

THE EYE OPENER



Edition: November 09, 2009
Volume: 26, Number: 13

Official Bulletin of:
ROTARY CLUB OF SASKATOON MEEWASIN #22664
2502 Blain Ave., Saskatoon, Sask., S7J 2B6
Founded: April 23, 1985
Meetings: Monday, 0700hr. Hilton Garden Inn
District Governor (5550): Nancy Morris

PRESIDENT: Murray McArthur • FIRST V.P.: John Luross • SECRETARY: Chetan Thakore • EDITOR: Harold Empey

Desk: Jay Cowsill & Jacques Toupin

President Murray opened in a very appropriate way reading In Flanders Field, and having a moment of silence in remembrance.

Guests: YES Cesar; Dave Bona – guest of Ian Sutherland; Betty Empey and guest speaker Janet Postle.

Makeup's: David Russell

Ralph's Raffle: Hari, Art & Cesar went home with the gold.

This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about a **Rotary World Peace Fellow** at work on the front-lines.



Izabela Pereira, a 2007 graduate of the Rotary Center for International Studies at Universidad del Salvador in Argentina, helped monitor Nicaragua's recent election as part of an Organization of American States (OAS) mission to the country. Izabela says her experience as a Rotary World Peace Fellow and an OAS observer gave her a firsthand understanding of how democracy is being promoted and strengthened in Nicaragua. She has also conducted fieldwork in Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire for the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

Izabela is one of hundreds of Rotary World Peace Fellows who have received the training and field experience necessary to work for lasting peace and stability throughout the world.

ROTARY FOUNDATION

There are many levels of contributions that entitle us to special recognition. On April 16 Past Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson will present, certificates, medals, pins, crystals to those who qualify during this Rotary year. Check with PDG's Wayne or Harold for more information.

Announcements:

- **YES Cesar** brought us up to date on his activities. (Remember to include this fine young man in some of your family activities).
- Cliff is anxious to have you participate in **Foundation month** – it is as easy as making a contribution
- Bob needs more volunteers to help with the **Salvation Army kettles**
- Harold has tickets to the Rotary **Turkey Shoot – Dec 3** only \$25.00 per couple or \$15.00 each
- Harold announced the wonderful news that **Past Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson** will be attending our **25th Anniversary celebration April 16**. Every member is encouraged to attend – so mark your calendars now and make it a priority.
- Robert Fisher told us about the printout on the tables. **Sherbrooke** appreciated our donation and welcomed us to visit and shop.
- Ian reminded us about the **Service Above Self award** – need nominations
- Ian also suggested that if we put our names down to deliver **Meals on Wheels** it would be kind of nice to show up!!!!
- After many years of hard work and dedication Jay has finished his thesis. **Great work Jay and congratulations.**

Program: Literacy

Art Postle introduced his wife Janet, using the opportunity to get a few brownie points which should cost him \$10.00 next week (Sgt take note)

Janet had a very interesting presentation on Literacy and explained the new program at St. Michaels. She thanked our club and its members for being involved.

- Janet is thankful for the new friends met at the reading sessions.
 - Literacy programs help kids acquire reading skills which are so important
 - Believes everyone can learn to read and write
 - Everyone has the ability to learn – re-learn & un-learn.
 - There are 5 levels of literacy from very poor to strong
 - 52% of Canadian adults (age 16 – 25) are below level 3 which is considered to be inadequate to succeed and cannot cope with the demands of everyday life. Saskatoon at 34%.
 - Many who have a literacy problem learn to do very well
 - Poverty is the #1 indicator of illiteracy
 - At St. Michaels the largest issue is poverty and as a result many of the children cannot read to a good level.
 - Students need to feel comfortable in order to learn and volunteers make a difference
 - One on one support is important
 - This year St. Michaels will concentrate on the Grade 3 students
 - **Rotary can make a real difference and have a significant impact.**
 - Information was circulated to help us be more familiar with the problem & the program
- Janet closed with thanks to us stating that our presence in the school will make a difference. Cliff Hayes told us of a club he visits in California is active in a school literacy program and they provide books. **Great idea for us.**

Ted Hawes thanked Janet for an excellent – informative presentation.

Sergeant's Report: Sgt. Hayes gave many an opportunity to donate to the Foundation. Numerous "happy dollars" which caused President Murray to look at his watch a few times..

CALENDAR November is Foundation month

December 3:	Rotary Turkey Shoot – Rodeo's – tickets from Harold
December 10:	Meewasin Rotary Board meeting 7 am
December 21:	Special program with a hockey and Christmas flavor
April:	Our 25 Anniversary celebration
May 13 – 15:	Rotary District Conference -Winnipeg
June 20 – 23:	Rotary International Convention - Montreal