

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear fellow Rotarians,

It is with great anticipation and a renewed sense of commitment that we begin Rotary's centennial year. I feel privileged to serve as your president as we reach this historic milestone. The centennial provides a unique opportunity to raise public awareness of Rotary and its humanitarian mission.



The best way to honour Rotary's past is to perform even greater acts of service in the future. I urge clubs to support this year's four major emphases: health concerns, water management, literacy, and the family of Rotary. Each is critical to the well-being of the global community and offers many possibilities for Rotary service.

Every country has its own specific health issues — malaria, measles, preventable blindness, HIV/AIDS. Global health authorities report that 42 million people are now infected with HIV. The disease has reached epidemic proportions in Africa, where millions of families lack access to quality health care. Rotarians can take a leading role in stemming the spread of HIV/AIDS by participating in public-awareness and education campaigns.

In the United States and other developed countries, people often take clean water for granted. But in many parts of the developing world, safe water is a scarce luxury. At a meeting of the United Nations, I learned that more than one billion people do not have safe drinking water. As a result, some 6,000 people, mostly children, die every day from diseases associated with contaminated water. I have visited many outstanding Rotarian-supported water projects, including new wells and purification systems, that are saving countless lives.

We must also commit ourselves to improving literacy rates. More than two billion people cannot read or write, so they lack the most basic skills to qualify for meaningful employment. I have seen how children's lives in Bangladesh, Thailand, Turkey, and other countries have been dramatically improved by successful literacy programs, such as the concentrated learning encounter method pioneered by Rotarians.

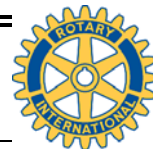
We will continue to emphasize the family of Rotary. Rotary has always been a major presence in my family. Five of my older brothers were Rotarians, and three served as club presidents. It's important to include our spouses, children, and relatives in Rotary functions and projects, so that Rotary becomes a life-affirming experience for the entire family. We should also remember the other integral members of the Rotary family, including Rotary Foundation Scholars, Group Study Exchange team members, Rotaractors, Interactors, and Youth Exchange students.

During this centennial year, I encourage Rotarians to focus on these four emphases. We can draw inspiration from one of our most successful programs: PolioPlus. Thanks to Rotary and our polio eradication partners, some two billion children have been immunized against polio. As we enter our second century of service, I have never been more proud to be a Rotarian.

We have proven that dreams can become reality — and that one person can make a difference. Just look at our founder, Paul Harris. He could never have anticipated that his modest vision nearly 100 years ago would evolve into one of the world's most influential service organizations.

Let us *Celebrate Rotary* by taking on new challenges and goals as we continue to bring hope to millions of people in need around the world. This is Rotary's great legacy — and its great destiny. After all, who knows what can be accomplished in the next 100 years?

Glenn E. Estess Sr.  
President, Rotary International



# The Four Way Flasher

## Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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July 6, 2004

Web-site: [www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge\\_Rotary](http://www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary)

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### INVOCATION

July 6	Sharon Kyle	July 13	Lynda Lawrence
July 27	Ron LePore	August 3	Tim Lowes

### BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
July 15	Peter Boekhorst	Tim Lowes
August		

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or e-mail [peter.boekhorst@telus.net](mailto:peter.boekhorst@telus.net)



## TODAY IS MARY'S FIRST OFFICIAL PRESIDENCY

**TODAY'S PROGRAM:** Gaetan Royer - Port Moody City Planner & member of PM Rotary Club: Hospice Project

### NEXT WEEK:

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
July 14	noon	Executive meeting	Mary's office - BYOBL
July 20	7:00pm	Honey Barbecue at Vladimir's Farm	129 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Pitt Meadows

**Note: There will be no regular meeting on July 20<sup>th</sup> !**

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 7: Debora Nosworthy

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$313 + 1/2 of today's sales, 41 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

## HAIL TO THE LEADER

### These are the Priorities and Goals of our new Club President Mary

#### 1. DURING UPCOMING YEAR 2004 – 2005

- Budgets – Obtain committee budgets prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> and establish 2004 – 2005 Budget ASAP with incoming Treasurer.
- Calendar – Have Administrative Assistant establish 2004-2005 calendar for distribution to members by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Committees – Have Committee Chairs set regular monthly meetings (to be added to calendar)
- Foundation – Try to achieve RI President's goal of "Every Rotarian, Every Year" in supporting the Foundation with a commitment for every member to contribute \$100 per year.
- RYLA – Advertise & select at least two candidates. (Budget for registration of a minimum of two.)
- Bingo – Continue with Bingo fundraising with volunteers from membership.
- Fundraisers – Maintain & continue to build key fundraisers (Golf Tournament, Sports Banquet, Youth Diversion & Wine Zest), continue to develop fundraiser for Hospice project and establish a fundraiser for Esteem Team Program.
- "Hands on Community Project" – Identify a local organization; identify a "Hands on Project" and encourage member involvement. (ie. Salvation Army – Community Response Van which our club had helped fund) Organize member participation during a community 'outreach' program.
- New Community Projects – Explore possible involvement in Zajac Ranch for Children and identify how our club can participate.
- Literacy – Continue to develop our Club Literacy program in conjunction with the Maple Ridge Library.
- Youth Exchange Program – Continue to support and be actively involved.
- Bursaries & Scholarships – Review current program; improve promotion of and actively source suitable candidates for all bursaries & scholarships.
- Public Relations – Share success stories with District & RI of our projects. Continue to promote Rotary in our community with the "Rotary Page".
- Club Bulletin – Add 'Members' List' with PH & Sustaining PH status, contact info and year joined.
- Joint Meetings – Share our program with other club's in our area and plan for more joint meetings with those clubs.
- Charter New AM Club in Maple Ridge – Explore possibility.
- Membership – Increase membership by a net growth of five.
- Centennial Celebration – Establish a committee to coordinate with clubs east of us (Mission) for a centennial event.

#### 2. OVER NEXT THREE TO FIVE YEARS

- International Club Affiliation – Establish association with another Rotary Club – (ie: Russia) and work together in a project in their country (ie: work towards matching grants from RI)
- Centre for International Studies – Promote and seek suitable candidates.
- International Projects – Maintain focus on current projects (Wheel Chair Foundation, Polio Plus) and encourage club participation in more (ie: Freeplay Foundation, Ryan's Wells, etc.)
- Community Involvement – Help to establish Drug Awareness Program (focus on crystal meth) for local schools.
- Community Involvement – Help to create awareness & program for bullying for schools (elementary & senior students)
- Community Involvement – Explore & identify environmental project our club can support and participate in.
- Re-establish Rotaract & Interact Clubs.

#### 3. SUMMARY OF LONG RANGE PLANS FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

- Major concerns in local community to be addressed are crystal meth community wide and bullying in schools.

- Club's projects are to create community awareness of crystal meth problem, promote and/or establish educational programs for schools for both crystal meth and bullying.
- Through local media we hope to raise level of community awareness to the problem of crystal meth to encourage more involvement to find solutions.
- Working with local school district identify existing, effective programs which can be used in our schools with the focus of reducing bullying.
- Our community has many resources to work with in both issues, many of which our club already has an association with. The School District (Board Members, Principals, Teachers, School Liaison Officers & Parent Associations), The Salvation Army (currently dealing with crystal meth problem), Greg Moore Youth Centre, Ridge Meadows Youth Diversion Program, Ridge Meadows RCMP, Municipal and Provincial representatives, other community associations, Community Policing offices, doctors, local health unity, etc.
- Funding programs is not an issue. Raising awareness, providing education and bringing resources together working together would be the focus.

#### 4. CLUB PRESIDENT'S PLANS & COMMENTS:

- Special projects this year will include Hospice Calendar, the international project in Russia and Rotary Centennial Celebration in our community.
- Club activities are publicized monthly in the local paper – Meadowridge & Haney Rotary Clubs Page – sponsored by Rotarians from both clubs.
- Additional information or assistance on Rotary subjects has not been identified.
- Topics to discuss with the District Governor during official visits would include District projects which our club may not be aware of or participating in, exploring possibility of other international projects which clubs in our District could spearhead or become involved in (ie. Ryan's Well; Lifeline Radios for Third World Countries, etc.), update on Polio Plus Campaign and District involvement in the Centre for International Studies.

#### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Meadowridge Rotary Club is well respected in our community, has a very high profile and is known to be proactive. Our Annual Sports Banquet has been raising money for 13 years for the improvement and development of youth sports facilities in our community. It enjoys a reputation of being one of the best in the Lower Mainland if not the Province. The Wine Zest has been an annual event for the past 10 years, is well attended and has raised funds for many local projects.

Our club has a reputation for organizing and hosting successful fundraisers when a community need is identified. The most recent was for the Ridge Meadows Youth Diversion Program which was in jeopardy when provincial funding was cut back. In partnership with the Ridge Meadows RCMP, our club organized a dinner at a local restaurant. The sold out event raised \$14,000 thereby securing the Youth Diversion program for another year. We intend to add it to our list of annual fundraising events.

Being chosen to serve as President for the MeadowRidge Rotary Club this next year is an honour and I am committed in providing my fellow Rotarians the best leadership I possibly can with their support. Being a Rotarian has become an integral part in my and my family's life. I serve with pride.

Mary Robson

MeadowRidge Rotary Club President 2004 – 2005

#### 'BEE' THERE AT THE 'FAMILY HONEY BARBECUE'

All MeadowRidge Rotary members and family are invited to the 'Honey Barbecue' at Vladimir & Zenka's farm on July 20 - 7pm.

This will also be an informative social. Bring your partner, your spouse, your friend, your children or grand-children, for a great barbecue.

Location: 129<sup>th</sup> Ave., Pitt Meadows (across from Rod and Gun Club)  
(Off Kennedy Rd. and Barnes Rd.)

There is no cost to this event, but donations towards RI Foundation are welcomed.

