorst**, another dedicated member of the Duck Race committee, was happy to welcome the representatives from the various organizations who receive their cheques today. She was also very happy that she and Peter and their children and grandchildren were back from a very successful family holiday to their birthplace in Holland. The trip (that had to be postponed for a couple of years because of COVID) was to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary which occurred in 2022.

**Mike Davies** was happy to get his boat tuned up again in time for a couple of trips during the summer (one to put it in the water and one to take it out).

**Lynda Lawrence** (who along with Debbie MacRae co-chaired our annual Wine Fest) reported that planning is underway for next year's event, and reminded all of us that volunteers will be badly needed to make next year's Wine Fest a successful and much needed fundraiser to support our Rotary activities.

Next Meeting:

Our next Rotary meeting, to be held on September 24, will be a joint meeting with the Haney Club where Youth Services Chairperson **Keisha Rosario** and **two students** will be telling us about their trip to the British Honduras Islands.

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**