

Good evening Rotarians and guests

Before I begin what is traditionally called a Christmas message, I want to thank Glen Clark for his tireless efforts to make this such a special evening..... and I want to thank all partners and guests who made this evening important enough to share with us as Rotarians. It is so meaningful to have Past President Gordon Lang and Rae And our new Assistant District Governor Lana Eagle. And so I begin

Every week we have the privilege of meeting together as the Campbell River Daybreak Rotary Club, but on occasions like this we have the opportunity to pause and share a very important time of year with others who are important to us the very people that often support our hours of volunteer time devoted to 'service above self', those partners and friends and family that recognize at some times of the year Rotary is a consuming other partner. So what is it that draws us together with such dedication week after week?

I mulled over this question and started with the Four Way Test to see if I could find the answer there.....

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The Four Way Test gives purposeful guidelines to the ways in which we interact with each other and with others in our world community. And I expected this when I entered the world of Rotary. I have now learned I now know more about the history Rotary and our Club through meetings and District Conferences yet most importantly through conversations with members and through the thumbnails provided by charter Rotarians like past District Governor Gordon Lang, our first President Elect, Dan Wickham and most recently Jim Harris. What I hadn't realized, what I hadn't predicted was the discovery over time, that the people with whom we share our meetings each week actually become friends. Rotary builds BETTER FRIENDSHIPS. And often the more time we spend together, the more we seem enjoy one another's company. *It's kind of like a good marriage!* Whether it's kicking up our heels at dances with Tapas, deepening our knowledge of each other's lives during endless duck ticket shifts, sitting at Mark Eikeland's enjoying a home concert, catching a breakfast at Ricky's after setting up for the Children's festival, welcoming in the new year at Lambert's corn roast (with all the Hansi trimmings), or spending time at another marathon length board meeting and hanging around to talk to each other After the formal part of the meeting is over I think it's fair to say we like each other even when we lose our front tooth at breakfast. In short we put the fun into 'service about self'.

When I look at the list of ten goals set at the beginning of this year, my Craig's List, I am so proud of what this club has achieved.

1. Active involvement of *all* Rotarians ~ *this is a club that gives and gives again. Each month we contribute over 1 000 hours of service. Community Service chairs Don Huestis and Mike Rushton and a very active committee approve over 10 000 a year in local aid.*
2. Membership of 65 ~ *thanks to the leadership of President Elect nominee Kelly Fisher and her committee we continue to draw new members often members who have sought us out because they believe this is a club that will benefit from their energy*
3. Foundation goal of \$9 000 ~ *at the mid point of the year we have achieved 65% of our goal and it's a lofty goal.*
4. Budget Framework ~ *thanks to our President Elect Glen, Treasurer Ted Martin, and Jim Voth's diligence we will soon have a published budget framework.*
5. Vision Plan ~ *The vision plan has been used to develop the goals we set for this year. We are even going to have our first female president within a year and a half.*
6. Literacy ~ *Recognized for three district awards last year, we seem to be expanding our commitment to serving the needs of many of our vulnerable children in Campbell River. Leah Tremain is revered in the district as a literacy leader.*
7. Rotary "Public Relations" ~ *Thanks to our Committee chair, Rhonda and her counterpart Jeanne in the Campbell River Rotary Club we have a major grant to promote our clubs through a major community event in May.*
8. 9. Two goals *Reviewing our Bylaws and developing a Club Leadership Plan will be underway in the New Year.*
10. World Community Service ~ *Finally, thanks to the efforts of Dave Bazowski, Jim Voth and their committee; Hansi Zhilman and his Wheelchair Foundation, Dave Free heading up Disaster Aid, Tony Fantillo urging our Polio efforts, and Sandra Poirier and Layne keeping our focus on developing the Paul Harris Foundation..... we continue to make a remarkable contribution to the larger world.*

So.... What does all of this have to do with a President's Christmas message. It is simply meant to remind us that the spirit of generosity that so often characterizes the Christmas season, is the very spirit we as Rotarians uphold throughout the year, digging deep whatever the month, whatever the year so that the spirit of Christmas, the spirit of giving never diminishes because of our commitment to five avenues of service that support the lives of others.

In conclusion.... I'd like to remind you of the vision of our club And I ask for a little audience participation you to join me in our regular morning opening.

Welcome to "Daybreak Rotary – Making Service Fun!" As you know.... "Daybreak Rotary is a family of volunteers dedicated to community and international service."

As we spend this festive season with friends and family, as we re-connect to time honoured traditions that bring back special memories of times past, remember we are united as members of the Daybreak Rotary Club..... which is guided by "Service Above Self". May the moments we share today and in future days become memories we treasure in future.

Christmas!

Merry

"How can I help you to fulfill your commitment to Rotary?"

GOALS ~ 2010 to 2011 ~ C.R. Daybreak Rotary
"Craig's List!"

1. Active involvement of all Rotarians ~ finding ways for each member to feel he/she can contribute.
2. Membership of 65 ~ focus: actively supporting our newest members.
3. Foundation goal of \$9 000.
4. Budget Framework ~ communicated to all club members
5. Daybreak Rotary Bylaws ~ commitment to review
6. Vision Plan ~ develop and follow the five year plan that affirms our service commitments and clarifies our future direction.
7. Club Leadership Plan ~ a framework for leadership continuity that draws upon the wisdom and experience of Past Presidents
8. Literacy ~ expand club literacy initiatives ~ focus on vulnerable young learners in our local community.
9. Rotary "Public Relations" ~ formal Public Relations Proposal for expanded public profile ~ develop a system to 'track' and communicate Rotary volunteer hours
10. World Community Service ~ continue outreach through projects such as Wheelchair Foundation, Naivasha Water and Sanitation Project, Shelterbox/Disaster Aid, Polio eradication ...
Continue to support the service initiatives that are meaningful to club members.