



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS

November 9th, 2009



*by Fred Sverre*

## **Attendance:**

Less than two full tables were in attendance, with 0 guests. We need better attendance by our members – or maybe there are excuses related to the H1N1 flue.

Joy Jones was at the desk to sign everyone in and sell 50/50 tickets.

The agenda had to be reassigned, due to the low attendance, and Acting President David Spears asked for volunteers to cover the various assignments. He had good control of the gavel.

Rolf Gillardon led us in O Canada and David Spears said Grace.

## **Announcements:**

David reported on his visit today following our President Norman's hip replacement operation last Thursday – already back from the hospital, doing well and being up and about. President Norman graciously accepted the first visitor from our Club who brought a basket of flowers from the members, wishing him a rapid recovery.

Bob McKilligan reported that Harold was out of the hospital with his diabetes stabilized and under control. Harold looks forward to coming to one of our club meetings in the near future.



John Stuart will lay a wreath on behalf of our club during the Remembrance Day ceremony, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, at the North Vancouver Cenotaph. The Cenotaph is located in Victoria Park and was constructed in 1923 in memory of the citizens of the City and the District of North Vancouver who gave their lives during the First World War. Things get underway at 10:30 am. There is always a large crowd so, if you are planning to attend, it is best to be early.



David called for volunteers for Operation Red Nose. He urged us all to download the volunteer application forms from our web site

(<http://www.rotarynorthvan.com/rednose.html>), and to complete them and deliver them in person, with photo ID, to the RCMP Community Policing Office at Lower Lonsdale or Edgemont Village, so that the necessary police checks can be done.

David asked that members check their freezer for room to store boxes of salmon that should arrive at the end of this week or the beginning of next week.

David will be attending the Pre-PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar) conference next month, and looks forward to learning more about Rotary.

David and Norm Binion attended a successful VASS fundraiser; some 150 people attended and paid \$25 for their plate. He thought about \$10,000 was raised at the event. Norm is still looking for more volunteers from our club to help arrange a successful event at Grouse during the Olympics.

### **Sergeant at Arms:**

Deborah gracefully stepped in as Peter was unable to attend. She collected from the members for their past deeds and those that were not going to volunteer for the ORN project. She did a great job as always. There were a number of Happy dollars and Sad dollars collected. Rolf Gillardon will be spending a month in Palm Springs starting next week, checking out the house that he is building down there.

### **Guest Speaker:**

Phil Beaty, Vice President of Sales for Nexterra Systems, was introduced by Fred Sverre. Phil grew up on the North Shore and Nexterra Systems was started in their family basement in 2003. Their business is to sell gasification systems - design and build turn-key co-generating energy plants. Their system gasifies wood. The resulting gas can be used in combustion engines to produce electricity – about 65 % efficiency, plus the heat can be used for heating space which increases the total efficiency to near 80 %.

These systems are considered carbon neutral energy plants, as the carbon released is re-absorbed by trees. Today they have 55 employees and are growing weekly, adding new members to their staff.

Jeff Pearce thanked Phil for tonight's interesting presentation and presented him with the customary Certificate, pledging to vaccinate 20 children on his behalf.

### **Adjournment:**

The Toast to Rotary International was delivered by our own Joy Jones, and Rolf Gillardon led us in The 4-Way Test.

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### **Future Meetings / Key Dates**

Nov 16<sup>th</sup> – chair Norm Binion – **Snow Shoe Club Assembly**

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> – chair David Spears – **Hospice Palliative Care – Bonnie Stableford**

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> – **Operation Red Nose** begins

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> – chair Norm Binion – **Jane Thornthwaite, MLA**

### **Wheel Squeals – Editor for a Day**

Nov 16th – Ted Nugent

Nov 23rd – Bud Fast

Nov 30th – Laurie Porter