

## ROTATELLER

*by Joy Adams Bauer*

Official Bulletin of The Rotary Club of Saskatoon  
Founded August 17th, 1917 as the 332nd Club in the World

### Chartered #332 in the Rotary World

*by Joanne Fisher*

**Vol. 102 Week #4 July 26, 2010**

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### Meeting July 26, 2010

*by Joanne Fisher*

**President Wayne** opened the meeting with the singing of O Canada. **Murray Scharf** offered grace. We had one guest at our meeting, Maureen Torr.

There was not a sergeant today due to the length of the video.

**Jim Weber** did provide 100 happy dollars as his mother turned 100 recently. What an achievement! Jim says she is in great shape and still providing motherly advice to her son.

**Don Somers** also presented a set of spoons to **Gary Rusu** that he picked up at the Back to Batoche festival where they were trying to set a Guinness world record for the most people playing spoons at one time.

**Arie Vanduyvendyck** won the free lunch.

### Next Meeting - August 9th, 2010

*by Joanne Fisher*

Join us on Monday, August 9th at the Delta Bessborough for a presentation from the Rotary Friendship Exchange members from Scotland.

There is not a meeting on August 2nd due to the "Saskatchewan Day" holiday.

### Duty Roster August 2010

*by Joanne Fisher*

Duty Roster for **August 9th, 2010**

Greeter - Mike Giesbrecht

Visitors & Guests - Assem Hedeyat

Cashier - Gordon Menuz

Grace - Gary Kerr

Food Cards - Joanne Fisher

Sergeant-at-Arms - Don Somers

Please be at your posts no later than 11:45 a.m. **If you cannot fulfill your volunteer duties, please arrange for a fellow Rotarian to replace you.**

## Program July 26, 2010

by Joanne Fisher

**President Wayne** introduced the video *The Final Inch* which was shown at the Rotary International convention in Montreal. The message there was to not let us be Polio Plus fatigued. There is still a lot of work to be done. He confirmed any contributions to Polio Plus count towards Paul Harris.

This is a synopsis of the film from the website:

"The Rule of the Final Inch consists in this. Not to shirk this critical work, not to postpone it. One's purpose lies not in completing things faster, but in the attainment of perfection."  
-Alexander Solzhenitsyn

Nearly 50 years after a vaccine for Polio was developed in the United States, the Polio virus still finds refuge in some of the world's most vulnerable places. Into India's most impoverished neighborhoods, *The Final Inch* follows the massive - and yet highly personalized -- mission to eradicate Polio from the planet. One of history's most feared diseases, now largely forgotten; Polio has become a disease of the world's poor. The effort to eradicate the virus has become the largest non-military endeavor in human history. In India alone, four million people are working or volunteering to prevent Polio from infecting their communities.

A global strategy aimed at hundreds of millions of children, becomes intensely personal for the quiet army of vaccinators working to save them. Into India's forgotten communities, the film follows health workers going door-to-door and slum-to-slum to reach unprotected children. In the most marginalized Muslim enclaves, some children have been hidden from vaccinators because American-made medicines are not to be trusted. Others are deliberately kept behind closed doors as a form of social protest by their frustrated communities. For the world's poorest, saying 'no' to vaccinations is sometimes their only political voice. And then there are the millions of homeless children across India, who get the disease because they cannot be found in time.

The story centers around Munzareen, a UNICEF volunteer whose job it is to persuade reluctant families to accept the vaccine. Her fight against the virus is part a greater struggle in her conservative Muslim community. Facing the taunts of men and boys who ridicule her for working outside her home, she defiantly enters the streets with a message of humanity and practical advice. She picks up school children as the emissaries in her fight, convincing families that their children's health should transcend politics and religion.

Ash, an Indian doctor serving as one of the World Health Organization's field lieutenants in the fight against Polio, crosses the Ganges River daily to reach communities where transmission of the virus has been unrelenting for centuries. Working with pig farmers, untouchables and those without access to health care, he works to ensure that India's four million volunteers are exacting and methodical in reaching every last child. Vaccines must be kept cold in one of the world's hottest climates, and children must be vaccinated up to 10 times in the first year of life to be considered immune. With millions of children born in India every month, these are just some of the technical challenges of eradicating a water-borne virus. Given India's population density and lack of basic sanitation,

*The Final Inch* takes us to Polio's global epicenter. Echoes of a different era of Polio are heard from two Americans surviving the effects of the disease. Martha, now 70, entered an Iron Lung the day after her brother died of the disease more than 58 years ago. Her breathing paralyzed by the Polio virus, she has hardly left the machine since 1952. Mikail, like so many American Polio survivors, regained use of his legs after intensive rehabilitation

and, at 68, is using his remaining strength to ride his hand cycle across his home state of Texas. Both Martha and Mikail recall the painful legacy of the disease in a country that has all but forgotten about it, and the people who still suffer.

In all, *The Final Inch* explores Alexander Solzhenitsyn's famous parable about the final tasks of any endeavor, and how these are always the most challenging and easy to turn our back on. *The Final Inch* is a profound testament to those working on the front lines of public health in the backwaters of our world. Their stories challenge our most basic assumptions about disease, poverty and our own health as a human right.

## **Announcements**

*by Joanne Fisher*

**President Wayne** made the following announcements:

- Any members required to complete criminal records check (with a vulnerable childrens' sector) due to their work with youth may do so free of charge with a volunteer letter from the secretary. Wayne will arrange with Avis to have the letters prepared.
- The District Governor visit is scheduled for September 20th, stay tuned on possible changes to our Becas dinner
- There is an interclub Rotary golf tournament on August 18th at Green Bryer. The fees are \$45 for golf and \$20 for dinner. Please contact Dave Sundby as soon as possible if you are interested as there are only 40 spots.
- We are asking everyone to review their personal information on ClubRunner to ensure it is up-to-date for the upcoming roster. Kevin Wilson will have his camera at the August 9th meeting if you would like a new photo taken.

Joy Adams Bauer needs help with the Rotateller. I love doing the bulletin but I cannot be at every Rotary meeting due to the nature of my job. I am asking for 2 or 3 volunteers from the club to step up to volunteer to take a two month stint doing the bulletin this coming year. I will train you on the very easy ClubRunner software. Just ask Joanne Fisher, Kevin Wilson, Vic Savoie or Pat Flaten how easy and fun it is!

**Joanne Fisher** reminds all those members who have not yet paid their dues, to please do so. Dues were due on July 1st. Joanne also reminded members about the food cards. This is an easy fundraiser for our club - buy the cards from Joanne and then when you buy your groceries you are also supporting our club with every dollar you spend.

## **2010/2011 Club Executive**

*by Joy Adams Bauer*

President - Wayne McGillivary  
Past President - Bernie Sonntag  
President-Elect - Dave Sundby  
Treasurer - Joanne Fisher  
Secretary - Avis Hardy

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