



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



December 13, 2010
Created By Norm Binion

Desk: Joy Jones 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 Joy confidently assured each of us that she 'sensed' we had the winning ticket. Fred Sverre was equally in fine form as the official greeter, extending a hearty handshake and welcome.

O Canada: Jeff Pearce started off the proceedings with a rip roaring, raucous and robust, rendition of O Canada. All other members were in good form, if not on key.

Invocation: John Stuart produced a thoughtful and appropriate invocation.



Guests: Our welcome guests in attendance were: Seema Verma, who is considering membership and possibly acting as Club Treasurer in 2011/12; Alvaro Peralta, who is the former owner of the Bella Candela restaurant and the current District Manager for the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

Announcements: President David Spears led off the announcements with a review of the afternoons work at 'We Care'. Norman Thomson, John Ward, John Stuart and President David prepared 1430 individual bags for handout in the Downtown East Side between 6 and 8 pm on Wednesday, December 15. The large bags include socks, soap, apples, and oranges. Fifteen club members will rendezvous to catch the 5:15 pm SeaBus from Lonsdale Quay and then walk the streets and hand out the goodies.

OPERATION RED NOSE  **INFO**

Operation Red Nose results for the past weekend were very favourable, with \$2100 raised including \$1370 from 44 rides on Saturday night when our Club hosted the event. Special kudos to Sonia and Joy who have worked every ORN night so far.

Salmon Sales - Fred Sverre announced that salmon sales were going well and that the salmon would be sold out by next week.



Sergeant-At-Arms: A lucky charms leprechaun appeared in the guise of Alec Wallace. But this leprechaun again refused to give up his pot of gold, instead again systematically picking our pockets. He ran amuck with fines, including a fine to repeat offender John Ward for again talking during Alec's explanation of the rules of engagement during the fining process. He stressed that while he was engaged in the process of fining people that listening was fine, but not talking. Alec then painted the image of a rainbow terminating at a pot of gold for the lucky winning ticket and card. The winning ticket was drawn, #586 held by Norm Binion. Norm ran his divining fork over the deck, appealed to the forces of the universe and errantly drew the Ten of Hearts. The pot of gold grows.



Happys and Sads: Jeff Pearce is happy about ORN results and sad about the shooting of ten people on Oak Street. Joy Jones is happy about her niece being nominated for a Reader's Choice award for dog walking. John Ward extended his open house invitation, from 4 to 10 pm, on December 27. Wendy is happy about heading to Hong Kong until January 10th. President David is happy about Sonia opening and closing ORN every night and Joy checking inventory every night. Sonia is happy to have sold her house and is hoping to return to her roots in the Ukraine to celebrate her 70th birthday, but sad that she needs tooth implants. Peter Taylor is happy to have spent two weeks in Hawaii. Norman Thomson was happy to see Dr. Ken Dubeta and his wife assisting at We Care. Neil Creighton is sad that he will miss John Ward's party. Fred is happy with salmon sales. Bob McKilligan is happy with ORN results. Bud Fast is just plain happy.

Presenter: John Ward introduced our guest speaker, Wanda Morris, who is the Executive Director of 'Dying with Dignity Canada'.

Wanda provided a very interesting and informative presentation. As a backdrop to her involvement Wanda talked about her Father-In-Law, Ralph, who nursed his wife during her 80's when she developed Alzheimer's. Ralph also had the onset of Alzheimer's in his 90's, losing mobility and memory and displaying aggressive behavior. At the age of 93 he entered a care home, where the progressive nature of the disease led to an increase in altercations with staff and other patients. Wanda's husband Tony, having experienced the onset of Alzheimer's in both his parents, resolved that he did not desire the same experience should he also experience Alzheimer's. Fifty percent of elderly Canadians will suffer from dementia.

Ninety percent of Canadians die in the hospital. Their final days are often spent in pain after intensive surgical interventions. Wanda encouraged members to have a living will and to assign a substitute decision maker who knows their wishes and values.

Dying With Dignity Canada is a thirty year old not-for-profit organization that is a member of the global 'Right to Die' association. They have five thousand members and they support the right of the individual to choose the manner of their death. The organization provides education, discusses with patients the humane methods for terminating life, supports clients and advocates for legal change. In Canada it has been legal to commit suicide since 1972. Patients have the right to refuse treatment, including life support and antibiotics. They can stop eating, drinking and receiving a hydration drip. Palliative sedation to manage pain, with loss of consciousness a byproduct, is another choice available. Their hope, which is not the law at present, is that patients can self administer medication to end their suffering.

There were several questions from Club members.



Thanks to Speaker: President David thanked Wanda and presented her with an IOU for our coveted certificate promising to immunize twenty children against Polio, with the intent of worldwide polio eradication.



Toast to Rotary International: Neil Creighton led the group in toasting Rotary International.

The 4-Way Test: Peter Taylor 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?

Adjournment: President David, hearing nothing more for the good of Rotary, adjourned the meeting.

Future Meetings / Key Dates

- Dec 20 Christmas Dinner with Argyle Alumni Choir (Partner Evening)
- Dec 27 No Meeting - Christmas Break
- Dec 31 Operation Red Nose
- Jan 3 No Meeting - Fireside at home of President David

