

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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OCTOBER IS ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Today (Oct. 02):
Next Week (Oct. 09): Business Meeting

| Happy Birthday | Happy Anniversary |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Oct. 2: Clint Callison | |

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|---------|------|-------------------------------|---|
| Dec. 16 | | Christmas Party at Adrienne's | 10295 248 St, Maple Ridge |

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Every Thursday morning, I receive an email from the World Health Organization with an update on the status of polio eradication. It contains a wealth of information, country by country: where and how immunization campaigns are being conducted, how many millions of children are being vaccinated, and where environmental surveillance has

found evidence of circulating virus. But every week, when that email appears in my inbox, my heart seems to stop for just a moment until I read the first few lines – and learn whether a child was paralyzed by wild poliovirus that week.

That, my friends, is where we are today in the work of polio eradication. The question on my mind as I open that message isn't how many thousands of cases we might see in a year, as we did not too long ago, or even how many hundreds. Instead, when that WHO email arrives every Thursday, the single, binary question it answers is: Was there a new case this week, or wasn't there?

Thirty years ago, 1,000 children were paralyzed by polio every single day. Since then, we've marked our progress, year by year, week by week. We've celebrated as country after country, region after region has been declared polio-free. As we've come closer and closer to our goal, and the number of cases has dropped further and further, the children those numbers reflect have become less and less of an abstraction. When I open that Thursday email, I don't wonder what number I'll see. I wonder, was a child paralyzed this week or not?

We are so close to eradication – but there is so much work left to do.

This month, I ask every Rotary club to help End Polio Now by marking World Polio Day on 24 October. Last year, thousands of Rotary clubs around the world held events to raise awareness and funds for polio eradication. This year, we want to see more World Polio Day events registered than ever. If you have an event planned, be sure to register and promote it at endpolio.org so that more people can take part. If you haven't planned one yet, it's not too late – visit endpolio.org to find ideas, information on this year's livestream, and resources to help your club organize a successful event.

World Polio Day is a tremendous opportunity for clubs to highlight Rotary, and our historic work to eradicate polio, in their own communities. It is also a great way to take advantage of the challenge from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: For every dollar that Rotary raises for polio eradication, the Gates Foundation will give two more. Join me, and Rotarians everywhere, on 24 October for World Polio Day – and *Be the Inspiration* for a polio-free world.

Barry Rassin
President 2018-19

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Presidents quote:



Guests: Gordon and Mary Robson

Happy and Sad:

Treasurer **Walter Volpatti** advised that gaming funds had been approved for another year.

Matt DeBruyn and **Dave Rempel**: sitting beside each other in the meeting resulted in some “good conversation”, and a loonie became a toonie, as each put a dollar in the cup.

Matt had a few more bucks to put in the cup, announcing:

- that Friday, October 5 might be the occasion for a “real fireside” at Matt’s place.
- October 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th are the occasions for delivering dictionaries to the schools.
- there are no occasions set yet for the four-way test in the schools.
- bursary cheques have now been paid out to four of the nine successful applicants.

Ineke Boekhorst advised that on September 28 there was a lot of students sent packing, with backpacks that is, as the first backpacks went out on that occasion.

On a very sad note, **David Telep** passed away and will be a very much missed member of our community.

Fine master:

Matt DeBruyn fined everyone who was not attending the location of the dictionary labeling evening this coming Friday. But don’t mark your calendars, because after everyone paid a fine, Matt then announced that the occasion had been cancelled!

President Clint Callison attended the Starfish Pack meeting, which brought home to him the large number of students which would go hungry without this program.

Program: Brenda Jenkins, that’s Who’s Who



We were all obviously very entranced and entertained with Brenda’s enthusiastic talk (during which we all got to know about her, and her interesting family history) as the meeting went 15 minutes overtime.

Childhood and Play Clothes:

Brenda was raised on Vancouver Island where she enjoyed a great childhood. She was the oldest of five children born into a rather formal, but obviously fun loving if also fishy, Chinese family. Formal, in that her parents always were usually dressed up, and had the rule that if you’re going to come to dinner you couldn’t come in your play clothes. Fishy, in that she and her father had a rather fun and successful time salmon fishing.

Cadillac Education:

Although she lived on the island which contained the capital of British Columbia, she obviously did not have a provincial attitude, because after graduating from high school she wrote to several universities and was accepted at Dalhousie.

Whether it was because of lack of money or that her parents didn’t want her to be so far away, she ended up at UBC (you will have to ask Brenda if you want to know what she says that is an abbreviation of) in her 1959 Cadillac (that in those days you could fill up for \$10). Besides gas, she filled up the 1959 boat with 10 girls (five in the back seat and five in the front) and had what sounded like a bit of partying from time to time, but still ended up with a Bachelor of Arts.

Mother’s Family:

Her mom’s family was one of the oldest Chinese families in British Columbia. Her great-grandfather came to British Columbia as a Chinese labourer to help build the railway. Her grandfather was such an entrepreneur that he ended up very wealthy and built the first building in Chinatown in the 1888. At that time, False Creek came lapping out the door. He owned seven canneries and helped thousands of Chinese immigrants and local families. He had three wives in China and one in British Columbia (which was quite legal and not unusual in those days), which produced 23 sons and one daughter, and which will help to explain why, at a recent family reunion, there were 880 persons on the guest list.

Fathers Family:

Brenda’s paternal grandfather reversed the trend of the maternal grandfather’s male-dominated family, and had 12 daughters. He couldn’t speak English, and immigration official gave him the surname of York. (Thus, Brenda became Brenda Christine York). Her grandfather, Charlie York, owned a tailoring shop for many years (“York Tailors”), and during the second world war was hired on as the tailor in Comox naval base, sewing badges and the like on to the soldiers’ uniforms.

Post UBC:

One of Brenda’s first jobs was in a logging camp. She drove (with her father) to the logging camp, and apparently she so impressed the management with her drive and enthusiasm that they gave her a job. She learned how to type up contracts for various tree planters, and also learned “too many four letter words”. The pay was good and she was able to pay off a student loan. She then applied for a job with the RCMP, not as an officer, but in property management, where she looked after RCMP properties and negotiated leases, etc. She went to BCIT for further education, and became the first female Property Manager for the RCMP.

At the age of 32, her (now) husband finally wore her down and she agreed to marry him. They now have the “greatest son in the world”, and both are local real estate agents.

President’s Closing Quip for the day: (John P Getty)



Submitted by Laurie Anderson

Dictionary 4 Life

Friday, September 28, Matt and Ineke made the first dictionary deliveries for the 2018/2019 school year.

A total of 77 dictionaries were delivered to MR Christian and St. Patrick's school grade 4 students.

Remaining, about 1100 dictionaries will be delivered in the week directly following Thanksgiving weekend.

If you are interested to assist, please let Matt DeBruyn know.



Eva Cowley was our outgoing Exchange Student to Taipei

Following is a post on Maple Ridge Secondary School's Facebook page:

In June, student Eva Cowley was preparing to return home from 11 months in Taipei on a Rotary International Youth Exchange and for her grade 12 year at MRSS. Instead, Eva found out that she had received a two-year scholarship to complete an International Baccalaureate program at the United World College in Maastricht, Netherlands.

"I am thrilled to be part of the UWC community. My three roommates are from Sierra Leone, Nepal and Japan and I am studying with students from all over the world. The 17 UWC schools around the world have a mission to promote peace and sustainable living through education," she said.

Eva's love of languages began in the SD42 French Immersion programs at Eric Langton Elementary and Maple Ridge Secondary. She then also joined the Japanese language school at the Maple Ridge Library on Saturdays. In Taiwan, her sponsoring Rotary Club provided Chinese instruction at the Taipei National University. In May, Cowley was able to pass the government Chinese language proficiency exam at the A2 level.

Although she had been looking forward to reconnecting with some special teachers and having time to volunteer in her own hometown, Eva is loving her life in the Netherlands. "I am thankful to the teachers and programs that supported me in school and to the two Rotary Clubs in town that sponsored me for the Youth Exchange. Both of these good starts have helped me get here."

Cheque presentation for Starfish Pack program

Angela Charron from Chances Community Gaming Centre presented a cheque for \$1050 towards the Starfish Pack Program.

First distribution of the backpacks for the 2018/2019 school year took place Friday September 28, 2018.

We started this year with 64 backpacks to 8 elementary schools (2 in Pitt Meadows and 6 in Maple Ridge).

