President's Message



Dear fellow Rotarians,

A two- or three-piece suit is the standard business attire in Australia, just as it is in many other parts of the world. But one item of apparel is uniquely associated with the Land Down Under. I refer, of course, to the hat worn by actor Paul Hogan in the "Crocodile Dundee" movies.

Within the Rotary world, Australia also is closely linked to the popular Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program, which began at the district level in Queensland in 1960 and was adopted as a Rotary program at the RI Convention in Sydney in 1971.

Because September is New Generations Month on the Rotary calendar, this is the time for Rotarians to focus on the programs that support the development of youths and young adults. If we believe that young people are the leaders of tomorrow, we should *Lend a Hand* in molding them in the most beneficial ways possible. I encourage all clubs to use the slogan "Every Rotarian an example to youth" in club bulletins and publicity materials during New Generations Month.

It is also relevant to recall the Rotary Code of Policies, which states that Rotary clubs should provide a forum for young people to share their concerns, hopes, dreams, and ambitions, as well as their ideas for solutions to problems that beset them and their communities. It is essential that clubs and districts identify socially and economically disadvantaged youths with leadership potential and invite them to participate in RYLA.

Another important program is Rotaract, Rotary club-sponsored clubs for community-minded men and women between the ages of 18 and 30. Rotaractors are involved, energetic, and very committed to the Rotary ideal of service. Every Rotaractor is a potential Rotarian, so any Rotary club that does not already sponsor a Rotaract club should consider doing so this year. You will find Rotaractors' fresh ideas and perspectives to be most valuable, and when these young people eventually join you as full Rotarians, their presence will help energize and diversify your club.

Rotarians also promote the ideal of service to young people through the Interact club program. School-based Interact clubs provide youths between the ages of 12 and 18 the opportunity to work together in fellowship dedicated to service and international understanding. Of course, one of the most rewarding and popular of Rotary's programs for young people is Youth Exchange, which offers students the opportunity to learn firsthand about other cultures by living and studying abroad.

And as business leaders, Rotarians are in a unique position to provide vocational guidance and career opportunities to young people. Clubs should participate in local school projects that emphasize the importance of a good education. Likewise, we should initiate or support projects that address problems such as homelessness among children, child abuse, and domestic violence.

This month, let us *Lend a Hand* to the new generations and secure a future for our clubs, our communities, and our world.

Jonathan Majiyagbe President, Rotary International



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 10 Issue 9 Sept. 2, 2003

Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Maple Ridge Library

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INVOCATION Sept. 2: Eng Tan Sept. 9: Bob Shantz

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
Sept. 11	Brian Bekar	Lindsay Hendy
Oct. 9	Irena Shantz	Chad Reed

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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Paul Lawson - UBC Research Forest

Lend a Hand

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Marco Terwiel - Health Care in the Far North

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sept. 3	6:30pm	Community Service Meeting	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Sept. 4	noon	Golf Tournament Meeting	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Sept. 16	6pm	Meeting / Family Social	Vladimir's Bee Farm, 129 th Ave. PM
Sept. 20		Evening of Comedy	ACT
Sept. 21		Golf Tournament	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Sept. 23		Membership drive	LaTrattoria
Oct. 7	6:30pm	Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Club

☞ We will NOT have a regular meeting on Sept. 16 **☞**

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$670 + 1/2 of today's sales, 21 cards, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sept. 3: Dave Rempel

Sept. 4: Doris Gagel

Sept. 8: Gayle Paterson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sept. 6: Jack & Liz Attarmigirian

LAST WEEKS MEETING

This week our honoured guests included District Governor Rob Martin and his wife Joan and Assistant District Governor Mike McCone and his wife Linda.



DG Rob spoke about the history of the Rotary wheel. Originally it was a wagon wheel but was adapted to have a keyhole in it in 1905. This keyhole made the wheel a drive wheel and represents the "driving force" of Rotary in the world. He encourages all clubs to have a balance in their focus to cover all aspects of the Rotary commitment to International, Vocational, Club and Community projects. To him being in Rotary means being a part of MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD".

Many people say they cannot join Rotary because of lack of time and DG Rob agreed to some extent, in that TIME is in fact our most precious commodity and we should invest it wisely. One of Rotary's projects this year was

the first graduation from the Rotary International Studies. This school is located in Paris and is a two-year course in Peace and conflict resolution. This first year we saw 70 World Peace scholars complete the course. The concept is in part that if we make peace amongst the individuals the rest will follow.

On the International front the Rotary club in Kabul, Afghanistan was recently re-chartered and the President is a female physician. There are currently clubs in 163 countries of the world and we have a membership of 1.2 million Rotarians. We are on the threshold of eradicating polio from the earth and have exceeded our fundraising goals to that end. Rob felt that without the impetus of Rotary the other major players in the Polio Plus campaign perhaps might not have participated to the same extent. This February Rotary will be sending another contingent of volunteers to India to vaccinate the children against this dreaded disease. Rotary volunteers travel around the world teaching, helping set up food production, helping set up small business loans (micro-lending) and much more. Last year we sent out 350 volunteers and DG Rob feels we will be doing the same this year.

DG Rob hopes that everyone in the District will endeavour to support the RI Foundation by becoming a sustaining member (donate \$100/year) so we can keep up the many good works we are involved in. One thing he feels we do need to do more of is increasing the positive media coverage of the works we do in the

communities. We also need to focus not only on membership growth but retention, and he would like to ensure we have a "Family of Rotary" in place to look after each other in our times of need.

This year is the Centennial of Rotary and will be celebrated in Chicago, Illinois. This event promises to be impressive and DG Rob invites anyone to join him and Joan when they attend.

In closing DG Rob encouraged us to "expand our Rotary wheel by doing more than you thought you could" to continue to make this an organization we can all be proud to be a part of.

The club thanked our distinguished guests and presented a special basket of honey from Vladimir to Joan and made a \$100 donation into the RI Foundation in DG Rob's name.



Laurie also announced today that we have received approval for Matching Funds for our Sports Court project for one of our local schools.

Submitted by Debi Pearce

If you are participating in our annual golf tournament or not, we need a donation towards the **BOTTLE DRAW FROM EVERY MEMBER!**

We are looking for a minimum of 2 BOTTLES from everybody. One of these bottles needs to be of a "SERIOUS" nature, with a minimum value of \$ 5.00. Something like: wine, whiskey, rum, champagne or any other "spirit" you can think of and someone would be interested in! The other bottle can be ANYTHING in a bottle: perfume, a bottle of candy, bottle of ketchup, a ship in a bottle.

SPORTS BANQUET

The 2003 Sports Banquet will be held at Meadow Gardens Golf Club on Tuesday, October 7th beginning at 6:30 pm. Tickets will soon be available for sale, but if you would like a table, book now. Five tables have been currently reserved.