



Clubs in Action

March 2007



Charlottetown Royalty

Our club has recently sponsored a local group working to unite an El Salvador family within the refugee process. Our donation of \$4000.00 went a long way to provide stable funding necessary for this re-unification to occur.

Our club has continued its long-term association with the Charlottetown Boys and Girls club by donating \$15,000.00 to assist in renovations to the Boys and Girls club premises to allow that club to provide more programs to more youth and also to provide a shelter for homeless youth.

Our Club recently awarded our annual Mentor Award to Dr. Ian MacQuarrie to recognize his many years advocating for and promoting environmental issues on P.E.I.



Club President Dr. Barry Maze and Marie Burge of the Cooper Institute, sponsor of El Salvador family.



Club President Dr. Barry Maze, mentor award recipient Dr. Ian MacQuarrie and Tom Banks, mentor award committee chair.

Corner Brook

March and April 2007 are proving to be the busiest and most rewarding for Rotarians of the Corner Brook Club.

Corner Brook Rotary Music Festival

We are pleased to be hosting the 45th annual Corner Brook Rotary Music Festival, being held March 16 through to March 27, 2007. Several years ago, the Rotary Club of Corner Brook legally formed a not-for-profit, charitable organization to plan, promote, fundraise, manage and staff this wonderful event. The Corner Brook Rotary Festival Committee Association hasn't looked back since. Rotarian Bernd Staeben, as President of the Association is leading the way into another successful Festival.

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This season's Festival will bring together approximately 2200 young musicians and vocalists from all over the greater Corner Brook region. Public sessions in numerous disciplines will be held throughout the Festival for the enjoyment of family, friends, and our performing arts supporters.

This year, we are excited to present a new sponsorship opportunity through our many event theme nights. Area sponsors can now choose a full Festival Level sponsorship or target a specific audience through our event title sponsorships. The upcoming Festival is the ideal chance for our region's business community to show its support for its aspiring youth, especially considering the Festival's media campaign and sponsorship recognition program.

We invite all Rotarians, if in the Corner Brook area, to join us in this week of music appreciation.

2007 Rotary Live and Silent Auction

Mark your calendars because April 21, 2007 will be a night filled with food, refreshments and bidding. Corner Brook's annual auction is the revenue generator of the year for our club and is equivalent to fundraising \$400 (net) every single meeting.

This year's event theme will be Rotary Spring Fling and will highlight Rotary activities around the world through table theme displays on special initiatives conducted at home and abroad. To assist in the hosting of such a large undertaking, this club is split into three dynamic teams that share the responsibility of ticket sales, sponsor solicitation and gift pick-up. Rotarian Jim Taylor is the Chair of this year's fundraising effort and has coined our internal motto: *It's all about Teamwork.*

Centennial Project Completion

Final plans for the completion of Rotary's Centennial rest area in front of Corner Brook City Hall are well underway. Rotarian Neville Wheaton, as Chair of the Centennial Project, is working with the Corner Brook Stream Development Corporation, the Downtown Business Association, and ACOA to ensure that this beautiful feature gives City residents the feeling that Rotary is here and willing to help.

Halifax Northwest

Sleet, rain, snow, freezing temperatures - only minor inconveniences for Rotarians determined to sell tickets to our Annual Gala (dancing to the sounds of the Big Band - swirling skirts - bowties - maybe a little champagne) or bag and give out millions of little red candy hearts on February 14th — one way we and other Rotary clubs make people aware of Rotary.

Other news — seems I get to find out if pipers really do wear anything under their kilts as Rotary clubs collect money along the planned parade route in Halifax. Over 1000 pipers - part of the Nova Scotia International Tattoo - will be piping and marching for Dalhousie Medical Research and we'll be running along beside them collecting loonies and toonies. I will be keeping an eye out for one of those grates that lift skirts (or kilts).

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Working on another RCMP Musical Ride event,
Waiting patiently (most of the time) for word on our international project with a club in Turkey to provide needed items for an orphanage there.

Continuing to search for ways to make Rotary relevant and attractive to new members — seems as fast as we gain wonderful, active, eager new members, someone is transferred or retires to some place warm.

Still focusing our attention on women and children - often the most vulnerable in our society.

Working slowly on our new Tulips for Literacy program — selling bulbs for books, and hoping to bring the event to a full-blown tulip festival. Long road ahead!

Still waiting to welcome you to our Wednesday meeting and looking forward to “Rally in the Alley” at the District Convention in St John’s. Have you registered yet?

Anniversary Celebration



New PHFs with DGE Bette Douglas (l-r), Brian Herman, Halifax NW; DGE Bette, Amherst; ADG Wendy Keen, Bedford-Sackville, Dick Hodgson, Halifax NW.

PHF recognition also in absentia to Marlene Moore, by Halifax NW and to HRM Councillor Gary Martin by Bedford-Sackville.

On Tuesday evening February 20th 2007 the Halifax Northwest club, now 49 year old, and the Bedford-Sackville club that “Northwest” sponsored in 1987 celebrated their anniversaries at a joint dinner party. DGE Bette Douglas, the special anniversary speaker inspired the large group with the heartfelt expression of her belief in the values of Rotary and the need to continually induct new members to ensure the longevity and quality of Rotary service.

Six persons were recognized as Paul Harris Fellows, three by each club.

Bedford-Sackville recognized members ADG Wendy Keen and in absentia Stella Roy and HRM Councillor Gary Martin.

Receiving PHF Recognition from “Northwest” were members Dick Hodgson, Brian Herman, and in absentia, Marlene Moore.

Hillsborough

Details for the club’s 28th Annual Car Dinner have been announced. It’s a Sport Edition this year, and includes a change in venue. The popular club fundraiser will take place on Friday May 11, 2007, at the Confederation Centre of the Arts. The grand prize this year is your choice of a 2007 Pontiac Solstice, 2007 Mustang Convertible, 2007 Mazda MX-5 3.5 SE, 2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse, a 2007 Volkswagon EOS or \$35,000 cash! The Annual Car Dinner is a major fundraiser for the club, and Hillsborough Rotary members are especially excited about the Sports Edition theme and the new venue. Tickets are \$275 each, and are available from club members. For more information, contact Doug Bridges, at 902-629-1940.

Kentville

Wow! Another busy month at the Rotary Club of Kentville.

The Valentines Dance fundraising extravaganza was held on February 10th with over 220 Rotarians and friends in attendance. The theme, “An Evening in Paris”, was capped off by the awarding of a prize draw of a trip to Paris to Kentville Rotarian Maynard Williams.

The other major prize of \$2000 in jewelry, donated by D.M. Reid Jewellers of Kentville, was won by Rotarian Susan Ueffing.



Rotarian Susan Ueffing winning a \$2,000 jewelry prize at the Valentine Dance.



Valentine Dance co-chair Harry Harmes congratulating trip winner Maynard Williams

A Silent Auction was part of the evening festivities with the highlight bid of \$900 for a dinner for six put on by Joe and Susan

Ueffing and Heather and John Lohr. In keeping with the “Evening in Paris” theme, one can only assume that Susan Ueffing will be wearing her French Maid outfit when she serves at the *Dinner for Six*. Approximately \$13,000 was raised by the event for humanitarian service needs in our local community. Hats off to Rotarians Mike Mills and Harry Harmes, who co-chaired the event.

Youth Committee Chair, Pat Dutton, reported on recent activities of the committee:

- supporting three local students in the Encounters with Canada Program
- financial support to local athlete Jason Foote for coaching and equipment assistance
- financial support to help two St. FX students to do community service work in Guatemala as part of their co-op studies program
- contributions and support to local Junior Achievement program for Grade IX students called “Reasons for Staying in School”
- financial support to the Coldbrook School Band program

The Persons with Disabilities Committee of the Kentville Rotary Club recently contributed \$2000 to the Alexander Society in order to support a 10-week after school program for teens with special needs. The Alexander Society provides a wide range of programs for people of all ages with special needs and abilities. They make great use of volunteers from Acadia University, local high schools, community college and the general public. The Rotary Club of Kentville is proud to assist many outstanding and worthwhile groups in our community who share the Rotary goal of “*Service above Self*”.



Kentville Rotarians Chris Maynard and President Elect, Catherine Savage, joining in the After School Project of the Alexander Society.

As a final note, a quick thank you to the Kentville Rotarians who travelled to Metro this month to help load the latest container of hospital equipment on its way to Cameroon.

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New Waterford



L-R - Rotarian Wayne Connors, retired RCMP officer Sylvan Arsenault, president Dave MacIssac and Rotarian Francis MacLean.

A presentation was made to the Rotary Club of New Waterford by retired RCMP officer Sylvan Arsenault regarding his past experiences in police work.

A big thanks to Sylvan for sharing his experiences with our club.

Springhill

Chris Gooding distributed copies of the new Rotary club brochure. A thoughtful discussion ensued providing a few additions/changes which will be incorporated into the brochure. Thanks to Chris for an excellent job.

Time was spent discussing membership recruitment and retention. Carl Demings offered to design a draft recruitment letter for review.

St. John's East

Making a Real Difference!

During the quarterly cheque presentation ceremony, which occurred at the regular weekly meeting on January 12, 2007, the Rotary Club of St. John's East Foundation, reached a significant milestone. The club officially surpassed \$500,000 in donations, an accomplishment that they can all be tremendously proud of. As Rotarians, St. John's East truly embraces the ideal of "*Service Above Self*". While the fact that they have crested the \$500,000 level in donations is tangible proof of their commitment to this ideal, as Rotarians they also demonstrate this on a daily basis in their business and personal lives. Through this commitment and collective effort, St. John's East has made a major contribution towards improving the lives of so many, both locally and around the world. In his monthly contribution to the Club's Newsletter, President Brian Martin congratulated the club on its efforts; "I commend you all for a job well done, and look forward to working with you as we march towards the million dollar mark".

Stratford

Trivia-obsessed, but never trivial, Stratford Rotarians once again hosted the Trivia Night at the Stratford Winter Carnival. Even blustery weather couldn't keep teams away as quizmaster Bruce Moore kept everyone guessing. The Old Tories, aka The Victorious Tories led by Rotarian Sandy McMillan won again by a narrow margin.

Stratford Rotarian Sgt. Richard Thibault took the time to share with fellow Club members some of his experiences training Iraqi Police officers as part of the RCMP International Peacekeeping Mission. Richard and 20 other Canadian Police officers spent six months teaching at

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the world's largest Police Training Centre near Amman, Jordan. Richard spent his tour teaching Crime Scene Management and Democratic Policing at the Centre which graduates 1500 Police officers every two months.

Club members had the unique opportunity to hear the perspectives of four teenagers who had immigrated to Prince Edward Island with their families. Moderated by teacher Bev Fanning, the teens who had come from Syria, Sierra Leone, Somalia and India impressed the Club members with their candor and openness. During the evening some old friendships were renewed, new friendships were formed and the generation gap was bridged.

Stratford and Summerside Rotarians, their families and six Rotary Exchange Students joined for a joint fellowship sleigh ride at Potts Farm in Bonshaw.



Yusuf Jama, Robbie Saada, moderator Bev Fanning, Sophia Oppon and Manushi Gera with Rotarian Jo-Anne White after their presentations on their experiences immigrating to Prince Edward Island.



Ready to go - Stratford and Summerside Rotarians ready to go on their sleigh ride.

Children and adults alike had a wonderful ride through the snowy woods followed by hot chocolate and cookies around a warm wood stove. The two clubs hope to continue having joint fellowship events.



Rotary Exchange Students, Stratford Rotary family members and new hard-working friend after the fellowship sleigh ride.

Stratford Mayor Kevin Jenkins presented his third annual "State of the Town" address to Stratford Rotarians following a reception at Stratford Town Hall.



Rotarians Emile Gallant, Sandy McMillan, Stratford Mayor Kevin Jenkins and President Andrew Davies after the Mayor's Annual Address to Rotary.

The Mayor commented on the commitment and involvement required for the success of the town and praised Stratford's service and volunteer organizations for their contributions to the town and its citizens.



Easter Seals Ambassador Anthony Comeau visited the Rotary Club of Stratford to deliver his message "Help Me Help Others". In the photo are Stratford President Andrew Davies, Ambassador Anthony Comeau and Charlottetown Rotarian Elizabeth Noonan, Chair of the Easter Seals Campaign.

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Summerside

Rotary Showing Its Age

“When I was first invited to join the Rotary Club of Summerside, my first thought was, that’s the club my grandfather belongs to,” says 28 year old Yolande Richard. And it’s true, while her grandfather Antoine Richard is a member more and more younger women and men are finding the image of Rotary as an “old boys’ club” is changing.

“While I’m definitely the youngest member of the Club, I was pleasantly surprised to see how many members are in their 30’s and 40’s.” says Richard, a lawyer.

Community service organizations worldwide have been struggling with an aging membership. Rotary International is the largest such organization with a membership of 1.2 million that has an average age of 55. Sixty-six percent of its members around the world are over 50.

The Rotary Club of Summerside has been bucking that trend.

“The average age of our members is 51,” says the 36 year old President, Wayne Thompson. “And only 52% are over 50 years old. We’ve been seeing a trend in the past few years toward younger people joining the club looking for a way to become involved with community service.

In large part, the turnaround has a lot to do with the activities the club is involved in providing women and men in the community to give something back. The Rotary Club of Summerside is well known for the work it does in Prince County. The Rotary Regional Library, Rotary Friendship Park, the Community Connections building and providing disabled access to the Wellington Boys and Girls Club and Generation XX are among the initiatives the club has undertaken. Recently the organization has also become very active with international projects such as wells in Nigeria and an orphanage in Jamaica.

“One of the challenges facing younger members considering any service club is juggling careers, family and volunteer work says Vice-President Stephen Cudmore. A 42 year-old father of 2, Cudmore says the fact Summerside Rotary Club’s meeting starts at 7:15 AM means becoming a member does not take quality time away from the family. “I know that was very appealing to me when I joined. “

“And of course there’s so much more to Rotary than weekly meetings,” says President Thompson. “Getting to meetings is important for the camaraderie but many of our members put in far more time being involved in our various projects than having breakfast Tuesday mornings.”

“Rotary is a great organization,” says Yolande Richard. “I’m glad my grandfather invited me to join. It’s allowed me to get more involved with the community”

On Saturday, Feb 10 Youth Exchange students from PEI took part in the Setsubun Festival in Summerside... a new event designed to celebrate multi-culturalism on the Island.

The students had a display area in which they offered people a taste of Australia... vegemite on crackers and a delicious punch from the French island of Guadeloupe.

The students all spoke about their home countries and where they were being hosted.

They also got to experience some new cultural activities as well by taking part in a sushi eating contest and trying a hand at bagpiping.



Rotarians Yolande Richard, age 28 (left) and Wayne Thompson (right) chat with the Club’s oldest member Gabe Chiasson, age 84. Chiasson has been a member for 54 years.

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Pier Luc-piper: Swiss Exchange Student Pier Lucas Bonzer gets a lesson in bagpipng



Students get to experience some new cultural activities by taking part in a sushi eating contest.



Lin (Thailand/Summerside) speaks to guests attending the Setusbun Festival



Rotarian Bill Kendrick with Lin (Thailand), Luke (Australia), Pier Lucas (Switzerland), David (Venezuela), Toran (Australia) and Aurore (France)

Following the Festival, they joined members of the Rotary Clubs of Summerside and Stratford in a horse drawn sleigh ride.



Rotarians and students on sleigh ride.



Lin (Thailand/Summerside), Aurore (France/Charlottetown), Toran (Australia/Charlottetown), Luke (Australia/Summerside) with Summerside Club President Wayne Thompson and his son Wyatt.



David (Venezuela/Charlottown Royalty) and Pier Lucas (Switzerland/Montague) enjoy their first sleigh ride.

The following are the photos from the Youth Exchange Winter Weekend held in Summerside during the weekend of January 26-28. The students were from D7820 and D7810.

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They participated in a number of activities... curling on Friday night, then overnight with Rotarian billets. On Saturday they spent the morning at the Atlantic Police Academy where they got to experience some of the training cadets receive. In the afternoon, they had to navigate around Summerside using handheld GPS units finding answers to questions, visiting City Hall to receive pins and getting their mug shots taken at the Police Department. After going swimming at our new Wellness Centre Pool, they spent Saturday night at the Boys & Girls Club where they got very little sleep. Then everyone headed home on Sunday after a pancake breakfast cooked by Summerside Rotarian Bill Kendrick.



Wolfville

N.S. chefs get cooking for Rotary awards

Some of Nova Scotia's best chefs are teaming up to help reduce the cost of attending university for deserving students.

Michael Howell of Tempest, Craig Flinn of Chives, Martin Ruiz Salvador of Fleur de Sel, Scott Geddes of Cocoa Pesto Bistro, Mike MacKinnon of Chartwell's and Don Mailman of the Nova Scotia Community College are among the chefs donating their time to the Rotary Club of Wolfville Saturday.

They will present an evening of fine cuisine and wine, with proceeds going to fund the Rotary Club's high school achievement awards, which are given on the basis of academic achievement, financial need and community involvement.

The evening will also include a dance and silent auction and a grand prize of a five-night stay at the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa in Phoenix. The event will be held at Acadia's Learning Commons at 7 p.m. Tickets, \$80 a person, are available at 542-4194.

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Stephen Bush and Jennifer Anderson, International Aid consultants with Wolfville Rotarian Maura Ryan, the club's January Meeting Chair following a presentation 30 Jan by Steven & Jennifer on their role assisting NGOs understand and define the nature of aid required in critical situations around the world. The couple operate an international business from Wolfville that involves travel to various third world countries to assess needs after a community has been affected by a set back. Pictured in the photo L to R Jennifer Anderson, Steven Bush, & Wolfville Rotarian Maura Ryan.

Wolfville's Gabrielle Richard was one of four selected by the GSE Outbound Team Selection Committee to travel with the team to Brazil in the spring of this year. When this photo was taken in early Feb Gabrielle was still too excited about being selected to talk about the project. Gabrielle is a pharmacist with Cochrane's Pharmasave. Pictured (L to R) are owners of Cochrane's Pharmasave and Wolfville Rotarians Georgie McNeil, John McNeil and Gabrielle Richard.



Guest Speaker John Murphy is thanked by Wolfville Rotarian Hugh Fairn following his presentation to the Club on Jan 23rd . John, Chair of the Canadian Council of Welfare spoke on the subject of poverty in Canada. The Council which was created in 1969, advises the Minister on the needs and problems of low-income Canadians and on social and related programs and policies which affect their welfare by :

- a) communicating directly with the Minister;*
- b) informing and influencing public opinion through widely-disseminated reports;*
- c) providing a vehicle through which people concerned with the problems of low-income Canadians can make their views known to government.*