



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



June 15, 2009

Editor: Deneka Michaud

Greeter: Joy greets us with a smile - ☺

Guests: There were 3 guests - Raja Stokes and his wife Jean from the Rotary Club of Ross-on-Wye, England. The other guest was the day's speaker Carmen Zajac.

Announcements:

Only four members came to sort eye glasses last week, but that number ended up working out really well; a lot was accomplished and the evening was a success.

The GSE team from England who had visited sent us a nice thank you letter.

The Administration and Community Service executive positions are open...any takers???

Norm Binion saw the North Shore Rescue team in action as they searched for a missing person right near Norm's home. Norm actually got involved in the search, but the man had yet to be found.

Sergeant-At-Arms: Deborah stumped most of us by asking what the title of the Oscar nominated film about polio eradication is...the answer is The Final Inch.

Catherine Michaud's raffle ticket was drawn, but she did not draw the correct playing card.

Presenter: Carmen Zajac, President of the Zajac Foundation

The Zajac Foundation is a non-profit organization that formed in 1987. Their mandate is to support children, seniors and those with special needs through innovative community projects focused on developing lifelong skills and independence. Carmen spoke to us specifically about one of the Foundation's projects - the Zajac Ranch.

The Zajac Ranch for Children is a summer camp located on the shores of Stave Lake in Mission, BC and serves children aged seven to 17-years-old with serious and chronic illnesses and disabilities. It opened in 2004 and has all sorts of innovated amenities designed specifically for kids with serious and chronic illnesses or disabilities. For example, there is a 24 hour medical centre with the resources to care for the children on site, there is a horse riding area, an amphitheatre, a gym, a field, and a swimming pool - all designed specifically for the special kids who attend. The entire camp has a country theme (ex: the pool is a mining theme with a railroad track around and a track that can be used by kids in wheelchairs who don't feel comfortable in the water, but want to be involved). So far the Zajac Foundation has invested \$10 million into the camp.

The camp is for all conditions; last year they had 40 different diagnoses. They rarely turndown an applicant and they subsidize as much of the cost as they can. The camp costs \$1000 per week with 50 per cent subsidized immediately. They will fund up to 100 per cent if necessary. Much of this subsidization is made possible because of the many volunteers who work at the camp for free. The children come mainly from BC, but also from all over the rest of Canada and as far as Mexico and England. This year 500 kids will be attending camp.

The main camps are summer camps that run June through August, but some fall camps are available too. They also run a young adult camp for individuals aged 18-30.

They hope to create an endowment fund so as to eventually make the camp free for all kids!!!

For more info: www.zajacranch.com



The Four Way Test:

Of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and Better FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Future Meetings / Key Dates:

- June 22 Year in Review - Rotary Club of North Vancouver
- June 29 Canada Day Parade - Route Preparations - Meet at Grand Blvd West & 13th Street
- July 1 Canada Day Parade (**Wednesday**)
- July 6 Installation of 2009 -10 Executive - The Rotary Club of North Vancouver (Partner Evening)

Wheel Squeals - Editor for a Day

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| | Editor | Proof Reader |
| June 22 | Catherine Michaud | Deneka Michaud |

