

The Four Way Flasher



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Website: MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

	Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon			
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NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Dec 19:

Dec 12:

Meadow Ridge Rotary AGM

No Speaker **Christmas Present Exchange**

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Brenda Jenkins presided.

Guests:

Barbara Pope – wife of Alex Susan Pynn - friend of Brenda (and of Rotary) Peter Lattey (speaker) Dr. Vicki Radel (spouse of our speaker)

Dr. Vicki Radel is a PDG of District 5280 in Los Angeles, and currently vice president of the Redondo Beach, California, Rotary Club. She is a dedicated conflict resolution specialist of over 30 years. She graduated from The University of California with a PhD



in Psychology. She has postgraduate certification in non-violence from Harvard University. Dr. Vicki has received many honors for her service and contributions to peace and her community, and serves on the Board of Directors for several non-profits.

Program: Peter Lattey - Rotary Water Project and Safari in Kenya



About our speaker Peter Lattey

"Architect by profession, humanitarian and adventurer by inclination, our speaker Peter Lattey has sailed across the Pacific from Australia for pleasure and traveled to Kenya on multiple occasions to help provide clean water and more for villages in need. He is passionate about the humanitarian work of Rotary."

Peter was born in Vernon, BC, and was a former member of the Comox Rotary Club where, in 1990, he was their International Service chair. In 1999 he moved to California where he carried on his practice as an architect. He has a home in Los Angeles but also a home in Burnaby. He is a Past President and International Services chair of the Rotary Club of Redondo Beach, California.

Peter is also a member of The Rotary Foundation's Cadre of Technical Advisors that supports the Rotary Humanitarian Grants Program. The Cadre is a group of volunteer Rotarians who provide technical expertise and advice to Rotarians planning and carrying out Rotary grant projects around the world. Cadre members serve in countries other than their own, and they conduct on-site project visits for two to three days with written reports upon their return. Peter spearheaded a multi-year \$200,000 program to provide clean water, latrines and hand wash stations to 28 primary schools with over 15,000 students in Migori, Kenya. The program also established a woman owned business to make and sell washable sanitary pads to women in the community and girls in the schools.

For today's program, Peter showed us a video and talked to us about a water project in the Seme Kaima village, Migori, Kenya, where Peter travelled in July 2023, and about a further planned trip there that will include a Safari, in July 2024. (See the note at the end of this newsletter about the planned 2024 trip.) Peter said we take water for granted, but in Kenya this is not so. Prior to the installation of the new wells, the local people had to walk to the river where they washed their clothes, gave drink to their animals, and got their unsanitary drinking water.



Through a global grant, Rotary drilled two wells and installed two water towers and set up a water kiosk. Solar panels on the top of the water tower power the water pump.

35,000 People were impacted by this effort, which was made possible by the support from about 20 clubs. The project affected two villages and cost approximately \$66,000 US.

The following article appeared in the Kenya news agency paper:



Homa Bay Governor Gladys Wanga and Rotary International member Peter Lattey inside a water Kiosk after launching one of the Seme Kaima water project at Ambus Chiefs Camp.

County Governor Gladys Wanga has lauded the Rotary International community for implementing two Water projects in Seme Kaima area of Rachuonyo North Sub County. Wanga said this initiative would go a long way in alleviating the serious Water shortage in the area and also containing stubborn water-related diseases that have faced the local population over the years.



The governor told the benefiting communities to jealously guard the two projects to ensure their sustainability. The projects were funded by the Rotary International community in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Suna Migori. The projects are expected to supply a total of 30,000 cubic metres of water per hour to a population of about 12,000 people. Rotary International, led by Peter Lattey, assured the communities living in Homa Bay and Migori that they would continue to assist them so as to improve sanitation within their areas. He said that Rotary clubs do service above self and would not tire to see lives of people protected, especially from opportunistic diseases related to a lack of hygiene. Rotary International has been engaging in promotion of sanitation in Migori and Homa Bay counties through sinking of boreholes and provision of water tanks in schools to ensure a constant supply of clean water to students and teachers. "We have also constructed modern latrines in various schools and provided sanitary towels to learning girls to allow them to stick to class," he said. The team is also keen on protecting the environment by planting thousands of tree seedlings. However, the Rotarian warned the benefiting communities not to allow donor-funded projects done in their respective areas to collapse but to strive to own them by paying some small monies to make them sustainable. "We always insist on ownership of projects by the recipient communities," stressed Lattey.

The following is a report made by Peter during his trip to Kenya (as published in the Club Runner):

It has been a week now since I arrived jet lagged and weary in Migori, Kenya. It has all been good so far. My Rotary friends in Migori have been great hosts. In fact, everyone in Kenya has been friendly, helpful and a delight to deal with.

Migori is a small market town about 30 km from the Tanzania border and 50 km from Lake Victoria. The "downtown" is about 12 city blocks of very intense commercial activity. The Kenyans really hustle when it comes to business. Beyond the downtown, it is more suburban which merges into small farms.

I get around town by walking or paying for a ride on the back of a motorcycle. I value my safety so won't ride on a bike with more than three people on it. For trips out of town, we take a taxi. These get a little crowded. Did you know you can carry 11 or 12 people in a small Toyota station wagon? Easy. You put 4 in the front, 5 in the back seat and 2 or 3 more in the space behind the back seat.

I flew into Kisumu airport and was met by three Rotarians. We took off right away for Kisii, for a Rotary meeting there. By the time we left about 5:00 it was pouring rain. This probably was a factor in the truck running into the back of us and going off the road into a creek bed. Nobody was hurt and another car drove us the rest of the way to Migori where I checked into the Bliss Park Hotel. Not quite the Hilton, but the room was clean, the staff very friendly, and the price was \$16 per night including a full breakfast in the dining room.

Tuesday morning, the Rotarians took me on a tour of the four schools and clinic where we are installing the rainwater harvesting systems. We reviewed the work progress and worked out a few unresolved technical issues. The Migori Rotarians have done an amazing job. The money was approved at the start of August. Now, two months later, the tanks are in place and partly filled with water and the latrines are about 90% complete.

One of the schools, the Adugo Primary School, was built by the community and just opened. It has four classes with 120 students in two classrooms. At the start of August they had no electricity and no water. When a child was thirsty, they walked 1.5 km down the hill to a creek with bad water. Sometimes they just hung out there, sometimes they got diarrhea and stayed home for a couple of days. Now there are three 2,500-gallon tanks with clean rainwater right outside the school door. Attendance is up, enrollment is up and everyone is very happy. The people from the community are also coming to the school to get their drinking water. Everyone is getting less diarrhea. It is hard to express how good this makes me feel. The photo of the kids at the water tap may help you understand.



Lots of happy kids. <u>I am the tall guy in the middle of the mob</u>. We are waiting for the delivery of one more tank this week. Then we will install it, paint the Rotary logo on the tanks and have an official opening ceremony.

I visited a co-operative school/workshop, run by a Rotarian, like nothing I have ever seen before. They train about 20 students at a time in sheet metal work, stove making, car repair, sewing and welding. After they are trained, the graduates get a little workshop where they can have a business plying their trade. It is an incredibly noisy, industrious place. The students come in with no shoes and leave with a job, a business, a life and a way to buy a house and raise a family. It is a crazy wonderful place.

I am taking a few days to visit the Masai Mara game preserve. This is a northern extension of the Serengeti. I have seen herds of zebra, giraffes, elands, Cape buffalo and antelope. And that was in the 3 miles from the lodge to the entry to the park!!!

Happy and Sad Dollars

There were a lot of happy and sad dollars today, that included the following:

Ken Holland echoed the sentiments of the Jimmy Cliff song:



I can see clearly now the rain is gone I can see all obstacles in my way Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind

It's gonna be a bright (bright) Bright (bright) sunshiny day

But it wasn't the rain clouds that kept Ken from seeing clearly -Ken can see clearly now because he recently underwent successful cataract surgery.



Adrienne Dale, on the other hand, wasn't seeing so clearly when she was leaving a party the other day - she went home in someone else's shoes.



Was it the lack of eye glasses or the plethora of (wine) glasses that was the problem?

Laurie Anderson tried to get out of being the President-Elect, not on account of early signs of macular degeneration, but rather by claiming early signs of dementia. He proffered Ineke as a witness, who heard him refer to her as Lynda when he meant Ineke, and he admitted to forgetting to renew his driver's license on his last birthday.



A Thank You Chances Casino Maple Ridge!

Ineke advises that our Club received a \$3,000 cheque from Kelly Brunt, HR Advisor with Great Canadian Casino.

Kelly came to our Starfish Packing session on Tuesday Dec. 5th and personally delivered the cheque. Chances Maple Ridge has been super supportive over the years, by volunteering regularly and donating funding towards the MR/PM Starfish Pack Program.





to everyone at Chances Casino Maple Ridge: Thank You so much for your continued support. It is very much appreciated!

President's Quote for the Week:

Best Friends

They know how crazy you are and still choose to be seen with you in public.



Submitted by Laurie Anderson

CLUB CALENDAR:

Dec 13 - Senior's luncheon (vege prep – Monday or Tuesday TBA)

Dec 16 - Xmas party at Callison's

Jan 27, 2024 - Grants Management Seminar Rotary Fieldhouse, South Surrey

Mar 2, 2024 - Grants Management Seminar Silver Reef Casino Resort

<u>Apr 13, 2024</u> - **District Assembly** - Kwantlen Polytechnic Langley Campus - new location!

An invitation to join the upcoming trip in July, 2024:



Peter Lattey is organizing another Rotary Safari to Kenya in July, 2024.

In addition to seeing the incredible wildlife, the group will visit the water project in the village that is getting clean water through a Rotary Global Grant.

KENYAN ROTARY SAFARI – JULY 2024

Do you want to come along on our next once-in-a-lifetime safari to Kenya?

I have been making the plans for the 2024 Safari and talking with hotels, Parks, Guides etc. I think we have an incredible safari planned, even better than this year's. And this year's Safari was amazing. We have the itinerary and plans made and are now ready to invite people to sign up for the Safari.

This will be a small group, between 15 to 20 people, so space will be limited.

We will be dedicating one of our Rotary water projects, planting trees with kids and seeing lots and lots of wonderful animals. If you are interested, let me know what other questions you have about the safari. Can you please pass this on to anyone who you think could be interested.

Peter Lattey - TRF Major Donor Rotary Cadre Member

International Service Chair, Rotary Club of Redondo Beach Past President, Rotary Club of Downtown Los Angeles Honorary Member, Rotary Club of Suna Migori peter@peterlattey.com

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