



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



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Volume 20 Issue 1

January is Rotary Awareness Month

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Rotarians are encouraged to raise awareness about Rotary in their communities through their family members, friends and associates and through the media.

Rotary Conventions



Comox Rotarian Ernie von Schilling, wearing his Sergeant-at-Arms vest from the 2009 RI Convention in Birmingham, England, was our guest speaker on Tuesday. Several Rotarians volunteer to act as Sergeants-at-Arms and help convention goers in every way possible. Ernie, who has attended six RI conventions, provided us with lot of information and described the benefits of attending such an event.

Unfortunately, because he has been selected to act as alternate Team Leader for the GSE to

Germany, he could not commit to attending the 2010 convention in Montréal. Rotary conventions rejuvenates Rotarians as attendees are inspired by the Rotarians and guests they meet from every corner of the world. In 1984, Ernie attended the RI convention in Birmingham where 160 countries' flags were paraded. In 2009, twenty-five years later in Birmingham, 200 flags were paraded. Conventions highlight world-class speakers and entertainment celebrities. Ernie spoke in particular about the House of Friendship that is a feature of all conventions. In 2010, Rotary in Canada will be 100 years old. The first Rotary club outside the USA was chartered in Winnipeg in 2010 leading to the re-designation of the organization as Rotary International. Four of our members have registered for the 2010 convention (20-23June) already and others have shown interest. Go to: <http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/Convention/Pages/ridefault.aspx?housead> and you will be taken to the RI website where you will find the link to registration, accommodations and event ticket reservations.

Announcements

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." ~Edith Lovejoy Pierce~

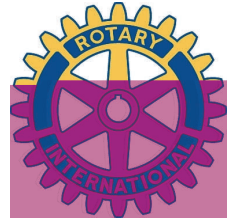
- Jill Cornwell is always interested in suggestions for speakers: jcornwell@shaw.ca
Jill is also accepting donations of good books for our library at Cumberland Lodge.



- **From President Steve:** Thank you note from the Comox Valley Food Bank for our donation of money collected before Christmas.
- While John C is on a leave of absence from the club until 31 March, Admin duties and Club Service will be handled by Rob, Rob and Robb will share the care and operation of the laptop and projector, the club website will be kept current by Liz as long as information is sent to her, the Miner's Lamp will be edited by Kim and PR will be handled by someone tba by President Steve.
- David Stevens has agreed to act as auctioneer for the RC of Oak Bay (PDG Joan Firkins' club) at their dinner/auction on 15 May 2010.
- Chantal reported that EDAS distributed 650 gift bags in the communities of the Comox Valley, Nanaimo and Victoria.
- John Jones reported that donations to the Rotary Foundation (TRF) of Rotary International would be sent off on 29 December.
- Mac reported that our club has achieved a per capita giving of at least \$100 to TRF during this year.
- Liz reminded everyone that the Ukrainian New Year's party will be held at Keith and Joanne's on Wednesday, 13 January starting relatively early. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner begins in February. Sign up sheets next week.
- **January Greeters:** Leslie Baird and Catherine Bell.
- **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



Five Years After the Tsunami ~ By Arnold R. Grahl

Five years after a powerful tsunami devastated communities along the coast of the Indian Ocean, Rotary projects continue to contribute to long-term recovery.

Shortly after the tsunami hit on 26 December 2004, The Rotary Foundation established a Solidarity in South Asia fund, coordinating US\$5.9 million in donations toward recovery efforts throughout the region. The Foundation also awarded more than \$480,000 in humanitarian grants in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. Many individual Rotary club and district foundations also contributed from their own funds. RI President John Kenny visited Banda Aceh, Indonesia, in late November to inaugurate one result of those recovery projects: a health center that is part of a larger \$1.9 million youth complex on about an acre of donated land. "The work you have done here in Indonesia is a vivid example of how Rotary comes together to achieve so much," Kenny said. "In the first hours and days after the tsunami, Rotary volunteers were among the first to respond on-site. In the days, weeks, and months to follow, Rotarians the world over rallied to send all manner of assistance." "One thing that impresses me, over and over, is how these programs focus not on short-term satisfaction, or reward for the giver, or recognition," Kenny said. "The best Rotary programs and projects focus on helping build for the future -- and making lives better for generations." Source: Rotary International News / Courtesy: eFlash_Rotary

Attendance

Only 13 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting on 29 December. Visiting Rotarians: George Smyth of the RC of Courtenay, Elmer Phillipson of the RC of Strathcona Sunrise and Ernie von Schilling of the RC of Comox, our guest speaker. Guest: Mac's daughter, Margaret, home for the holidays from her studies at Concordia University in Montréal.

Anniversaries & Birthdays in January

Anniversaries: 30 Margaret and Rob Neal. Birthdays: 4 David Bossom, 10 Deborah Nolan, 30 Robb Flannery. Our best wishes to everyone.

Parting Shot



Chantal Stefan became our club's newest Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of her service to humanity through her dedication to the organization she created that we have all grown to know and support: EDAS - Everybody Deserves A Smile.

January Programs

- 5 - Smokey Mountain Project and Dan Phillipson -Global Economy
- 12 – Jerry Feniak – Rotary ShelterBox
- 19 – Club Assembly
- 26 – MLA Don McRae

Chuckle Corner

HAVING MOM OVER FOR DINNER

Brian invited his mother over for dinner. During the course of the meal, Brian's mother couldn't help but notice how beautiful Brian's roommate, Jennifer, was. Brian's Mom had long been suspicious of the platonic relationship between Brian and Jennifer, and this had only made her more curious. Over the course of the evening, while watching the two interact, she started to wonder if there were more between Brian and Jennifer than met the eye. Reading his mom's thoughts, Brian volunteered: 'I know what you must be thinking, but I assure you Jennifer and I are just roommates.' About a week later, Jennifer came to Brian saying, 'Ever since your mother came to dinner, I've been unable to find the beautiful silver gravy ladle. You don't suppose she took it, do you?' Brian said, 'Well, I doubt it, but I'll send her an e-mail just to be sure.' So he sat down and wrote: Dear Mom, I'm not saying that you 'did' take the gravy ladle from the house, I'm not saying that you 'did not' take the gravy ladle. But the fact remains that the ladle has been missing ever since you were here for dinner. Love, Brian

Several days later, Brian received an email back from his mother that read: Dear Son, I'm not saying that you 'do' sleep with Jennifer, I'm not saying that you 'do not' sleep with Jennifer, but the fact remains that if Jennifer is sleeping in her own bed, she would have found the gravy ladle by now. Love, Mom

LESSON OF THE DAY - NEVER LIE TO YOUR MOTHER