

# The Nor'Wester

The Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Halifax Northwest

*"The Friendly Club"*

[www.rotaryclubhalifaxnw.org](http://www.rotaryclubhalifaxnw.org)



Volume 3  
Number 2  
July 28, 2010

## Meeting Schedule

### SUMMER SCHEDULE

**August 11, 2010**

**Business Mtg.**

**August 25, 2010**

**Fellowship**

### REGULAR SCHEDULE

**September 8, 2010**

**Speaker TBA**

**September 15, 2010**

**Speaker TBA**

**September 22, 2010**

**Deep Cove BBQ**

**at the  
Havill Estate**



## JULY 28, 2010 - FELLOWSHIP MEETING:

By any measure, it is a big difference between more than 20,000 and just 12. The former was the attendance at the recent RI Convention in Montreal, the largest that city has ever hosted, and the latter was the number of Nor'Westers at today's club meeting. But Rotary's total membership of 1.2 million demonstrates that a multitude of small groups can add up to something significant. Whether or not they are individually effective is another question.

So what do you do at a Fellowship meeting with just twelve members? Well you start with a rousing rendition of O' Canada and then you enjoy fine fellowship with those fortunate enough to be there.

Past Pres. Dick presided. Pres. Bonnie and Peter are in Eire welcoming a new grandchild into the world. Dick got us going with the following quotation and bit of humor.

Quote: While courtship turns frogs into princes, marriage turns them quickly back

Joke: Three old guys out walking First says "Windy isn' it?"

Second adds "No it's Thursday" Third concludes "So am I. Let's go get a beer"

Are there any old guys in the club like that? Of course not.

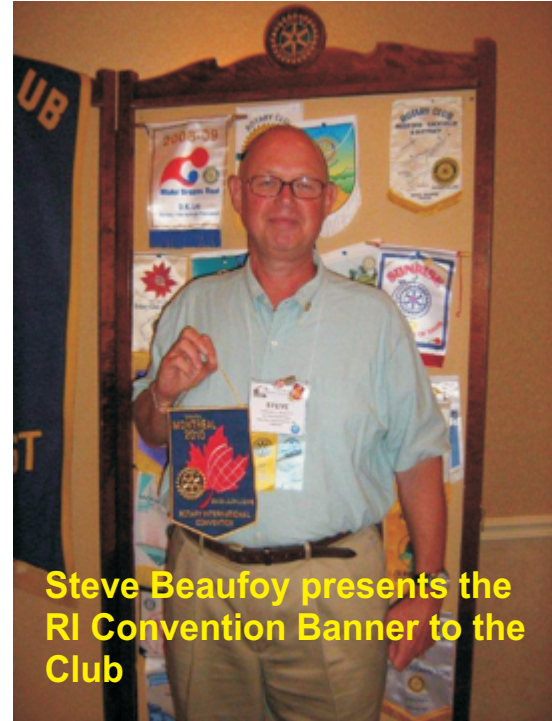
And with that we tucked into a Citadel Hotel lunch of reheated sliced roast beef soaked in gobs of gravy, with mashed potato and overcooked green beans. Dessert was appropriate for those on a diet, which should have included most, if not all, of us, eh?

### Invited Speaker:

Nobody had anything meaningful to say at the podium, until Steve Beaufoy, with a placard hung in front of his chest announcing he was STEVE, told us of his impressions of the Montreal RI 2010 Convention. Quantity and quality dominated all the sessions, presentations and entertainment. Steve noted two speakers of particular quality who devoted their presentations to the resolution of conflicts and the promotion of peace, for example between Israel and Palestine and between the Turkish and Cypriot factions in Cyprus. Both were directly relevant to the fourth Object of Rotary and to RI President Ray Klinginsmith's theme "Building Communities - Bridging Continents". In this context it is interesting to note "the Power of Rotary" as Doug Gregory defined it, and which was reflected in the founding of a new Rotary Club in Ramallah in the Palestinian West Bank. Sponsors were Rotary Clubs in Jordan and Israel. Infact, if you go to the RI website you will be able to see a video of Queen Noor of Jordan expressing the hope that some day soon Rotarians will be able to sponsor a club in the divided city of Jerusalem.

Polio Plus was of course a prominent part of the convention with speakers reminding us that the struggle against the disease is almost complete. For example only six cases were reported in Nigeria this year compared to 348 during the same period last year and no cases have been reported in the last six months in the Indian State of Uttar Pradesh. As we know the Gates Foundation has committed \$365 million to the cause with Rotary promising to contribute \$200 million. At the time of the convention more than \$140 million has been raised by Rotarians.

Membership was, as always, addressed as a recurring concern; how to recruit and how to retain and what are the characteristics of Rotary which might entice people to join, for example, fellowship, networking and global opportunities and influence.



**Steve Beaufoy presents the RI Convention Banner to the Club**

An interesting concept relative to regular club meetings which Steve brought back from the Convention, was the idea of "Twilight Clubs", clubs which meet regularly for an hour of business from 5:00 to 6:00 pm followed by a meal attended by those who have the time and the wish to remain. Maybe it is something we should consider. Inspirational, was Steve's summary of the convention, followed by his recommendation that every Rotarian should attend at least one RI International Convention. Steve finished with the presentation to the club of the Convention banner. Normally, we don't formally thank in-house speakers. We just know they are always good. But never the less we thank you now Steve for an interesting summary of your experience and for your photographs distributed to all via website master Al.

### **Theme July:**

Of the twelve months in the year, Rotary International has allotted a theme to each one except July and May. July is defined simply as the beginning of the Rotary year. But when you think about it, that is an important theme. It is the time when:

1. We pay our annual club dues. This year we each owe Treasurer Marlene \$345.00 and as prominent business and community leaders you all know that 30 days is the usual limit of tolerance for the payment of Account Receivables. There are just two more days to the end of July, so practice what you preach and pay Marlene asap.
2. We help our Website Master, Al to update the site and start the year afresh. For example, Board meeting minutes were last posted May 19, 2010 and the latest weekly Rotary Foundation Thought is dated Feb. 18, 2009. These are just a couple of Committee, project and social activity reports which need revision  
We cannot afford to let the website get tired if we are going to use it to promote our club and its activities, particularly the sale of tickets to the proposed November Nog event. So while you have a glass of wine in one hand and your feet up on the patio rail, plug your ears against the noise of others enjoying themselves and update your contribution to Al asap.
3. We start doing what we said we would do, including the implementation of a 'Greeters Table' at the weekly meetings; compliance with RI's attendance rules, the provision of leads to speakers to fill the Guest Speakers schedule and the participation of all Active members on the November Nog project.

### **50/50 Foundation Draw:**

Bill Day is away again on another journey to somewhere, we believe Ontario, so Rose Hopkins wore the apron - no comment ! She asked Steve to draw the ticket which John Williamson claimed. But it was worth only \$5.00 to him.

### **Anniversaries & Birthdays:**

We enjoyed ourselves so much at Pres. Bonnie's Lobster and Steak Feast on July 10<sup>th</sup>. and devoted so much of the following issue of the Nor'Wester to the event, that we completely forgot to wish a Happy Birthday to Ann West on the 12<sup>th</sup>. and congratulate Donna and Don Hunt on another Wedding Anniversary on the same day. Sincere apologies folks and we hope you didn't forget and had a great day.

Now, because we are reporting only twice during July we offer a belated Happy Birthday wish to Fiona Day on the 21<sup>st</sup>. and Anniversary congratulations to Karen and Blaise Curry on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Also we now warn you, that before we report again on August 11<sup>th</sup>. two couples will celebrate their Wedding Anniversary , Elaine and Gordon Kyle on the 4<sup>th</sup> and Eleanor Dave Carnell on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Happiness and congratulations to all.

**NEXT MEETING - AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>. to hear Jon Denman tell us the latest about November Nog.**

**I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalogue: - 'No good in a bed, but fine against a wall.'**

**- Eleanor Roosevelt**

