



# EYE OPENER

mouthpiece of the  
Rotary Club of West Vancouver Sunrise



Proceedings of the meeting on:  
April 24, 2003

## O Canada

**Invocation:** Mark.

### Guests/ Visitors:

- Gaile Lacy from the Post Polio Awareness and Support Society, thank you for coming.
- Glenda Tennyson also with the PPASS, welcome.
- Jaci McTavish, honorary Sunriser and District 5040 Secretary, great to see you again.
- Connie Gutierrez visiting with friend Michelle, thanks for joining us this morning.
- Don Wilson, Perth Ont., visiting with his brother Ken, welcome to the coast.

**Regrets:** Peter, Bruce, Tania, Klaus, and Janice.

### Club Business/ Announcements:

- Nico **welcomed** one and all.
- Michelle presented Vicki with her **membership package**.
- Nico announced that two **Rotarians from Sweden** will be visiting the North Shore soon; Jim and Joan will host our friends while they are here.
- The **Rotary Foundation Walk** takes place Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup> at Vanier Park in Vancouver (Kits Point near the MacBlo Planetarium).
- **Lions Gate Foundation:** our donation of two cribs to LGH will take place in June; Rotary Clubs in Cincinnati where the cribs are manufactured have been contacted and are working on our behalf to secure the best possible price for the equipment.
- Nico received a message from a **Rotarian in France** whose son is seeking summer employment in the Vancouver area, anyone with suggestions or ideas is asked to contact Nico.
- The **MS Supercities Walk** is Sunday 10am at Ambleside Park, see you there!
- **Book Drives:** both the West Van Rotaract and the District Conference organizers are seeking books to stock libraries. The Rotaract Club is helping to stock a library in Trinidad/Tobago and the District Conference is seeking children's books (ages 4 to 12 any subject) to distribute to the Howe Sound School District. Please bring any available books to

the next meeting.

- Jaci reminded the Club that despite the printing on the tickets the **Bichai Rattakul** dinner is Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> and not Wednesday.
- Jim and Hendrik will be conducting an auction at the **Fromme Playground fundraiser** at Argyle Secondary School Saturday Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>, anyone who is able to help out, please contact Jim or Hendrik.
- **Rotary Moment:** Tamara told us about some Rotary 'firsts': the first Significant Achievements Awards were given in 1969, the first Rotaract Club was started in Melbourne Florida, the first Rotary International Conference in the southern hemisphere was held in Rio de Janeiro, in 1954 Rotary copyrighted the 4 way test, the first year of the Rotary Foundation (64-65) \$1,000,000.00 was raised, the first disaster relief project was 1913 in Ohio after severe floods, and the first Rotary International convention ever was 1910 in Chicago.
- Val introduced Gaile Lacy and Glenda Tennyson, today's **guest speakers from the Post Polio Awareness and Support Society**. As most of us will remember Polio was a huge threat to humanity in the 1940's and 1950's when the epidemic took thousands of lives and crippled many more. Between 1947 and 1956 there were approximately 46,000 persons diagnosed with Polio in Canada alone. In 1955 Dr. Jonas Salk developed his famous vaccine and for the first time the spread of the disease was halted. The disease, which destroys motor neurons, results in crippling debilitation, weakness and paralysis. Gaile contracted Polio at the age of 9 and spent 5 months in the hospital and a further 3 years of rehabilitation. Glenda, born in Brazil, was struck by the disease at the age of 3. Post Polio Syndrome is the degeneration of healthy motor neurons that have worked overtime throughout the victim's life to compensate for those neurons destroyed by the initial onset of the disease. This 'recurrence' of Polio will likely affect up to 30% of all Polio victims and more persons will be affected in time. In 1986 the Society was formed

to help those affected to cope with the syndrome and to provide support and awareness programs. There are now between 600 and 700 members of the Society in British Columbia in 46 area groups. A 'Post Polio' clinic has been established at the University of British Columbia. While there is no known cure or therapy the most important thing for those affected is rest and to conserve energy

whenever possible. For more information on this situation the Society's website is at [www.ppass.bc.ca](http://www.ppass.bc.ca). Michelle thanked Gaile and Glenda for speaking to us today.

- **50/50/ happy/ sad:** Hendrik, no winner.

**Meeting adjourned.**



Michelle (*right*) thanking our speakers Glenda Tennyson (*left*) and Gaile Lacy (*middle*) for speaking to us about post-polio awareness.



Well ... "The Wilson Brothers" – Jim just couldn't convince them to sing for us! (Don Wright on the left, visiting his with his brother, Ken).

## WHAT IS HAPPENING THIS WEEK?

### MS Walk

Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 10 am, West Vancouver, Ambleside Park.

### West Vancouver Sunrise Club Social

Ambleside Park OR Mark's House (weather permitting) - ± 12 pm (after the MS Walk).

## SPEAKERS PROGRAM

Date	Speaker/ Event	Topic/ Title/ Venue
<b>APR</b>	<b>"The Rotarian" MAGAZINE MONTH</b>	
1-May-03	Nancy McKay	Living an Extraordinary Life
02-May-03	<b>RI President Bichai Rattakul speaks in Vancouver</b>	
8-May-03	Vocational talk	Vicki Haller
10-May-03	Latin Fiesta (West Vancouver Rotary Club – Contact Heidi Schmidt)	
14-May-02	Board meeting	
15-May-03	Club Business Meeting (Sonia Wolowidnyk)	
18-19 May-03	GSE Team from South Korea visiting the North Shore	

*Words – Mark Ferrari; Publishing – Michelle Rudert*