



The Miner's Lamp

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



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CYMC

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.

Our guest speaker on Tuesday was Diane Maxted, president of CYMC—the Comox Valley Youth Music Centre and International School of Music, ably assisted by Marissa Olson. CYMC began as a music camp for young musicians from Vancouver as a Centennial project and has grown to its current status during the intervening years. Maxted provided a review of the programs that have been run over the years and made mention of Adventures in Music,

which was launched by the Comox Valley Rotary clubs in 1999 by promoting the idea of Rotary clubs in other communities sponsoring students who were then billeted in Rotarians homes. From 2000 to 2007 more than 100 students benefitted from the generosity of Rotarians in many communities around the world who attended the jazz, classical and musical theatre programs offered by CYMC. For many, their families would not have been able to afford the tuition without Adventures in Music. Following her presentation Maxted answered questions and asked us to consider providing money for bursaries for local students whose families would not be able to afford the \$800 tuition for the two-week programs (Jazz and Classical).

www.cymc.ca

Announcements

Tension is who you think you should be. Relaxation is who you are. - Chinese proverb

- 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 Acting President Keith:**



- Keith announced that the GWCTD arrangements are in hand and distributed information to those who will be participating as hosts and guests. Remember this is “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” so you won’t know who’s arriving until they do. Keith will provide details of dietary restrictions for guests you will be hosting. The idea is to have a fun-filled social evening with fellow Rotarians and partners. It is not a gourmet feeding contest so do yourselves a favour and keep it simple.
- Jon Toogood, Judythe McQuillan and Chantal Stefan reported on the excellent District Leadership Training Assembly in Victoria during the past weekend. Chantal in particular was full of inspiration and enthusiasm from the good works of Rotary she learned about. Great to see such a reaction from a new Rotarian. Quotes from the experience: “Be bold, be committed, be creative” and “Look at the ordinary as being extraordinary.”
- **Program 3 March: Dona Lemay - Cumberland and District Historical Society**
- **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

Australian Rotarian Receives Humanitarian Honours

Rotarian Alex Buchanan is the 2008-09 recipient of The Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award. Buchanan, of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, is a retired food technologist and scientist. He studied agriculture and science as a 1959-60 Ambassadorial Scholar at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, USA. His research has led to improvements in food production to support developing nations and emergency relief activities.

Among Buchanan's accomplishments are the development of the Australian milk biscuit, a high-protein biscuit used by the Australian government and many Rotary clubs for emergency food aid, and the creation of affordable, nutritionally balanced infant food for health centers in Thailand. Buchanan also helped implement the first successful cooperative food research projects between Australia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. On 26 January, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for service to food science and technology and to the community.

Currently, Buchanan helps to manage the Royce and Jean Abbey Endowment Fund. He was nominated for the award by District 9800 and was the winner for Zone 8.

The Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award was created to honour outstanding former Foundation program participants whose extraordinary service to humanity and professional achievements exemplify the Rotary ideal of Service Above Self.

To learn more about the Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award and other Rotary awards, visit the Rotary awards pages

<<http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/>

Parting Shot

In Honor of Black History Month

That is the true genius of America -
that America can change.
Our union can be perfected.
And what we have already achieved
gives us hope for what we can and
must achieve tomorrow.

-*Barack Obama*



Photo © Carol Highsmith
-The Library of Congress

President Barack Obama paid his first visit to Canada on 19 February and was enthusiastically welcomed by Canadians at all levels of society.

Chuckle Corner

This fellow was on the side of the road hitchhiking on a very dark night in the middle of a terrible rainstorm, and no cars were on the road. The storm was so strong he could hardly see a few feet ahead of him. Suddenly, a car came toward him and stopped. Without thinking, he got into the car and closed the door and only then did he realize that there was nobody behind the wheel!

The car started to move very slowly. He looked at the road and saw a curve coming his way. Petrified, he started to pray, begging for his life. Just before the car reached the curve, a hand suddenly appeared through the window and moved the steering wheel.

The fellow, now paralyzed in terror, watched as the hand appeared every time the car was approaching a curve. Finally, although terrified, he managed to open the door and jump out of the spooky car.

Without looking back, he ran through the storm all the way to the nearest town. Soaking wet; exhausted and in a state of utter shock the pale, visibly shaken man, walked into a nearby bar and asked for two shots of whisky. Then, still trembling with fright, he started telling everybody about the horrible experience he just went through with the spooky car with no driver and the mysterious hand that kept appearing.

Everyone listened in silence and became frightened, hairs standing on end when they realized the fellow was telling the truth. About half an hour later two guys walked into the same bar and one said to the other, 'Oh my God, me son, look, there's the jerk who got into the car while we were pushing it!'