



# The Miner's Lamp

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

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## April is Rotary Magazine Month

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*This month's focus is on Rotary magazines and other publications used to inform, educate and promote Rotarians. Make some time to read the Rotarian every*

## Celebrating Youth

We were delighted to welcome two young people back to our club last week whom we had sponsored for two Rotary projects. Laramie Ferguson attended RYLA at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma from 6 to 9 March and Neil Vokey, who has been intrigued by filmmaking since he was

8 years old attended *Adventures in Film* sponsored by the Rotary Club of Rowell River and others in Powell River in February. Neil spoke first and explained that the adventure was part of a film camp held in the community. He and his colleagues hung out with and learned from professional filmmakers. While there they were housed in a school and had a great time. He showed us a film in which he starred with a young woman and he got to edit. A great effort and excellent presentation. Following Neil's talk, Laramie, a member of the Interact Club of Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School, told us all about her experiences during the four days she spent at RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards). The program focused on leadership and self actualization and Laramie emphasized how much she felt she had grown as a result of the experience. During the many workshops that she participated in, Laramie was inspired by the messages of the various leaders. She described what she learned and the themes of each session. Using a Powerpoint presentation she helped us to get the sense of the PLU campus and the enthusiasm of the students who attended from all parts of British Columbia and Washington State. The students were asked to create skits that demonstrated the Rotary Four-Way Test. Laramie made many new friends at the event and expressed her gratitude to our club for providing her with this life-changing opportunity.

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

- Jill Cornwell continues to be interested in suggestions for speakers: [jcornwell@shaw.ca](mailto:jcornwell@shaw.ca) She is also accepting donations of good books for the Cumberland Lodge Library we have helped establish.
- The Mexican GSE (Group Study Exchange) Team will visit our area. Leader- Dr. Natlio G. Solis age 44, male, internal medicine. Members: - Angel Isaac Diaz Goytortua, age 28, male, Mechanical engineer, Computer engineer. - Antonio Cantu Galvin, age 40, male, University Prof, Civil engineer - Christian Emilio Saldana Lopez, age 25, male, Computer engineer - Erika Rodriguez Garcia, age 25, female, University Administrator - Wendi Paola Alvarado Garcia, age 25, female, Coordinator.
- President Keith announced that the owners of the gatehouse are renovating a room that we will be able to use to store our cabinets and other paraphernalia by the end of the month.
- Directors' meeting Thursday, 10 April at 8 AM at Island Timberframe.
- Transit shelters are erected and in use by the public. Mayor Fred Bates and President Keith will meet with other dignitaries for a short ceremony at 3 PM on Wednesday, 9 April at the shelter on Cumberland Road at Bevan Road. Come out if you can. Local media have been invited to attend. President Keith has contacted someone to sandblast the Rotary wheel and our name on the glass to remind the community that we provided them.
- If you still have a vest used during the lantern Festival parade, please bring it to the next meeting so they will be available for the Empire Day Parade duties next month.
- Dave Stevens reported on the work of the Katimavik volunteers in our orchard on 5 April. Inspiring!
- John C reminded everyone about the second revision of the club directory and asked that everyone review their information and inform him of any corrections needed: [johnpegc@telus.net](mailto:johnpegc@telus.net) He suggested each of us could make a list of all club members in their e-mail address book so that when they need to contact the club, they can send out their own messages.
- 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](http://www.rotary5020.org) President Keith, PE Linda and Secretary Alan have registered so far.
- 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 the event.

**Program 15 April: Larry Epp - "Don't Touch" Explosives Safety Society**

**April Greeters: Linda Oprica and John Challender**

**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



## **Somalia Scores 'Historic' Polio-free Achievement** By Dan Nixon and Vivian Fiore

In a triumph over violence, poverty, and poor infrastructure, Somalia has once again become polio-free. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) announced on 25 March that the West African nation hasn't reported a case of polio since a year ago. Although it eradicated the disease in 2002, Somalia became re-infected in 2005 by poliovirus originating in Nigeria, resulting in an outbreak of 228 cases.

Innovative approaches tailored to conflict areas were pivotal in conquering polio in Somalia. More than 10,000 volunteers and health workers used several doses of monovalent vaccines to immunize children in insecure areas in a short period. With strong community support, the effort succeeded in reaching more than 1.8 million children under age five across one of the most dangerous countries on earth.

"This truly historic achievement shows that polio can be eradicated everywhere, even in the most challenging and difficult settings," says Dr. Hussein A. Gezairy, director of the World Health Organization's Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office. One of Somalia's volunteers and health workers is Ali Mao Moallim, the last person on earth to contract smallpox — the first disease eradicated worldwide — in 1977. Working with the World Health Organization, he has travelled extensively in his country to immunize children against polio and promote community support for immunization campaigns. "Somalia was the last country with smallpox," he says. "I wanted to help ensure that we would not be the last place with polio too." "Somalia beat polio in the midst of more widespread conflict and poverty than that affecting Afghanistan and Pakistan," says Dr. Maritel Costales, a UNICEF senior health adviser in New York, who cited the challenges of overcoming widespread insecurity and large population movements in a country with no central government. "But Somalia shows that when communities are engaged, children everywhere can be reached." Consistent financial commitment continues to be crucial to polio eradication. Rotary International, the top private-sector contributor and volunteer arm of the GPEI, has contributed US\$9.2 million for polio eradication in Somalia and \$700 million worldwide since 1985. The global effort faces a shortage of \$525 million for 2008-09, funding urgently needed to fight the disease in the remaining endemic countries and protect children in high-risk polio-free areas. "Somalia clearly shows that the tailored tools and tactics of the intensified eradication effort are working," says Mohamed Benmejdoub, chair of Rotary's Eastern Mediterranean PolioPlus Committee. "A polio-free world is a feasible public health goal and a global public good. I urge governments across the world — and in particular the G-8 countries — to rapidly make available the necessary resources. Together, we can ensure that no child need ever again suffer the terrible pain of lifelong polio paralysis." Source: Rotary International News Courtesy: eFlash\_Rotary

## Attendance

21 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarians: Al Bergquist and Chip Ross of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise. Guest: Laramie Ferguson, and Neil Vokey our guest speakers and Ian Girody, guest of his Dad and Bayne Mann, guest of his Mom.

## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: 7 - Cathe Egan, Alan deJersey 10 - John Challender Anniversaries: 25 - Jon and Marguerite Toogood 26 - President Keith and Joanne Tatton

Best wishes to all of you from all of us..

## Parting Shots



Different views of the new transit shelter on Cumberland Road at Bevan Road.



### 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 Wednesday, 14 May in the Cumberland United Church. A special performance for Rotarians and their families and friends only will be held on Friday, 16 May and the final, evening performance will be held on Sunday, 18 May. Two matinée performances will be held on 17 and 19 May at 2:00 PM. Only 175 seats will be available for each performance. Tickets are available from John C. Admission is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child, 12 and under. Families of four will be admitted for a special family rate of \$25. Admission for Rotarians for the exclusive, Rotarians-families-and-friends-only event will be by donation. Rehearsals have started and will be held twice per week on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. A fun-filled event for the whole family and for all the participants. Dale Roberts of the RC of Comox has volunteered to fill the role that was vacant.