

# **The Four Way Flasher**



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# Website: MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

	Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Virtual Meeting				
President: Patrick Dobbyn F	Phone: 604-356-0923	E-mail the President			
Secretary: Lynda Lawrence	Phone: 604-868-4674	E-mail the Secretary			
Editor: Peter Boekhorst F	Phone: 604-462-0377	E-mail the Editor	SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES		

## **JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH**

## **D5050 GOVERNOR'S REMARKS**

Vocational Service is difficult to define, so it is sometimes called the "Forgotten Avenue of Service." One reason is that Club, Community, International and Youth Service activities usually involve groups of Rotarians. They enjoy the fellowship, the satisfaction of serving the needs of their communities, and the hope that their International Service promotes world peace and understanding. But Vocational Service – the second Avenue of Service -- is generally conducted by individual members. **DG Bu** 

Happy Birthday				Happy Anniversary				
	Jan 13: Matt DeBru	iyn						
UPCOMING SPEAKERS:								
Jan 11:	Patrick Dobbyn	Jan 18:	Shashanka Vangari	Jan 25:	Clint Callison			
	Leif Sustainability		Who's Who	ไทรเ	urance and Natural Disasters			

## **RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



One of Rotary's founding principles was to use your vocation — whether as a doctor, lawyer, engineer, or another profession — to do good in the world. As we attempt to overcome and recover from the pandemic, this principle is vital in retraining people who have lost their jobs. In response, the Rotary E-Club of Tamar Hong Kong organized seminars for young people, with the

aim of preparing them for the changing world of work.

This type of training must happen on a large scale. According to the United Nations, global unemployment is expected to exceed 200 million people in 2022. Women and youths are likely to be disproportionately affected.

This is why I've placed such a strong emphasis this year on projects that empower girls, and I've been delighted to see some of these projects in action. Of course, access to education and the path to employment can be blocked by a lack of water and sanitation infrastructure.

A project in Pune, India, focuses on providing girls and women with an affordable, reusable sanitary pad. The project provides employment for production and distribution of the pads, and it will reduce the pollution caused by the disposal of 12.3 billion sanitary napkins in the country annually, many of which end up in India's landfills.

Others have used vocational service to advance the empowerment of women. The Rotary Club of Poona, India, conducted workshops to teach martial arts to young women, for self-defense against the threat of abuse or human trafficking.

I've also been fortunate to use my vocation to do good through Rotary. The Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 devastated the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, which are part of my district. Thousands of homes were destroyed, and many areas lost electricity and running water. On my visit to Little Andaman Island, the builder in me immediately wanted to build homes for the homeless islanders there. We decided to construct 500 homes on Little Andaman.

On the last of my seven trips to the island, I could see something glimmering below as my helicopter was about to land. I realized that what I was seeing were the roofs of new homes. I was overjoyed by the sight, and soon a realization dawned upon me. As a builder I had built many beautiful buildings. In comparison, these 500 homes were the most ordinary buildings I had ever built, and they were in a place I likely will never visit again, for people I will never meet again. And yet the satisfaction I had in handing over these houses was greater than from anything I had previously built. Probably because for once I was using my vocation to *Serve to Change Lives*.

You, too, may have had opportunities to use your vocation to *Serve to Change Lives*. I welcome your stories of performing vocational service through Rotary. Also, I want to close by congratulating every club that has engaged with the Each One, Bring One initiative, which asks every member to introduce one person to Rotary. Increasing our membership gives people from all walks of life the opportunity to share their knowledge and skills in transformational service.

### Shekhar Mehta - RI President 2021-2022

#### **OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

**President Patrick Dobbyn** presided. This meeting was held via Zoom only. (There was no speaker for today's meeting.)

#### Fine Master – Ineke Boekhorst

**Ineke** posed the following three questions, and the amount of fines payable depended on how many questions we got correct.

Firstly, what are the two official Rotary Mottos?

#### Answer:

#### Service Above Self and One Profits Most Who Serves Best.

These mottos can be traced back to the early days of the Rotary organization. In 1911, the second Rotary Convention, held in Portland, Oregon, approved "He Profits Most Who Serves Best" as the Rotary motto.

**Secondly**, name a minimum of three famous persons who were Rotarians:

Answer:

- John F. Kennedy
- Franklin D. Roosevelt
- Konrad Adenauer (former German Chancellor)
- Neil Armstrong (American astronaut)
- Angela Merkel (German Chancellor)
- Nicolas Sarkozy (French President)
- Margaret Thatcher (former British Prime Minister)
- Lance Armstrong (cyclist and multiple Tour de France winner)
- Colonel Saunders (Founder KFC)
- Walt Disney (American film producer)
- Bill Gates (American software entrepreneur)
- Ronald Reagan (former U.S. President)
- George W. Bush (former U.S. President)
- Richard Nixon (former U.S. President)
- Prince Rainier III (Prince of Monaco)
- Hassan II (King of Morocco)

**Thirdly**, Name the First woman in Rotary:

#### Answer:

July 1, 1987 – Sylvia Whitlock begins her term as the first official woman President of a Rotary Club.

**February 1987** – Duarte Club President-Elect, Sylvia Whitlock attends a President Elect Training Seminar (PETS), the only woman with over 300 men. "I actually felt quite welcome!" she said.

**1988** – The Rotary International Board recognizes the right of Rotary clubs in Canada to admit women.

**June 1988** – Duarte President, Sylvia Whitlock, and Seattle-International District President-Elect, Karilyn van Soest, attend the Rotary International Convention in Philadelphia.

July 1, 1989 – RI Council on Legislation Changes take effect, and women are officially welcomed into Rotary.

July 1, 1995 – Eight women take office as District Governors.

FUN FACT about Rotary: ROTARY'S WHEEL EMBLEM:

A wheel has been the symbol of Rotary since our earliest days. The first design was made by Chicago Rotarian Montague Bear, an engraver who drew a simple wagon wheel, with a few lines to show dust and motion. The wheel was said to illustrate "Civilization and Movement." Most of the early clubs



had some form of wagon wheel on their publications and letterheads.

Finally, in 1922, it was decided that all Rotary clubs should adopt a single design as the exclusive emblem of Rotarians. Thus, in 1923, the present gear wheel, with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by the "Rotary International Association." A group of engineers advised that the geared wheel was mechanically unsound and would not work without a "keyway" in the center of the gear to attach it to a power shaft. So, in 1923 the keyway was added and the design which we now know was formally adopted as the official Rotary International emblem.

## Happy and Sad Dollars



**Walter** advised that his mother passed away on December 19, 2021 after a long illness. He paid tribute to his mother who was left as a single parent when her husband died in an industrial accident (Walter was seven, and his brother was four and Sister was three years old).

**Dave Rempel** with the help of his sister has completed a book about his mother entitled "Never Complain", which was what she always said - notwithstanding her hard life living in Russia in the midst of the Second World War and finally making it to Canada with her very young family. Dave is placing the book in the library of the Mennonite Historical Society in Abbotsford, of which he is a member.



**Libby** was simply happy that she was able to get out of her house for the first time in about 10 days because of the snow conditions.



**Ineke** noted that the schools in School District 42 are closed this week, but the school district has decided that they didn't want to interrupt the food delivery provided by the Starfish Program. Therefore, food packaging and delivery will take place this week, with the school district making arrangements to either have the parents pick up the food packages, or have school personnel deliver them to the homes of the recipients.



**Matt** is leaving for warmer climates in the United States and will be back in April. Unfortunately because of Covid, there was a cancellation of some friends getting together to have a final farewell glass of wine.

## <u>Reports</u>

Our treasurer **Walter** gave a brief report on the club's financial situation, and pointed out that we have funds that need to be dispersed to comply with the gaming regulations. Mike noted that there have been requests from the Hospital Foundation to provide funding for high-cost medical equipment, and the Starfish Program is in need of funds. The executive will therefore have to give some direction regarding the expenditure of funds on these programs.

**Ineke** was happy that the Christmas seniors' event was a great success, and the senior recipients were very appreciative of these efforts, as evidenced by the reception that Peter and their son Kim and their grandchildren received when they delivered the packages. President Patrick also noted that one lady said that the package that she received was the only one she received for Christmas, and she was praising the many people within our community that offers help throughout the year. Patrick also noted that when he went to peel potatoes to help with the Christmas dinner prepared by the Salvation Army, he was working alongside an 87-year-old lady who goes to the Salvation Army three times a week where she puts in a 3-to-4-hour shift to help prepare food for other members of our community who are in need.

The chair and members of the Duck Race committee and the Wine Fest will be meeting and reporting to the club on these fundraising activities, which will again be limited in 2022 as a result of the Corona virus.



Submitted by Laurie Anderson