



President's Message

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Very often, the clothes we wear reflect our backgrounds and our cultures. Just look at the amazing array of traditional garb worn proudly by Rotarians at the RI Convention, International Assembly, and other major Rotary meetings. Although styles and customs may vary, Rotarians recognize that one common strand runs through all cultures: the ideal of service, the urge to help people in need, wherever they live.

Above: The agbada, sometimes adorned by heavy embroidery at ceremonial functions, is the three-piece flowing gown (with a matching hat) worn by the Yorubas of southwestern Nigeria.

In the months ahead, this column will showcase some of the traditional clothing that reflects Rotary's diversity in order to demonstrate that our clothes do not alter our common commitment to Service Above Self.

Through our theme for the year, I am asking Rotarians to *Lend a Hand*, not only to increase our membership but also to retain members. We can do this by creating in each club a family of Rotary committee, charged with making the Rotary experience more "family friendly." We should strive to welcome and

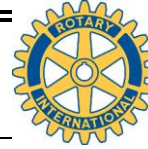
include non-Rotarian family members — spouses, adult children, widows, and widowers — as active participants in club activities and fellowship. The more hands we have, the more effective the services we render.

Today, millions of people subsist in abject poverty. In the world's poorest countries, men and women literally wear rags because they own no clothes, and children run naked, their emaciated bodies a testament to hunger. This grim scenario is not uncommon throughout the developing world, a fact that many Rotarians know well. In many nations of Africa, my homeland, poverty wears a very visible and wretched face. But poverty has many faces. In wealthier countries, its face may be concealed, making it easier to ignore. Yet almost every community has people in serious need. As Rotarians, we must open our eyes to see those around us who cannot afford shelter, health care, food, and other essentials. We must address these problems with compassion and pragmatism. I ask all Rotarians to make the alleviation of poverty our number-one aim.

Our other areas of emphasis, as described in the 2003-04 Presidential Citation, encourage us to *Lend a Hand* to address health concerns and promote literacy and education. This year, four RI task forces — Family of Rotary, Poverty Alleviation, Health Concerns, and Literacy and Education — stand ready to help all clubs and districts address these issues. And we must promote the programs of The Rotary Foundation of RI and maintain and expand the Foundation's financial resources.

This Rotary year is the 99th year of our existence as the most prestigious and oldest humanitarian organization on earth. What a delight that we can all help prepare for the celebration of our centennial, the eradication of polio, and the graduation of the first class of Rotary World Peace Scholars. I am confident that both individually and collectively, all of us can redouble our efforts to serve others in Rotary's next century if we *Lend a Hand*.

Jonathan Majiyagbe
President, Rotary International



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of
MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

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INVOCATION July 8: Laurie Anderson July 15: Dave Reekie

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
July 17	Ken Paterson	Al Graveson
August 14		Laurie Anderson

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or e-mail pboekhorst@telus.net

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Timo Juurakko, Asst Chief, MRFD -
Fire & Safety education

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Business meeting



**THIS IS THE FIRST MEETING UNDER
PRESIDENCY OF LAURIE ANDERSON**

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
July 11	6:30pm	Family Barbecue	Marco's home: 21616 River Road
July 19	8am	Presidential Celebration	Delta Airport Hotel

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$503 + 1/2 of today's sales, 30 cards, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!



Lend a Hand

LAST WEEKS MEETING

Last week we increased our role call by one more person. The new Rotarian in our club is Carol Bartolomie and it is important that we all make her feel welcome.

Fred Armstrong from the Haney Club reminded us to get our tickets for the Rotary Comedy Night, which will take place at the Arts Centre Theatre on Saturday July 5 at 7:00pm. The tickets are \$30.00 each and 110 are already sold.

Stan chaired his last meeting and gleefully if I may say so. Laurie begins his presidency in earnest on Tuesday July 8th when the guest speaker will be Asst Fire Chief Timo Juurakko speaking of Fire and Safety education. Does this mean that its going to be a "HOT" year Laurie?

Irena put in a HAPPY dollar to say that her and her family are heading to Europe for one month and she will try to send us a postcard now and again.

The 2nd Annual Italian Seratta was a huge success once again with 50 people attending and \$6,000 raised to go towards the new respirator at the Maple Ridge Hospital. A job well done to that committee.

Ineke announced that she has indeed sent out the application for a Centennial Project, which will be our work with the Twin Rinks Hockey Centre. If we get approved we can look forward to matching grants from Rotary!

Rick Carruthers purchased 2 tickets to the 86'ers game, donated by Gordie, and graciously donated \$20 to Polio Plus to have them. He was also our guest speaker and his topic was the new Secondary school he has been heavily involved with. Samuel Roberts Technical School is scheduled to begin classes in Sept 2004 and will be a very innovative approach to education in BC. It will be completely wireless, with some help from Bell and IBM and this makes it a one of a kind in the province. They will also be focusing on the students each year who do not carry on to post secondary education (75% of graduates) and trying to assist them to become more prepared for the work world or in some cases give them the first years credit towards a BCIT or VCC course. Some courses will be Chefs training with VCC faculty teaching the 2nd year portion of the course, Electrical, Plumbing, Woodworking, art, music etc. BCIT will be providing faculty for a lot of these courses and it will save the students from having to commute for an education at least in their first year and if plans continue to move forward, possibly right through to a diploma level in some courses.

There are many opportunities for Rotary to donate to this project and to have a specific area named for Rotary and Rick has given a complete package outlining these areas to Laurie and Dave for their and the clubs consideration.

As he stated when attending Parents meetings regarding this school, many responded positively by saying it was about time the schools went in this direction and indeed it does appear to be a very proactive positive step in the right direction.

Submitted by Debi Pearce



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 11: Debora Nosworthy

IT'S A ROTARY FAMILY AFFAIR BARBECUE

FRIDAY JULY 11, 6:30 PM AT MARCO TERWIEL'S HOME

This is an invitation for all MeadowRidge Rotary members and family. We are holding our annual Family Summer Barbecue. Bring your partner, your spouse, your friend, your children or grand-children, for a great barbecue and maybe play some bachee (if you feel like it)

LOCATION: Marco and Lila-Jane's home at 21616 River Road
(off Lougheed Hwy, turn south on 216th, east on River Road, house is on right hand side)

PLEASE BRING: a folding chair to sit on (if you have one)
and your choice of A SALAD OR A DESERT

Everything else will be provided and there is no cost to this Family Social.

Because of the time factor, we need your commitment today! Please fill out the sheet that will be circulated during this meeting

Thanks for your attention and hope to see you Friday July 11th at 6:30.....BRING THE FAMILY!
If you need any information, call Ineke at 604-465-3392

New RI president spells out Rotary's mission in 2003-04

RI President Jonathan B. Majiyagbe took office on 1 July with a call to Rotarians to place the family at the center of their quest for "Service Above Self," and consider it a touchstone of efforts to increase and retain membership.

"I am asking every club to form a Family of Rotary Committee to find more ways to create and nurture an atmosphere of warmth and caring," he said. "This greater sense of a family atmosphere within our clubs is so important to the overall health of Rotary. It will not only make our Rotary membership more meaningful, it will support the work we do outside of our clubs."

RI Centennial Project

Our club has identified the upgrade of the Ice Arena in Pitt Meadows as a Centennial Project. The main goal of the project is to make the building more energy efficient by converting the ice sheet base from sand to concrete (\$200,000) and by replacing and upgrading the roof insulation (\$300,000).

As you may know, the ice surface work has begun on one of the sheets, based on a \$25,000 donation made by the MeadowRidge Rotary Club, and a commitment of \$25,000 from the Haney Club.

The projected completion date for the first ice sheet is mid August. A ribbon cutting is possible for the beginning of September.

In recognition of our donations, the Ridge Meadows Arena Society would be honoured to have the facility known as the Rotary Arena and Sports Complex. The outside could have the RI Centennial logo, and the inside would have the Rotary Wheel in the centre ice positions of both main sheets.

We all look forward to the completion of this project as a celebration of Rotary International's 100th birthday.