



The Miner's Lamp

Bringing the Light of Service to the Community and the World Through Rotary

11 March 2008



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March is Rotary Literacy Month

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Literacy and numeracy are key to the education of children and adults. Rotary has long had a policy of promoting these programs to free people around the world from the poverty of ignorance. The joy of reading is the best gift we can give a child.

Adaptive Snow Sports



Our guest speaker last week was our very own Cathe Egan, a tireless volunteer member of the Vancouver Island Society for Adaptive Snowsports or VISAS for short. Cathe provided us with an excellent presentation about the organization and the work it does to provide a degree of freedom to mentally and physically challenged people of all ages through the enjoyment of snowsports. In partnership with Mount Washington Ski Resort, VISAS provided certified snowsport instructors to help people learn to ski and snowboard. The Society raises funds to purchase special appliances such as sit skis, and specially adapted snowboards. Participants are teamed with a instructors who provides individual instruction within the capabilities of their

charges' capabilities. Some of the participants have aspiration to participate in the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics and have been a part of the program since they were young children. The program requires lots of



dedicated volunteers and funds. Our club has supported the program every year. The photo at left is of the dedicated instructors in the program.

www.visasweb.ca

Announcements—What's Happening in our Club—Please Read

- Jill Cornwell continues to be interested in suggestions for speakers: jcornwell@shaw.ca She is also accepting donations of good books for the Cumberland Lodge Library we have helped establish.
- DG Norm Watts is arranging for train travel from Seattle to LA for the International Convention of Rotary International from 15 to 18 June and encourages attendees to consider joining him. www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/Convention/Pages/ridefault.aspx for more information on the convention and to register online. Visit: <http://www.rotary5020.org/riconinfo.php> for information about travel with DG Norm via AMTRAK.
- Linda will be joining Presidents-Elect, DGs, PDGs, AGs and other Rotarians from 10 districts at the Pacific Northwest PETS (Presidents-Elect Training Seminars) in Seatac, Washington from 7-9 March.
- The Cumberland May Day Queen Candidates, Elizabeth Nesbitt and Nina Thomas spoke to the club. Three Rotarians had been chosen to judge the candidates to determine who should be crowned queen.
- Gale gave a brief report of the progress of the Melodrama project and that the funds raised will be used for the bridge project, part of the Chinatown and No.1 Japantown restoration project. Gale outlined the role of the stage manager. Gale is looking for someone to be our stage manager. Billy Strachan has volunteered to fill the male, “hero” role in the piece. She still needs a young female to fill a role.
- Chip gave an update on the Mexican GSE (Group Study Exchange) Team’s visit to our area. The group of five members (non-Rotarians) and their leader Rotarian leader will arrive on the train at noon on 5 May and leave for points farther up island on 8 May. Billets are required so contact President Keith if you wish to host a member or two. The team consists of 2 females, 3 males and a male leader.
- The Rotary Club of Courtenay will be holding a most interesting on-line auction. Bidding will begin on Monday, 10 March. Simply go to: www.courtenayrotary.com and click on the *Main Event* link.
- The District 5020 newsletter can be found at: <http://www.rotary5020.org/newsletter.pdf>
- District Conference in Parksville 29 May to 1 June. www.rotary5020.org
- Our 2008 Installation dinner will be on Tuesday, 24 June at the Kingfisher. Meal will be a barbecue. \$25 per person. See Dave Stevens for tickets and to reserve seats. cvas4@shaw.ca

Speaker (11 March) Diane Davies—Healing For Chronic Pain

March Greeters: Liz Phillipson and Jill Cornwell

Greeters' Duties: Arrive by 6:30 AM, set up room—hang banners, arrange flags, guest register, bell and gavel, name tag box, place sandwich board on sidewalk, greet everyone as people arrive and hand out badges, help with visitors' name tags and make-up cards. At end of meeting, return room to original condition by putting everything away—please don't leave the sandwich board on the sidewalk.

Rotary Moment



A Rotarian Has Risen to the Top Position in the South Korean Government

Myung-bak Lee, of the Rotary Club of Seoul Samchung, Seoul, won a landslide victory in December to become the country's 17th president. RI President-elect Dong Kurn Lee attended the inauguration festivities on 25 February.

"We hope that the objective of Rotary to encourage and foster the ideal of service will help you administer the affairs of the nation," the RI president-elect said in a video message shown at a District 3650 celebration in January. More than 700 Rotarians attended the event, which was held in the new president's honour.

The president responded: "I am most appreciative for what the Rotary Club of Seoul Samchung and fellow Rotarians did. I will make an effort to reflect honour upon Rotary."

Lee became involved with Rotary in 1994, after expressing an interest in charity work to his friend and colleague Woo Joo Chang, a member of the Rotary Club of Hanyang. From 1995 to 1996, Lee served as charter president of the Seoul Samchung club. "The club set a good example of Service Above Self by working with orphans, showing concern for the elderly, and offering scholarships to college students," said Chang. He added that Lee has been "a model Rotarian," attending as many club meetings as possible, even while serving as mayor of Seoul from 2002 to 2006.

Though Lee will be unable to remain involved in Rotary activities because of his busy schedule, Chang says Rotarians are excited about his presidency.

Several other South Korean Rotarians have served as high-level officials, including former prime ministers Chung Yul Kim, Duck Woo Nam, Choong Hoon Park, and Chang Soon Yoo, all members of the Hanyang club.

Lee also joins the ranks of Rotarians around the world who have led their countries, including Foreign Minister Bhichai Rattakul of Thailand, Prime Minister Antoine Pinay of France, Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk of Czechoslovakia, and President Warren G. Harding of the United States.

Source: Rotary International News Courtesy: eFlash_Rotary

Attendance

21 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarian: Chip Ross of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise. Guests: Leslie Baird, Cumberland Village Councillor, Sara Pomerlow, Coordinator, Cumberland May Day Queen, Nina Thomas May Queen Candidate, Lisa Woolman, Nina's mom, Elizabeth Nesbitt May Queen Candidate, Ray Iwasa, Chinatown and No. 1 Japantown committee, Josh Prowse, Katimavik Project Leader and Billy Strachan, A Day for Africa project founder, and Bayne Mann, guest of his mom, Deb.

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: 6 Ann Janssen, 22 Debbie Lemire, and 26 Kurt Nielsen

Anniversaries: 23 Ann and Wessel Janssen

Best wishes to all of you.

Parting Shots



Katimavik Leader Josh Prowse joined PE Linda as she presented a cheque for \$1000 to Billy Strachan



The History of VISAS
Vancouver Island Society for Adaptive Snowsports



Melodrama News

The City Slicker and Our Nell

A melodrama directed by our own Gale Wheeler and featuring many of our club



members in the cast and crew will open at 7:00 PM on Thursday, 15 May in the Cumberland United Church. A special performance for Rotarians only will be held on Friday, 16 May and the final, evening performance will be held on Monday, 19 May. Two matinée performances will be held on 17 and 19 May at 2:00 PM. Proceeds will be used to fund a community project. Only 175 seats will be available for each performance. Tickets will be available soon. Admission will be \$10 per adult, \$5 per child, 12 and under. Families of four will be admitted for a special family rate of \$25 and there will be a special price (by donation) for Rotarians for the exclusively Rotarians-only event. Rehearsals will start on Wednesday evening, 2 April and will be held twice per week on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. The director estimates 3 hours will be required for each rehearsal. A fun-filled event for the whole family and for all the participants. See Gale to volunteer, she needs a female lead and a Stage Manager.

"The human race has only one really effective weapon and that is laughter."- Mark Twain