

May 2, 2013

Posted by Larry Kanters

President Bryn got the meeting going at about 12:35 pm when he moved the mobile podium to the front and center of the group. Our sole guest was Grant Thompson from the Sunrise Club. Bob Newman said grace giving thanks for the first days of spring-like weather and our opportunity to enjoy Rotary fellowship.

John Newsham was asked to give an update on the April 24th Friendship Dinner. Before John started he mentioned that long time Rotarian Ed Asmundson had attended every Friendship Dinner while he was still with us. In respect of Ed's recent passing away, John asked everyone to observe a few moments of silence. Afterwards John informed the members present that the funeral ceremony for Ed was to be held at 11:00 am on Friday May 3rd at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Red Deer with internment in Innisfail to follow. There were to be seats reserved at the church for attending Rotarians. In lieu of flowers it was requested a donation be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation which is a cause for which Ed had canvassed in Innisfail for many years. In regards to the Friendship Dinner John was pleased to say it was a sellout thanks in no small part to Gavin Bates who was ticket organizer and comptroller. On behalf of Curtis Bachur, co-chair of the event, John wished to thank all those members who sold tickets and/or helped out on the evening of the dinner. John said the 50/50 netted about \$1,500 (I think) and also said that after the expenses of \$11,576.79 was subtracted from the gross proceeds, the net realized profit to be put into the bank was \$11,173.21. And yes the new sound system in the Legion hall sounded pretty darn good.

President Bryn said Bill Hoppins had relayed to him a message that Karen Lutz, with the partial help of the Innisfail Rotarians, had won the free wedding contest that Jean Barclay had emailed members about a few weeks back. Clarence Stewart was then gave an update on the Historical Village Shelter project. Clarence had a happy buck as a thank you to all the Rotarians who came out to help work on the shelter Monday April 29; namely Mark Jejina, Gerry Meding, Peter Visser, Tom Wrigley and Bob Newman (I hope I didn't miss nobody). The metal siding was put on the back and the sides of the shelter and next week the roof troughs would be installed. A Bowden inmate work crew is scheduled to be out later in the week to make further improvements. Clarence said that only \$300 in wages had been spent on the project with a total expenditure of about \$9,000 to date. Gerry Meding had worked at the Historical Village from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm after which he tried out the golf course and was having an excellent round until reality caught up with him. Clarence also reminded members of the May 25th Grand Opening fête of the Historical Village Shelter which will kick off with a pancake breakfast at 8:30 am featuring celebrity chefs including the Innisfail Mayor, MLA and MP. At 9:30 am there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and the event will be held in concert with the annual car show and shine. Clarence asked for some Rotary volunteers to help as sous-chefs to the celebrity culinary maestros. Mike O'Dwyer, Bob Newman and Barry Lloyd said they were up to the task. Clarence also said that Art McAllister had a vintage Cockshutt tractor available for the Village which was in amazingly good working order but needed a new paint job. Art said he had a neighbour that would do the painting for a \$500 fee which seemed reasonable to most of the meeting attendees. Cockshutt decals will also be applied after the paint job to get it looking really spiffy.

Bill Bugbee was asked to give a progress report on the upcoming annual Rotary golf tournament Thursday July 4th. Bill said his committee had a few preliminary meetings however he said they could use another few members on the committee to replace some members who were no longer there. The format of the golf tourney will be the same as the previous year with the entry fee being \$180 per golfer. Bill said he had some entry forms at the back table. Eric Moe will be taking care of the silent auction along with Brenda and Bill said the manpower was in place to do the course management on the day of the tournament. There was a lot of discussion on the \$50 ticket raffle which has been traditionally drawn on the day of the golf tournament. The discussion was in regards to the cost of the ticket being a difficult sell and also of the case when in the previous few years where Barry Lloyd and Al Churchill were being responsible for selling the majority of the tickets which created somewhat of a burden on them. After an exchange of ideas amongst the membership it was proposed that ticket prices be reduced to \$20 per ticket (and with Alberta Gaming approval 3 for \$50) and to print 500 tickets which would make the sale of the tickets less of a hurdle in their promotion. Michelle MacDonald and Clarence Stewart gamely volunteered to be the chairpersons for the ticket raffle.

Rod Bradshaw said the Rotary Strategic Planning session had produced some proposals which were summarized on easel sheets of paper on the back table of the meeting room. Rod invited all members to review these items and give some feedback to the executive by May 15, 2013. A 2-page report of the proposed RSP will be presented to the membership in an assembly meeting in June for their final discussion and approval.

For Happy/Sad bucks President Bryn recalled his first meeting of the Innisfail Rotary Club which he attended shortly after he moved to Innisfail. After the meeting Ed Asmundson made a point of introducing himself and welcoming Bryn to Innisfail and asked him if he wished to go out golfing which Bryn gratefully accepted. Ed was just that kind of guy. He will be missed.

Rod Bradshaw was the lucky guy to have his name drawn to give a go at getting the Joker. President Bryn spent considerable time trying to convince the members present that there indeed was a Joker in the last 4 cards in the deck. Rod chose his card but the Joker it was not.

Something tells me past District Governor Al Bergsma will be our guest speaker on May 9th.