

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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APRIL IS ENVIRONMENTAL MONTH

Happy Birthday

May 2: Claire Viktora

Happy Anniversary

May 2: Ken & Gayle Paterson

May 5: Raj & Evelyn Talasi

Upcoming Speakers:

Apr 29: Claire Viktora
Who's Who

May 6: Selina Robinson
Leadership requires Courage

May 13:

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Laurie Anderson** presided.

Guests

Bobby Motamed, owner of Mindhouse Consulting Inc., who says he lives in Maple Ridge, and has a wife and two kids who are all "stunning creatures".



Andy and Yvonne Berrisford, both currently of the Port Moody Club and now living in Maple Ridge.

Aird and Sheila Flavelle. Aird is the Assistant Governor for the Abbotsford Area.

Brigitte Falch-Munro (mother of Barbara Pope).

Cheque Presentation

Mike Davies presented a cheque on the amount of \$750 to **Simon Challenger** on behalf of the Emerald Pig Society, to support the free "**Bard on the Bandstand**" events, that will be held again this year in Maple Ridge on July 17, 18th and 19th, and in Pitt Meadows on July 10, 11th, and 12th. This year the Shakespearean play that will be featured is The Tempest. The Society puts on a Shakespearean play each year (usually a comedy) to raise awareness of theatre within our communities. [Fun Fact: Simon pointed out that Emerald Pig is an anagram of Maple Ridge.]



New Member Installation

Barbara Pope was installed and welcomed as a new member of our Club by **Aird Flavelle**. Our President-elect Alex Pope introduced his first and only wife Barbara, who, he claims, agreed to marry him notwithstanding the fact that on their first date he wooed her with some elephant jokes, such as "How do you get down off an elephant? You don't! You get down off a duck." The consummation of their marriage (of almost 30 years, at last count) has resulted in a happy marriage and three children.



Alex pinned a Rotary Pin on Barb, and President Laurie presented her with her Membership Certificate. WELCOME ABOARD Barb!

Program: The Organization of Rotary

Our scheduled speaker's presentation (Ruth Lee of the Pathfinders Youth Society) was postponed until May 13, 2025.

Laurie therefore took a few minutes to review with us (and our guests) how Rotary International is now organized throughout the world.

February 23, 2025 was Rotary's 120th birthday. On that date Paul Harris convened the first Rotary meeting in Chicago, Illinois, to unite professionals with diverse backgrounds to exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships. Today the Rotary organization includes members dedicated to humanitarian service in over 45,000 clubs and over 200 countries and geographical areas around the world.

Rotary as a Pyramid Structure

Think of Rotary as a pyramid with several levels that get smaller as they raise to the top. The levels or layers of Rotary International are:

1. The individual members
2. Clubs
3. Districts
4. Zones
5. The apex is Rotary International

Members

There are over 1.4 million individual Rotary members in the world, and in addition there are all the individual volunteers who help us. Think of the volunteers we had helping us with the starfish program.

Clubs

Our individual members are formed into clubs, and there are over 36,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographic areas around the world. Our individual members and clubs are the most important part of the pyramid because they are the foundation which hold up the structure, and do the main work on the ground that directly impacts people's lives. There are 27,000 Canadians belonging to 728 Rotary Clubs in Canada

Districts

Each club belongs to a District, of which there are roughly 535 Districts in the Rotary World. Our Rotary District 5050 currently has 58 clubs, and is an international District which covers the geographical area that extends from Everett, Washington to Hope, British Columbia. Of course, each District is headed by a District Governor who is currently Dave Duskin from Arlington, Washington. Our District Governor for 2025 – 2026 is Isabelle Hayer of the Rotary club of Surrey.

Zones

Districts are divided into Zones. Our District 5050 is part of Zone 28, which extends west to east, from coast to coast. The majority of Districts in Zone 28 have both Canadian and American clubs. Zones usually are made up of about 18 Districts, and there are 34 zones in all. Since 34 Zones is still a large number, the Zones are partnered in pairs for purposes of electing the Directors of Rotary International. Our Zone 28 is partnered with Zone 32 which covers the eastern seaboard and includes Boston and New York.

Rotary International

Rotary International has a Board of Directors and, of course, a President. The current president of Rotary International is Stephanie Urchick, from Pennsylvania. Before Stephanie, the President was Gordon McNally, and before him it was Jennifer Jones from Ontario. The President in Alex's year of 2025 – 2026 will be Mario Cezar Martins de Camargo (affectionately known as "Super Mario"), from Brazil. The paired Zones elect the Directors of RI, with the selection alternating between the two Zones. The Directors serve two-year terms, and the President of Rotary

International serves a one-year term. The Board of Rotary International is made up of the President and the 17 Directors elected from around the world.

Rotary International has its charitable arm, called the Rotary Foundation, which is run by the Trustees who are all Rotary members. The Rotary Foundation (Canada) ("TRFC") is a Canadian registered charity, federally incorporated on December 22, 1967. TRFC has an all-Canadian Board of Directors, which meets regularly and makes all decisions in connection with the management and investment of annual fund donations by Canadians. Among the 27,000 Canadians belonging to 728 Rotary Clubs in Canada, TRFC is a means of donating to projects including the eradication of polio, which Rotary has been a trailblazer for over 40 years – working with and supporting our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

We focus on projects that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, sanitation & hygiene, help mothers and children, support education and grow local economies, as well as on Canadian and international disaster and humanitarian relief. Rotary has in the recent past hosted its annual international conventions attended by 30,000 to 35,000 Rotarians from Canada and around the world in Montreal (2010) and Toronto (2018), and will host it in Calgary (June, 2025).

Club Announcements

May 14 – Winefest: This is our major fundraiser. Please sell some tickets. Only \$50 for a great evening. Only about 3 weeks to go. Every member is expected to buy a ticket, and to donate one bottle of wine or \$20 in lieu thereof. We purchased some "special wine" and need about \$140 to recover the cost!! We are also looking for silent auction items! Tickets are available through rotarywinefest.ca, or from Centra Law office (only \$50 a ticket).

Happy and Sad Dollars

Alex - happy that Barbara has made them both the second husband-and-wife team to be members of our club, and happy to see that Meadow Gardens has new doors on the front of our meeting establishment.

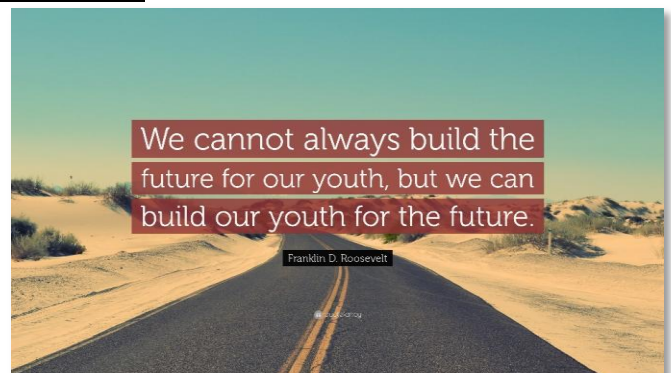
Lynda- pleased that Wine Fest tickets are selling.

Ineke - happy to be back from a successful Rotary trip to Belize, and to welcome Barbara as our newest member.

Yousef - happy to be back from a successful seven-day trip, which included Jerusalem, 4 countries and 9 airplane flights.

Laurie- happy to welcome Barbara, our second new member of this Rotary year.

Quote for the Day from Franklin D. Roosevelt



Submitted by Laurie Anderson