

# The Miner's Lamp

Bringing the Light of Service to the Community and the World Through Rotary



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## The Month of September is New Generations Month

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We should focus on youth-related activities throughout September. We have sponsored a District Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship (DRAS) applicant - Jerod Hendry of Comox.	

## Ceramics and Pottery



Our speaker on Tuesday was Alan Burgess, a fine arts instructor at North Island College in Courtenay. Alan has served as chair of the Fine Arts Department on two occasions and has been working with pots since he was a teenager. He

began developing the skills needed to earn a living as a potter in Wales before coming to Canada. During his presentation he told us of the high value that was placed on porcelain creations from China during the 1600s. One pot could serve as the currency necessary to purchase a brownstone house in North America. We learned that the art is not just a matter of taking some clay and forming a shape. There is a considerable amount of chemistry involved in developing the medium, the types of clay, and the glazes. Most of us were surprised to learn that wood ash and ash from other sources, acting as a flux, are key elements in the alchemy that takes place under extremely high temperatures in a kiln to produce the desired and sometimes unexpected, unique results. Alan also confirmed that in the USA in particular pet owners allow the ashes of their cremated pets to be used in the making of a pot so that the pot will be a constant memory of their lost companion. Thank you, Alan.

## Announcements

*Donate a smile to a worthy cause today!*

- Jill Cornwell is always interested in suggestions for speakers: [jcornwell@shaw.ca](mailto:jcornwell@shaw.ca) Jill is also accepting donations of good books for our library at Cumberland Lodge.



- From President Deb: A thank-you letter from the Rotary Club of Gateway North Thurston County, the newest club in our district, for their first gift, a Canadian flag. The club is holding its charter celebration dinner on 5 October. Thank you to everyone involved in the many activities in preparation for our seventh annual Extravaganza Italiana.
- Debbie announced that donations have reached 180 - well done everyone. Another twenty would be very welcome.
- Ticket sales are in the final stages with few remaining. John C has all remaining tickets so let him know if people contact you for tickets. Tuesday, 27 September, is the deadline for payment of tickets reserved by all members. Please feel free to give the money to John J and let John C know that you have.
- Care free Sunday on 25 September. Contact Linda if you wish to volunteer to help keep vehicles away from the car-free parts of the Village. Commitment from 1 PM to 5 PM.
- **September Greeters:** Cathe Egan and John Challender.
- **Greeters' Duties:** Arrive by 6:30 AM, set up room, greet everyone as people arrive and hand out badges, help with visitors' name tags and make-up cards. Return room to original setup.

## Rotary Moment

### From New Generations to Next Generation

Every year, thousands of talented and dedicated young people have an incredible experience in a New Generations program like these members of a Rotaract club. Learn how you can turn these future leaders into the next generation of Rotarians at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

**Attendance:** 2 0oy

## Parting Shot



Keith presented a cheque for \$5,000, our share of the safe springs project in Kenya.

## September Programs

27 - Richard Clarke on Shelterbox

## Chuckle Corner

### Selling Bibles

A pastor concluded that his church was getting into very serious financial troubles. While checking the church storeroom, he discovered several cartons of new Bibles that had never been opened and distributed. So at his Sunday sermon, he asked for three volunteers from the congregation who would be willing to sell the Bibles door-to-door for \$10 each to raise the desperately needed money for the church. Jack, Paul and Louie all raised their hands to volunteer for the task. The minister knew that Jack and Paul earned their living as salesmen and were likely capable of selling some Bibles. But he had serious doubts about Louie who was a local farmer, who had always kept to himself because he was embarrassed by his speech impediment. Poor Louie stuttered badly. But, not wanting to discourage Louie, the minister decided to let him try anyway. He asked them to meet with him and report the results of their door-to-door selling efforts the following Sunday. Anxious to find out how successful they were, the minister immediately asked Jack, "Well, Jack, how did you make out selling our Bibles last week?" Jack replied, "Using my sales prowess, I was able to sell 20 Bibles, and here's the \$200 I collected on behalf of the church." "Fine job, Jack!" The minister said, vigorously shaking his hand. "You are indeed a fine salesman and the church is indebted to you." Turning to Paul, "And Paul, how many Bibles did you sell for the church last week?" Paul replied, 'I am a professional salesman. I sold 28 Bibles on behalf of the church, and here's \$280 I collected.' The minister responded, "That's absolutely splendid, Paul. You are truly a professional salesman and the church is indebted to you." Apprehensively, the minister turned to Louie and said, "And Louie, did you manage to sell any Bibles last week?" Louie silently offered the minister a large envelope. The minister opened it and counted the contents. "What is this?" the minister exclaimed. "Louie, there's \$3200 in here! Are you suggesting that you sold 320 Bibles for the church, door to door, in just one week?" Louie just nodded. "That's impossible!" both Jack and Paul said in unison. "We are professional salesmen, yet you claim to have sold 10 times as many Bibles as we could." "Yes, this does seem unlikely," the minister agreed. "I think you'd better explain how you managed to accomplish this, Louie." Louie shrugged.. "I-I-I re-re-really do-do-don't kn-kn-know f-f-f-for sh-sh-sh-sure," he stammered. Impatiently, Peter interrupted. "For crying out loud, Louie, just tell us what you said to them when they answered the door!" "A-a-a-all I-I-I s-s-said wa-wa-was," Louis replied, "W-w-w-would y-y-y-you l-l-l-l-like t-t-to b-b-b-buy th-th-th-this B-B-B-B-Bible f-f-for t-t-ten b-b-b-bucks---o-o-o-or--- wo-wo-would yo-you j-j-j-just l-like m-m-me t-t-to st-st-stand h-h-here and r-r-r-r-r-read it t-to y-y-you?" Remember when the funniest jokes were the clean ones? They still are!