



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

President: Brenda Jenkins
Secretary: Libby Nelson
Editor: Peter Boekhorst

Phone: 604-816-6961
Phone: 604-868-4674
Phone: 604-462-0377

[E-mail the President](#)
[E-mail the Secretary](#)
[E-mail the Editor](#)



JULY IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
July 10: Eric Mollema	

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

July 4	July 11:	July 18:
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RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Even as we face new and serious challenges, Rotary takes care of its members and those we serve, works to build lasting peace, and embeds belonging and inclusion in everything we do. That is why I am asking everyone in Rotary to *Create Hope in the World*.

This year, we're prioritizing projects to support mental health. This effort is deeply personal to me. I know what it's like to see someone suffer in silence. I have also witnessed the power of personal connections, the value of discussing emotional and mental well-being, and the lifesaving impact of preventive care and treatment.

Research shows that performing acts of kindness is an effective step any of us can take to protect our well-being. And by building peace within, we become more capable of bringing peace to the world.

Building peace is the essence of Rotary. Many of our service projects foster the conditions for Positive Peace. We work tirelessly to overcome barriers and create new connections. This year, we'll promote virtual international exchanges for members to strengthen those vital connections.

Peace isn't a dream, and it's not passive. It's the result of working hard, earning trust, and having open conversations that may be difficult. Peace must be waged persistently — and bravely. Everything we do across our areas of focus has the potential to foster the hope that can make peace possible.

The spirit of connection and purpose should inspire every Rotary member. When club leaders focus on offering an excellent club experience, we retain more members and attract more prospective members. We must make our clubs as welcoming and as engaging as we can.

Our goal is to create a sense of belonging, from our club meetings to our service activities. We need to continue creating inclusive, welcoming environments where everyone can be their authentic selves. All people of action need to be able to imagine a place for themselves in Rotary — it's up to us to ensure they can do so.

Over the next year, I will be putting a focus on continuing our journey in diversity, equity, and inclusion — ensuring that Rotary reflects the communities we serve and continues to take significant steps toward accessing the full range of human talents and experiences, so that we can better serve humanity. And we will continue to empower women and girls by helping them unlock the potential already within them.

As we begin this journey together, I take inspiration from Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns, who in the 18th century spoke of all the world becoming kin, promoting "sense and worth, over all the earth." This has long been my call to action, and I share it now with you.

Let us build peace within and spread it freely. Let us create belonging and imagine the future of Rotary afresh. Let us work together joyously and *Create Hope in the World*.

R. Gordon R. McInally
President 2023-24

**MEADOW RIDGE ROTARY 30+ ANNIVERSARY AND
INSTALLATION OF 2023/24 EXECUTIVE - JUNE 27, 2023**



70 Rotarians, past members and friends celebrated the 30-year Anniversary of Meadow Ridge Rotary Club (delayed 3 years because of COVID!) at the Meadow Gardens Golf Club. Chatter was constant as old friendships were renewed, and memories shared of the fun times and hard work of service locally and worldwide.

The formal part of the meeting commenced with the following invocation/inspirational thought, given by Matt DeBruyn:

"Thirty years! As our Rotary Club celebrates its 30th anniversary, we can proudly look back at 30 successful years. We have served our community well.

The fact that we are a vibrant, humanitarian service club today is contributable to our combined synergy and to the long-lasting foundation that members before us and with us have laid and maintained. We are very thankful for that.

What about the future? The future will be bright if we want it to be. On the inside, within our own club - from time to time - we will have to make some important and difficult decisions.

Towards the outside, we Rotarians, by our humanitarian and ethical approach to life should be an example for the rest of the world. We have been given some powerful tools to help us with that.

First, we have our motto "Service above Self". I remember the words that Bob Shantz gave us: "I wish that I will always recognize that service to others will be the measure of my worth, when the final balance of my life is struck."

Secondly we have "the Four Way Test": which reads:

We ask of all the things we think, say or do -

- ✓ Is it the TRUTH?
- ✓ Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- ✓ Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- ✓ Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Let's remember our motto ! and
Let's use the Four Way Test !

May we keep our energy, our camaraderie and our focus on service and honesty, and we will have another 30 fantastic years!

Amen"

Rotary in Action was featured in a slide show prepared by Mike Davies, and running on a loop throughout the evening. Also on display were photo boards of various events and projects of Meadow Ridge Rotary, and 5 books of 3 decades of the club bulletin – "The Four Way Flasher".

The club has published the club history, in beautiful book form, available for purchase. Thank you to the past presidents, and the past and present members who contributed to this project. A special thank you to Eric Mollema for collating the material and to Laurie Anderson for all his help in bringing the book to print. The Maple Ridge Museum will receive a copy to include in the club archives and the Pitt Meadows Museum will also be presented with a copy of the book.

Rotarian Mark Vosper was Master of Ceremonies for the evening. The meeting was called to order, and special guests were introduced: Guest Speaker Joan and Terry Toone,



Club Charter Members (l-r):

Gordon and Mary Robson, David Boyce and Ken Paterson,

Former members of the club:



Diane Kirkland, Alex Kempenaar (from Prince George), Don and Debbie Pearce, Dr. Frank Ervin, Rick Carruthers, Donna Telep, Irena Shantz and Liz Attarmigirian;

And then of course there were the current members:



(Where is the photographer?)

Also attending were President Jesse Sidhu of Haney Rotary, Werner Ferreira incoming President Golden Ears Sunrise Rotary and Erin Osterberg, President of the Mission Mid-day Club.

After dinner, MC Mark introduced Rotarian Mike Davies for the 30th Anniversary Presentation.

Mike shared a lot of information about the Club's first 30 years, and he had a bit of particular fun with Charter Member Ken Paterson, in McKeachie style.

A video of Mike's presentation is available in Drop Box.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/z9p96pmn5vclx84/2023-06-27%2019.48.28.mov?dl=0>

MEADOW RIDGE ROTARY



CHARTER NIGHT MARCH 3, 1990

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club was chartered on March 3, 1990 at Meadow Gardens, with a membership of 31. The club was sponsored by the Haney Rotary Club. Over the years the club, membership has included some 220 individuals. Today we are a membership of 30.

Our Tuesday noon meeting place has moved a number of times. We have had 3 main lunch venues for some 1500 lunch meetings: the Gourmet Hideaway overlooking the Fraser River, the Bella Vita Restaurant on Lougheed Highway, and presently at Meadow Gardens Golf Club.

So much of the work of the Club is made possible by the community response to our fundraising efforts in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. From the old days of bingo, through Sports Banquets and Home Town Heroes, auctions, garage sales, Wine Fests, and the Duck Race. From individuals, communities, playgrounds and schools, to a jail in Belize the results of Rotarians' "service above self" are really astounding. Mike highlighted just some of the projects within our areas of service:

Community Service: assisted development of School playgrounds and Sports fields, provided music and sports equipment, sponsored community events like Music on the Wharf, and community needs like the Hub Program Tents. The Star Fish program provides weekend food for needy children – now more than 270 each week throughout the school year. And Rotarian Matt DeBruyn and volunteer Warren Dale provided 409 seniors with 2 laminated copies of their COVID Vaccination cards. These cards were used as proof of vaccination to gain admission to various places of business during those tough years of COVID isolation.

Vocational Service: Esteem Team, Dictionary distribution and 4Way Test (ethics program) in schools, and the annual School bursary programs.

International Service: projects in Russia, providing clean water, the Shelter Box program which provides emergency survival kits including tents and daily living needs for families, and perhaps the largest emphasis - Rotary's END POLIO program.

New Generations Service: has seen a wonderful stream of International Exchange students to and from Canada, training opportunities for youth at Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) and Youth Adventures in Leadership (YAIL) camps, and awards for Fire Youth Academy in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

Club Service: responsible for the year-round running of the Club. But Rotary isn't all work. Fun and fellowship are vital to the camaraderie and enjoyment of being and working together. Lots of laughter was shared from stories about Club events like Annual Camping, Fireside evenings, Celebration dinners at members' homes, Sunday Walking and Horseback Riding.

Rotary clubs are all a part of Rotary International, a world-wide organization. Their Rotary Foundation funds projects and programs which improve and invigorate the lives of people around the world and enhance international friendship and understanding. A gift of US\$1,000 to the Foundation can be recognized with a Paul Harris Fellowship Award, with the presentation of a certificate and a Paul Harris pin. Multiple Paul Harris Fellow Recognitions are extended at all subsequent \$1,000 levels. These recognitions consist of a pin with stones corresponding to the recipient's recognition amount.

Our club has presented 64 member Rotarians and 17 non-Rotarian community members with Paul Harris Fellowships, in appreciation of their continued support of Meadow Ridge Rotary.

This year, in honour of our 30 years of Rotary, we recognize 2 club members for their continued long-term contributions to the club, with the presentation of a Paul Harris (PH) pin:

PH +3: Peter Boekhorst joined in November, 2000. His expertise is invaluable as he creates beautiful logos and posters, publishes the 4 Way Flasher every week, set up and maintains the Club Web Site, is the Club photographer with a picture collection of almost 9,000, and he is **always** willing to help – pick up, deliver, arrange storage... just to name some of Peter's contributions to the club.

PH +4: Walter Volpatti joined in December, 2003. He has been the Club Treasurer since 2006-07 and continues to this day. He is the Money Manager for all the various and special projects that Rotary is involved in like the "Ukrainian project", Wine Fest and Duck Race funds, Rotary Foundation donations, and the Club Foundation. And he is a grant application writer extraordinaire – being successful with a grant of over \$40,000 each year from BC Gaming funds.

Meadow Ridge Rotary has established standards for the club to consider annual awards of a Paul Harris Fellow and this year Mike made the following presentations:

PH +2 to Patrick O'Brien who has achieved 900 plus points towards a Paul Harris Fellow, and the club topped up to reach the 1,000 points.

A Paul Harris Fellow to outgoing president Chili Yalamanchili for his leadership and work during his year as President.

Mike wrapped up his 30-year Presentation with the comment that the club has accomplished some amazing things over the past 30 years in the name of Rotary, and he invited all to stand to give ourselves a standing applause for work "well done" and "Service above Self".

President Chili Yalamanchili and Club Service Director Adrienne Dale came to the podium for presentation of other Annual Awards.

Each year, the outgoing president is invited to name a Rotarian to receive the Paul Harris Fellow Award.

Chili presented this award to Brenda Jenkins for her outstanding help throughout the year, with all things Rotary.

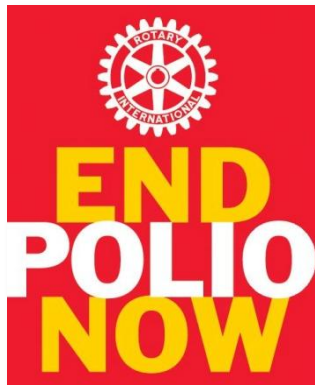


Chili then presented the Marco Terwiel Rotarian of the Year Award and surprised Adrienne Dale by presenting it to her, for her outstanding contribution to the club this year – and in many previous years. Adrienne never stops planning for club events for members to keep up connection with each other through fun events and get-togethers, as well as her continuous work over the years to

schedule speakers and programs for club meetings.

Every year, Adrienne plans the Installation Event, and does it beautifully, as well as assisting the presidents to prepare their awards for members (but not this year!).

Brenda Jenkins introduced the Guest Speaker Joan Toone, a Rotarian from Victoria.



Joan shared her heart-breaking story of her experience contracting Polio as a small child. In hospital for 3 months, in isolation and unable to see her parents, Joan's only – and so well-loved and cuddled – companion was her very special doll Mary. We could feel Joan's pain even now, as she remembered her utter sadness when her beautiful doll could not be disinfected, and had to be destroyed.

Both she and her brother were hospitalized with the disease and her brother later passed from the after-effects. Joan compared Polio to the recent Coronavirus pandemic and the aftermath of the diseases and the effects on families that have survived. It was a heart-rending story and I don't think there was a dry eye in the room.

Joan provided comprehensive information about the progress to immunize the world against Polio. Only the Wild Virus remains now, and it will likely be 4-5 years till the world is truly clear. Joan mentioned the support of the Gates Foundation and quoted Bill Gates: "Polio will be destroyed, and that is due to Rotary".

It is stories like Joan's that inspire Rotarians and friends world-wide to continue to give support and to fight to **END POLIO NOW**.

MC Mark introduced ADG Ken Holland who installed the 2023/2024 executive:

- President - Brenda Jenkins,
- Past President - Chili Yalamanchili,
- President Elect - Laurie Anderson (absent due to illness),
- Secretary - Libby Nelson,
- Treasurer - Walter Volpatti,

and 5 Directors:

- Club Service - Adrienne Dale,
- Community Service - Mike Davies,
- International Service - Ineke Boekhorst,
- New Generations - Sharon Kyle and
- Vocational Services - Mark Vosper.



MC Mark Vosper introduced new President Brenda who expressed her deep appreciation to the Club, and her excitement at what lies ahead for Meadow Ridge Rotary, with such a committed and active group of Rotarians ready to have fun as they **Create Hope** in the World.

After the event, outgoing President Chili sent this congratulatory message to the club:

"What a great night this has been! Brenda truly deserved all the praise and the amazing turnout. A big thank you to Mark for keeping the event running smoothly. Mike's speech about our club's past 30 years was really insightful. I'm so proud to be part of this club, especially knowing Brenda is now leading us. We missed Laurie tonight, but the 30th Anniversary book and all the old Four Way Flasher books since 1996 are really cool. Thanks everyone for making this a night to remember."

Submitted by Libby Nelson and Lynda Lawrence