



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



December 7, 2009

Written by Deborah Sommerfeld

Desk: Joy Jones cheerfully greeted the membership and guests and accepted our dinner fees and RI contributions. This was followed by President Norman Thomson (on crutches following surgery) opening the meeting and designating Alec Wallace to lead us in a fast paced version of "O Canada". After the National Anthem Bob McKilligan gave the invocation, reflecting on the commitments of Rotarians around the world.

Visitors were introduced. They included our guest speakers Meaghen Taylor-Reid and Azmina Allibhai, Liane McKenna (with Neil Creighton) and (well known jokester) Colin McSween.

Announcements:

1. Operation Red Nose: A total of 65 rides have been provided in the 4 nights of operation since November 29.
2. Wine Festival October 2009: While ticket sales were down from previous years, tickets sold by the wine making outlets exceeded past sales. The Festival Executive felt that club members needed to participate more extensively in tickets sales to ensure this event continues.
3. President Norman reported on "The President's Meeting" citing the North Shore International Project, AKA the "Liberia Project", is still in limbo. He also announced that the club meeting of December 14, 2009 will be a club assembly to discuss, among other things, fund raising projects.
4. Fred Sverre reported on "Salmon Enchanted Evening". The usual high quality sockeye is currently available for sale as a club fund raiser.



Sergeant-At-Arms:

Alas, the Ace of Spades eluded our guest Meaghen Taylor-Reid. Peter Taylor, Sergeant-at-Arms, levied various fines and collected "Happy and Sads" dollars from Bryan Chalmers, lamenting his reduced time to round the track at the Olympic Speed Skating Oval vs. his time some 30 years ago, Peter Taylor at the outcome of the Grey Cup, and Bob McKilligan commenting on a local real estate sale.

Presenter:

Bryan Chalmers introduced Meaghen Taylor-Reid and Azmina Allibhai from the Big Brothers of Greater Vancouver. Big Brothers is an organization dedicated to supporting children and families and has as its Vision Statement: "Put a Mentor in the life of every child who needs one." BB is an international organization operating in 12 countries including Australia and New Zealand, USA and Canada. Their focus is on boys 7-14 years of age, often from single parent homes. Once weekly the boys meet with a volunteer to pursue interests and activities such as sports, movies and hiking. The volunteer's aim is to mentor and support them in an effort to guide them and help them make good choices. Big Brothers also operates an "In School Mentoring Program" in 40 Lower Mainland Schools as well as a "Teen Mentoring Program" involving high school students 15-18 years of age who mentor elementary school kids. This program is known as "Little Buddies". It is clear that providing mentorship and guidance is an effective way to keep youth engaged and encourage them to become productive adults.

Fred Sverre thanked Meaghen and Azmina and presented them with a Polio Eradication Certificate to immunize 20 children against polio.

Meeting Adjourned:

Neil Creighton gave the toast to RI and John Stuart led us in the Four Way Test.

Future Meetings / Key Dates

- Dec 14 Club Assembly
- Dec 21 Christmas Fellowship with the Argyle Alumni Choir - Partner Evening
- Dec 28 No Meeting - Christmas Break



Wheel Squeals -

- Dec 14
- Dec 21

Editor for a Day

- Terry McGauley
- Deneka Michaud

Proof Reader

- Tevis Michaud
- Deborah Sommerfeld