



The Rotary Club of North Vancouver Wheel Squeals

November 17, 2008

Editor for the week: Bud Fast



November 17th was a special night for our Club. We welcomed our District Governor Bob Blacker and his charming wife Judy to our meeting. Charley Derban and Joy Jones handled the front desk and made sure our numerous guests felt welcome.

Our own Norm Thomson and visiting District Governor Nominee Gord DalGLISH competed for the lead voice in a Rotary rendering of O Canada. Impressive!

Bob McKilligan came with notes in hand to deliver a moving invocation. Great job Bob.

Guests:

It was good to see the number of guest who came out to help welcome our 5040 District Governor Bob Blacker and his wife Judy on his official visit to our Club. They included: Pat Fast; Heather Pearce; Liane McKenna; Marianne Binion; District Governor Nominee Gordon DalGLISH; Assistant Governor Ken Wilson; Susan Ward; our annual winter snowbird from Kingston Ontario, Frank Milledge; Deneka's better half, Dennis Thomas, and her father, Paul; Paulette LeCroix; our Youth Exchange student, Aymeric Dietrich; and Page, Norm and Marianne's international home stay student.

Announcements:

Salmon Sales: Fred Sverre reminded the club to get your orders ready for Rotary smoked salmon. It's a great product at a great price and a great fund raiser.

Operation Red Nose: Norm reports we still have 13 shifts to fill. If you haven't got your application into the RCMP or committed to a number of shifts, time is running short.



Journey to Dolpo: Mike McCarthy outlined his involvement in a Travel Tales Series, showing Nov 18th. It is on a 500 mile trek across the Himalayas to rescue children and save the last vestige of pure Tibetan culture. Very interesting Mike.

Duck Splash: We are coming to the deadline to get prizes in place so we can make our application to the BC Lottery Commission.

Rotary Affairs:

President Norm presented a cheque to Babak Shahbazi for the Iranian Golden Age Club. This is an organization committed to assisting Iranian Canadians Seniors to integrate into the community they live in. Good work Babak.





Page, a South Korean student, staying with the Binions, spent a few minutes giving us his impressions of Canada. He is impressed with the people, loves the forests, nature and availability of outdoor activities. He is having lots of fun.

Sergeant at Arms:

Again Deborah Sommerfeld did a masterful job of picking your pockets. All for a good cause and all in good fun. Good job Deborah.

Fred Sverre, back from a successful trip to Vietnam, reported that while at his summer place on Thormanby Island the previous day he heard the aeroplane crash on the island and was the first to report the location to the Coast Guard.



Our District Governor address:



Introduced by Neil Creighton, our District Governor Bob Blacker welcomed us to the year to “Make Dreams Real” and end child mortality. This is the message that Rotary International President D. K. Lee passed on to District Governors in San Diego in January 2008.



His message is - 30,000 children die each day throughout the world from preventable causes and we should address the issues surrounding health, hunger, clean water and literacy.

DG Bob also brought a presentation of his trip to Australia as a GSE leader. The presentation showed the comradeship, friendship, and life altering experience GSE team members and leaders experience through this Rotary program.



DG Bob took the opportunity during the meeting to recognize a number of our fellow Rotarians for exemplary service to Rotary. Deborah Sommerfeld, John Ward, and Mike McCarthy all received certificates of service. Well deserved fellow Rotarians.



Jeff Pearce formally thanked our guest speaker and Norm extended his final thanks to DG Bob for his visit



A toast to Rotary International was led by Jim Cuthbert and the 4 Way Test lead by Fred Sverre. Looking forward to seeing all members next Monday!