



# The Miner's Lamp

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

27 May 2008



Volume 13 Issue 6

Let's Make May  
Rotary Awareness  
Month!

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**Rotary International has not designated a particular theme for the month of May. Each of us could do our bit to raise awareness about Rotary in our community by wearing our pins every day, talking to people and inviting them to Rotary.**

## Crime Reduction



Our guest speaker last week was Inspector Tom Gray, Officer in Charge of the Comox valley Detachment of the RCMP - our police chief. Tom is also a Rotarian and will become the president of the Rotary Club of Strathcona Sunrise on 1 July 2008. Tom provided us with a brief history of policing and the approaches taken to their role down through the years. He explained that police forces have changed the way they

provide service to their communities as technology and management principles have developed. Tom's message was aimed at helping us understand that the police are focusing on the right people, places and things as their way of reducing crime. One key element is the reduction of the fear of crime in the community. People who fear crime behave in different ways from those who understand the realities of the situation in their communities. Those who have an unrealistic fear of crime develop perceptions crime based on what they see like graffiti, garbage strewn about, etc. He reminded us that we should not let unacceptable social behaviour to persist; it should be reported to the police as it occurs so that the police can develop data that will lead them to deal with the perpetrators. Community members must become involved in their own safety and help with crime reduction by being engaged. He also presented significant statistics to indicate that most crimes have been reduced.

## 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.
- Our 2008 Installation dinner will be on Tuesday, 24 June at the Kingfisher. Meal will be a barbecue. \$25 per person. See John C. for tickets while Dave Stevens is away during the remainder of the month of May. Dave will have the tickets for sale in June. A celebration of another year of great service with recognition being paid to several of our Rotary family so make it a “can’t miss” event in your life.
- Alan deJersey advised everyone that our candidate for the Rotary Peace Scholarship, Julie Horwood, had successfully completed the first stage in the selection process and that our District has forwarded her application to Rotary International with their endorsement. Well done, Julie.
- Linda reported on Elizabeth, Cumberland May Queen, and her day in the public eye on Monday and spoke volumes about how she has developed confidence and poise as a result. Linda, Alinda, Dodie, Jill and Robb, were all involved in everything from helping purchase clothing, makeup and decorating the May Queen’s float for the parade. It was obvious that our financial and physical support to this fine young lady has made a difference in her life.
- Meeting on 27 in the orchard. Pay for breakfast at the following meeting. Coffee and muffins will be available.
- **Club Assembly at 5:00 PM at Linda’s on Thursday, 5 June. Important that everyone attend if possible. Decision will be made on the proposed hospice project so everyone will have the opportunity to vote.**
- President Keith passed around a thank you card from Simon Garstin who aspires to become the world champion of junior downhill bike racing. We supported him with \$500 toward his expenses.
- Last call for the DG’s Challenge. Please see President Keith for the form.
- Debbie Lemire thanked all of us for our support to the parade on Monday. She also suggested that we could become more involved in other aspects of the other activities during Empire Days and learn more about the history of Cumberland.
- **Program 27 May: Club Assembly at the **Orchard** - An opportunity for all members to discuss club business. Wet weather at Linda’s.**
- **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.

# Guest Editorial



## Cleaning Out the Attic

By Frank Deaver - Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa, Alabama USA - Reprinted from the May edition of The Breadbasket, ROTI's newsletter.

I ventured up into the attic the other day to look for something – not sure now just what it was – but it would have been hard to find anyhow, among all the clutter of "things." Things I've saved over the years because "I might need that someday." And it set me to thinking about the human inclination to hoard things. Some of us call it being a "packrat."

Entrepreneurs have recognized this as a business opportunity for constructing storage facilities. When we run out of space to store all these things in our houses, many of us rent space to store them. A recent feature story revealed that some of these storage units are rented for years without ever having been visited – and that over time the rental payments far exceed the value of what has been stored.

Rotarians are not immune from this "packrat" syndrome. We tend to store up things that should either be shared with others or discarded. But those things are a bit different from what was in my attic.

**Things Rotarians should share.** Most obvious, no doubt, is money. Not knowing what our needs will be in old age, we store away perhaps more than will be needed, and there is some logic in that. Sharing our stored funds through Rotary, however, is as simple as a sentence in our will, designating a gift to Rotary at that time when we have no more earthly needs.

Second, we can share more of our time. Of course, we're all busy, but budgeting our time can allow participation in Rotary projects as well as Rotary meetings. Finally, we can share our influence. In our business and social contacts, we can share with others the fellowship and service opportunities of Rotary. (How long has it been since you sponsored a new member?)

**Things Rotarians should discard.** If there are grudges still deeply buried in mental storage, they have to go. Someone once said that "If we always agree, one of us has quit thinking." We are certain to disagree with each other occasionally, but it should be an opportunity for discussion, not for lingering resentment. There is no place in Rotary fellowship for grudges.

Pride can be justifiable, but it can also be destructive. Rotarians have every right to be proud of our organization and its services, but if that pride leads to a condescending attitude toward other clubs or other people, it has to go.

Most of all, perhaps, Rotarians should discard any tendency to exclusiveness. Sure, Rotary does many good things, but so do other organizations and other individuals. Applauding the accomplishments of others is the gracious thing to do.

Some of those things I had stored in the attic have now been shared with others who have more use for them. Other things have been discarded. As Rotarians, we can also benefit from taking inventory of the things we have stored, things that we should share or discard. It just might make us better Rotarians. It just might make our club a better club.

## Attendance

Only 17 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarians: President-Elect Tom Gray of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise and our guest speaker. Guest: Kelly George of Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School, our candidate who attended Adventures in Citizenship with 220 other students from all corners of Canada in April.

## May Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays: 7 - Courtney Jackson and John Jones, 24 - Mac Fraser, 27—President Keith Tatton. Anniversaries: 23 - Karen and Chip Ross. . Best wishes to all of you from all of us..

## Parting Shots



Our club sent Kelly George to Ottawa to attend Adventures in Citizenship in April. She gave a great account of her experience.



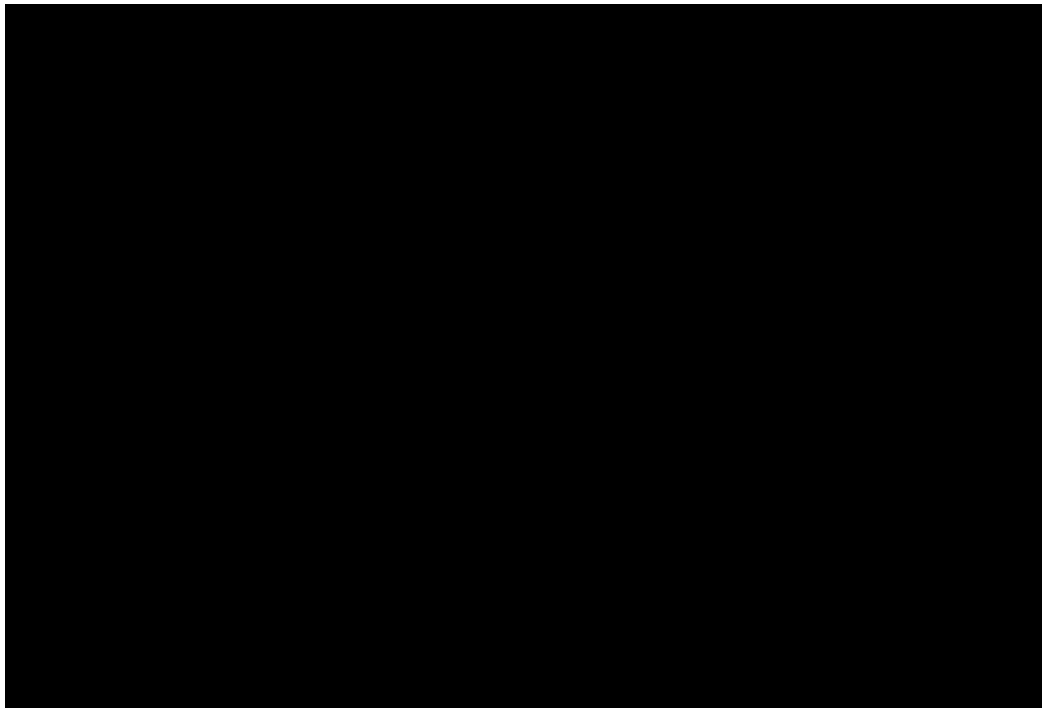
Elizabeth, May Queen 08



Wayne and Liz

Wayne and Liz teamed up to control traffic during the Empire Day Parade on Monday. We had a great turnout of people and Debbie thanked everyone.

## Chuckle Corner



*The best vitamin for making friends..... B1.*

Cumberland Centennial Rocks!