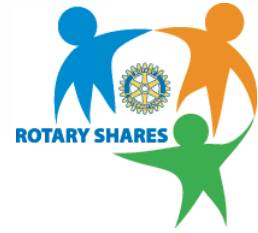




Clubs in Action

April 2008



Grand Falls

In partnership with our town, Service Canada and more to come on board we are making a walking/play-ground park. It is to be done in phases:

- I. Construction of walking area with landscaping finished Spring 2008.
- II. Construction of an adjacent playground structure with lighting.
- III. Construction of a parking lot. II and III to be ready for use by the Spring of 2009.



The park is to be a handicap accessible facility of relaxation and safe play for children and adults.

Halifax Harbourside

The Club recently presented a cheque for \$6000 to the Amanda's Gift Bursary Program of the Nova Scotia Council for the Family This resulted from an excellent Ultimate Moms' Brunch last year. The bursary was named in honour of Amanda Sutherland, a former youth in care who made a generous donation of \$500 to the Council. Amanda felt that more needed to be done to reach out to former youth in care who are pursuing educational goals under challenging circumstances. The members of the Nova Scotia Council agreed and established Amanda's Gift. They rely on the generosity and support of our members and the community at large to donate funds to keep the program growing. For more information on making a donation to Amanda's Gift, contact the Nova Scotia Council for the Family.

For our Rotary interest, Amanda went on to be and graduated from the Rotary Peace Scholarship Program at Bradford University.

The brunch will take place again this year on Sunday May 11th at the Cunard Centre in Halifax. For tickets contact Murray Nicoll PDG at murray.nicoll@ns.sympatico.ca.



The women of the Rotary Club of Halifax Harbourside enjoyed an overnight adventure at Whitepoint Beach Resort a few weeks back. It was a wonderful chance for new and long-time members to get to know one another through a day of fellowship set against the backdrop of a roaring fire and the sun setting over the ocean. What better way to recharge your Rotary spirit in the middle of winter!!

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

Halifax Northwest

We were very important this past month. We celebrated being 50 years young, and were charmed and pleased, by the presence and gracious words of RI President Wilkinson and other members of the Rotary community from our District. We told stories and remembered when we were young and agreed we are much better at 50 than 40 or 20 and we look ahead with pleasure.

Part of that looking ahead is our Community Support Initiative — called that rather than strategic planning, is about shaping the future of our club and adding value, both financial and brain power to our communities. We continue to shape how best to respond to the real needs of our community.

In other news:

We gave away hearts (not ours, just candy ones).

We had a wonderful meeting of fellowship with the Rotary Club of Halifax to be returned at their home later in April.

We have a new website (a fancy one) at <http://www.rotaryhalifaxnw.org>. Have a visit.

We are working hard at keeping our lead in the district giving to RI Foundation although we don't mind sharing that limelight with the rest of the clubs in the District.

We continue to have breakfast (we cook, they eat) with the children at Chebucto Heights School and support their literacy work financially and with time reading to the children. (We read out loud... even the big words!)

Our Interact Club received its official charter from RI President Wilkinson and is now about 35 members strong. The challenge is organizing the events of young people who are involved in about a million things.

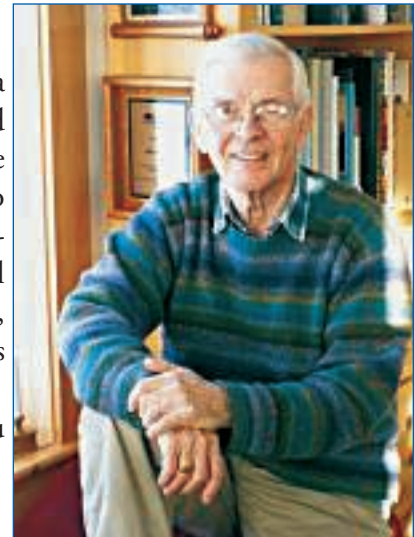
We're working on a Membership Blitz and doing our best to follow District Governor Douglas' advice to Keep the Fun in Rotary.

Kentville

Fred Walsh Awarded the Order of Canada

On February 22, Fred Walsh was awarded the Order of Canada for voluntary service at Rideau Hall in Ottawa. Fred, accompanied by his wife Mary and 3 of their 6 children was humbled by the award. Fred is the type of Rotarian who truly believes in giving to the community. Over the years, Fred has been involved with numerous organizations and community groups including agricultural work, education, advocacy groups, school and church committees, county council and service time, years with the Rotary Club, Lions Club, CNIB and 4H.

According to Fred: "It's not about what you get - it's what you give, and then, you get back twice as much."



A Trip to New York - for Valentine's Day

The Rotary Club of Kentville's Annual Valentine's Dinner and Dance Fund Raiser was a great success with over 200 people enjoying an evening themed "New York, New York". Not only was money raised for the Rotary Club's Miner Marsh project as well as local projects, but those attending enjoyed a delicious dinner featuring New York steak, a chance to dance it off to the music of

"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

“Men will be Boys”, a silent auction full of imaginative prizes, a sapphire and diamond ring giveaway and a draw for a trip to New York.

Rural Urban News

On March 3rd, the Rotary Club of Kentville’s Rural Urban Committee hosted the annual Rural Urban meeting where members of our agricultural community are invited to attend. This year’s speaker was Dan MacDonald, CEO of InNOVAcorp who spoke about innovation, using examples of companies throughout the province. Each year InNOVAcorp sponsors the 1 - 3 Technology Start-Up Competition. This years winner was MorSwift Machines Inc. from Meteghan who developed a system to rubber band lobsters and broccoli.

New Waterford

The Sydney and Area Chamber Of Commerce took their road show to the New Waterford Rotary Club. A very informative presentation. Mike and Owen promoted the fact that CBRM should be considered as one business unit.

“What is good for one area will benefit all areas” example the growth of CBU or Fortress Louisbourg and many more. Pictured here are Rotarians Wayne and Barbara, Mike MacSween and Owen Fitzgerald from the chamber.



Donnie MacKay was a guest speaker at Rotary’s Tuesday night meeting. Donnie and his daughter, Debra, made a presentation on Walk for ALS to be held Saturday



June 7 in New Waterford. ALS is a dreaded disease which has affected many Cape Breton families. The event is a fund raiser and family celebration, everyone is welcome. Pictured here are volunteer Donnie MacKay, Rotarian Mary Lynk, walk coordinator Debra MacKay and Rotarian Bruce MacDonald. Please come out and support the walk.

St. John’s NW

To start my district chit-chat between the clubs, I want to go back to the Club Assembly meeting in January. At that time we were given a talk and up-date by Aliant employee Doug Currie, who in his volunteer life, has visited a Cambodian orphanage that has been given support by the Rotary Club of St. John’s NW in recent months. The “before” and “after” comparison is truly remarkable. From a grim garbage dump salvage-to-survive scenario to the joy of clean water and comfortable conditions says it all a thousand fold. Imagine it ! President Gail Gosse is “spot on” in her recognition of the efforts from our PP Lucy Dobbin along with PP Sharon Duggan in connecting us with this work in Cambodia.

At our mid-March meeting we enjoyed our annual program in the Annual Speak-Off leading to the Adventure in Citizenship. This started with the Rotary Club of Ottawa who for many years has organized the event bringing together approximately 220 outstanding senior high school students from all corners of Canada. The Rotary Club of St. John’s NW has sponsored a student every year

since 1975. The undertaking itself is in its 58th year. We had 9 contestants this year, all of them young women. For whatever reason there are more young women at the podium than young men. This was the same with YE programs, where it seems there are more female candidates than males.

Well folks, our speakers were tremendous and they brought a variety of topics with them and gave simply terrific talks at our weekly meeting. They engaged the audience, and in some instances, challenged us with their conviction. The listener was left to give thought to contemporary issues as these young people truly knew their stuff. The judges were readily impressed and conveyed this positively in their choices of the top three speakers. Bravo to all our participants !! Don't throw away your speeches (recycle them, maybe)! We had a great luncheon meeting and do appreciate the hard work by all hands.

Summerside

The Rotary Club of Summerside, in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of Charlottetown, Charlottetown Royalty, Hillsborough and Stratford, held a unique membership development event on March 12. Simultaneously in both Summerside and Charlottetown they held *Discover Rotary* designed to introduce potential members to Rotary and Rotarians.

The clubs all came together to organize the events and mounted a significant television, radio and print campaign inviting anyone interested in becoming a Rotarian to come to the evening event. The clubs made excellent use of Rotary International television and radio commercials to promote the event and generally raise awareness of Rotary.

A fun and interesting panel discussion was held called: *So What Does Rotary Mean to You?* It was led by Rotarian Bill Kendrick in a TV talk show style with panelists Emmerson MacMillan, Karla Flynn, Steve Manuel, Derek Key and exchange student Henrique Freire responding to questions from Bill.



The Summerside event was held at the new Credit Union Place and attracted 15 men and women interested in joining the club. Some came as a result of direct invitations from club members while others came as a result of the publicity campaign.

We showed several short Rotary videos highlighting the work of RI and Island clubs.

Following the presentations, club members talked with guests answering any questions they had about joining Rotary... making connections that will hopefully lead to new members joining our club. There certainly seemed to be genuine interest and the guests all seemed to enjoy the opportunity to learn about Rotary in a relaxed atmosphere.



"Common People... UNCommon Purpose"

Truro



The Rotary Club of Truro held its Annual Charter Night February 25, 2008, at the Best Western Glengarry, Truro, marking the 103rd Anniversary of Rotary International and the 82nd Anniversary of the club.

Guest Speaker for the evening was Dr. Don Pugsley, MD, President, Doctors Nova Scotia. Other special guests included District Governor Bette Douglas, ADG Nicole MacDonald, friends of Rotary, politicians and several representatives of the Colchester Community Workshop.

Paul Harris Award Recipients were Ernie Bradley, Lorna Bradley, Wayne Gillis, Ed MacDonald, Brian Matthews and Dave Mills.



Rotarian of the Year was presented to Arnold Hagen and the Community Service Award to Eleanor Norrie for her work as project leader and fundraiser for Rotary House.



Many thanks to all those whose participation made this event a success.