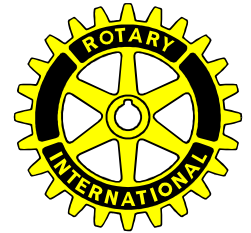




The Beacon News



The Rotary Club of Port Hope

News Bulletin for the Week of May 02, 2011

Steve Rutledge & Mike Yap – Laos Aid

CALL TO ORDER

President called the meeting to order at precisely 6pm.

Head Table Introduction

At the head table with P John were: R. Cleve Pendock, Steve Rutledge and Mike Yapp.



President John announced the order of the buffet procession.

Stress Inukchuk

Not recorded.

GUESTS & VISITING ROTARIANS

In attendance were our speakers Steve Rutledge and Mike Yapp. President John also welcomed back R. Ted and R. Merv.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

As usual, there was nothing to report. In honour of his presence, R. Merv was asked to announce the fact.



PRE-NOURISHMENT REPORTS

There were none.

DESSERT REPORTS

PP Sylvia noted that as no one had complained or in fact expressed anything regarding the proposed slate of officers for the coming year, that it was time to raise a motion that they be accepted. This was done and the members present were “unanimous” in their approval.



R Ron told the assembly that he has heard from next year's exchange student, Barbara, who is from Germany. She has always wanted to visit Canada and was thrilled to learn from Ron that Canada would be here destination. She will first be staying with the Hunts. She is apparently a “talented academic student.”



Ron also mentioned that anyone who has obtained an item for the auction can hold on to it until the day of the auction as long as they send a description of the item to Ron so he knows

it is coming. He asked if anyone would be able to solicit an item from Herma's and Acanthus. Two Rotarians stepped forward (figuratively) to do this.

R. Roger announced that so far, 201 tickets have been sold for the Lobster Supper. As well as meaning death for 201 lobsters, the number indicates we are well on our way to selling the night's quota. Roger told us that we will be cooking the lobsters ourselves and we will improve the roast beef by being sure to carve it correctly and not overcook it.



Roger reiterated for the 19th time that ticket stubs must be filled in fully and submitted with the ticket money to him, no later than next meeting. He does not want any ticket money on the night of the event! He will be organizing the crew for set up and clean up next meeting. He mentioned that Rotarians can either volunteer or he will be calling.

Meanwhile, R. Ben was pushing for the renewal of the Martini bar of a few years back but Roger noted that due to lack of profitability issues, this would not be happening unless Ben wanted to do it next year when Ben takes over as Lobster Supper chair. This was met with obvious joy by Ben.

Lastly, it was mentioned that R. Susan would be assigning salad bar duties next week. She

apparently has had many volunteers.

R. Susan told us that the fashion show tickets are sold out.

R. Ken B. (your humble scribe this week) rose to again entreat fellow Rotarians to please try to find a few more sponsors for the District 7070 Conference this Fall. The more sponsors we get, the more it will help defray our costs.



HAPPY BUCKS

Sergeant at Arms Bruce announced that R. Cleve had celebrated a birthday this past weekend.

R. Cleve rose to share a quotation on birthdays: "When you reach 70, you realize your life is half over."



R. Kelly was happy her son was at Camp Enterprise (and out of the house?)



R. Roger was sad that the windstorm had blown down a lot of trees.



R. Wilf announced that his 14th grandchild had arrived the day before.



R. Ron contributed a buck for his own birthday without even being told to do so.



R. Bill was happy that his place did not blow away and was also happy not to have a grandchild.



R. Rolly slightly admitted to his 50th birthday.



R. Ben mentioned that the “little green car club” would henceforth be known as the “topless car club” because someone had the audacity to buy a silver car. They went on a tour of the county last weekend and drank wine.



R. George noted that his car was a Volkswagen.



R. Joe threw in \$5 for Ted lacey and Merv being there.



R. George mentioned something about a “Big Red Tent” (was the circus in town?)

R. Paul was seen pictured in Snap (as were others).

R. Merv said, “It’s nice to be back. I will be 87 soon.”



R. Dave was happy for his granddaughter who got accepted to all 3 universities she applied to. She chose Windsor and gets to stay in an exclusive

residence for relatives of alumni.



R. Diane was happy and sad because the wind blew down a few trees at their place but they did not fall on anything. She had thrown a surprise birthday bash for Cleve on Saturday and had a hard time getting him out of the house.



R. Ken B. (me again) reported he had spent the morning at Camp Enterprise and was impressed with all the kids and their great marketing ideas.



President John had taken a carload of kids to camp and was interested in how they had talked about politics. He also filled us in with his experiences of being a parking attendant in a muddy field at a flea market. (Never do this)

PROGRAM

R. Cleve introduced the evening's speakers, Mike Yapp and Steve Rutledge who are helping remote villages in Laos build schools and get clean drinking water. Steve has been well known in Port Hope as the organizer of Estival and Mike, who came from Singapore 12 years ago, is an award-winning designer.



Steve began by noting that the past year has been one of many emotional ups and downs with a lot of effort expended on fundraising but still more to be done—he has received 31 separate requests for schools and many more for water filters. He wished to thank all those who supported his cause with filter purchases. As a result of these, 84 families now have clean water. He told us that the families had all traveled to the place where the filters were to be delivered only to find that they had been delayed. They had to trek all the way back to their villages empty handed, through rugged jungle and return again a few days later once the truck arrived. It seems that the truck, with Mike and

Steve aboard, had broken an axle enroute and had to be repaired by a village bicycle shop to be able to continue.

Another part of the journey was made in a small boat that Steve described as “tippy.”

Steve thanked R. Anna for her gift of toothbrushes and Diane Gaffney for sending leftover T-shirts from the Walk for Life.

He thanked Rotary for the \$2000 contributed to build a school.

Steve pointed out on a map, the remote area of northern Laos, which is a landlocked country, where they operated. He told us that in remote areas, the average per capita income is \$14.75 per year. In urban areas it is \$11,000.



The temperature in Laos can range between very hot and very cold, so they were often quite uncomfortable. Along with them on the mission were photographer, Ted Amsden and Jennifer of “Jennifer’s Jazz it Up” and another Jennifer as well. Ted documented the trip via photos while the Jennifer’s shared their expertise in dance and English with the Laotians. There was much to do in Laos, as clean water is in short

supply. The water filters clean dirty water and make it potable. This has cut down the incidence of diarrhea greatly. Steve and Mike also supervised



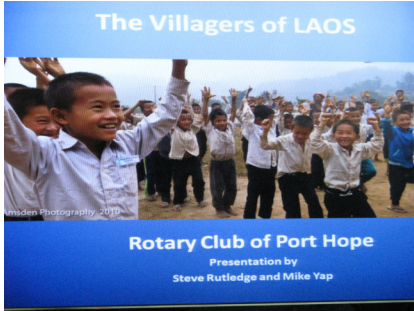
the building of a school, the addition of a water filtration system and a hygiene program for a hospital and much, much more including the building of hygienic toilets and showers in the villages while they were there. Steve noted that they had made many good contacts with local chiefs and dignitaries while there; a must to do if anything is going to get done. He told us the Laotians are a very proud people who do not beg and are very appreciative of any and all help that they receive.



The water filter filters last approx 10 years before needing to be replaced.

Right now, they have about \$940,000 worth of requests, which include more filters, more schools and at least 12

more toilet/shower facilities. Steve thinks that \$600,000 will probably do it but he needs to gather donations. He requested that anyone who can help, in any way, to please contact him. Steve and Mike were thanked by President John.



Post, Post Prandial Dessert Reports.

There were none.

50-50 DRAW

Contributed to Mike and Steve.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the singing of O Canada led by Rolly.

Scribe at Work



WEB SITE

Please take a moment to visit the Port Hope Rotary web site.

www.porthoperotary.com

Noteworthy Future Happenings:

May 14 – Lobster & Roast Beef Supper & Auction – See Roger and Ron for details

June 27 – President's Night

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Speaker	Location	Door Duty	Scribe
May 9	Tom Spears – Sweat Equity	KofC	Anna T., Ron T.	Rolly
May 16	Fabiola Baeza – Exchange Student	KofC	Bruce C., Linda T.	Sylvia
May 23	Victoria Day – No Meeting			
May 30	District Vocational Team – Bob Wallace	KofC	Paul T, Roger I	Jim
Jun 6	Murray Waboose – Mattawa First Nations	KofC	Ken B, Doug B	Bud
Jun 13	TBA	KofC	Jim G, Cleve P	Ken
Jun 20	TBA	KofC	Dianne P, Dick O	Rolly
Jun 27	President's Night	TBA	George H, Ben C	Sylvia

**ROTARY CLUB OF
PORT HOPE**



P.O. Box 191 Port Hope, Ontario, L1A 3W3

Officers

President: John Mowat
Secretary: Cleve Pendock

President- Elect: Bruce Coleman
Treasurer: Paul Tait

Directors

Club Service: Dick O'Toole
Community Service: Roger Ingram

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