

November 22, 2012

Posted by Larry Kanters

President Bryn was our presider at the meeting as he called our cheery group of Rotarians to some sense of order at 12:29 pm. Gary Severtson said grace with thanks for the food and fellowship and hope for our good weather to return.

President Bryn along with Eric Moe mentioned that the RC of Innisfail has a presence on Facebook in an effort to keep up with the times in social media. John Newsham mentioned that Rotary signs have been placed at the road approaches into the Town of Innisfail thanks to the organizational skills of Clarence Stewart. Thanks also go out to Dwayne and Reed Howell of Howell Excavating Ltd. who supplied the bobcat and trailer and manpower to dig the postholes at no charge.

This being club education week and November being Rotary Foundation month, Monty Wild our club Foundation chairman gave a talk on the latest happenings of the Foundation. Monty said he had been doing some “dog and pony show” on TRF for a while and wondered how he should approach this infomercial. Monty said he wanted to read an excerpt from the November Rotarian magazine written by RI president Sukuji Tanaka. President Tanaka of Japan said the Rotary Foundation is there to benefit all in need. An example given was the help provided to parts of Japan after the recent earthquake and tsunami when 15,000 people perished, one half million people lost all they had and damage exceeded \$300 billion USD. President Tanaka said The Rotary Foundation matters to people like us all over the world. Monty went on to mention that contributions to TRF can be made online at rotary.org after member login (an account can be set up if one does not already exist) and clicking on donating and following the instructions. Also a member can check on their contribution history and Paul Harris recognition amount by clicking on the donor history report after the appropriate login. Alternatively Monty said he could look up this information for the member as well, and to contribute to TRF, Gerry Meding would be pleased to receive cheques made out to the Innisfail Rotary Club and make sure the contributing member donation to TRF is attributed to them so they will receive a tax donation from TRF and the appropriate contribution recognition. To be a Paul Harris sustaining member, one must contribute \$100 USD or more per year to TRF which kinda works out to about \$105 CDN in real currency.

President Bryn then had the pleasure to present a Paul Harris Fellowship to past Innisfail RC President Kim Lewis. Kim was not able to attend the year-end Rotary meeting in June 2012 where Kim was to be honoured by the RC of Innisfail for her contributions to Rotary. President Bryn then presented another Paul Harris pin (Paul Harris plus 7 which is a 2 stone ruby) to Randy McDonald. Both presentations offered photo opportunities.

Next came some committee reports. Tom Peters reported the Senior Dinner Tuesday December 4th was proceeding well. Dinner is to be at 6:00 pm and cocktails at 5:30 pm. Entertainment will be courtesy of Elaine and Kurt Kune and their singing clan. Tom had asked for help in providing some of the seniors with transportation to and from the dinner and help in the set up and to clean up after the event. A sheet was also passed around to ask people to sign up for and pay (I believe it is \$20) for the RC of Innisfail members and

their non-senior guests who will be attending the dinner. Please let Tom know if you are attending and/or if you can help.

President Bryn then announced a membership attraction and retention plan for the club. Bryn mentioned that it was important to attract new members but it was equally important to retain new and long existing members. President Bryn distributed a list of 7 teams of Innisfail club members and challenged each team to recruit at least one member by June 30, 2013. Amazing prizes were hinted at for the team who garnered the most members. Next Denise Lester gave an extensive report on the October Wine Night. Realized profits were about \$12,750.00. Feedback was the wine was good and the wine reps were happy with the event. Some reports were the food could be improved in some areas. The Rotarians present thanked Denise and her committee for a job well done. A date is set for October 5th, 2013 for the next oenophile extravaganza.

For Happy/Sad bucks, Randy McDonald had a happy/sad event to report. Happy in that his family had a truly surprise birthday party for him. Sad in that he had turned 60 years ancient . No spontaneous "Happy Birthday" erupted from the membership with this news. Oh well. Happy Birthday anyways Randy. The Sgt-at-Arms chair was vacant. All misdemeanors and mortal sins went unpunished. Gerry Miller had a chance at the joker but pulled some other inconsequential card.

Next meeting we get to hear more about Sunset Manor.