**Rotary Buzz and EyeOpener**

**February 13, 2023 Joint Meeting - Nordlys**

Daybreak President Alan Fielding opened the Joint meeting of both Camrose Rotary Clubs at 6:00 pm with the singing of *O Canada* and the Rotary Grace, followed by dinner and social time.

Alan called the meeting to order at approximately 6:45. A treaty acknowledgement was read.

Guest speaker Steven Hansen was introduced. Steven’s presentation is about the Nordlys Film Festival.

Some interesting background and history of the Festival:

* “Nordly” is the Norwegian word for “Northern Lights”
* The Festival is held on the February Family Day weekend, currently at the Bailey Theatre
* The Nordlys Festival was first held at the home of Verlin and Mardelle Olson in 2008. It was so popular that before long the Olson’s were hosting 100-150 people in their home.
* Obviously, a bigger venue was in order, so a group of people arranged to move the Festival to the Augustana University Chapel in 2010, and it became a public event. Steven Hansen became the MC in 2011, a role that he has enjoyed ever since.
* After a 2-year run at Augustana, the Festival found its current home in the newly-renovated Bailey Theatre. The location changed in 2012, and the Festival became a not-for-profit society.
* The last event of the Nordlys took place in 2020, just before the lockdowns of the pandemic. It has been dark for the past 2 years, but it is back for 2023

What is the Nordlys Film Festival? What makes the Nordlys so special?

* A committee of local enthusiasts seeks out and obtains the rights to show award-winning films from a variety of genres: some are local, others international; some are comedies and some may make you uncomfortable; full-length films, short films, documentaries, a host of offerings.
* Over the years, the Nordlys have developed some traditions that create an ambiance and an experience that people come back for each year:
	+ Live music between films – local performers add their talent to the event
	+ Every film is introduced to set up the viewer’s enjoyment of a film that might not otherwise seem so appealing
	+ Special guests (actors, producers, directors, film enthusiasts) come to Camrose to take in the Festival and are available to meet and chat with festival goers
	+ After every film, the Festival organizers poll the audience for their reactions and comments
	+ Friday nights are always black & white theme nights. No need to be formal unless you want.
	+ Local charities get an opportunity to raise funds by manning the coat check. In 2023 the Camrose Refugee Centre will be looking after this job.

What does the 2023 event have to offer?

* 8 feature length films and 1 short film, includes a classic film from the 1930’s
* All the additional entertainment described above, plus an after-party at the Fox and Fable Book and Game Café

Steven wrapped up his presentation by answering a few questions about cost, schedule, tickets, etc. This information is available in the Camrose Booster.

Alan thanked Steven, who then left the meeting to go home to put his 18-month-old little boy to bed.

Happy Bucks:

* Sheila and Lou attended Rock of Ages at the Lougheed Theatre and gave a rave review to the cast. Lou also attended Jimmy the Janitor at the Bailey on Friday, so she feels well-cultured now.
* Odell is happy to be able to ski again
* Ken R is back from a cruise to South America, but disappointed that they were not allowed to enter Peru
* Harry G is happy that his son sold his house in Calgary
* The Rolfs spent an amazing couple of weeks in Hawaii, with a highlight being an unexpected whale encounter while on a snorkelling trip: Mamas with their babies-delightful!

Foundation Moment:

The Rotary Foundation provides global grants to projects that are:

* Sustainable
* Fall under Rotary’s areas of focus
* Will have the greatest impact on the community
* Meet local and global goals

The meeting finished with a few announcements:

* The Wine Survivor raffle has been extended for another week to allow for more teams to be recruited. Registrations are to be in by Saturday, Feb 18 with elimination draws the following week and the winners drawn from the 10 finalists at the noon meeting on February 27.
* Daybreak Board meeting tomorrow morning, February 14 by Zoom
* No meeting for the Noon Club next Monday, February 20 – Family Day Holiday

The Daybreak Club members led us in singing the *4-Way Test* to end the meeting.

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