



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER

WHEELS SQUEALS

17 JANUARY 2011

By Terry McGauley



Guests

The desk was manned by Joy Jones and Neil Creighton greeted everyone at the door. We had Susan Ward and Colin McSween from the Abbotsford Rotary club as our guests.

Invocation

Our exchange student, Tan, led us in singing O'Canada and Norm Binion gave the invocation.

Announcements

President David Spears indicated that both mayors had agreed to jointly announce a proclamation of February 23rd as Rotary Day at our 60th anniversary celebration on January 29th. This was the date Rotary began 105 years ago. President David also indicated that those members interested in 'Guess Who is Coming for Dinner' should sign up by February 3rd. Fred Sverre indicated that there are still about 15 sides of salmon left if anyone is interested.

Many of you will have seen the article regarding the Rotary World Help Network that was published in Sunday's North Shore News. This article has been posted on our website and sent to the Rotarian magazine for possible inclusion.

Sergeant - At- Arms

Alec Wallace was the sergeant-at-arms and did a diligent job of extracting money from us. Rick Mitchell won the draw, but drew the Nine of Spades.

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Program

Alec Wallace introduced our speaker for the evening, Stella Crofts-Fagerlund, and her son, Aron. Stella is a special education teacher who has been instrumental in establishing a society for children and families with Asperger's Syndrome.

ASPIRES is a parent led non-profit society which was started in 2006 and is based in North Vancouver. The society provides support and services to about 40 to 45 families whose children have Asperger's Syndrome. Programs and activities are provided for the children who range in age from about 9 to into their 20's. The society also undertakes programs to provide information to the community on Asperger's Syndrome.

Asperger's Syndrome is a neuro-biological developmental disorder, but the person is relatively high functioning. The major symptoms are a lack of social responsiveness and a lack of understanding of social rules, with the individual appearing to be self-absorbed, immature and eccentric. The disorder primarily affects boys, and people with Asperger's are often thought of as being autistic.

John Stuart thanked Stella and her son, Aron, and presented her with a certificate indicating we would immunize 20 children from polio in her name.

Toast

Rick Mitchell led the toast to Rotary International and Deborah Sommerfeld led us in the 4-Way Test.

Future Meetings

January 24th - Robbie Burns Night
January 29th - 60th Anniversary Dinner

