



# The Miner's Lamp

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

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September is New  
Generations Month  
With an Emphasis  
on Youth

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EVERY  
ROTARIAN  
EVERY  
YEAR

## Mexican Schools Project



Our guest speaker last week was Bob Johnson, who is involved with a project to improve conditions for children in the poorer areas of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Bob, an educator by profession, has been spending more and more of his time and energies helping these children learn, in particular repairing and renovating schools so they will have a place to learn. Bob described the impact of the lure of wealth has had on thousands of Mexican families who have moved to the area hoping to strike it rich. He

described the 50 small villages in the area that have less than basic amenities for healthy living and education. Bob and other volunteers work beside local residents painting and brightening the buildings that the kids occupy. His project also involves providing medical supplies and sanitary conditions like septic systems and toilets for the children. He has connected with many schools on Vancouver Island, raising the awareness of Canadian students about how little of our money it takes to help the Mexican children. Since Bob is also a painter by training, he has used paint as a medium to improve the appearance of many buildings. Much of the painting is done by the children who had not even been encourage to draw free-hand. The children paint murals on the buildings and none of them has every been "tagged" with graffiti. [www.mexicanschoolsproject.com](http://www.mexicanschoolsproject.com)

## 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.
- **2007 Extravaganza Italiana** We are aiming for a target of 200 live and silent auction items so, [please, find sponsors, services and articles ASAP.](#)

## Rotary Moment

### Online Tool Kit Helps Turn Schools Into Literacy Stars

by Maureen Vaught Rotary International News

In honour of International Literacy Day on 8 September, Rotary International and the International Reading Association have developed Every School a Star, a Web-based resource designed to help Rotary clubs and reading councils carry out literacy projects.



Available in English, the kit includes examples of successful club and district literacy projects, needs assessment questionnaires, and a teachers' wish list. You'll also find links to contact information, resources, and service opportunities, as well as guidelines for working with local Rotary clubs and reading councils.

To help you find a project that matches your schools' needs with your volunteers' resources and interests, the literacy projects have been divided into four categories: donations/funding, education/awareness, literacy events/celebrations, and volunteers/mentor. There also is a section explaining how to include a literacy element in other types of service projects.

Courtesy: eFlash\_Rotary

## Attendance

Only fifteen Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarians included: Al Bergquist, Peggy Carswell, who spoke to us about Fertile Ground, and Chip Ross of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise, Jeremy Bell, Al Dafoe and Dale Pateman of the RC of Courtenay and Doug Ante of the RC of Bulawayo Matopos who spoke to us about the sustainable chicken farm operation we helped fund and about life in Zimbabwe in general. Dr Sarah Johnson and Bayne Mann Jr were guests of Deb Nolan, Jamie Edwards was a guest of President Keith and Bob Johnson was our guest speaker.

## Parting Shots



Doug Ante

RC of Bulawayo Matopos



Peggy Carswell

RC of Strathcona Sunrise



Our Own Jill

## Chuckle Corner



An elderly couple was sitting together, watching their favorite Saturday night TV program.

During one of those commercial breaks, the husband asked his wife:

"Whatever happened to our sexual relations?"

After a long thoughtful silence, the wife, during the next commercial break, replied:

"You know, I don't really know--I don't even think we got a Rosh Hashana card from them this year."

Cumberland Centennial Rocks!