



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

**Today** (Sep 3): Karen McDiarmid, from the Vancouver Yaletown Club - the [TechAbility Project](#)

**Next Week** (Sep 10):

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
Sep. 3: Dave Rempel	
Sep. 4: Doris Gagel	

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sep. 6 - 8		Rotary Camping Weekend	Fort Camping - ( <a href="#">9451 Glover Rd, Fort Langley</a> )

### RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Here in the United States, another summer is winding down. And for the Maloney family, every summer ends with a return to my hometown of Ridgway, Illinois, for the annual Popcorn Day festival, where I am honoured to serve as the "Popcorn King," the master of ceremonies for the day's events.

Regardless of the season, every family has its own traditions. I would like to suggest a new one for yours: Find an opportunity to introduce your family to Rotary. One of my family's traditions is to take our daughters and grandsons to the Rotary International Convention. The 2020 convention in Honolulu will be a wonderful way to introduce your children and grandchildren to the internationality of Rotary. We are planning many family-oriented events for everyone to enjoy.

Any time is a fabulous time to bring family members on a Rotary service project or to a fundraising event. But perhaps you have not seen many family-friendly events at your club. That is precisely why one of my top priorities this year is to make most Rotary events welcoming to family members.

We must foster a culture where Rotary does not compete with family, but complements it. We should never expect our members to choose between the two. That means being realistic in our expectations, considerate in our scheduling, and welcoming of children at Rotary events on every level.

Often, the young professionals that Rotary needs to attract in order to remain a dynamic 21st-century service organization are the very people who have the greatest family responsibilities. We must not keep these prospective young members away from their families by holding events on evenings and weekends at which their children are not welcome.

For too long, we have closed the doors of many Rotary events to children and sometimes even spouses. What wasted opportunities these are! Every chance we have to pass on the gift of Rotary to young people is one we must take if we are going to grow Rotary and ensure that the next generation is fully engaged in our mission.

So let us open our doors and do it in a fun way, with opportunities that make our children and grandchildren want to learn more about Interact, Rotaract, and Rotary membership. Start small if you must — perhaps by holding some of your meetings at more family-friendly times — but think about how you can continue these kinds of events for years to come.

Bringing children to Rotary events is not just fun; it also exposes them to the world! Make this a memorable year for your family — and an unforgettable year for the ever-expanding family of Rotary as *Rotary Connects the World*.

**Mark Daniel Maloney**  
RI President 2019-2020

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Adrienne Dale** presided.

#### Guests:

District Governor **Brad Whittaker**

Assistant District Governor **Al Stjernegaard**

**Chili Yalamanchili** - invited by Lynda Lawrence

## Program: official visit of our district Governor



**AG Al Stjernegaard** introduced our District Governor:

**Brad Whittaker** and his wife, Kim Isaac, live with their dog Rosie and three rescued cats in Chilliwack. He has two sets of stepsons who live in B.C. and Mexico. He recently retired after 16 years as Director of Research Services and Industry Liaison at the University of the Fraser Valley in Abbotsford. Previous to that, he has

had a variety of jobs: a high school teacher, college lab instructor, liquor store clerk, house builder, director of a provincial environmental health project, consultant to Health Canada, coordinator for the Fraser Basin Council, manager of a college campus, and partner in a public relations and communications firm. Brad has a BSc in biochemistry, a professional teaching certificate, and a master's in public administration.

Brad was born and grew up in rural Vancouver Island. He has been a volunteer in several organizations including president or chair of ElderCollege Chilliwack, Fraser Valley Watersheds Coalition, Chilliwack Social Research and Planning Council, and Chilliwack Community Arts Council.

In 2002, his colleague, Ian Fenwick, invited him to join the Rotary Club of Chilliwack where off key singers were allowed to sing in public. The reason Brad joined Rotary was to network with others, do more locally and become involved in international projects. He has stayed for those reasons but along the way has also discovered many new friendships, both at the club and district levels. He enjoyed being President of the club in 2012-2013. From 2014-2017, Brad served at the District level as Assistant Governor for Area B (Abbotsford-Mission). He is also a member of the faculty of the Rotary Learning Institute, and a member of the Visioning Team.

Brad and Kim are Major Donors and members of the Bequest Society, and Brad is a member of the Paul Harris Society. Brad is humbled and honoured to District Governor. He sees this as a great opportunity to do more, give back, make a difference, and connect with Rotarians district and world-wide. He looks forward to serving each member and each club in the District and helping them have a great Rotary experience. He believes the second part of his DG term (year 2020) will provide great hindsight.

Brad's hobbies include travel, theatre, gardening (sometimes with a chainsaw), sports (formerly as a jock, now a spectator), and photography. He has survived chasing grizzly bears unarmed, travelling with livestock on the decks of cargo boats, and living in -40 degrees (C and F) northern Saskatchewan.



## Our District Governor's Presentation:

Since Rotary was founded in 1905, the world has changed in many ways, with new technology, inventions, and means of communication. But our core values have not changed, including such things as service, family, friends and fellowship.

Rotary's vision statement is as follows:

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create long-lasting change - across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves."

Rotary International has a strategic action plan which sets the following priorities:

### 1. Increase our impact in the world.

Through its battle against polio, Rotary has impacted the world in a major way. It has just been announced that Nigeria has been declared a polio free zone. It is unfortunate that this year there have been a rise in the number of polio cases, namely, approximately 70 in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But Rotary will continue to read the world of this terrible disease.

### 2. Expand our reach.

We can expand our reach by partnering with other organizations and including others in our projects. In this way we will get more done.

### 3. Enhance participant engagement.

At a club level, members need to feel heard and need to be fulfilled if we are to attract and keep members. Last year more people left Rotary than joined it. We must reverse this trend if Rotary is to continue to be successful. The more members we have, the more we will be able to accomplish.

### 4. Increase our ability to adapt.

We need to be more flexible in the setup of our meetings. It used to be that members were required to attend a certain number of meetings the year, but this is not always possible. We need to adapt to changing times.

Our Rotary clubs need a strategic plan. The theme of our new Rotary International President is Rotary Connects The World. To accomplish this goal of connecting the world, we need to grow Rotary by increasing our membership, supporting our International Foundation, and enhance our public image. We should think about creating new membership models (by having classification of members, for example, who do not have to attend every meeting), and build new Rotary and Rotaract clubs. We should also bring our families into Rotary. We are encouraged to learn more about Rotary and become involved beyond the club level. We may do this by participating in one or more upcoming Rotary events which include:

- Foundation Dinner in Abbotsford on November 5
- District Assembly in Surrey on April 4
- District Conference in Harrison Hot Springs from April 30 to May 3
- Attend the Peace Conference in California on January 17th and 18th
- attend the International convention in Honolulu to be held June 6 to June 10

Get involved in Rotary Action Groups. There are many such groups including those involved in Literacy, Hearing, Malaria, Water and Sanitation, Endangered Species, Polio Survivors, and Health Education.

Consider joining a Rotary Fellowship like Peter and Ineke, who belong to:



*(Rally at 2018 Conference in Toronto)*

Other groups include Cycling, Fishing, Hiking, Motorcycling, or Wine, beer or Whiskey. Who knows - you might even be able to do a house exchange with another Rotarian family and stay in something like this:



*(or maybe this?)*



In conclusion, District Governor Brad encourages us all to attend the District Conference at Harrison Hot Springs from April 30 to May 3, 2020, where the cost will only be only \$325 in Canadian funds.



DG Brad presented **Peter Boekhorst** and **Laurie Anderson** with a pin (one each, actually) to recognize their work in publishing the Four-Way Flasher every week (with the help of Patrick O'Brien filling in to take notes when needed).

**President Dale's Irish blessing:**



**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**