



District 5040 Newsletter

District Governor
Bob & Judy Blacker



January 2009

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The District Governor's Message

December turned out to be a great month for the family, the way it should be. However, it was hectic. The good thing though, is that I had not scheduled many Rotary Club visits and had my last visit with the West Vancouver Club on December 16th. The snow was interesting, to say the least, and there were no problems getting around.

I started off my club visits at the Vancouver - Centennial Club. Club President Jeffrey Hwang was my host and it was great to sit down with club members, including two prospective members. We talked about how lucky we all were to be Rotarians because whenever we had a great idea it became a reality. I was particularly impressed with the commitment from members who have been through a great deal over the past year.

On December 10th, I was off to the Vancouver - Sunrise Club under the leadership of Abigail Turner. This club is the home club of PDG Dean Rohrs. The club is very active with many great community projects. One that stood out was to host a Christmas luncheon for seniors in the west end of Vancouver. The club has been doing this for over 20 years, what a great commitment.

The Rotary Club of North Vancouver Lionsgate was on my radar to visit. Unfortunately, due to commitments Judy could not attend. President Maureen Park was an absolute gem and we had many great laughs at the meeting. The club was fully ensconced in the Operation Red Nose project with all members having a lot of fun raising money for their projects. I was very impressed with the club's commitment to their community one of which was the July 1st celebrations which the club is responsible for organizing.

My final visit for the month was to the West Vancouver Club under the leadership of President Al Hasley. Both Judy and I had a wonderful evening, presenting a Paul Harris Fellow Award to a husband and wife who are not Rotary members but saw the work of Rotary with Polio etc and decided to give a substantial amount of money to the Foundation.

HEAD OF THE LAKES SCHOOL - VISIT WITH LT.GOVERNOR STEVEN POINT

As many of you know, I am Aide de Camp to the Lt.Governor of British Columbia. On December 3rd, I was assigned to accompany him to visit the Head of the Lakes School which is in the Lilloette Valley just east of Lilloette Lake. The reason why I am mentioning this trip is to tell you about the great work that is being done by the *Rotary Club of Whistler* in assisting this school. This has been a project of the Whistler Club for over 3 years. This was a special trip.



We traveled up to the community with the assistance of the RCMP Helicopter which was just an unbelievable experience for both His Honour and me. Upon our arrival we

were both met by Abu the Principal of the school along with community members and, of course, by band drummers. The entire experience was very humbling for both His Honour and me as it exemplified the work that he is doing in bringing books and mini libraries to isolated communities for which we, in our district, are partnering with Government House through the Government House Foundation to provide these libraries.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE LITERACY PROJECT

In my club visits, I have been talking about this wonderful project that we have been invited to join with the Government House Foundation. I, along with District Literacy Chair Barbara Fitzpatrick of the Richmond Sunrise Club have attended many meetings with Government House to get this project off the ground.



The above photograph was taken with President David Oakes, Doug Deeks and his good wife Joan and Lt. Governor Steven L. Point OBC.

I am very happy to report that in December, President Dale Badh, President Elect Brian Cole along with Barbara Fitzpatrick at Government House meet with His Hon. Lt. Governor Steven relation to getting project off the



with Barbara Fitzpatrick attended House to our Point in this project.

The project is very simple; His Honour visits many isolated communities throughout British Columbia, many of them are in our district. When he visits a community he talks about literacy and takes books along with him to give to the children. He will find out if they need books and a library (which in all cases they do) he will then tell Government House who will then notify Barbara Fitzpatrick and I. Barbara and I will then seek the assistance of Rotary Clubs in our district and will assign one to adopt the community that the Lt. Governor identifies. Once that is done arrangements will be made for the Rotary Club to meet with the community and be introduced by the Lt. Governor who will make a personal trip with the Rotarians. Once the initial meeting is completed the club will set up future meetings themselves.

To make this work, the first three communities will be pilot projects so that we can work out any problems the end result being a template for clubs to use when they participate in the project. Right now the Richmond Sunrise club will be the first club to participate in the project and have been assigned to Kingcombe Inlet which is up the BC Coast near Rivers Inlet (who are also asking for assistance) I have been approached by another club in the District to help with the Rivers Inlet community, I will be reporting on that in future newsletters. The other community is Kuper Island which is just off Chemainus near Thetis Island. District 5020 has been approached and has been asked to help the Kuper Island community.

Stay tuned this wonderful project is evolving with 8 more communities being identified.



Photographs taken from a recent trip to Kingcombe Inlet.

On behalf of Judy and myself, I wish you all a very Happy New Year 2009

Editor's Corner



Dear Rotarians

As the year 2008 rolled away and ushered in the year 2009, each and every one of us has made some special resolutions which will guide and guard us through the New Year.

Through time, such resolutions have shown that a high percentage of our wishes have included words like: joy, happiness, good health, prosperity, good jobs, promotions etc. Very few resolutions have been given to Compassion. human communities and humanities. Humanitarian works of Rotarians all over the world have been hinged on this. But looking closely at the results of these humanitarian works, one is tempted to baptize them "Active and applied Compassion" as compared to their passive and dormant counterpart. Active and applied compassion are positive and concrete-result oriented. This is why all over the world, rotary has made its mark and has continued to wax stronger and stronger in its pursuit of happiness for humanity. The call to Rotary Club is a call to relentlessness and may the New Year 2009 lift us to greater

Bill Gates speaks to Rotarian Leaders

Bill Gates announces at the Rotary International Assembly on 21 January that the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has contributed an additional US\$255 million to Rotary International to help end polio worldwide. Rotary will raise another \$100 million, bringing the total that the two organizations have pledged to the polio eradication effort to \$555 million.

[Read more](#) and [see video](#)

[Know who's who in Rotary](#)

[Club of QUESNEL and many more](#) [click here...](#)



Bet to Bid for Books 2009

The Rotary Club of Vancouver Quadra presents Bid for Books volume II

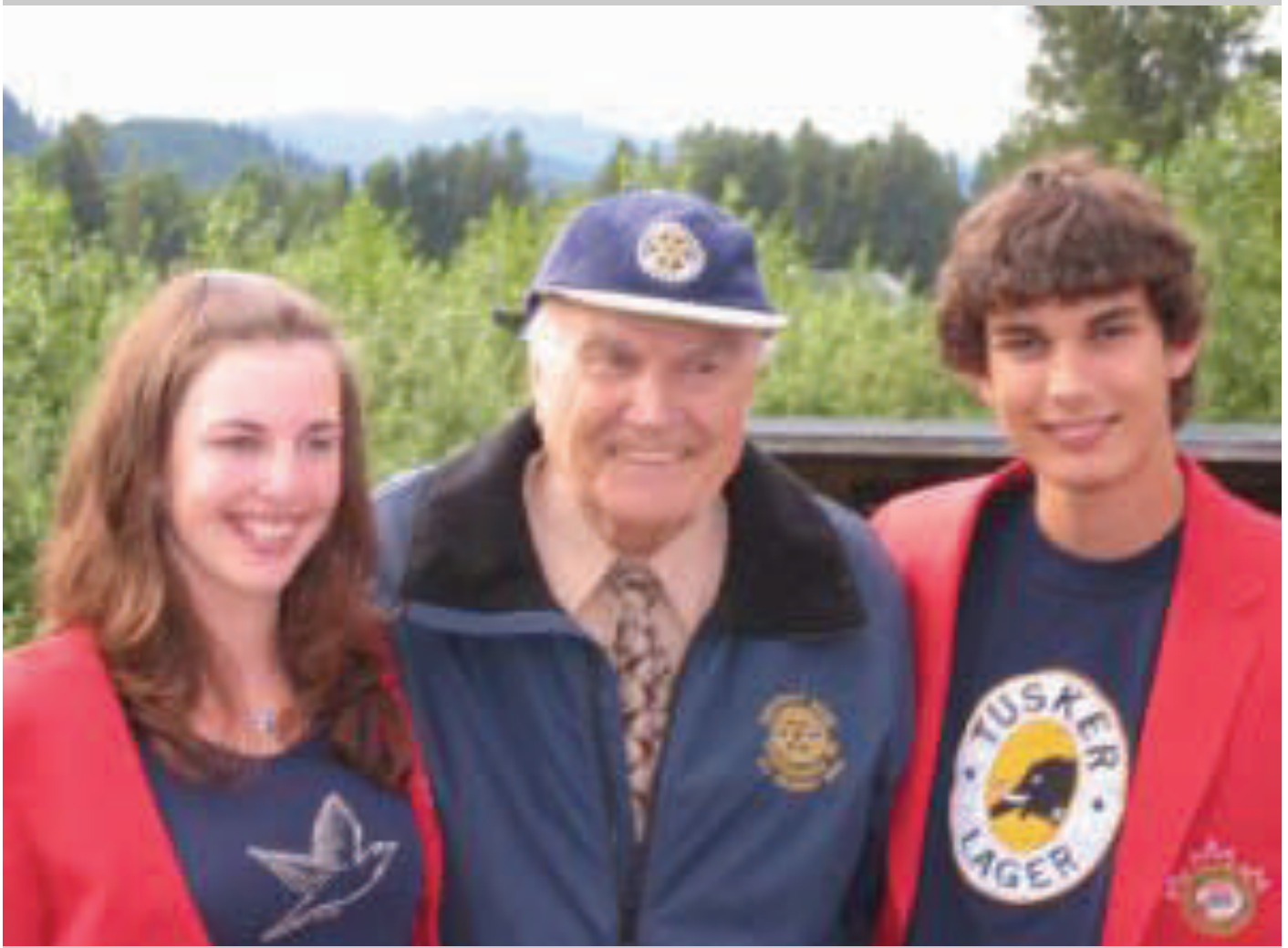
- the second annual fundraiser sponsored by The Vancouver Hearing Centre.

Click : www.bidforbooks.ca

WHEELS, THOUGH SLOW, DO TURN.

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO :

Dr. Laverne Kindree, a founding member of the Squamish Rotary club, who has just been named a member of the Order of Canada. A group of Rotarians put his name forward almost three years ago ... the wheels turned slowly...and it has finally happened. [Full story](#) ...



Go to the Seminar thou Rotarian ...

A [Keynote Speaker awaits you there](#)



A top lineup of speakers scheduled for Foundation Seminar ...

[more](#) ...

THE YOUNG SHALL GLOW

Our District 5040 website is up and running thanks to Claudia and her team's efforts.

<http://rotaract5040.ning.com>

It's very easy to use, and I highly encourage that each club signs up (it's like facebook) and helps to make use of it by posting your upcoming events. You can get your PR directors to help blog on the webpage. I also encourage your club website provide links to our website.

Thanks Claudia and your team who made this website happen!

We welcome any feedbacks or concerns!

Cheers,
Eiston

TO WHOM MUCH IS GIVENMUCH IS REQUIRED.

We can help to make this a better world.
Contribute to Our Rotary Foundation
The Rotary Foundation Canada [Site](#)

Stay Proactive, Nominate Your Outstanding Rotaract Club Project for 2009 [see details...](#)

You can also make a determined 2009 Resolution. [How](#) ?

UNITY OF STRENGTH

The 4 North Shore Rotary Clubs co-operated to deliver Operation Red Nose on the North Shore during December including New Years Eve. This year there were 269 volunteers, 290 cars were delivered safely home for a total of 6,570 km. and over \$17,000 was raised for youth related projects.



Photo of some of the Rotary Club of Lions Gate volunteers on New Years Eve

Cheese Us, Christie Got It!

The Rotary Club
Presidents of Gib-
sons Chris Reid,
Sechelt - Tom Pinfold
and Pender Harbour



- Mary Bittroff presented the Rotary Calendar New Year's day winning draw of \$3000 to Christie Bezaire from Gibsons. Thanks for the sponsors and your support with a total of 2,273 calendars sold and there is a winner everyday of \$20 or \$250 or \$500. All the money raised support projects in our community.

Thanks, Jim Ling

OUR FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER (#72) January 2009

A tremendous opportunity awaits you, the opportunity to participate directly in the planning of the Rotary Foundation's (TRF) Future Vision Plan (FVP). [Read](#)



It was almost 2 years of making, the Rotaract cookbook is finally here. Thanks to D5040 Rotarians and friends who had contributed. Purchase the first edition for \$25.00, all proceeds go toward building a PlayPump, which is a merry-go-around that pumps clean water, in South Africa. Purchase online [here](#) .