



# The Miner's Lamp

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



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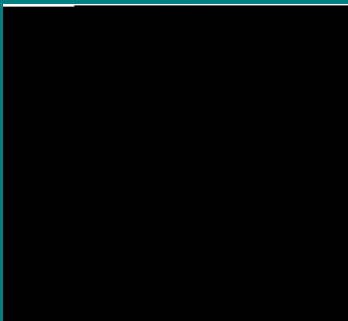
## Club Assembly

### December is Family of Rotary Month

#### IN THIS ISSUE

Club Assembly	1
Announcements	2
Rotary Moment	3
Attendance	3
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Parting Shot	4
December Programs	4

Rotary clubs celebrate the family of Rotary by completing the election of club officers and holding a family gathering before the end of the month.



Garry Dixon, co-owner of our Rotary home, Carmie's Café, was our guest speaker at our meeting on Tuesday. Garry had a distinguished 35-year career in the Canadian Forces, serving, in part, as a Loadmaster on large

transport aircraft such as the C-130 Hercules, which as Garry likes to say, boasts 65,000 HP and lots of trunk space. Before he retired, Garry spent time in Afghanistan so provided us with a photo tour of his observations in that country. As he took us through his photos Garry provided a commentary on the impressions the company had made on him. He learned that, in general, women are mere chattels who do not any rights. Women are not considered worthy of education or engaging in leadership roles. Things are changing as a result of a western presence in the country. The Canadian Forces have developed an orphanage that houses 5400 girls and they are all attending school. Once a significant number of females are educated, there is expected to be a significant change in the customs of the country. An enjoyable and insightful presentation.

## Announcements

What we do to the Earth, we do to ourselves.

- Jill Cornwell is always interested in suggestions for speakers: [jcornwell@shaw.ca](mailto:jcornwell@shaw.ca) Jill is also accepting donations of good books for our library at Cumberland Lodge.



- From President Alan: President Alan was absent due to illness so Linda Oprica presided over the meeting. Linda thanked everyone involved with the decoration of the ready mix truck. Next Board meeting - Thursday, 16 December at 7:00 Am at Carmie's Café. Items for the agenda should be sent to Secretary Rob as soon as possible. Cindy Bannerman informed the club that she wished to make a donation to our club in Ron's memory so she has decided to pay for the record player that we are donating to the Cumberland Lodge for the pleasure of the seniors. Ron loved music so Cindy thought it an appropriate gesture in his memory. A plaque will be placed on the device indicating Cindy's generous act in Ron's memory.
- David Stevens provided a report of the work party that decorated the truck on 11 December and David thanked everyone.
- Chantal thanked everyone in our club who participated in the work session on Sunday, 12 December. Three hundred seventy bags were filled and were distributed to agencies around the Comox Valley. A special thanks to all the Rotarians and spouses who served as activity leaders. Next EDAS work bee will be on 11 December 2011.
- Our meeting on 21 December will be at 7:00 Am at Zocalo's Café. This is a family function and a time to share seasonal stories. If you have not told her already, please let Liz know numbers so she can inform Zocalo's.
- John Jones reminded us that he will be sending our contributions to the Rotary Foundation before the end of the month so, if you plan to top up yours, please contact John soon.
- **December Greeters:** David Bossom and Jon Toogood.
- **Greeters' Duties:** Arrive by 6:30 AM, set up room, greet everyone as people arrive and hand out badges, help with visitors' name tags and make-up cards. Return room to original setup.

## Rotary Moment



### 2011 Rotary International Convention in New Orleans



*New Orleans scenes - New Orleans Museum of Art*

Courtesy : <http://noma.org>

### **Register for the RI Convention by 15 December for special pricing**

*Register by 15 December to get the best rates and accommodations for the 2011 RI Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, 21-25 May. Let the Host Organization Committee dazzle you with the sights, sounds, and tastes of the Crescent City.*

### **Attendance**

21 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting on 14 December. We missed the company of: Bill, Jill, Alan, Cathe, Mac, Steve, Debbie, Kim, Gale, Adri and Casper. Visiting Rotarians: Bent Harder and Laurie Haines of the Rotary Club of Courtenay and Bob McQuillan of the Rotary Club of Strathcona Sunrise. Guests: Margaret Neal, Garry Dixon, our guest speaker, and Plan our RYE student.

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries in December**

Birthdays: 4 Christine Dickinson, 7 Jay Dahlgren, 8 Steve Galbraith and 12 Adri Pretorius.  
Anniversaries: 3 Judythe and Bob McQuillan, 6 Liz and Elmer Phillipson, 11 Christine and David Dickinson and 28 Rhonda and Bill Armstrong. Best wishes to everyone.

## Parting Shot



## December Programs

21 Christmas breakfast at Zocalo's Café – bring your family members to share their favourite or funniest Christmas stories over breakfast. 28 Onyx Ogilvie about a project he is involved with through Fertile Ground in Assam. He is hoping to go to Assam to work on the project.

## Chuckle Corner

### Airport Security

At New York's Kennedy airport today, an individual later discovered to be a public school teacher was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a ruler, a protractor, a set square, a slide rule, and a calculator.

At a morning press conference, the U.S. attorney general said he believes the man is a member of the notorious Al-Gebra movement.

He is being charged by the FBI with carrying weapons of math instruction.

"Al-Gebra is a fearsome cult," the attorney general said. "They desire average solutions by means and extremes, and sometimes go off on tangents in a search of absolute value. They use secret code names like 'x' and 'y' and refer to themselves as 'unknowns', but we have determined they belong to a common denominator of the axis of medieval with coordinates in every country. As the Greek philanderer Isosceles used to say, 'there are 3 sides to every triangle'."

When asked to comment on the arrest, former President George W. Bush said, "If God had wanted us to have better weapons of math instruction, He would have given us more fingers and toes!!!"