

2014-15 President Recognizes Sacrifice of Rotarians

Posted by Ed Kolybaba on Jun 29, 2015

"It is better to light a single candle than to sit and curse the darkness," an inspiring quote from Gary Huang, 2014-15, has served as a guiding principle for Greig McPhee, the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise's 2014-15 president and the club members this past Rotary year. In his parting words as president of the club during the club's June 27th Installation Dinner and Program, McPhee stated that "the inauspicious act of lighting our candle each week was symbolic of the many, what might appear to be inauspicious acts of individual Rotarians in our club who we recognize each week.....many who introduce light into the 'dark corners' of our community and the greater world in ways we will likely never recognize but are nevertheless present."



McPhee shared that the individual sacrifice, whether it be through volunteer service or financial assistance, of many club Rotarians made a significant difference in enabling many not-for-profit organizations in the Okanagan. He added that internationally, financial support and direct member involvement resulted in significant contributions in education, food sovereignty, maternal and child health, and women's vocational training in Uganda, Honduras, Haiti, El Salvador and Nepal. "Many unnamed others will continue to benefit from your generous support for these projects and for your contributions to Foundation," expressed McPhee.

McPhee recognized the club members for their energy during weekly meetings and a willingness to welcome change. He also expressed his pleasure with the induction of 17 new members, many of whom are already significantly serving the club, the introduction of bylaws which welcome family and corporate memberships, the re-establishment of the club's fundraising direction, which will continue to be the club's biggest transition and challenge in the ensuing year, and the achievement of a majority of the Annual Foundation Fund goals.

McPhee pointed out that in his capacity of president he recognized the value that the members of the club's executive brought to the club. "We are truly fortunate to have so many gifted individuals in our club and I for one am particularly grateful for the individual efforts and sacrifices that they all have made

throughout this year," he stated. He added that "what we accomplish cannot happen without the efforts of a committed executive!"



At the conclusion of his address, 2014-15 President McPhee introduced the members of the 2014-15 Executive, made a tribute and an expression of appreciation to his wife Pat for her sacrifice, support and patience, recognized the host parents who had provided their love, care and support for the club's Youth Exchange Student Chaira, and recognized individual Rotarians for their contributions throughout the 2014-15 Rotary year. (Note: A separate article is featured which recognizes these Rotarians.)