



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



**February 4, 2013**

*Created By Norm Binion*

**Desk:** Joy Jones welcomed the 21 attendees at our new venue for the evening, the Rockford Grill. With open arms Joy extended her usual cordial greeting - one arm extended in greeting, the other to divest us of our dinner fee and Rotary International donation.



**O Canada:** The group produced a rip roaring, raucous and robust, rendition of O Canada. It warmed up the crowd at the Canucks' game at Rogers Arena, with 18,000 people immediately joining in on the big screen at the Rockford.



**Invocation:** Bob McKilligan produced an appropriate invocation from his expansive repertoire.

**Guests:** We had five welcome guests in attendance: Steve Stringfellow, the hard working NDP campaign manager for member Jim Hanson; Peter Hansen, lawyer, author, distinguished toastmaster and trail running partner of Jim Hanson and Norm Binion; Chris Carmack, with commercial banking at RBC on Lonsdale; Jim Thompson, president of the Rotary Club of North Vancouver Lions Gate; and Paul Butler, our guest speaker from Hollyburn Family Services.



**Announcements:** President Wendy Law is looking for Club representatives to attend the City of North Vancouver council meeting, to recognize 'Rotary Day'. Deborah Sommerfeld needs three members as food volunteers for the Duck Splash. Michael Schelhaas volunteered and Paul Butler proposed that the Hollyburn Family Services chef create a meal for the event. John Ward confirmed the joint membership status of our club and Lionsgate with the North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, encouraged all club members to attend meetings and mentioned the next NVCC meeting featured Adrian Dix as the guest speaker at the new North Vancouver School Board building on Lonsdale on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7 pm. Neil Creighton mentioned that U-Haul has donated transport vehicles for the Duck Splash and that promotional bumper stickers would be available to club members around mid-February. Bob Nowell updated us on the status of Jack from Cheers Restaurant, who is still in hospital but recovering. Jeff Pearce will have flowers sent to Jack on behalf of the club. President Wendy Law mentioned that we will continue to kick the tires on restaurants before deciding on a permanent new venue location for weekly meetings. Ruth Hanson proposed the Marina Grill as one location to consider.



**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Guest Steve Stringfellow drew John Ward's ticket 540. To the delight of everyone, other than John, John picked and then shredded the Seven of Hearts. Past President Michael Schelhaas then did an admirable job of systematically picking our pockets.



**Happy and Sads:** Exuberance filled the air, as a cornucopia of happy dollars was thrown towards the pot. Norm Binion was happy about new prospective members being in attendance. Jim Hanson appreciated his recent 29 km run. Jeff Pearce was sad about the demise of the penny and the rise of Roberto Luongo. Bob McKilligan enjoyed a recent snowshoe and fondue on Grouse Mountain to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of wife Francis. Neil Creighton was sad that partner Liane was heading to Japan for two weeks - but happy for her. Michael Schelhaas and John Stuart were happy to see the pot swell. Bob Nowell was celebrating his 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with wife Marilynne. Terry McGauley was sad about the health of Jack and the challenges for Cheers Restaurant. Alec



Wallace, David Spears, Deborah Sommerfeld, Joy Jones and Jim Thompson were all pleased to see prospective new members in attendance. Jim Thompson also celebrated the 'Joy of Rotary' and its great work.



**Presenter:** David Spears introduced our guest speaker, Paul Butler from Hollyburn Family Services. Paul has spent twenty years working with 'at risk' youth, is a coordinator of the Hollyburn Life Success and North Shore Youth Safe House programs and is a foster parent.

Paul started with a very sincere thank you to Rotary and our club for its contributions of time and money towards the North Shore Youth Safe House, most recently through proceeds from the joint club Wine and Food Festival. Paul mentioned that there has been a 38% increase in homeless youth on the North Shore over the last few years and that 720 youth have gone through the doors of the North Shore Youth Safe House. The house is at capacity and last year had to turn away 200 youth. The increase in homeless youth is largely being attributed to housing affordability on the North Shore. These youth have often grown up on the North Shore and want to continue to live and work in their community. Homelessness is growing at a faster rate on the North Shore than in most other communities. For further details go to <http://www.nsnews.com/always+Youth+Safe+House/7813049/story.html>

Paul went on to explain the purpose of the Life Success Program. The program targets 18 to 24 year olds who, because of the economic realities today, need more time to get on their feet compared to generations past. There is one house established for girls/women and one for boys/men. A legacy fund has been created to help develop self-esteem and skills for these young people to move forward, including a 16 week employment program.

The goal is to break the cycle of homelessness. A challenge is that the current North Shore Youth Safe House contract with the Federal Government (Service Canada) expires in March 2014. There is uncertainty as to whether funding will be renewed and the Safe House kept open. Service Canada presently funds 82% of the Safe House's operational budget. Going forward the Feds would like to see their funding matched by a combination of private funding and Provincial Government funding.

Paul ended with a thank you to Rotary for its continuing support in helping to create a sustainable program to eradicate homelessness on the North Shore.

**Thanks to Speaker:** John Ward thanked Paul and presented him with our highly coveted certificate that promises to immunize twenty children against Polio, with the intent of eradication of Polio. As a member of the Canada Day Parade committee, John promised to vote for \$4000, of the available \$12,000, to be donated by the committee to the North Shore Youth Safe. The Canada Day Parade committee is unfortunately being disbanded.



**Toast to Rotary International:** President Wendy led the group in toasting Rotary International.

**The 4-Way Test:** President Wendy led the group in the 4-Way Test and then, hearing nothing more for the good of Rotary, adjourned the meeting.

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?

#### Future Meetings / Key Dates

- Feb 11 No Meeting - BC Family Day Statutory Holiday
- Feb 18 Teaching Teachers in India, A Literacy Project - Gem Munro, The Amarak Society
- Feb 25 Club Assembly / Fellowship Evening
- Mar 4 Heart Attack Recovery - Bob McKilligan, Rotary Club of North Vancouver
- Mar 11 Internship and Apprenticeship Programs for North Vancouver High School Students - Danica Silver, Teacher, Argyle Secondary School (NV)
- Mar 18 Climate Change - Ben West, Healthy Communities Campaigner, Wilderness Committee

