



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP & NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Today (Aug 15): No speaker
Next Week (Aug 22): **Lauren Hinnen** - Canucks Place

| Happy Birthday | Happy Anniversary |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Aug. 20: Laura Cherrille | |

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|---------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Aug. 11 | 5 pm | Labelling the rubber Duckies at Bonny Telep's house | 21812 127 Ave. M.R. Map |
| Aug. 13 | 11 am – 2 pm | Rotary Duck Race | Maple Ridge Park – Alouette River |
| Aug. 19 | 10 am – 3 pm | Community Garage Sale | Memorial Peace Park (South side) M.R. |

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



When someone asks you, "What is Rotary?" what do you say? I think we've all had the experience of being asked that deceptively simple question and finding ourselves suddenly at a loss for words. Even the most articulate among us have a hard time capturing the essence of our organization in just a few sentences.

As an organization, Rotary has always had a difficult time conveying the scope of our work: not just what we do, but how we do it, and the value of what we contribute to the world.

As an accountant, I like numbers. They work in every language, and often they communicate complex information much more effectively than words. That is why, in this Rotary year, I am asking each club to provide Rotary headquarters with two numbers: the amount of money, both in cash and in kind, spent on humanitarian service; and the number of hours of work performed in Rotary's name.

If we want these numbers to be useful, they have to be accurate. That means beginning now to accurately track the hours and the money that our clubs spend on their service.

The simplest way for clubs to provide this information at the end of the year will be by entering it every month on Rotary Club Central – a tool that has been completely rebuilt and relaunched to be significantly more useful, and user-friendly, than it has

been in the past. If for some reason (for example, limited internet access) your club is not able to connect to Rotary Club Central, please be in touch with your district governor, who will ensure that your information can be submitted through other means.

I cannot emphasize strongly enough that the goal of this effort is not getting the largest and most impressive numbers. There is not going to be any competition, recognition, or public use whatsoever of the numbers reported by any individual club. The goal is accurate and reliable numbers that we can present confidently in our public image work, in our membership materials, and to our partners – numbers backed by specific data, on the club level, that answer not only the question, "What is Rotary?" but the question, "What does Rotary do?"

I strongly believe that with these numbers, we will be better able to demonstrate the value of *Rotary: Making a Difference* – which in time will enable us to make more of a difference, for more people, in more ways, than ever.

Ian H.S. Riseley
President 2017-18

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President's quote for the day:

*Be strong enough to stand alone.
 Be yourself enough to stand apart.
 Be wise enough to stand together when the time comes.*

Happy and Sad

Deborah Hyslop - August 8 (today) is International Cat Day!



Dave Rempel - had a successful family celebration. Dave's wife Sharon recently did well at a dog competition.

Patrick O'Brien – wished to recognize Brian Bekar for arranging for six or eight young fireman to help in the river during the duck race.



Pres. Libby Nelson - attended a Lady Gaga concert (one-upmanship on Laurie's Neil Diamond concert?)

Doris Gagel dropped in to the meeting for a moment to introduce her friend who is also named Doris.

Our incoming exchange student

Ineke Boekhorst advised that the young lady who was going to be our incoming exchange student was unable to come this year, and the search is on for another student from Austria. The replacement may not be able to come until September. As far as our outbound exchange student is concerned, she is leaving Thursday, August 10, and is very excited about the prospect. Ineke dropped off to her some Canada pins and club banners to take with her on her journey.

Ineke also advised that the new Club Member Directory will be out shortly. If anyone wants to change their photograph which will appear in it, send it to Peter Boekhorst.

Program - BC Federation of Foster Parent Associations (BCFFPA)



Representing this organization as our guests were **Anita Cymet** and **Tamara Smith**. Anita works as a fundraiser for the organization, and has been with this job for just under a year. Our speaker was Tamara who is currently a volunteer with the organization. She has been a foster parent for 14 years, and fosters very high risk youth who are difficult to place.

She is the Past President of the

Abbotsford Local Foster Parent Association, was on the BCFFPA Board of Directors, co-facilitated the Advocacy Training Program, was a past BCFFPA delegate to the Canadian Foster Family Association, and now provides direct support and consultation to foster parents. She has served the child and family welfare sector for over 18 years. She began as a youth worker in Mission and worked her way up through the ranks. She holds a Masters in Psychology and is currently working towards her PhD.

As a youth, she experienced violence in her home and got involved in youth gangs. This experience made her to decide to become a youth worker, and helped her to understand, deal with, and help troubled children. She has had eight foster children in her home over the years and is still in touch with all of them. She considers them her "children" and now has "grandchildren" which she also keeps in touch with. One young foster child that she took into her care had been in 32 homes in

two years. She acted out and was very difficult to deal with, and her extreme behaviour included setting fire to the houses as she was living in. Tamara realized that because of the trauma of the child's youth, and her inability to have a relationship with people, the child expected that she would be thrown out of the homes again, and had the attitude that "if I'm going to be thrown out, I'm going to do it on my terms". The truth of the matter was that she felt she had better get out before she got attached to someone (as the hurt of separation would be too much to bear". Samara persisted and said to her, "if you burn our house down, we are both going to be on the street because I'm not leaving you".

Tamara stated that there is a gap in services for young people, especially for young people who are most at risk. She says the "system is broken". The Foster Parents Association tries to fill that gap, acting as a liaison between caregivers and the government.

Foster children is a community issue, says Tamara. Samara advised that there are 57 foster homes in Maple Ridge and seven in Pitt Meadows. The regulations state that the maximum number of foster children in one home for "Level I" care is five, but some homes do go beyond that. Being a foster parent should be considered a full-time job with benefits, but the government does not fund it on that basis.

What exactly is BCFFPA?

We are a registered non-profit society created by foster parents, for foster parents and governed by foster parents. We bring together foster parents, social workers, groups and individuals who are working to improve the standard of care for children in British Columbia. We provide recruitment services for the Ministry of Children and Family Development and work together in partnership in the development of policy and practice for foster care service across the province. BC's foster parents can come to us for information, professional development opportunities, referral, guidance about policy, advocacy, and support or assistance of all kinds. Our Local Foster Parent Associations and Board of Directors are run by foster parent volunteers who are elected by our foster parent members.

The society is funded approximately 80% through a contract with the Ministry of Children and Family Development, and 20% through donations. An application for funding to our Club has been made by the Local Association.



50/50

Our Treasurer **Walter Volpatti** didn't go home any richer - but did reduce the deck by ousting the 5 of Clubs.

President's closing quote:

Efficiency is doing things right.

Effectiveness is doing the right things.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson