

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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Today: Laurie Anderson - Powers of Attorney and Representation Agreements - Preparing for Incapacity

Next Week: **July 14 Meeting is cancelled due to the duck tagging at Bob's place @ 5:30pm**

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary	Invocation
		July 07: Walter Volpatti July 21: Mark Vosper

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
July 19	11am	Rotary Duck Race – Race at 1pm	Maple Ridge Park – Alouette River
Aug. 23		Frisbee Golf at Dave Rempel's place	10607-277th St. - Maple Ridge
Oct. 27	noon	District Governor Bill Robson's official visit	

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



K.R. "RAVI" RAVINDRAN PRESIDENT 2015-16

We in Rotary aspire to great deeds. We admire those who gave great gifts to humanity: Abraham Lincoln, who gave the gift of human dignity to the downtrodden; Mother Teresa, who gave the gift of compassion to the forgotten; Mahatma Gandhi, who gave the gift of peaceful

change to the oppressed. Their very lives became gifts to the world.

We can be inspired by their example. We can be inspired to ask, how can I, *in the life that I live* – without neglecting the responsibilities that are so dear to me – how can I, too, become a gift to the world? As I considered my theme, I thought of the lessons I have learned through my Hindu faith. I thought especially of the story of Sudama.

Sudama was a poor child and a bosom friend of Krishna, who was born in a royal lineage as an avatar – an incarnation of the divine. As the two boys grow up, they drift apart, and while Krishna becomes a military leader and king of great repute, Sudama remains a humble villager.

The years go by and Sudama's poverty deepens. Finally, he lacks even food to feed his children. His wife reminds him of his childhood friendship with Krishna: Perhaps it is time to go to the mighty ruler for help. Reluctantly, Sudama agrees, but resolves that he will not go empty-handed. He gathers together a few

handfuls of rice – all the food his family has left – and wraps them in a piece of cloth as a gift for his friend.

When Sudama enters the palace, he is overwhelmed by the grandeur and by Krishna's gracious welcome. His meager gift, so carefully prepared, seems a humiliating reminder of his poverty. Krishna embraces Sudama, who hides the hand holding the rice behind his back. Krishna asks what he is holding.

Far from being disdainful, Krishna accepts the rice with gratitude and consumes it with joy as the two sit and talk together. Hours pass, during which the pleasures of their rekindled friendship push all thoughts of his desperate plight from Sudama's mind. When evening falls, Sudama sets out for home – and only then realizes that he has neglected his task. He is returning with nothing, and Krishna has eaten his family's last grains of rice.

Sudama steels himself to return to his hungry children. But standing before his gate, as dawn begins to break, he sees that the hut he left yesterday has become a stately home, and waiting to greet him is his own family: well-dressed, and well-fed by the baskets of food that appeared in their kitchen as Krishna ate each grain of Sudama's rice.

Krishna understood what Sudama had brought him: everything he had to give. In return, Krishna gave him everything he needed. It is never the material value of a gift that matters – it is the love that comes with it. Just as Sudama's gift to Krishna became a gift to Sudama, what we give through Rotary becomes a gift to us. And we all have a choice: whether to keep our gifts to ourselves or give them to others, and *Be a Gift to the World*.

We have only one chance at our lives. And we will have only one chance at this new Rotary year. This is our time. Let us grasp it. Let us *Be a Gift to the World*.

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL ROBSON



Greetings Rotarians, I am very honoured to be given the opportunity to be District 5050's Governor for 2015-2016.

I am really looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible during my club visits which will start on September 1st. Whenever possible, my lovely wife Lona will accompany me on the club visits.

I would like to start off my year by thanking PDG Lyle and First lady P.J. for a great year and certainly for a great Conference.

As I am sure most of you know, the Rotary International President introduces a theme to represent his vision for the year ahead. President Ravi's theme is "Be a gift to the world"

I am looking forward to a year of fun and great achievements.

However, please remember that Rotarians are volunteers. I have said this time and time again, Family comes first, then business/work/income stream and Rotary third.

Rotary touches many lives. Millions in the Third World have benefited from initiatives funded by The Rotary Foundation or directly by Rotary clubs – Polio Plus; water and sanitation projects; eye camps are just a few examples.

Last year our District was deeply involved with these initiatives and through the efforts of the clubs and the District Foundation team many were able to get grants approved and projects under way.

President Ravi says:

"Every one of us has something to give – whoever we are, whatever our place in life. We can give our talent, our knowledge, our abilities and our effort; we can give our dedication and our devotion. Through Rotary, we can take these gifts and make a genuine difference in the lives of others in our world."

Let's all do what we can, in whatever way we can to "Be a gift to the world".

D.G. Bill.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Brian Bekar and **David Rempel** were "recognized" as Paul Harris Fellows at our installation dinner of the new executive. However, as they were unable to attend the installation dinner, they were presented their Paul Harris awards at today's meeting.

Cheque Presentations

Angie Edmonds presented a cheque in the amount of \$500 to each of the following organizations:



Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Agricultural Association (MRPMAA)

- receiving the cheque on behalf of the Association was **Lorraine Bates**.

Lorraine advised that in 2017 they are applying to have the Musical Ride attend the agricultural fair. They are planning to invite Rotary to participate as a partner in that event, which would mean that in exchange for our helping with the ticket sales and

Rotary volunteers for the event, Rotary would receive half of the total proceeds (several thousand dollars). Lorraine would do all the work in organizing it - sounds like a great event to be involved in. Lorraine also advised that the MRPMAA recently won the Community Engagement Award for all of British Columbia, as presented by the BC Association of Agricultural Fairs Exhibitions. Our congratulations go to Lorraine and her group for this great community undertaking.



Adstock Maple Ridge Society

- receiving the cheque was **Raymond Melser**, the coordinator of the event, which will be held on Sunday, July 5, 2015 in the Maple Ridge Memorial Peace Park between 1 PM and 8 PM. There will be eight different bands playing music in the Gazebo. Raymond thanked our club for the donation, saying that they may not have been able to proceed with the event without our support.

[Adstock is a free, non-profit, alternative music festival that aims to encourage our local youth to get involved in music. They do this by both reserving youth band slots in their line-up as well as volunteer opportunities within the organization. This is the 11th annual event.]

Happy and Sad

Laurie Anderson just returned from a short vacation to the Oregon coast, but was not pleased that (while parked in a shopping centre parking lot in the town of Newport) a driver hit the side of his brand new car while the driver was trying to park her vehicle, and then left the scene without leaving her name or contact information. Fortunately, and off-duty policeman witnessed the accident and took the vehicle license number, and the police are now investigating.



Bob Shantz has now been scheduled for his surgery which will take place shortly before the Duck Race. Fortunately past Rotarian Peter Davies has agreed to fill in for Bob as Poppa Duck on the day of the event.

Brian Becker and Dave Rempel threw in a loony for their Paul Harris awards [oops, sorry, their recognitions].

Ineke Boekhorst visited her daughter and her family in Kelowna, and while there attended a joint Lions Club/Rotary pancake breakfast. Also in attendance was Premier Christy Clark (which elicited the remark from one of our club members – who will go unnamed - that they were glad to see that Kristy was finally doing something).

Ineke was also presented with a Paul Harris pin recognizing her as having now received three Paul Harris Fellowships.

Announcements

Dave Rempel reminded us to put on our calendars the date of August 23 when we will hold our **Frisbee Golf** social event at Dave's place in Ruskin.

Bob Shantz asked for volunteers to attend at his residence on Tuesday, July 14 at 5:30 PM for approximately 2 to 3 hours to get all of the ducks tagged for the Duck Race. [Because this will be held on Tuesday, **our regular club meeting is being cancelled on that date.**]

Speaker - Libby Nelson - presented her "Who's Who"

Libby was born in Melbourne, Australia, and as a young woman moved to Sydney where she trained to be a nurse. In 1967 she married a Canadian (Dick) and moved to Fruitvale, British Columbia. Libby came from a family of four girls and her husband (Dick) came from a family of six boys. I guess Libby won out, because she and Dick had three daughters.



Libby's husband was an avid Rotarian and in 1989/90 he was the District Governor of District 5080. Fruitvale has a population of only about 2,000 people, but they managed to host about 300 to 400 people who attended the District Conference in their town, using a school building as the locale for the Conference.

Despite the small size of Fruitvale, the Rotary club was very active. For example, they hosted three exchange students. Two of Libby's daughters went on a Rotary exchange (Pamela to Mexico, and Carolyn to Spain).

Libby's husband Dick died in 1992. Due to some good planning, they had taken out life insurance on Dick's life, which enabled Libby to donate the insurance proceeds of \$250,000 to the Rotary Foundation, thereby facilitating Libby becoming a member of the prestigious **Arch C. Klumph Society** of Rotary International.

[When your cumulative giving to the Rotary Foundation reaches \$250,000, you are invited to an induction ceremony at the Rotary International Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois and your picture and biography is included in the Arch C. Klumph Society interactive gallery - but being a modest person, Libby did not attend the ceremony.]

Libby was very active in local politics, and was a School Trustee for 10 years, and the Mayor of Fruitvale for 15 years, commencing in 1996. She was also the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Representative for 15 years. When she was Mayor, the Council oversaw the reconstruction of the town's water system (which for a number of years prior thereto had been on a boiled water advisory). During her time as Mayor they also rebuilt the Community Hall at a cost \$1 million, which they somehow accomplished by getting money from government and other donors. (Libby says that in order to get money out of the government, you keep going back over and over again until they get sick of you coming in, and finally give the money to get rid of you.) They also constructed a war Memorial as well as a new logo for the town. Libby is not a person who likes to be in the limelight, but as Mayor she had to ride in the Town's annual parade.

She is very proud of her daughters. One of her daughters and her husband adopted three special-needs children. Tragically, this daughter died in 2013. Her other two daughters are single. Pamela lives in Australia and is a dedicated foster parent. She took in a foster child by the name of Stephanie who had a difficult childhood and was in numerous foster homes. Pam took her into her home and looked after her for two years. Later, Stephanie herself had a child who was taken away from Stephanie by the child welfare authorities, and Pam took in Stephanie's child and looked after her for two years also, and now is looking after a third foster child. Libby's other daughter Carolyn became a lawyer.

Libby now lives in Pitt Meadows, and we are all happy that she has joined our club as one of our newer members.

50/50

This was the last meeting of the 2014-2015 Rotary Year, and of course the last meeting chaired by our illustrious President **Eric Mollema**. [Eric did not miss one Tuesday luncheon meeting throughout the whole year, a feat accomplished by only one other Rotarian, namely, our Treasurer **Walter Volpatti**.]

Eric must have been so relieved to turn the President's Chain over to incoming president Mark Forster that he had to be reminded about the 50/50 draw. This week's draw went to serial ticket winner **Bob Shantz**, who said, when his ticket was called out, "it's about time!". Unfortunately for Bob, it was not his time - he drew the 9 of Clubs.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson