



The Miner's Lamp

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



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March is Rotary Literacy Month

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March is the month that we promote literacy and numeracy in our communities and around the world. Giving young and old alike the gift of reading provides freedom, dignity and power to grow and realize their full potential. Encourage members of your families to read and read to your young children and grandchildren at every opportunity to help them develop a love of reading.

The Rotary Foundation



Our guest speaker on 17 March was PDG (2005-2006) Joan Firkins, Foundation Chair for District 5020. With her normal good humour and aplomb, Joan helped us understand the mission of our Foundation and the importance of giving what we can to enable us to promote world peace and understanding through the work we Rotarians are able to do throughout the world. Joan took us through the workings of



the Foundation, explaining the Annual Fund, Restricted giving (like Polio Plus) and the Permanent Fund. She pointed out that 50% of the money donated by the Rotarians in our district is returned to the district three years later, with the rest being used for the host of programs the Foundation has established. As an ex-banker, Joan showed us this slide to simplify things for us. www.rotary.org

Announcements

"As I got, I gave ... as I give, I get. - Mary McLeod Bethune

- 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:** Next Board meeting on Friday, 20 March at 7:15 AM at Island Timber Frame. If interested in doing an invocation at the beginning of a meeting, please let Gale know and she will schedule you. Saturday, 28 March is the Lantern Festival at 8 PM. 12 people volunteered to help with crowd control. Pick up vests next week. Meet at Fire Hall at 7:30 PM that evening. Bill Armstrong did a makeup in Maui and presented a banner for our collection to President Linda.
- PE Steve announced a meeting of the 2009-2010 Executive and Board at Carmie's at 8 AM on Monday 23 March.
- **Program 24 March:** Susan Kelsey - Olympic Spirit and Marilyn Tevington - Olympic Torch Group
- **March Greeters:** David Bossom and Dodie Brand.
- **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

Canadian Filmmaker Explores Rotary in Tanzania By Donna Polydoros RI News --
10 March 2009



Deneka Michaud gets ready to shoot footage for her documentary, *Friends We Haven't Met Yet*. Courtesy of the Tsawwassen-Tanzania Group Study Exchange team. Rotarian Deneka Michaud, 26, is screening her first feature-length documentary about her experience on a Group Study Exchange sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tsawwassen (Delta), BC. Along with four other Canadian women, Michaud, a reporter and producer for Canada's Delta Cable, was selected to travel to Tanzania in the fall of 2007. She brought a camera and other equipment to document the experience. Michaud, who joined the Rotary Club of North Vancouver after she returned from the exchange, says that before the trip, she had a general concept for the film, which features slices of life in Tanzania, images of

nature and wildlife, and several Rotary club projects.

"But what I didn't expect was all the incredible people we'd meet. Knowing Canadian Rotarians, I knew that Tanzanian Rotarians would be great people, but when they are embracing you, you really make a connection," she says. The team included Erin Robinson, a microfinance program manager; Shannon Thompson, a recruitment manager; Jennifer Wesman, a literacy program coordinator who recently joined the Rotary Club of Vancouver Quadra; and team leader Nancy Nikolai, of the Rotary Club of New Westminister-Royal City. Together, they saw several club projects in action and identified three they felt strongly about supporting: the Ocean Road Cancer Institute and a primary school for deaf and blind children in Dar es Salaam, and the Tusome literacy project in Zanzibar.

The group set a goal of raising C\$15,000 (US\$11,750) for the projects. Already, several Canadian and Tanzanian clubs have contributed more than two-thirds of that amount.

"These women are exceptional," says Bryan Kelly, media relations chair for the Tsawwassen (Delta) club. "When they came and did their presentation to our club, they blew us away."

Michaud says she hopes to raise the rest of the money with help from her documentary, *Friends We Haven't Met Yet*.

"There's something for everyone," she says. "Rotarians will enjoy it: They'll learn more about Rotary. People who know nothing about Rotary will enjoy it: It explains what Rotary is. And people who love history, nature, and travel will love it too."

The 105-minute film premiered 28 February at Vancity Theatre in Vancouver. The documentary will air in the coming months on Delta Cable. For more information or to support the projects featured in the film, contact Deneka Michaud at 778-840-5122. To view a trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fisc-YCcmns&eurl>

Attendance

20 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting on 17 March. Visiting Rotarians: George Smyth of the RC of Courtenay, PDG Joan Firkins of the RC of Oak Bay, our guest speaker. Guest: Bayne Mann, guest of his mom, Deb.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: 4 Chantal Stefan, 22 Debbie Lemire, 26 Kurt Nielsen. Anniversary: Annemarie and Stefan Pletscher. Best wishes to everyone.

Parting Shots



Low-tech fire-warning device!



John post-op.

Chuckle Corner

THE HAIRCUT

A young boy had just received his driver's permit and asked his father if they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he would make a deal with his son. "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, get your hair cut and we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said: "Son, I've been real proud. You brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm real disappointed you didn't get your hair cut."

The young man paused a moment then said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair. And there's even a strong argument that Jesus had long hair."

To this his father replied: "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?"