



The Miner's Lamp

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



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February
is World
Understanding
Month

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February is the month that all Rotarians celebrate Rotary's birthday on the 23rd, which has been designated World Understanding and Peace Day. One of the Objects of Rotary is to promote world peace and understanding all over the globe.

Glacier Grannies, Stephen Lewis



Our speaker on Tuesday was Marianne Muir, a member of Glacier Crannies a group of local grandmothers who have been raising funds to support the grandmothers in countries in Africa who are raising their orphaned grandchildren whose parents died due to

HIV/AIDS. The Glacier Grannies raised \$44,000 in partnership with the local quilters group as part of the \$150,000 raised last year for the Stephen Lewis Foundation. As many as 13 Million children have been orphaned by AIDS in Africa. Grandmothers bury their adult children and step into the breach, caring for the orphaned children left behind. They have no time to grieve the loss of their children, little to no money, deteriorating health and limited support. Canadian grandmothers have connected with these African grandmothers through the 200 caring groups who have raised more than \$4 Million to help their African counterparts through the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Marianne showed a touching DVD of one grandmother's story in Zambia, a woman who lost three of her sisters and a brother to AIDS.

www.grandmotherscampaign.org

www.stephenlewisfoundation.org

Announcements

Life is not every breath we take but when it takes our breath away!

- Jill Cornwell is always interested in suggestions for speakers: jcornwell@shaw.ca She is always accepting donations of good books for our library at Cumberland Lodge.



- **From President Linda:** A sign-up sheet was circulated inviting members to indicate the date(s) they would like to give the invocation at our meetings. Keith reported on the Valentine's Day Social and the fun those attended had. Lots of food donated for the Food Bank, a donation was the price of admission. GWCTD is on track—18 couples signed up. President Linda announced that the four Valley Rotary clubs are going to apply jointly for recognition of our significant support to the CV Hospice Society building fund.

- Election of the Club and Executive and Board was overseen by Keith with the following people unanimously elected to fill the positions indicated: Steve G President, Linda PP, Alan DeJersey PE, Rob Secretary, John J Treasurer, Keith Sgt-at-Arms, Deb International, Dodie Community, Jon T Youth, John C PR & Admin, Mac Foundation, Gale Membership, Liz Social and Jill Program.
- Judythe provided an explanation of Foundation Recognition Points and provided handouts.
- **Program 24 February:** Dianne Maxted - Comox Valley Youth Music Centre - CYMC 2009
- **February Greeters:** Bill Armstrong and Gale Wheeler.
- **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



Historic Moments -- Rotary's 104th Anniversary



The first four Rotarians: (left to right) Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey, and Paul Harris. - Rotary Images

During the first Rotary club meeting on 23 February 1905 in Chicago, Paul Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Hiram Shorey, and Silvester Schiele met to talk about their personal experiences. Harris then unfolded his general plan for their club meetings.

This was the simple beginning of the world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago. It was created because of Harris' wish to capture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. The Rotary name derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

Rotarians continue to take pride in their history. In honour of that first club, Rotarians have preserved its original meeting place, Room 711 in Chicago's Unity Building, by re-creating the office as it existed in 1905. For several years, the Paul Harris 711 Club maintained the room as a shrine for visiting Rotarians. In 1989, when the building was scheduled to be demolished, the club carefully dismantled the office and salvaged the interior, including doors and radiators. In 1993, the RI Board of Directors set aside a permanent home for the restored Room 711 at RI World Headquarters in the Chicago suburb of Evanston.

For more historical information about Rotary, visit Rotary History and Archives:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/History/Pages/ridefault.aspx> or the Rotary Global History Fellowship <http://www.rghf.org/> Source: Rotary International News / Courtesy: eFlash_Rotary

Attendance 22 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting on 17 February. Visiting Rotarian: Paul Vroom of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise. Guests: Maureen Swift, George Stratford, Bayne Mann Jr and Marianne Muir, our guest speaker.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: 8 Feb: Wayne Giroday, 23 Feb: Dodie Brand, 25 Feb: Jamie Edwards. Anniversaries: No one in our club has admitted to getting married in February. Best wishes to everyone.

Parting Shots



President Linda presented a cheque for \$10,000 to Maureen Swift, President of the Comox Valley Hospice Society. www.comoxhospice.com

Ross Griffith-Cochrane of Oikocredit presented a share certificate to Stefan, recognizing the deposit by our club of \$3,000 to the fund. We are the first Canadian club to make a deposit to Oikocredit for micro-credit loans in developing nations.

www.oikocredit.org

Chuckle Corner

The Lighter Side of Life

While I sat in the reception area of my doctor's office, a woman rolled an elderly man in a wheelchair into the room. As she went to the receptionist's desk, the man sat there, alone and silent. Just as I was thinking I should make small talk with him, a little boy slipped off his mother's lap and walked over to the wheelchair. Placing his hand on the man's, he said, 'I know how you feel. My mom makes me ride in my stroller, too.'