



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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MARCH IS WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

Today: Bradley Whittaker - Rotary Peace Centre

Next Week: Erika Van Oyen - Sanitary Kits for Uganda

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
March 11: Patrick O'Brien	

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Apr. 16	7 pm - 10 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30 - May 1		District Conference	Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, WA.
May 12-15		RYLA	WA, United States
Aug. 7		Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL ROBSON

March is here, Spring is just around the corner and we are celebrating Water and Sanitation month.

I have just returned from PNW PETS where I had the singular honour to act as the aide to R.I.P.E. John Germ.

John was one of the several inspirational speakers at this years training event and I am confident after speaking with several of the Presidents Elect in attendance that they are going to be ready to go on July 1st. We wish them well and all the successes they wish for their clubs.

I want to take this opportunity to extend, once again, a personal invitation to you all to join my wife and I at Semiahmoo from April 28th to May 1st for the annual District 5050 Conference.

From golf on the Thursday (Separate sign up) to a BBQ on the beach on Friday evening we are planning a FUN weekend.

We will, of course, be celebrating our success stories from this year and will also have some inspirational speakers.

We have an Olympic rowing medalist, a former Premier of British Columbia, the Right Honourable Gordon Campbell who is currently the Canadian Ambassador to the U.K., and of course some Rotary.

I implore my Canadian friends to look past the exchange rate and come down for this one weekend. When I started to organize this conference over two years ago the exchange rate was 1.03:1 and no one could have foreseen this 30% differential.

We have a contract with the resort and we must adhere to that. I need your help Rotarians.

Bill

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Fresh from President Elect Training Seminar (PETS) Ineke stood in for President Mark and kept our minds busy with ideas:

- "If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito." to quote the Dalai Lama.
- "What are you doing with the other 8?" In an average day – we sleep 8 hours and work 8 hours... A guest at a Bellevue Rotary Club was inspired by reports on club activities, and ended up, as a Rotarian, devoting time at an overseas project as a dental technician – a quickly learned art!
- The theme for next Rotary year is "Rotary Serving Humanity". Focus will be membership. Since the 1990s Rotary has LOST 1.2 million members... but also has GAINED 1.2 million members – so has remained fairly stable – at 1.2 million! There has been a considerable shift in country of origin, though, with American clubs down considerably.
- Next year is also the Centennial celebration of The Rotary Foundation. Hopefully we will also celebrate the end of polio – with just 2 cases to date in 2016, in Pakistan. The world-wide campaign to END POLIO was started by Rotary in 1985.

Rotary moment: **Walter Volpatti** shared a message from Celia de Giay – who participated in a National Polio Immunization Day in Bombay (now Mumbai), India. On the day, more than 10,000 volunteers went into action throughout the country. More than 120 million children under 5 were vaccinated – about 6,000

children a second – exemplifying “the chance to build a better world through Rotary”.

2 YAIL (Youth Adventures in Leadership) campers sponsored by our club wrote about their experience – and thanked us for their opportunity.

Duck Race plans are well underway. If you know any groups eligible for lottery funds, please check if they would like the opportunity to sell tickets – and keep \$9 of the \$10 ticket price for their own use.

Notify Terry Becker, Bonny Telep, or Ineke Boekhorst.

Happy & Sad:

- **David Rempel** said it for all of us – regrets that Jim Coulter is leaving the club. Jim has been a model Rotarian to Dave.
- **Sharon Kyle** is delighted at her rejection by her orthopedic surgeon, who doesn't want to see Sharon anymore! Sharon did recommend if anyone needs similar service in the future – she would highly recommend her surgeon so keep that in mind.
- **Ineke** was \$5 happy – fantastic PETS experience, in spite of blinding Seattle rain, and surprised at the tent city under the bridges. But sad to see Jim go – and thanked him for all his service with our club.

Jim Coulter's birthday was celebrated with a candle on a piece of cake.



Fines: diminished numbers at lunch were fined whether or not they were jealous of the members off and away enjoying beaches and boats. And you could avoid a fine if you have already sold Wine Fest ticket(s).

Program: Alouette River Management Society (ARMS)

Clint introduced presenters Greta Borick-Cunningham, Executive Director of the Society, who has worked with ARMS for 4 years on many of their projects, and Society President Ken Stewart who has been an MLA and City Councillor, and is a long time Maple Ridge resident and farmer.



The Rivers Heritage Centre is on Alouette Road on BC Corrections land. It includes a fish hatchery and Interpretive Centre. The Society was formed in 1993, and has negotiated with BC Hydro for increased flow so 5 species of salmon can come back. The focus includes watershed stewardship, education, inventory and monitoring, protection and lobbying.

Major funding grants include Maple Ridge City, gaming and the federal government. Projects undertaken include: Off-channel habitat for Coho \$100,000, sediment pond reactivation \$56,584,

Sockeye enumeration \$73,968 and Experimental sockeye hatchery \$69,740. BC Corrections inmates run the hatchery. A major future focus is the Alouette Dam fish ladder initiative, to bring sockeye and other species back up to the lake. The estimate in 2010 was \$8 million, but optional designs are being explored. At this time, the fish are physically transported up to the dam which is both expensive and hard on the fish.



After the dam was built, the sockeye failed to return to the lake, and the smaller Kokanee prevailed. Interestingly, it was an “accident” with a major spill over the dam that resulted in many small fish being carried downstream and, 4 years later they returned upstream as sockeye, and a major effort to protect them ensued.



Greta expressed thanks to their many funders, including Rotary, and mentioned ways to help the Society, including letter-writing, and donations to the Fish ladder project and volunteering in various capacities. We are encouraged to support events such as BC Rivers Day and Earth Day, and to promote and encourage participation in projects supported by the Society, including education and tour opportunities, spring break and summer camps, Adopt-a-block program, Litter Heroes and several other programs specific to younger children to help them learn about and understand their river and habitat. Details can be found on the website: www.alouetteriver.org



50/50: Betty Levens is on a lucky streak – she drew the all-important Queen of Hearts and gained \$366. Congrats, Betty!

Submitted by Libby Nelson