

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 11: Andy Berrisford, Port Moody Club Disabled Children - International project	Mar 18: Dan Ruimy Mayor of Maple Ridge	Mar 25:
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LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Laurie Anderson** presided.

Guests:

We were happy to welcome **Daniel Baxter** – owner of Maple Ridge Funeral Home - who attended our meeting for a second time.

Cheque Presentations

Maple Ridge/ Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association for \$1,000 – Tina Kirkpatrick



Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Country Fest is one of the province's oldest agricultural festivals which started with the formation on June 15, 1901 of the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association.

The association's mission was to stage an annual fair to showcase local livestock, crops and agriculture, home crafts, youth work and community life – and to support and encourage the 4-H program – with a goal of bringing urban and rural people together.

Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society – for \$500 – Gail Kaufmann

The Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society is a not-for-profit organization providing complimentary transportation for Greater Vancouver and Fraser Valley residents battling cancer. Their team of volunteer drivers and dispatchers offers peace of mind for patients who may not have the means to drive to and from essential cancer treatments and cancer related medical appointments.



Program – President-elect **Alex Pope** - PELS

Alex attended the Pacific Northwest **President Elect Learning Seminar** that was held in Seattle on February 21 -23, 2025, and told us about the experience.

The incoming Rotary International President for the 2025 – 2026 year, **Mario Cesar Martins de Camargo** (aka “**Super Mario**”), was one of the speakers. De Camargo joined Rotary in 1980 at the age of 23. A past director and trustee, De Camargo will be the fourth Brazilian to serve as president of RI.



Can you tell which Super Mario will be the new President of Rotary International?

Alex says that President-elect Mario emphasized two things:

Diversity and Inclusion – members having a variety of professions and occupations make for strong clubs.

Importance of Retaining and Recruiting Membership - except for parts of Asia, membership in Rotary is decreasing. Rotary Clubs need to think about innovative ways to attract members and change how things are done.

Various ideas were tossed around (presumably at breakout sessions), including:

- having satellite clubs,
- meeting once per week doesn't work for everyone
- reduce fees for joining Rotary
- pay fees to Rotary International, but not dues for joining a Rotary Club
- reduce RI fees
- conduct "exit interviews" of members who leave Rotary: what are the reasons they left? Was it the expense involved of being a Rotarian? Or?
- energize club meetings - not all club meetings need to be conducted by the president
- be sure to have a backup program if the designated speaker is a no-show
- have a co-presidents of the club
- devise ways of getting to know your fellow club members better
- have a senior and junior Treasurer or a senior and junior Secretary, so new people will learn the job
- some clubs don't sing the national anthem any longer
- some clubs no longer have an invocation at the beginning of a meeting as it may be thought of as religious (then, call it an inspirational thought for the day)

Club Announcements and Upcoming Events

Club Board of Directors meeting: March 18 at 5:30 PM via Zoom

Rotary District Assembly:

DATE: Saturday, April 4, 2025

LOCATION: Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Surrey, BC
12666 72nd Avenue, Surrey, BC

TIME: Registration begins at 8:00 AM.

Assembly begins promptly at 9:00 AM.

The morning sessions will focus on membership and The Rotary Foundation. Members can attend either of the morning sessions. The afternoon session will include the traditional sessions for Club Officers (Presidents-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, Foundation, Youth, etc.). The District Assemblies will build networking and relationships and provide learning for both long term members and newer members who would like to better understand the value and meaning of Rotary.

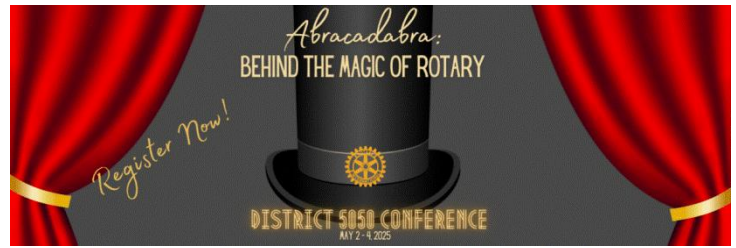
Lunch is provided. Parking is free.

Note: Clubs will be billed for a minimum of five persons for this event – no matter how many members attend, \$275 per club Canadian dollars, so let's have a good turnout.

Rotary District Conference

DATE: May 2-4, 2025

LOCATION: Tulalip Casino, Tulalip, WA.



Rotary International Convention

Date: June 21-26 – Calgary

Happy and Sad Dollars:

(aka "what's going on in the lives of our members")

Susan Pynn: The Happy news is that Susan has been a member of our Club for one year now, having been installed on February 27, 2024. The Sad news is that she has been off work, recovering from a slip and fall (aka "going down from an upright position suddenly and involuntarily with unpleasant consequences"). But more happy news is that, while off work, Susan had time to bake some bread, which resulted in many Happy Dollars being contributed because of the bread she distributed to the masses.



"So that's five loaves and two fishes---do you want curly fries and a diet Pepsi with that?"

(Also overheard near Bethsaida, on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee, a couple of thousand years ago: "Don't take this wrong. We 5,000 are appreciative of the food, we just thought next time a little variety might be nice".)

Libby is going “Down Under” (aka Australia and New Zealand) for a month. Happy holiday!



Ineke “*et al*” (aka “and others”) was Happy to have attended our monthly Pub Hub on February 27 (this month it was held at Foamers’ Folly, in Pitt meadows) where a good time was had by all. (Next Pub Hub will be held Thursday, March 27, at 5:30, at a location TBD.)

Walter is happy that his brother has been declared cancer free by the doctor.

Quote for the Day



Submitted by Laurie Anderson