



The Miner's Lamp

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

6 May 2008



Volume 13 Issue 3

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.

Wheelchair Trip to Peru



Three Campbell River Rotarians, Erwin Portman, Cindy Evans and George Lambert, attended our meeting last week to tell us about their trip to Arequipa, Peru in 2007 to distribute 280 wheelchairs obtained through the Wheelchair Foundation. The Campbell River clubs raised the money (\$150 per chair) to fill the container and have since raised another \$40,000 to purchase another 280 wheelchairs that will be delivered to Venezuela and challenged us to consider participating to raise enough money for a third container that will go to Argentina. The team showed us a number of slides of the city, the region and the ceremonies that highlighted the participants. One of the things George told us about was the abject poverty that they witnessed. Average salaries are \$150 per month with university instructors making \$300 per month. They were very well hosted by the Peruvian Rotarians and thoroughly enjoyed their experiences.

Announcements—What's Happening in our Club—Please Read

- Jill Cornwell continues to be interested in suggestions for speakers: jcornwell@shaw.ca She is also accepting donations of good books for the Cumberland Lodge Library we have helped establish.
- The Mexican GSE (Group Study Exchange) Team will visit our area from Monday 5 to 9 May and attend our meeting on 6 May. We'll look after hosting them on Thursday afternoon, 8 May. Leader- Dr. Natlio G. Solis age 44, male, internal medicine. Members: - Angel Isaac Diaz Goytortua, age 28, male, Mechanical engineer, - Antonio Cantu Galvin, age 40, male, University Prof, Civil engineer - Christian Emilio Saldana Lopez, age 25, male, Computer engineer - Erika Rodriguez Garcia, age 25, female, University Administrator - Wendi Paola Alvarado Garcia, age 25, female, Coordinator.
- If you still have a vest used during the lantern Festival parade, please bring it to the next meeting so they will be available for the Empire Day Parade duties this month.
- Debbie Lemire reminded everyone that we will be providing traffic control at the Empire Day Parade on Monday, 19 May at 9 AM. Please let Debbie know if you can participate. A max effort required.
- Debbie also announced that the Fish and Game Society will be hosting residents from the Cumberland Lodge to a fishing day at Comox Lake. Volunteers requested for Tuesday, 10 June.
- Alan deJersey announced that our candidate for the Rotary Peace Fellowship scholarship, Julie Horwood, will be facing a panel for her interview on Friday, 2 May. Julie is one of 7 candidates from 5020.
- Linda reminded us of the meeting at her house at 5 PM on Wed, 7 May to discuss the hospice project. If you can't attend, please e-mail comments and questions to Linda. Burger night at the Wave following.
- Linda also reminded us that we should begin thinking about and seeking donations for our Extravaganza Italiana on Saturday, 18 Oct. Debbie will organize donations. Larry Ayre will be providing music.
- Linda told us about an organization called Lose Those Training Wheels, a program to help people with special needs ride bicycles without training wheels. Check out CTV News for a feature by Pamela Martin on 30 April or visit Isfeld School between 9 AM and 2 PM on 1 or 2 May for further information.
- The District 5020 newsletter can be found at: <http://www.rotary5020.org/newsletter.pdf>
- District Conference in Parksville 29 May to 1 June. www.rotary5020.org President Keith, PE Linda and Secretary Alan have registered so far.
- Our 2008 Installation dinner will be on Tuesday, 24 June at the Kingfisher. Meal will be a barbecue. \$25 per person. See Dave Stevens for tickets.
- **Program 6 May:** Jesse Scott—Anderton Therapeutic Gardens
- **May Greeters:** Courtney Jackson and John Challender
- **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



—PP BINOD KHAITAN, Rotary Club of Central Calcutta RI District 3290

"Speech is the gift of all, but the thought of few." -- The Roman Statesman, Cato.

Leadership is not about speaking a language, but is more of how 'words' are understood. The difference between a mean word and a kind word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug. Just think about the power of speech. When speaking, are we always aware that we use speech to -- inspire, persuade, console, encourage, educate, censure, exchange ideas, vent feelings, pontificate, argue, thank, threaten, ridicule, hurt, disappoint, criticize, cheer, sadden, curse, brag, comfort, insult, strike fear, dissuade, provoke, incite, or apologize? Before we speak, do we remind ourselves that our words can express understanding, kindness, respect, love, praise, appreciation, resentment, hate, rudeness, or wisdom? How do we apply the gift of speech? Do we use it to tell jokes, spread rumours, wrench tears, make poetry, or instil hope? The number of unhappy & restless in society is rising. So is our perception of the rate of crime & ignorance. To put the brakes on crime, we need to build more lives, not more detention centres and prisons. We build lives by nurturing youth and caring for the under privileged. We must encourage them every step of the way, for they become what we encourage them to be, not what we nag them to be. As they struggle to become responsible, they are sure to stumble along the way. At such times, let's remember that a word of encouragement during a failure is worth more than an hour of praise after a success. If they engage in inappropriate behaviour that requires a scolding or discipline, guide them gently. The purpose is not to instil fear, but to build confidence. Of course, correction does much, but encouragement does more.

Let's begin to make a difference today with our words. William Arthur's words are wise, "Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I may not forget you." We are all standing on the shoulders of others. We have reached our present station in life because of the help and encouragement we received from others. The best way to return that favour is by constantly encouraging, inspiring, and guiding people we live our lives with and around.

Remember - Colours fade, temples crumble, empires fall, but wise words endure.

Attendance

21 Cumberland Rotarians attended our meeting last week. Visiting Rotarians: Cindy Evans, George Lambert and Erwin Portman of the RC of Campbell River Daybreak and George Smyth of the RC of Courtenay. Guests: Bayne Mann, guest of his mom, Deb Nolan and Rick Grinham of the Coal Hills BMX Society.

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



Rick Grinham of Coal Hills BMX society Accepted \$3400 from our club for a storage container for the group.



George Lambert talked about wheelchairs

Jon reminded us about Rotary's international presence

Chuckle Corner

Be Satisfied With the Status Quo?

Ole and Sven are quietly sitting in a boat fishing, chewing and drinking beer when suddenly Sven says, 'I think I'm gonna divorce my wife - she ain't spoke to me in over 2 months.'

Ole spits, sips his beer and says, 'Better think it over...

.....women like that are hard to find.'