



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

Today: Patrick O'Brien - Veterinarian business

Next Week: Dr. Cohen, University of the Fraser Valley - Police Based Crime Reduction

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary	Invocation
	Jan. 5: Sharon Kyle & Ron Langley	Jan. 5: Mark Vosper Jan. 12: Laurie Anderson

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Apr. 16	7 pm - 10 pm	ROTARY WINEFEST	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



There is a story told in my Hindu tradition of two sages, Shaunaka and Abhipratari. They were worshippers of Prana, the wind god. One day, the two men were about to sit down to lunch when a poor student knocked on their door, asking for food.

"No, boy, do not bother us at this hour," was the reply. The student was surprised but very hungry, so he persisted.

"Tell me, honored sirs, which deity do you worship?"

"Prana, the wind god," they answered impatiently.

"Do you not know that the world begins and ends with wind, and that wind pervades the entire universe?"

The two sages were by now very irritated by their impertinent guest. "Of course we know it!" they replied.

"Well, then," continued the student, "if Prana pervades the universe, then he pervades me also, since I am but part of the universe. He is also in this hungry body, which stands before you begging for a bite to eat! And so in denying food to me, you deny it to the very deity whom you say you serve."

The sages realized the student spoke the truth and invited him to enter and share their meal. For they understood, at that moment, that by opening the door to one who sought their help, they were not only serving that individual – but reaching toward a larger goal.

Our experience of Rotary is, for the most part, based in our own communities. We meet every week in our clubs, in the same places, with the same familiar friends. While almost all of us are involved in some way or other in international service, the Rotary we see and share from day to day feels very local. It can be easy to lose sight of the larger picture – of what our service truly means.

Every impact you have as a Rotarian, individually and through your club, is multiplied by the power of our numbers. When you feed one person who is hungry, when you educate one person who is illiterate, when you protect one child from disease, the impact may seem small. It is anything but. For it is only through the power of numbers, through the power of our individual actions and gifts, that we can have the impact we seek: to truly Be a Gift to the World.

K.R. Ravindran
President 2015-16

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

This meeting was our Christmas luncheon and party, where everyone had a great time socializing and making merry.



Guests:

- Assistant Governor DG **Clive Evans**
- exchange student **Jhon Reategui**
- **Sarah Nelson**, first host parent to Jhon
- **Lynda DeBruyn**, (with Matt)
- **Analo (Ana) Castillo**, our exchange student from Mexico in 2006/07
- **Irena Shantz**

AG **Clive Evans** presented to President Mark a certificate from Rotary International in appreciation of our Club's donations to Rotary International during the last Rotary Year.



President Mark was pleased to thank **Irena Shantz** for all the help that she has been to our Club in connection with the Duck Race and other Rotary activities, and to install her as an **Honorary Member** of our club, following which each of our members took the opportunity to individually welcome and congratulate her on this occasion.

President Mark, on behalf of our members, thanked our two primary waitresses for their attentive and pleasant service over the past year, and presented them with some money raised by the donation of our members for this purpose.



With **Ineke** officiating in our gift exchange, each person in attendance was asked to choose a gift from under the tree which (while unopened) was often promptly "stolen" by the next person whose name was called. **Jim Michals** had the dubious honour of being picked on the most by the "thieves" who made him get up from the table at least 8 or 10 times to retrieve a substitute present from under the Christmas tree.



For any members who had not already read Peter Boekhorst's ten Holliday Eating Tips, which were published in the last two editions of our 4 Way Flasher, Laurie Anderson read them out, including Peter's motto to live by:

"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, martini [or cigarette] in the other, totally worn out and screaming, "WOO HOO what a ride!"

Our 50/50 ticket was won, but the pot remains to be won by some lucky person in the New Year.

Submitted by **Laurie Anderson**