



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



**August 31, 2009**

*Created By Norm Binion*

**Desk:** Bob McKilligan greeted us with open arms at the front desk - one arm extended in greeting, the other to divest us of our dinner fee and Rotary International donation. Before directing us to the Cheers mess hall Bob confidently assured each of us that he 'sensed' we had the winning ticket.

**O Canada:** Alec Wallace started off the proceedings with a rip roaring, raucous and robust, rendition of O Canada. As I was sitting beside him my eardrums reverberated with his melodic rhythm and harmony. All other members were in good form, if not on key.

**Invocation:** David Spears produced an on-the-spot and appropriate invocation

**Bun Tossing:** A call was heard - 'Blue 42, slant right, curl left, flag, 747 post and in', after which Neil Creighton tossed a bun at Sabrina and nailed David Spears in the head.

**Guests:** We had two welcome guests in attendance, Sabrina Pontillo, Past President of the North Shore Rotoract Club and Luke Balson, guest speaker representing Camp Moomba.

**Announcements:** President Norman led off the announcements with an 'all hands on deck' for the Terry Fox Event on September 13<sup>th</sup>. A minimum of thirty volunteers are needed!!! He also reminded us that there is no Club meeting next Monday, September 7 (Labour Day). Also, for you early risers, there is an opportunity to ride the rails tomorrow morning with the Rotary Club of Richmond. They are boarding the new Canada Line at 7 am, zipping to Waterfront Station and then back to a 'Great Gambling Casino' for some undefined purpose. All aboard! Norm Binion was then invited to recognize the

hard work by the North Shore Rotoract Club in selling 505 Duck Splash tickets last spring. Norm presented Sabrina Pontillo with a donation from the Club towards the Easter Seals organization, as well as a commission cheque to her club. An awesome effort by the North Shore Rotoract Club!



**Table Talk Odds and Sods:** Norm Binion picked up a few table talk items worthy of note: Alec Wallace has Delaneys on board to supply coffee at the Wine Festival; Catherine Michaud was pleased to find a Tim Hortons in Buffalo; Deneka Michaud had fun in Halifax and really liked Peggys Cove; Catherine and Deneka are attending the wedding of a relative in Calgary; Deneka's co-worker fell off the roof at Swanguard Stadium; Deneka's soccer is starting up again; despite rumours of an El Nino winter Alec Wallace is predicting a harsh winter based upon his having recognized the heavy crop of mountain ash this year; John Stuart wonders why the mountain ash berries seem more orange than red this year; Neil Creighton's son Paul is starting soccer play in the Vancouver Metro Soccer League; Sabrina had a great time in Europe in June and zip lining at Whistler during the summer. She hopes to go to Italy and Greece next summer; Brian Chalmers spent two blissful weeks in Hawaii.

**Happy and Sads:** Everyone was happy. Alec's 43 year old son just married a 37 year old lady, with a celebration at Whistler's Nicklaus North. David Spears completed his shed. Bryan Chalmers spent two weeks in Hawaii during the summer. He visited a leper colony on Molokai, taking 4 hours to climb 1700' down into a valley and out. There are still 18 lepers living there, of there own choice.

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Oliver Twist the, artful dodger, last night appeared in the guise of Bud Fast. Bud, of course, again systematically picked our pockets. First he dared people to guess who the Hollywood star is that is supporting Polio Plus. It is Mia Farrow. Norm Binion guessed Rodney Dangerfield, lost one loonie and was then stripped of another for having represented Sabrina Pontillo as a Past President of a Rotary, rather than a Rotoract, Club. Then Bud fined Neil Creighton a loonie for having beaned David Spears with a bun. Then he engineered the lucky ticket draw. Our guest Luc Balson had the lucky ticket, but pulled the ten of diamonds. Then Bud performed a variation of the time honored 'Dine and Dash', where the performer grabs the pot of Rotary money and heads for the door with it. Bud took off like Sea Biscuit, certainly intent on breaking the recent record set by Winnipeg Blue Bombers Fred Reid in rushing for 260 yards through a porous BC Lions defense. Well, at least that's what the photo suggests - is seeing believing? Sometimes the truth is substantially different.



**Presenter:** President Norman performed the honors of introducing our guest speaker, Luc Balson. Luc provided a great presentation, describing the camp and the kids of Camp Moomba. Moomba means 'friends together having fun', for those not conversant in the Australian aboriginal tongue. Camp Moomba is a one week summer camp held in June/July, in cooperation with the YMCA, to support kids from across Canada who are impacted by the effects of HIV. One hundred and nine kids attended the camp this past summer. The kids are 6 to 17 years old. Luc mentioned the story of Sara (pseudonym), age 12, whose Mom died of AIDS and whose Dad is HIV positive. Sara did not show up immediately at camp but, once into the program, connected with a new found friend and is now well connected at all camps. Luc read a poem created by one of the kids, Tony, age 15. "It's a place I wouldn't want to leave ..... The sun will always rise over Camp

**Moomba".** On a personal note Luc is just married and is heading to Italy for a honeymoon.

**Thanks to Speaker:** Bryan Chalmers thanked our speaker, Luc Balson, and presented him with our coveted certificate that promises to immunize twenty children against Polio, with the intent of eradication of polio.

**Toast to Rotary International:** Deborah Sommerfeld led the group in toasting Rotary International.

**The 4-Way Test:** Rolf Gillardon led the group in the 4-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?

**President Norman, hearing nothing more for the good of Rotary, adjourned the meeting.**

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**Future Meetings / Key Dates**

September 14	Club Assembly
September 21	Kenya Project
September 28	Nexterra

**Wheel Squeals - Editor for a Day**

September 14	Catherine Michaud
September 21	John Stuart
September 28	Terry McGauley

