



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER

WHEELS SQUEALS

21 JUNE 2010

By Terry McGauley



Guests

Joy Jones was at the door collecting everyone's money and Laurie Porter was the greeter. Bob Nowell was in from Kelowna and joined us for the meeting.

Invocation

John Ward led us in singing O'Canada and Bob McKilligan gave the invocation.

Announcements

John Ward advised that two work groups would be required to assist with the Canada Day Parade. The first group would start at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, the night before the Parade, to establish the location of the steel flag pins. This would take about a half an hour and then everyone would end up at one of the pubs. The other group would start at 6:00 am the day of the parade and would place the steel pins, help manage people and pick up the signs after the parade.

Norman Thomson advised that the induction of the new board of directors for next year would be held on June 28th and this would be a spousal evening.

Sergeant - At- Arms

Peter Taylor was the sergeant-at-arms and did a diligent job of extracting money from us. Bud Fast won the draw but drew a Jack of Hearts from the deck of cards. Alec Wallace was fined in advance for becoming next year's sergeant as Peter figured he would be paying a price for this next year.

2.

Program

David Spears introduced our speaker, Barbara Toller, who is the development officer with CanAssist.

Barbara outlined the work that CanAssist does to help disabled people have a fuller and more independent life. CanAssist is a charitable organization supported by the University of Victoria which develops technology and services for people with disabilities. It was initiated in 1999 by Nigel Livingston, a faculty member who had a disabled child. Presently CanAssist has a staff of 35 people and assists people with all forms of disabilities and ages ranging from 2 to 100. It develops devices specific to the individual's needs at no cost to the client. To date it has developed over 160 unique devices which are now distributed around the world and receives 5 to 7 request for assistance per week.

The University of Victoria provides support to Can Assist for about a quarter of its budget primarily through access to faculty members, fabrication shops and interested students. The rest of the funding comes from the province, major donors and general fund raising.

Norm Binion thanked Barbara for her interesting presentation.

Toast

John Stuart led the toast to Rotary International and Terry McGauley led us in the 4-Way Test.

Future Meetings

June 28th - Induction of the new Board of Directors and a spousal evening

