



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

President: Adrienne Dale Phone: 778-242-5549  
 Secretary: Brenda Jenkins Phone: 604-816-6961  
 Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-3392

[E-mail the President](#)  
[E-mail the Secretary](#)  
[E-mail the Editor](#)



## FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

**Today** Feb 18: Al Hogarth - Chamber of Commerce

**Next Week** Feb 25: David Zuvic - Positively Speaking Toastmasters Maple Ridge

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mar. 28	6:00 pm	30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of our Club's Charter	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Apr. 25	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30-May 3		District Conference in Harrison Hot Springs	<a href="#">Harrison Resort</a>
June 6-10		RI International Convention in Honolulu	<a href="#">Hawaii Convention Center</a>

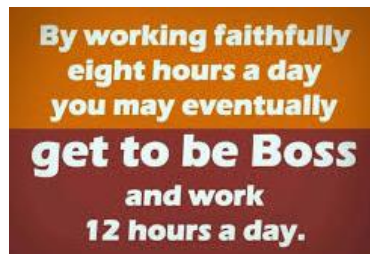
### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Adrienne Dale** presided.

Guests:

- Karen McDiarmid** - of the Rotary Club of Vancouver Yaletown
- Irena Shantz** - honorary member of Meadow Ridge Rotary Club
- Katherine Wagner** - Golden Ears Writers
- Ronda Payne** - Golden Ears Writers

**Presidents Quote for the Day:**



Visioning Session:

Adrienne thanked **Eric Mollema** for all his work in arranging the Visioning Session which was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2020. The purpose of a Visioning Session is to help members of a club "in achieving continuity, consistency and consensus with regards to how they view the future of their club", to help the club develop a "club vision for the next five years that helps guide their planning process", and "in developing action plans to achieve their goals". The District Rotarians who conducted the Session complemented us by saying we were "model visioners". Eric has summarized the results of the meeting for the executive who will review the summary and report further to the Club.

New Member:

President Adrienne advised that **Ken Holland** has been accepted as a new member of our club and will be inducted at our next meeting.

Happy and Sad:

- Lynda Lawrence** - her dad has been admitted to the hospital again,
- Laurie Anderson** - Firstly, **David Rempel** sends his regrets but was called out to Cultus Lake to rescue a swan (whose companion was killed by a raccoon). Secondly, something about driverless cars and 99 year old female humanoid robots (you had to be there).
- Brian Bekar** - a happy \$20 - His new Mark's Work Wearhouse store is opening in Abbotsford in a few days.

Program: Golden Ears Writers:

**Katherine Wagner and Ronda Payne** spoke to us about Golden Ears Writers. Ronda is primarily a freelance non-fiction writer but also is the writer of fiction. Katherine is mainly a horror science fiction writer, although said she originally started in nonfiction; and she also writes a column for the local News. They explained that Golden Ears Writers is not a membership group or a club but puts on events with the help of others to help and encourage writers. Both Katherine and Ronda work at their professions full-time.



Katherine explained what they do and how they got there, as follows:

*“For several years, I had to travel outside of my home city to find a writing community. The situation prompted me to explore ways to connect with and bring together local writers. For my first effort, I advertised through the local library for fellow writers interested in forming a critique group, and Maple Ridge Writers (a monthly group that has met for ten years) was the result. I also looked to what worked in other lower mainland communities. In particular, the late Ed Griffin’s work developing a writing community in Surrey inspired me. Around that time, I met Andrea Walker at Women’s AM and she introduced me to Ronda Payne. The three of us shared a vision of creating a supportive writing community, and in the fall of 2010 Golden Ears Writers was born.*

*Initially, we organized a weekly drop-in critique group. The following year, the ACT Theatre offered us a “lobby night” slot on the third Tuesday of every month except July and August. We meet from 7-9pm. Ed Griffin provided tips on community building and suggested our first event—a jamboree-style evening for writers to meet and network. For the first few months, Andrea, Ronda and I created much of the programming and worked to build awareness and attendance. We twisted the arms of writing friends, asking them to come out and present on a writing topic. Soon writers were approaching us with offers to present and our attendance grew to a respectable 25 to 50 writers each month, depending on the topic.*

*The lobby of The ACT Maple Ridge is an ideal venue. It’s spacious and welcoming. The theatre sets up the space to suit our needs and opens the concession/bar for our events. Eight meetings a year are devoted to talks and workshops on topics of interest to writers, including titles like: Social Media for Writers; Persuasive Writing; The Editing Process; Writing Fast Fiction; Literary Magazines; Writing Memoir; Garden Writing; Health and Fitness for Creative People; Speculative Fiction; Running a Successful Kickstarter; and many more.*

*We devote two sessions a year to ten-minute readings by local writers. Many non-writing community members attend the holiday readings in December. This is the sixth season for Golden Ears Writers lobby nights at the ACT. [The next Lobby Night is on February 18, 2020 with Ronda Payne talking about Getting Started Freelance Writing.]*



*Ronda and I continue as the main organizers. Christine Grimard and others step up to give us a hand when needed. We’ve added a two-night Ghost Story Writing Retreat at UBC’s Loon Lake Lodge in November. Writers join us from across the lower mainland. We are an adult group, but some events are suitable for older teens (please check with us first). There is no charge to attend lobby nights, and lots of low-cost parking is available under the venue.*

*Information about upcoming workshops and events can be found on our Facebook page – [facebook.com/GoldenEarsWriters](https://facebook.com/GoldenEarsWriters). We also send out a once-a-month email newsletter. To add your name to the list, contact me at above mentioned Facebook page.*

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**