

June 6, 2013

Posted by Larry Kanters

President Bryn commenced his last meeting in the big boss chair at the customary appointed time. Tom Wrigley said grace with thanks for the rain and the subsequent nice weather. Our one guest Heather Kirkham from Innisfail ATB Financial was welcomed by all.

President Bryn mentioned that sign-ups are needed to help at the door for future meetings. Please volunteer to take money and also say hello. Michelle Macdonald was asked to give an update on the raffle. Michelle reported that Bob Newman was doing his part in selling 2 books of tickets. The draw will be held at the golf tournament July 4th and the tickets will be sold up to that date but not on the day of the tournament to prevent wallet fatigue of the attendees.

Clarence Stewart reported on his meeting with the Innisfail Chamber of Commerce in regards to the Innisfail parade. Clarence said there were 4 bands signed up to go as well as 40 registered entries. This will be the first year the parade will be televised to be viewed by all. The major role of the RC of Innisfail will be to provide the impartial, unbiased, highly artistical discriminating judging of the entries for the parade. Volunteers from the RC of Innisfail were asked to help in this regard to which Lise, Tom Wrigley, David, Michelle and Gerry Meding amongst others offered their judging talents. The Chamber requested funds to help pay for the three port-o-potties on site for the day (3x\$100). This request for sanitation assistance was declined by the majority of the members present. Bryn pointed out that last year we had some Rotary vests worn by the judges but alas 6 of the 8 of these fashionable accoutrements have been missing. If any information is known of the whereabouts of these missing items please advise the appropriate Rotarian authorities. A reward may (or may not) be offered.

Mike O'Dwyer was asked to report on the Pennies for Polio program. He promptly passed the ball over to Joe Lehane who reported that the program was being wrapped up and the collection drums were being recalled from the various businesses and the results are to be tallied and reported in the near future. Bill Bugbee gave a brief report on the upcoming July 4th golf tournament. More entries are welcome since there is still room so please ask potential golfers to join us for the day. A silent auction will be part of the activities.

President Bryn reminded the members present of the important General Assembly meeting on Wednesday evening June 12th at the Legion boardroom starting at 7:00 pm. The major topic of discussion will be the future planning of the activities and the contribution allocation of the funds of the RC of Innisfail. Coffee and snacks will be provided but no meal will be served.

President Bryn in his last meeting as president had a power point expose on the past Rotary year that internationally had the theme of "Peace Through Service". Photos and commentary on the busy year of the RC of Innisfail started with the ticket raffle headed by Barry Lloyd and Alan Churchill. The corporate sponsors of the RC of Innisfail organized by Tom Wrigley were mentioned. Photos of the Wine Night organized by Denise Lester and others were shown. The Rebels 50/50 events organized by Curtis and John raised \$3,600 for the club. The Friendship Dinner again organized by Curtis and John and also Gavin Bates was well attended and gave an opportunity to display our Rotary wheel at the front entrance of

the Legion for the event. President Bryn pointed out there were lots of Youth Service activities with the inbound student Mevce from Turkey here in Innisfail for the year, and outbound student Brianna going to Germany to help in one of Rotary's objectives of increasing world understanding. Students were sponsored to go to RYLA (3) and RYPEN as well as Adventures in Agriculture in Regina (2) and Adventures in Citizenship in Ottawa (Ben Kemball). The Innisfail High School Band received financial support as well as support was given to the Bowden Interact Club. A bus load of enthusiastic Innisfail students was sponsored to go to WE DAY in Calgary. In regards to local projects, Bryn showed photos of the Senior's Christmas dinner organized by Tom Peters which was enjoyed by all and well attended. The donations to the Innisfail Food Bank and the Xmas Bureau were mentioned. The Legion sound system upgrade arranged by Barry Lloyd and Lyle Duncalfe was shown to provide a significant improvement as heard at the Friendship Dinner and was received with gratitude by the Legion president. Pictures of the newly installed Rotary signage on the approach roads into Innisfail were displayed. The donations to the Terry Fox annual event were mentioned as well as a photo shown of the quilt consisting of all the T-shirts from the various annual Terry Fox events collected by Bill Hoppins. The support for the Bowl-for-Kids was mentioned as well as of course the recently opened Historical Village Shelter project organized by Clarence Stewart and of the vintage tractor provided in memory of Rotarian Reynie Lutz. For International Service, the donation of \$2,000 to End Polio given to RI from the RC of Innisfail was mentioned accompanied by a photo. The accumulated funds over 3 years of \$25,000 provided to FINCA for microcredit projects and microenergy projects in the Masaka area of Uganda were mentioned as well. These funds provided seed money to 5 banks in the Masaka area to provide small loans directly to the people to provide capital to start or expand small businesses which would be paid back. As President Bryn pointed out this is a hand up not a hand out allowing people to better their lives and their families' lives through their own efforts.

President Bryn neared the end of his presentation by saying 3 members attended the recent Rotary District Conference in Lethbridge (Lise, John, Rod) and Michelle, John and Eric were recent Rotary Leadership Institute graduates. Numerous Paul Harris awards were presented by President Bryn to members for their contributions to The Rotary Foundation as well as an honorary award presented to Mark Jejina. The passing of 50 year Rotarian Ed Asmundson was mentioned as a sad occurrence of the year. Of the fun events the field trip to Red Deer College was an occasion both interesting and enjoyable as well as the Sing Along Rotary lunch Christmas party which gave members a chance to exercise their vocal talents in a group setting. To end his presentation President Bryn said Adios Amigos since he and Colinda were going to leave within the week to attend the RI Convention in Lisboa, Portugal (in case your Portuguese is rusty or nonexistent that is Lisbon, Portugal). Bryn said he would be back for the July 4th golf tournament to tell of their adventures.

For Happy/Sad bucks Larry K. (the one who only golfs good once in a while), was happy to say he had finally joined the hole-in-one club recently (someone was heard to quip they barely ever hit the green). Joe had a happy buck since he said he was just happy. Gerry Meding had a happy/sad buck since he was happy in that on the recent hotly contested golf tour with the guys he said he was the eventual victor and managed to shoot his first gross par 72 round (no more strokes given to Gerry), and a sad buck in that since he won he had to come up with a plan for next year's tour. Sgt-at-Arms Mike O'Dwyer said

Gerry Miller had a plan for selling the raffle tickets by serenading his patients singing he had "Two Tickets to Paradise". When asked how it was going Gerry said there were few to no takers.

Jackie McCook's number was picked for the draw. Bill Bugbee in pinch hitting for Jackie could not locate the Joker. Sadly, this was the last time that Bryn would tempt us in this pursuit.