

## **ROTARY CLUB OF KELOWNA -OKANAGAN MISSION**



### **MEETING NOTES AND NEWS LETTER**

#### **CREEKSIDE PUB AND GRILL**

**11 February 2019** Meeting called to order at 1800 Hrs. President Ken Kilcullen presiding

Duties for the meeting:

- **Greeter – Natoya Hall**
- **Anthem – Chris DeHart**
- **Rotary Moment – Steve Wolfenden**
- **Sheriff – Howard Peet**

**ATTENDANCE:** Active Members 12/22 - 55% attendance

**GUESTS:** Dave Albrecht, Harry Grossmith, Colin Pritchard, Brian Hooley, Kailen (Natoya's Son), Lindsey Oliver

#### **CLUB BUSINESS:**

- Thank you from Now Canada for the lady we sponsored for Christmas. We made her and her family's Christmas much better.
- Hawaiian night! Moved to Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>. Trixie has tickets available for \$30.00
- Meat Draw – License approved! Need help for February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Next meeting we will make the cheque presentation to The Boys and Girls Club and StarBright
- Trivia night – Sunday November 17<sup>th</sup> –
- Hippo roller – Thank Ross for sending the Cheque for this initiative
- Next RLI session is in Salmon Arm, March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and there are only 12 openings left. If you are interested please register on the district website
- District conference May 2-5<sup>th</sup>, would be great to have more members attend and represent us.
- Radio Days. Steve reporting: Last year produced about \$9000. We have a new form this year that is simpler. \$250 donation for rotary gets them a \$250 coupon for radio advertising. Steve will send the form by email to members to help us get people on board.
- Note about community funding requests: executives met and decided to process the funding requests once a year in May after which the recommendations will be brought to the club at the first meeting in May.

**SPEAKER:** Dave Albrecht, Has been an RN at KGH since 1992. He currently works on the thoracic surgical unit. Early on in his nursing career he developed a passion for working in the 3rd world. Dave, along with his wife and 2 daughters have volunteered in many places around the world, but have become particularly connected with the Mercy Ships Organization. Every year Dave volunteers 1-4 months onboard the Africa Mercy, which pulls into port of some of the poorest nations on the planet. He has come here today to share a little bit more about Mercy Ships.

- Salimatu: survivor from war and fleeing her village. They cut off both of her legs and one of her buttocks. She came aboard the Mercy Ship to get help. She was a life changer for Dave when she inquired about his well being when she was recovering from her injuries. Those 3 words 'How are you' changed him forever.
- Mercy Ships taught Salimatu sewing skills while she was recovering onboard so she could then provide for her family
- Bring Hope and Healing to the world is their motto
- Largest civilian hospital ship in the world: Africa Mercy
- 5 operating rooms, 1200 surgeries every year, wards for 90 patients
- 450 volunteer crew from over 50 nations
- How it works: ship pulls in to an African port, word spreads and screening day is established. People line up by the thousands to get screened
- Specialty is maxilo facial surgeries
- The 450 crew members donate blood to help with surgeries
- Dr. Mark Shrime, Harvard medical professor, he is a volunteer surgeon on the Mercy ships and is passionate about making surgery available to people. 30% of global death can be attributed to lack of proper surgery. That's 5 billion people who don't have access to safe and effective surgery.
- In the 3<sup>rd</sup> world, there is a massive lack of trained medical personal. 1 doctor for about 20,000 people.
- 90% of the doctors in Zambia leave their country to go practice elsewhere
- Mercy ships wants to train local people so that when the ship leaves the locals are better off. Increase the level of health care deliver in Africa

Natoya won the 50/50. Congrats!

Laurie Gaymer: Toast and Adjourn

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 19h 35

Next Meeting: February 25th – Business Meeting

Christine Boisseau, OKM Secretary