

Meeting Notes from September 5th meeting

By Bill King

Bob Pulleyblank and his new orchestra lead the club in O Canada. **Dale** said grace or invocation. **Janeane** introduced guests who were identified as **Lorne McGilivray** by **Ross** and **Margo Taylor** an architect by **Art Rotherham**. **Ed Borisenko** addressed the health of the club by stating the club's health is good and recognized both **Harry Wipper** and **Don Kemp**. **President Wayne** acknowledged those who represented the club for photo opportunity at Buttertubs marsh. **Janeane** announced at board meeting will be held this Tuesday evening. **Lila Tanner** related that the founder of the Shelter Box program is hosting a dinner in Ladysmith tickets are \$40. **Lila** went on to say she hosted bridge last week and **Al Smith** will be host in two weeks.

Sgt. at Arms, **Bob Fenty** said Group Study Exchange has 10 lead applicants and 26 team member applicants. **Dave Hammond** related his story about buying a ticket on Zoom airline which recently went bankrupt and stated that Keith Mc. was instrumental in getting a refund and advised all to always purchase airline tickets with their credit card. **Jane Currie** thanked **Lila** for the enjoyable time at bridge and told a sad story about leaks in her new house but has a happy ending since everything is now OK. **Susan Gerrand** advised the club on another grandchild. **Pres. Wayne** stated he had a great vacation in the prairies and that he and Gail are happy their daughter arrived safely in Korea. **Brave Brent** told us of a hiking story when he encountered a cougar in the middle of the night. **Janeane** said she is happy to have her children back in school and she is hosting a student from Finland. **Bob Pulleyblank**, always a promoter of NTG says their next presentation is *Nurse Jones Goes to Hawaii* and is well worth seeing. **Lucie** giving regrets over the

passing of past member **Ross**

Purse. PDG Ross gave a lengthy account of trying to reach Lila who is apparently cocooning. All efforts ended in failure. He however, had great success in having **Ian Williams** create a video of 5 national anthems including the Canadian and U.S. anthems. *Ed. Note - I would like to acknowledge Mrs. Rim Shin from the Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society for helping me with the Korean National Anthem. - I.W.*

Bruce Samson is happy his mother safely arrived from Nova Scotia to attend the wedding of his and Jane's daughter.

Program - Holocaust Survivor

By *Lucie Gosselin*

Guenter Raedler introduced our speaker for today, Peter Parker. Peter is a Holocaust survivor. Peter and Guenter met in Canada and have been friends for 20 years.

Our members sat in total silence for ½ an hour as Peter told us his story which started with an 11 year old school boy in Vienna, Austria in 1938 who happened to be Jewish. He lived with his mother and 13 year old sister. In a calm tone he told us of his journey which took him from being a kid in the school yard playing with his friends and ended with a



The winners! Table stakes were won by Pres. Wayne and the wine was won by Gord Hubley.



Guenter Raedler, Susan Gerrand and our speaker Peter Parker .

16 year old doing hard labour in a concentration camp in Auschwitz.

The escape from Austria took the family through Czechoslovakia where the two children became separated from their mother. Their mother ended up in England and the children ended up with their grandmother in Belgium. The grandmother died in an accident during the winter of 1940/41 which left 13 year old Peter and his sister starving in the streets. He told of going 2 or 3 days at a time without food and eating roots and restaurant scraps to survive.

By this time, Belgium was under German occupation but Peter and his sister were fair haired, did not wear the prescribed yellow star and they kept moving which allowed them to avoid capture for a while. By 1942 Peter got picked up by the Gestapo. His sister managed to get away.

Peter then described the physical, emotional and psychological abuse which followed. He experienced the infamous assembly of captives and the following truck and train transportation to the labor camp. He told us how only 300 out of the 4000 who were in his train were selected to have the privilege of hard labor because the alternative was immediate extermination. However, with the extreme weather conditions, starvation, poor sanitation and disease, many of the "chosen" eventually died. Because Peter managed to get himself assigned to kitchen duty, he

managed to scrape up enough food to survive.

In July 1944, the prisoners were marched out of the concentration camp and taken by train to Austria. He described the heat and the extreme thirst the men suffered during the long march to the train. That is where he still was in the spring of 1945 when the allied forces invaded Austria. He still remembers hearing the words of the allies saying "you're free".

Peter was reunited with both his sister and his mother. His sister was still in Brussels, Belgium and his mother was still in England.

Bruce Tait who is a WWII vet thanked the speaker in a most eloquent fashion. He talked about his



generation's pledge to never let such an atrocity happen again and how sad he is to know that it has happened and continues to happen in various nations.

FOUNDATION TALK



1) Club Presidents and Foundation Chairs:

Have you brought the Fall Foundation Seminars to the attention of your club members? A reminder that fall is fast approaching and it's time to put these dates in your calendars:

Saturday, **October 18th** in Duncan.
Saturday, **October 25th** in Tacoma

Full details, including how to register, can be found at this site:

<http://www.rotary5020.org/foundation/training.php> .

Why not get a group from your club and come to the seminar to learn more about our Foundation and how you can be a part of making a difference in the lives of so many others less fortunate - including those in our own communities.

2) You no doubt have all been hearing that the Rotary Foundation is embarking on a **Future Vision Plan** - but what is it?

Well, it's a complex subject until you get the hang of it and so I am going to do a Q and A in each Foundation Talk this year so that you will be as informed as you need to be with regard to the Future Vision Plan.

Have a great week everyone - see below for the first two Frequently Asked Questions about the Future Vision Plan.

Cheers,
Joan

Why is The Rotary Foundation changing its grant-making model?

The Foundation has made only slight modifications to its programs since its inception in 1917. As we prepare for the next century of service, the Foundation has updated its mission and created a more effective and efficient way to help Rotarians develop diverse projects with greater impact and sustainable outcomes.

How will the new model work?

The Foundation will offer two types of grants:

1) **Rotary Foundation District**

Grants are block grants made to districts to support smaller projects, both locally and internationally. Districts may use up to 50 percent of their available District Designated Fund (DDF) for these grants in a given Rotary year and administers the grant without the Foundation's involvement.

2) **Rotary Foundation Global**

Grants support larger projects with sustainable, high-impact outcomes in one of the six areas of focus. These grants would be administered by the Foundation in a manner similar to the current system.

a. Clubs and districts can create their own global grant projects, which are funded by the sponsors and a matching World Fund award.

b. The Foundation will develop packaged global grants with its strategic partners. The World Fund and the strategic partner provide 100 percent of the funding, and Rotarians implement the grant project.

Attendance Report

By Donna Hais

Attendance for September 5th was 61%

We missed these Rotarians:

Ali, Benoit, Blanaru, Buchanan, Gordon, Hammond, Henderson, Herold, Hobbs, Hrabowych, Kolopenuk, Kuss, Malcolm, Nuernberger, Orr, Patrick, Peters, Ryan, Simon, K. Smith, Willmon, B. Wilson, P. Wilson

Makeups

W. Anderson (President's Breakfast)

Guests:

Lorne McGillivray - Ross White
Margo Taylor - Art Rotherham.

Wedding Anniversaries

Carey McIver & Annabel Kirby
2yrs, Sept 16

Club Anniversaries

Lila Tanner 7yrs, Sept 14
Bob Wilson 14yrs, Sept 16

Member Resignations

With regret, the Board accepted the resignations of Stefan Johnson, Charlene Jamieson and Al Jackson at our August meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept 13 - Tom Henderson Dinner, Rotary club of Ladysmith. Come and meet the founder and CEO of ShelterBox, Ladysmith Secondary School. Doors open 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm. Tickets \$40 each.9

Oct 10-13 - **Rotary Book Sale** at Nanaimo North Town Centre, Thanksgiving Weekend.

Oct 17 - District Governor visit

WEEKLY CLUB PROGRAMS

September 12th

GREETERS	Bob Buchanan, Ed Borisenko, Sandy Orr
SGT AT ARMS	Mike Herold
INVOCATION	Bob Wilson
HEAD TABLE	Pres. Wayne, Doug Backhouse, Donna Hais, Bob Buchanan, Art Vanidour, Sandy Orr, Ed Borisenko
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Phil Wilson
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Donna Hais
PROGRAM	IS. CORRIDOR FOUNDATION: <i>Doug Backhouse</i>
THANK SPEAKERS	Art Vanidour

September 19th

GREETERS	John Anderson, John Heisterman, Bob Patrick
SGT AT ARMS	Bruce Samson
INVOCATION	Bob Gerrard
HEAD TABLE	Pres. Wayne, Megan Radigan, Al Smith, Maija Tupeinen, Marjolein Verbieugge, Fernanda Reyes
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Bruce Gordon
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Allan Smith
PROGRAM	BACK FROM BOLIVIA: Megan Radigan <i>Short Presentation by Exchange Students</i>
THANK SPEAKER	Marty Weideman

September 26th

GREETERS	Norman Beaton, Carmon Henderson, Bob Pulleyblank
SGT AT ARMS	Dixie Simon
INVOCATION	Keith McFarlane
HEAD TABLE	Pres. Wayne, Norm Beaton, Carmon Henderson, Bob Pulleyblank, Lionel Benoit, Bob Wilson
INTRODUCE GUESTS	Carey McIver
INTRODUCE SPEAKER	Ken Westfall
PROGRAM	SHELTER BOX UPDATE Chris Everet
THANK SPEAKER	Frank Shoemaker

Polio survivor cycles across Canada to fight polio

By Dan Nixon

Rotary International News -- 3 September 2008

"I am reminded of the effects of polio every day of my life," says Ramesh Ferris, who is cycling 7,200 kilometers (4,474 miles) across Canada to ensure that children worldwide are able to walk.

The 28-year-old polio survivor is riding a 27-speed handcycle on a journey that began in Victoria, British Columbia, on 12 April. He plans to arrive in Cape Spear, Newfoundland, in mid-October.

"Cycle to Walk is my way to prevent polio and give other polio survivors a chance to reach their full potential," said Ferris. He is promoting polio eradication at schools, Rotary, and other service clubs, health care providers, and government offices.

Among other highlights, Ferris has cycled through Fraser Canyon, the Canadian Rockies, and Jasper National Park, on the Terry Fox Courage Highway, and across the town of Sudbury's Bridge of Nations. He has stopped to address District 5550's annual conference, joined Sault Sainte Marie's Rotaryfest parade, and been honored by the Toronto Blue Jays on Cycle to Walk night, in front of more than 23,000 baseball fans.

On 12 August, Ferris met with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa. "Our visit today helps demonstrate that Canada will continue to be a global leader in the fight against history's greatest cause of disability," Ferris said.

A day earlier, Ferris was welcomed to the nation's capital by Liberal Party leader Stéphane Dion. "It's a wonderful initiative," Dion said of the global battle to end polio. "It requires a lot of courage and determination. Everything we are able to do, we will do."

Personal battle

For his part in that battle, Ferris has had to draw deeply on his own determination many times. Born in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India, in 1979, he was stricken by polio at the age of six months. He was adopted by Canadian parents at age two and, following several surgeries and physical rehabilitation, learned to walk with crutches by age four. But polio also afflicted his lungs, and he contracted pneumonia nine times before his 11th birthday.

A visit to India in 2002 and seeing others suffering from polio inspired Ferris to found the Cycle to Walk Society, which raises money to fight polio and boosts public awareness of the disease. His goal in cycling across Canada is to raise C\$1 million (US\$955,082); as of 15 August, contributions had reached C\$279,148 (US\$266,609). Of the total, 75 percent will go to PolioPlus to immunize children in polio-endemic and at-risk countries, 20 percent to aid rehabilitation, and 5 percent to help educate Canadians about the disease and advocate their continued immunization.

"We are on the brink of making history," he said about the global effort to eradicate polio. "Let's get excited about making polio history, so that we can continue the work of ridding the world of other diseases."

To follow Ferris's journey, read his blog at www.cycletowalk.com.



“COGS”

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Award

*“COGS” is the official bulletin of the
Rotary Club of Nanaimo, published each
Friday by the Bulletin Committee*

Committee Chair — John Anderson

Meeting Reporter, Bill King / Program, Lucie Gosselin / Photos, John Anderson

Production: Ian Williams, Print and Web