

THE EYE PENER



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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: Jacques Toupin

Presiding: Murray McArthur
Desk: Donna & Cliff
Raffle: Ralph Morgan
Sergeant: Phil Mamchur

Guests: Cheryl George and Deb Schick, guest speakers Winston Gokavi, Nutana Club, Randy Buschmann, guest of Rob F; Prospective members: Pam Bennett and Dave Bona

12) This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about the Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies Program (RPCS) – strengthening the leaders of today for peace.

Mid-career professionals from around the world, representing a wide variety of fields, participate in an intensive three month course at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. RPCS Program alumnus Richelieu Allison, Regional Director of the West African Youth Network, says, "This course has been the missing link in my [ability] to contribute to the resolution of the numerous problems confronting my region. If I had had the knowledge I am gaining now I would have been in a better position to adequately analyze the conflicts, map out the various actors, go the extra mile, and play a major role in helping to restore peace." This sentiment has stuck with him, as he wrote in a recent email, "The changes [the program] made in my life cannot be overemphasized." Create awareness. Take action. Make your annual gift today!

Announcements:

President Murray opened the meeting right on time and we had a rather pathetic singing of the national anthem and Rotary Grace. Do we miss David and Les and Art? Make sure to let them know the next time we see (or hear) them!!

The Hilton Inn contributed \$650 toward replacing our "lost" video projector; the Potash Corporation replaced our wandering laptop. Our sincere thanks to these fine corporations and the people who help strike these deals, so that our hard earned funds may be contributed to charity rather than used to replace stolen goods.

Bob MacLeod reminds the Service Committee of the meeting at his house on January 12th at 7pm to review our donations program for the New Year. Bob also conveyed the Salvation Army's thanks for ringing the bells during Christmas. Apparently we did such a good job, particularly at the 8th Street Liquor Store, that they would like us to volunteer again next year.

Murray advised that has just received a copy of the Rotary International Foundation's annual report. Those who wish to review it need only contact him directly.

Kim Marcotte, District 5550 GSE Coordinator advises that the District is seeking hosts for our exchange travellers from April 28 to May 26. Contact him for details.

Harold announced that he had tickets (\$15 each, cheap!) for the Rotaract's Steak Night on Saturday January 23rd. As this is likely to be the only City Rotary get together, it behoves us to support and connect our Rotary confrères at this fun activity.

Ian announced that he was still looking for a driver for a Monday in March for the Meals on Wheels program; Thursdays were fully subscribed. Ian also reminded members of the Service Above Self Committee meeting immediately following this meeting to select this year's honouree.

Murray advised the group that the president of Rotary International (John Kenny from Scotland, as Phil reminded us later) is asking all clubs to do "something visible" to mark the end of the "Polio Now" campaign.

Winston, in his role as ADG of District 5550, presented our club with a banner commemorating the fact that we raised the 3rd largest amount of funds per capita in the entire district for the Rotary International Foundation in 2009/2010.

Ralph's Raffle: Cliff manned the raffle as Ralph is out of town. Hari won the candies; Ian the box of [non] taste-tested chocolates and Wayne Claypool won the empty bag. Or something that looked like a cardboard folder. All were suitably impressed with their prizes, or at least pretended to be.

Program: Sherbrooke Community Center

Rob introduced Cheryl and Deb of the Sherbrooke Community Center. They spoke about and showed an amazing film concerning a new technique for Alzheimer's and Dementia care that was developed in Australia. This program, "Spark of Life" in Australia, and "Hugs, not Drugs" in Canada is a valid and effective method of caring for the mentality and spirituality of the sufferers of these diseases in addition to our pretty comprehensive physical care.

Utilizing these concepts, Sherbrooke has been working quite successfully these last three years to reduce the use of medication for their guests, and emphasize more positive, interactive ways of drawing their people out of their shells, having them interact with their environment and with others.

Cheryl and Deb are seeking funding to send two people to Australia to become certified trainers in this program. They wish to send two in order to train others, not only in Saskatoon, but nationally. This will be one of the programs our Service Committee will be discussing at Bob MacDonald's house on Tuesday evening.

Jake thanked both ladies, noting that when his father had been placed in Sherbrooke for the last years of his life, he and his family had been very impressed and happy with the level of care their father had received there.

Murray rang the bell for closure at 8am.

Sergeant's Report: Phil Mamchur was our Sergeant at Arms. Although he had our fearless president dead to rights on numerous points, including NOT sending the Sgt's table to the food buffet first, he only fined Murray for not going ice fishing at his own shack with Harold and the rest of the gang.

Instead, Phil concentrated on penalizing members who were unable to answer five questions about Rotary that he'd compiled from the January edition of the *Rotarian*:

What is Rotary's January theme?

Name or state the country of origin of Rotary International's current president.

What is Rotary's slogan for 2009/10?

Which Canadian city is hosting the 2010 RI convention?

Which Canadian city hosted the first international Rotary Club meeting 100 years ago in 1910?

There were happy dollars from Harold for catching a humungous jackfish from Murray's ice-fishing establishment (then releasing it, after photos were taken). Donna paid a sad and pathetic dollar in recognition of the rather "weak" rendering of the meeting's opening songs. Someone did note that there was no hockey game following, thus explaining the lack of "zip" to Oh Canada.... Speaking of hockey games, Hari donated some funds in recognition of taking Chrystal to her first hockey game and the fact that her folks were soon arriving for a visit. Kyle paid a goodly sum of money in recognition of the travails entailed in the purchase of his first new home; his parents visiting his sister in New Zealand (his dad's first "far away" trip), so he had to cow-sit during their absence; and his girlfriend off to Tanzania to volunteer for three months. Rob M welcomed Randy, a member of the Board of his company; Jack announced that there were nearly 300 attendees at the Ag College reunion held this weekend. Pam announced that she was an auntie to a darling little girl, her sister's second.