



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS

November 18, 2013

Written by Daniel Tardif

Joy Jones greeted us with her smiling face and collected our cash. Tonight's main guest and speaker was our District Governor Garry Shearer who came to inspire us for the 2013-2014 Rotary Year now well in progress.

President Deborah opened the meeting and led us in O Canada. Norman Thomson brought our attention to all veterans who have put themselves in harm's way to fight so we have the country and democracy we all enjoy today.



President Deborah introduced DG Garry Shearer.

Announcements:

Daniel Tardif is our new President Elect and he is looking forward to leading the mission of the club to serve locally and abroad.

Following the Philippine calamities caused by Typhoon Haiyan, the club has donated funds for 1-1/2 ShelterBoxes while Ali Hashemi has donated funds for another 1/2 ShelterBox which means the Government of Canada will match our combined donation for a total of 4 ShelterBoxes going towards that relief effort.



The new Interact Club of Carson Graham High School is set to raise funds to provide one ShelterBox by December 8th to also be eligible for the fund matching by the Canadian Government. Their fund raiser is called "Phil-A-Box".

The SOS Children's Village gala is coming up.

November 19 is World Toilet Day. We should all discuss toilets on a regular basis. Hygiene should be talked about more for what it is since many countries do not have proper hygiene and are subject to many illnesses.



November is Foundation Month. Joy reminded all of us about **EveryRotarianEveryYear** and that, as Rotarians, we should all take a minute to think about contributing to this year's Rotary Foundation effort.

Joy displayed our raffle basket for Foundation which contains 6 bottles of wine, fancy cheeses and other great food samples. We were invited to purchase 6 tickets for 5 dollars. The first prize winner will get the basket while the second winner will get Paul Harris credits.

David gave thanks for the help the club members provided last weekend serving pastas and salads at the lunch for the homeless at John Braithwaite Center.

David was also proud to show some clips from the North Shore News about our Food and Wine festival.

The weekend of Nov 29 is the beginning of Operation Red Nose. If you are a driver, please get your RCMP check done in the very near future and let David know when you would be available to participate.



DG Shearer drew the winning ticket, Rupinder held the lucky ticket but... unfortunately the Ace of Spades is still hidden in the deck.

Fred announced that it is very soon smoked salmon time with 200 lbs coming in this week. You will soon be able to place your orders.

Neil Creighton, with John Stuart's assistance, laid a wreath on behalf of the club at the North Vancouver Remembrance Day Ceremony.



Sergeant-at-Arms:

- We were given a break from the Sergeant-At-Arms this week.

Speaker – Garry Shearer:



Garry was introduced by Deborah. Garry is from Tsawwassen and has been in Rotary for over 20 years.

New Generations is Garry's focus for 2013-2014. He has so far visited 38 of the 52 Clubs in District 5040.

A Rotary moment for Garry took place in San Diego with the 534 incoming governors. There was the flag ceremony with every country represented, 200 flags and the last two flags to come down the aisle were the outgoing and incoming country flags belonging to Japan and the United States. The flags were side by side while 500 meters away sat the USS Midway, named after the 1942 battle between the two countries. This was all taking place in a peace venue and Garry's hope at that point was to be able one day to see Israel, Palestine, Iran, Iraq and other countries' flags side by side in a similar peace venue.

Garry explained that the number of Rotarians in the world is doing well, although not so much in most of North America but yes in District 5040. Some clubs are having challenges with numbers and the new RI President has asked that we focus on retention of our existing members. We have done a good job at recruiting but not so much at keeping our people. The goal is to retain 90% of our current members as of July 1st, 2013.

Rod Burton's banner was presented to President Deborah. The banner shows "Engage Rotary, Change Lives". Mr. Burton suggests we need to create activity in each of our own fields by taking responsibility to use our interests and our skills to get engaged.

At the meeting of incoming District Governors, the DGs were asked to make a commitment to the Rotary Foundation. \$676,000 was raised by the DGs, and by the closing of the gathering a total of more than \$1 million had been raised.

Garry reminded us that the next District Conference will be taking place May 23-26, 2014 in Squamish. Garry explained that the conference will be held at the Railway Museum. A train ride will be included in the event. One goal is to get as many youth as possible to participate. The youth will be made up of Interactors, Rotaractors and other interested youth. Youth don't have to be Rotaractors or Interactors but have to be at least 16 and up to 30 years old and have an interest in Rotary. Our goal is to make it possible financially for them to participate in the conference. We have waived their fees and they will be housed at the Quest University campus. The cost for the youth participants (\$175 each) is to be covered by others. Garry is hoping that the North Vancouver Rotary Club will be able to cover the cost of some of the youth. To challenge us in our effort to sponsor some youth to the conference, tenor Garry sang the chorus of "Get On Board" to the joy of all present.



David Spears presented Garry the traditional "funds to immunize 20 children".

Adjournment:

Deborah Sommerfeld proposed the toast to RI and led us in The 4-Way Test.

Meeting adjourned.

Future Meetings / Key Dates:

- Nov 25 Support and Services to Homeless and At-Risk Youth – Abbie Norrish, Covenant House
- Dec 2 Annual General Meeting
- Dec 9 Importance of Public Speaking and Taking Leadership in Your Own Life – Linda Vicic, Student, Speaking and Leadership Program
- Dec 16 An Evening of Christmas Fellowship – Partner Evening
- Dec 23 No Meeting – Christmas / New Years Break
- Dec 30 No Meeting – Christmas / New Years Break
- Jan 6 Fish Farming – Fred Sverre, President, Entech Environmental Consultants and member, Rotary Club of North Vancouver

