



The Miner's Lamp

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

19 February 2008



Volume 12 Issue 4

EMCON

February is World Understanding Month

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One of the main objects of Rotary is the advancement of international understanding, good will and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional leaders united in the ideal of service.

Our guest speaker on Tuesday was Oliver Watson, EMCON Service's Road Superintendent for our part of Vancouver Island, from Cooke Creek to Hamm Road. Oliver provided an overview of how BC's highway maintenance has been privatized since 1988. His operation is responsible for more than 600 roads of various classes. The class of each road determines the priority placed on snow removal and maintenance. He described the pressure his people have been under this winter keeping the highways open for the public. Salt plays a large part in snow and ice control. Salt is obtained from two main sources, South America and Saskatchewan.

He pointed out that crystal salt has little effect but when combined with water and converted into a brine, it creates a barrier between the paved surface and snow that falls, preventing the snow, when it packs, from adhering to the surface. He described the different types of equipment including plows, graders, sand dispensing and brine dispensing vehicles. Some of the factors that cause vehicle accidents include excessive speed, poor tires and driving with cruise control engaged! Of course weather is the key variable that faces Oliver and his crews. Environmental conditions are obtained from several sources including from the highway cameras found on the Drive BC website. Lots of good information was provided.



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.
- The District 5020 newsletter can be found at: <http://www.rotary5020.org/newsletter.pdf>
- Cumberland will hold its Heritage Faire on 23 February and we'll set up a table.
- District Leadership Training Assembly 23 & 24 February in Victoria. www.rotary5020.org
- District Conference in Parksville 29 May to 1 June. www.rotary5020.org
- 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
- Katimavik will work in our orchard on 1 March to raise money for A Day for Africa.
- Club Directory Correction: Ken Dunsire's e-mail address should read: ken@comoxvalleydodge.com
- President Keith presented PE Linda with a presidential seal for all her work in his absence.
- Transit shelters have been shipped so we'll be able to complete that project soon after they arrive.
- Gale Wheeler has DG challenge forms for anyone interested.
- Tim Roth announced that Strathcona Sunrisers will hold their 3rd annual dinner theatre at Highland on 1 March. Tickets \$50. Check with any Sunriser for tickets.
- Our club will sponsor Julie Horwood as a Rotary Peace and Conflict Resolution Scholar in 2009. The scholarship will be worth \$60,000 and will be covered by our Foundation.
- We welcomed Alinda back from Kenya and she gave us a "2 minute" update.
- President Keith presented a cheque for \$1,000 received by him from Lafarge Cement to Steven Baird of Street Smart Kidz for a painting by his spouse, Cara Baird, of the Lafarge cement silo on Comox Road.
- **Speaker (19 February): Cst Tammy Douglas, RCMP—
Personal Safety**



February Greeters: John Challender and Dave Stevens

Rotary Moment



Make Dreams Real

Part II of the speech given by Dong Kurn Lee RI President-Elect to the World's DGEs

And yet, my heart was pulled in another direction. Because, in the midst of my research on possible emphases, I came across a number. That number was 30,000 — the number of children under the age of five who die every day from preventable causes. At first, I thought that it had to be a mistake. Perhaps there was an extra zero in that number, if not two. Perhaps the number was per month or per year. It was impossible, unthinkable, in the 21st century, that 30,000 of our most precious children could die, needlessly, every day. But there was no mistake. I asked, how can it be possible? The answers were as heartbreaking as the number. Children die needlessly of pneumonia, measles, and malaria — for the lack of basic medicines, vaccines, and mosquito nets. They die of diarrheal illnesses — for the lack of a packet of rehydration salts that costs 10 cents. They die in the thousands, every day, because they have only dirty water to wash in and to drink. They are killed by illnesses that become deadly in combination with poor sanitation and malnutrition. They die because their families are trapped in a cycle of extreme poverty, a cycle that is not interrupted because there is no access to education. They die because their needs are not met in the areas of water, health and hunger, and literacy.

Once I understood this, and I understood the issues behind that terrible number, I knew what I needed to do. In 2008-09, Rotary will keep the service emphases we have had in so many of our past years, the emphases that are solidly grounded in our knowledge and experience: water, health and hunger, and literacy. But this year, I will ask you to focus your efforts in each of these areas on children, and on reducing the terrible rate of child mortality in our world. In 2008-09, I will ask you all to Make Dreams Real for the world's children. This will be our theme, and my challenge to all of you. We will Make Dreams Real by giving children hope and a chance at a future. We will Make Dreams Real by bringing clean water to their communities, and by this I mean not only providing safe water to drink but creating the sanitation projects that keep children healthy. We will be as proud of building public toilets as we are of supplying drinking water, because by improving sanitation, we prevent water from becoming contaminated, and we avoid so many needless deaths.

We will Make Dreams Real by giving children the chance at health through improving their environments and their access to care. So much can be done to keep children healthy, with so little: mosquito nets, rehydration salts, vitamins, and vaccines. And so much can be done with just a little bit more: a trained birth attendant, a simple clinic, a school feeding program, a visiting nurse. These are simple and direct ways to save children's lives. (End of Part II—Final part next week.)

Attendance

21 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarians: Chip Ross and Tim Roth of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise and Bent Harder from the RC of Courtenay. Julie Horwood and Courtney Jackson were guests of Alan deJersey, Bayne Mann was a guest of his Mom, Deb Nolan, and Oliver Watson was our guest speaker.

February Birthdays (no one in our club was married in this month)

8 Wayne Giroday, 23 Dodie Brand, 25 Jamie Edwards. Best wishes to all of you.
Also, Rotary will be 103 years old on 23 February, Rotary World Peace and Understanding Day!

Parting Shots



Steve Galbraith presented Sustaining Member pins to several Rotarians on Tuesday and we got a shot of the group. Missing were: Bill Armstrong, Mac Fraser, Ann Janssen, Debbie Lemire and Judythe McQuillan



Mr Rotaplast, Bent Harder, received \$1400, 1/2 from President Keith and 1/2 from our club for his next mission

President Keith presented John C with a MPH pin (PHF+7) →



Chuckle Corner

Some Advice

If you want someone who will eat whatever you put in front of him and never say its not quite as good as his mother's...then buy a dog.

If you want someone always willing to go out, at any hour, for as long and wherever you want...then buy a dog.

If you want someone who will never touch the remote, doesn't care about hockey or football, and can sit next to you as you watch romantic movies...then buy a dog.

If you want someone who is content to get on your bed just to warm your feet and whom you can push off if he snores...then buy a dog.

BUT, on the other hand, if you want someone who will never come when you call, ignores you totally when you come home, leaves hair all over the place, walks all over you, runs around all night and only comes home to eat and sleep, and acts as if your entire existence is solely to ensure his happiness...then buy a cat!

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

Cumberland Centennial Rocks!