

Rotary Club of Sussex Inc.

P O Box 7004, Sussex Corner, NB E4E 5M3

www.sussexrotary.org

Club # 6355 / District # 7810

Cowbell

Date: February 17, 2014

Attendance: Wendy, Bob T, Robert L, Robert D, Robert K, Rhoda, Donna, Bob B., Andrew, Peter, Scott., Beverly Lyons, Keith Lyons.

Regrets: Kathy C., Lou, Bruce, Sandra, Matt, Terri, Harley.

Rotary Grace

Toast to the Queen

Meeting Chairperson Peter Haines welcomed all members and guests to the meeting.

Rotary Minute: Wendy spoke on her interaction with the new Rotary International website and the many many forums available to Rotary members with common interests in areas of hobby or interest. It is worth the review and sign up should anyone be interested in receiving further information on their personal interest and activities.

Guest Speaker: Kerry Allison, World Hope Organization.

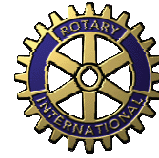
Bob B. introduces our guest speaker Mr. Kerry Allison of World Hope.

Kerry spoke of the Ukraine as a beautiful country located on the Black Sea and has a population of 45 million people. In 1991 the Ukrainian parliament adopted the Act of Independence. Since independence, Ukraine's economy has struggled as it moved from a planned economy to a market economy and consequently, the people are having difficulties. According to UNICEF, Ukraine has 80,000 children living in state-run orphanages with countless others living on the streets.

They are the most vulnerable group in a vulnerable nation, at high risk of drug addiction, HIV/AIDS and human trafficking. Since 2001, World Hope Canada has been working with our partner organization, World Hope Ukraine, to help alleviate this problem. Based in the port city of Odessa, World Hope Canada has launched a series of interventions to address the problems facing vulnerable children Ukraine.

Since Ukraine's independence, an estimated 120,000 young women have been trafficked from the Ukraine, mostly for the sex trade. One of the most vulnerable groups to trafficking are young women who are graduated from state-run orphanages at 16 years of age or who are living on the street.

Hope House is a transition home for young women, a place to belong and learn life skills, a place where others believe in you, as you complete your education. Under the loving supervision of a caring house mother, the girls who live here blossom in this positive environment.



Upon completion of their formal education, each girl is better prepared to live a successful life as a contributing member of Ukrainian society.

It has been a very successful program as evidenced by some of our graduates. In June 2010, four of the original girls graduated from university or college and have moved out. Two have continued on to Bible college

The new home is really coming along thanks to generous volunteers and donors and two are now employed. The need to provide for vulnerable children, especially girls, continues to be great and Kerry and his team continue on this valuable mission. With the success of the program becoming well known locally, we regularly receive requests to place girls at Hope House. We take new girls each spring / summer but we receive more requests than we can accommodate. In order to continue to meet the needs, we are building a second home.

Rhoda thanked Kerry for his interesting discussion on the World Hope Organization and his work on the Hope House in the Ukraine and presented him with a gift as a token of our appreciation.

Reports:

- ❖ **Secretaries Report:** Scott indicated the Club had received one item of correspondence received from the YMCA of Greater Moncton soliciting funding for an upcoming project in City of Campbellton to be forwarded to the Executive for consideration.
- ❖ **Trip Draw:** Robert D indicates the final push was successful. 4 Tickets remain unsold, with 12 outstanding amounts awaiting payment.
Early Bird draw scheduled for Thursday this week.
- ❖ **Web presence / Facebook Page:** Robert D reviewed with club members the success of the webpage launch and the progress in achieving a number of website hits and likes.
Robert L. indicates a new tab for the Charitable Trust Account has been added to the clubs website www.suusexrotary.org.
- ❖ **February 1^{8th} Brian Gallant confirmed as speaker:** Brief discussion on the status and that 7 confirmed participants from the Sussex and District Chamber of Commerce will attend this joint meeting.
- ❖ **Membership:** Roberts K. indicate his research into corporate membership structure continues. His research indicates the our club may be only the second club in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to implement this membership option.
- ❖ **Spring Dinner:** Rhoda provided the club with a update of the upcoming plan for each member.
Individual task will be assigned shortly.

Happy / Sad Bucks

50/50: Scott

Meeting Adjourned, 1:15 pm.

Stay tuned for the Next Cowbell!!!