

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

Today: **Clint van Blanken** - RCMP Community Policing  
 Next Week:

<b>Happy Birthday</b> Jan. 20: Urma Mollema	<b>Happy Anniversary</b>
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### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Apr. 22	7 pm – 9:30pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
May 4-7		The 2017 "Make It Happen!" District Conference	Seattle Marriott Waterfront Hotel
Aug. 13		Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park – Alouette River

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

January is **VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH**:  
 Taken from "The Rotarian", November 1927

#### What Constitutes Vocational Service?

*"Real genuine friendship and the laws governing friendships provide the truest basis for all forms of enterprise. If Rotary can materially contribute to the development of friendship between individuals, businesses, professions, and nations, and if the individual is willing to make friendship on the basis of his job or vocation, then we have an ideal of service being applied in ways that should make all of us happy."*

#### Presidents Quote for the Day:

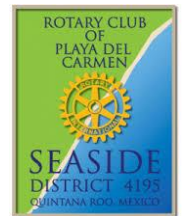
Message to 1928 Rotary Conference, Tokyo, Japan:  
*"The best antidote for international fear is international understanding; the best way to cultivate international understanding is through business and social intercourse."*

Rotary message in The Rotarian, February 1917:  
*"It is easier to interest men in war than in peace; it therefore requires more moral courage to talk peace than war."*

Ineke noted that Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> is Matt DeBruyn's birthday. [Matt, if you're reading this, "many happy returns" from all of us, meaning not only that we hope Friday the 13th was a happy birthday for you, but also that your return to us in a few months will recur many more times - and that each such occasion will be a happy one for you and for us.]

### Happy and Sad

**Irena Shantz** is happy to be back from her fun in the sun in Mexico. She presented the club with a banner that she received from the **Playa del Carmen Seaside Rotary Club** which she visited while on her vacation. She emphasized how important it is to make guests to our club feel welcome, - a sentiment echoed by our Club's president.



**Mike Davies** said that while **Gladys** was driving her car, her "rodent detector light" in the car came on red. Upon checking into the problem, it appears that a mouse or rat came in from the cold and chewed up some wiring, causing irreparable damage.



Meanwhile, **Dave Rempel** has been kept very busy with this snow and ice problem that we are currently experiencing. His various nets and fences which he has on his property to protect his birds have not been able to withstand the heavy snow, causing some of them to collapse. Fortunately, Dave himself has not collapsed under all the work of repairing the problem and keeping his birds safe, and is happy to be able to enjoy his beautiful property notwithstanding the work involved. Dave also gave a happy dollar “for having friends like you”.



**Mark Vosper** is also happy to be back from a great visit to the United Kingdom where he visited his relatives over the Christmas holidays, and also that he has learned that he will be a grandfather within the next three trimesters.

**Brian Bekar** will not be seen by us until May 3, when he will be back from Arizona where he plans to get away from the cold.

#### Fine Master

**Eric Mollema** undertook the task of raising a few dollars for the Club by accusing Dave Rempel of bragging about his acreage, Mike Davies of bragging about having a car that detects rodents, and Irena for being in Mexico. Then just to make sure that nobody felt left out, he fined everyone who hadn't yet registered for the upcoming Rotary District Conference.

#### Salvation Army Fundraiser

**Ineke** will be participating in the Salvation Army fundraiser called the “**Coldest Night of the Year**”, a fantastically fun, family-friendly walk to be held on Saturday, February 25, 2017 starting at 5:00 pm in Maple Ridge. Ineke invited Rotary club members to walk with her and get pledges from friends and neighbours, or at least sponsor Ineke by making a donation.

Ineke also noted that the Salvation Army took in \$20,000 less than expected this year from its annual Christmas Kettle Drive, no doubt largely due to the difficulty of getting volunteers to stand by the collection kettles during this cold weather. Ineke suggested that our club should support the Salvation Army next Christmas by volunteering to help in that regard, as the Army does great things in our Community.

#### Guest speaker - Mike Davies - “Who’s Who”



Mike was born in St. Catharines, Ontario, in 1944. He is the oldest of three children, the other two being a brother and a sister who still live in Ontario. Mike's father emigrated to Canada from Wales at the age of 19 years, and became a schoolteacher and later a principal. His mother was born in Warminster, Ontario.

When Mike was about six years old, his family moved to the “Center of the Universe” aka Toronto, where Mike was educated.

Mike's father worked in the public school system and traveled so much by car throughout Ontario that he had to get a new car every three years because of the mileage. Unfortunately, Mike's father died at the age of 59 years. A memorable moment in Mike's young life was when his father took the family back to Wales, where they also visited United Kingdom and France. They went by ship across the ocean and flew back.

After graduating from high school, Mike worked for Prentice Hall (a publishing company). He married a young woman that he had actually first met in kindergarten, and she worked as a schoolteacher. Mike attended the Ryerson School of Horticulture which was a three-year course, taking in approximately 80 students. The course ran 11 months of the year, involving practical work during the daytime and book work at night. He graduated in 1968.

Thereafter, he chose to move to Calgary where he had been offered a job to put his Horticulture degree to work, and was a little shocked when (having driven all the way to Calgary) he showed up for work and was told that they had “never heard of him”. Fortunately, that was a misunderstanding which was soon sorted out. He was hired in his early 20s by the City of Calgary, working in their Parks Department for two years. He supervised a crew of 45 persons who looked after the city parks and other outdoor areas. He then applied and got a job looking after four golf courses for the City, and part of his responsibility was collecting the money from those venues. Noting how times have changed, he said he thought nothing at the time of carrying thousand dollars (from golf club duties) on the front seat of his car.

After two years, Mike applied for a job at the City of Vernon in 1972, which at the time was a small town of approximate 15,000 to 20,000 people. He bought a house there for about \$21,000 and later sold it and bought a hobby farm consisting of approximate 7 acres. Mike and his family enjoyed raising horses and other animals, which, Mike says, was a very great time and experience. His time as a hobby farmer was, however, cut short when the Highways Department decided it needed 3 acres of his property. Always keeping busy, he joined the Vernon Volunteer Fire Department, where he worked up to assistant chief, and deputy chief, and also found that to be a great experience. Then for approximately 3 years he started his own landscaping business.

In 1982 he applied for and obtained a job at the Maple Ridge Parks department, with the job of supervising and looking after anything green - be it parks, the cemetery, and all municipal buildings including fire hall and recreational facilities such as the Hammond Stadium. All trades that worked in that department were under his supervision. He has really enjoyed living and working in Maple Ridge. Mike was always very involved in the community, such as being a trustee for 10 years on the diking district, and being a director of St. John's Ambulance.

One of his positions with the Parks Board was the job of Emergency Coordinator for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. He retired from the city in 2004, but came back to work for the city on a contract basis as the Emergency Coordinator until 2010. Although unsuccessful in getting elected, he also showed his community spirit by running for Municipal Council.

Since his retirement Mike has had no lack of things to do. He is the treasurer of the Maple Ridge Historical Society, a member of the Amateur Radio Club, is on the Strata Council of his strata complex where he lives, and for seven years was a member of a local Rod and Gun Club which has approximately 3500 members (and for the last 5 years of his membership, Mike was its president).

Mike has three daughters, and his second wife Gladys (they been together since 1989) has two daughters. All of his children and stepchildren are doing well in life. Mike joined our Rotary Club in 1993 and was its president in 1995. During his year as Rotary Club President, the club held its first Wine Fest. He has been awarded a Paul Harris on two occasions, and his primary area of service in our club has been on the community Services Committee where he has acted as chairman for many years. Mike says that he feels "very lucky" in the life that he has had and continues to enjoy.

50/50

**Mark Vosper** may also have been feeling "very lucky", but his luck ran out when he pulled the 7 of Hearts from the deck.

President's Closing Quote of the Day

Inaugural Message, 1941 Rotary Convention, Denver, Colorado:

*"Rotary was born in a time of peace, but its programs of service and world understanding are even more necessary in a period of world conflict."*

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**