

A BRIEF ROTARY HISTORY

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA, was formed on 23 February 1905 by Paul P. Harris, an attorney who wished to recapture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. The name "Rotary" derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

Rotary's popularity spread throughout the United States in the decade that followed; clubs were chartered from San Francisco to New York. By 1921, Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents, and the organization adopted the name Rotary International a year later.

As Rotary grew, its mission expanded beyond serving the professional and social interests of club members. Rotarians began pooling their resources and contributing their talents to help serve communities in need. The organization's dedication to this ideal is best expressed in its principal motto: Service Above Self. Rotary also later embraced a code of ethics, called The 4-Way Test, that has been translated into hundreds of languages.

During and after World War II, Rotarians became increasingly involved in promoting international understanding. In 1945, 49 Rotary members served in 29 delegations to the United Nations Charter Conference. Rotary still actively participates in UN conferences by sending observers to major meetings and promoting the United Nations in Rotary publications. Rotary International's relationship with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) dates back to a 1943 London Rotary conference that promoted international cultural and educational exchanges. Attended by ministers of education and observers from around the world, and chaired by a past president of RI, the conference was an impetus to the establishment of UNESCO in 1946.

An endowment fund, set up by Rotarians in 1917 "for doing good in the world," became a not-for-profit corporation known as [The Rotary Foundation](#) in 1928. Upon the death of Paul Harris in 1947, an outpouring of Rotarian donations made in his honor, totaling US\$2 million, launched the Foundation's first program — graduate fellowships, now called [Ambassadorial Scholarships](#). Today, contributions to The Rotary Foundation total more than US\$80 million annually and support a wide range of [humanitarian grants](#) and [educational programs](#) that enable Rotarians to bring hope and promote international understanding throughout the world.

In 1985, Rotary made a historic commitment to immunize all of the world's children against polio. Working in partnership with nongovernmental organizations and national governments through its [PolioPlus](#) program, Rotary is the largest private-sector contributor to the global polio eradication campaign. Rotarians have mobilized hundreds of thousands of PolioPlus volunteers and have immunized more than one billion children worldwide. By the 2005 target date for certification of a polio-free world, Rotary will have contributed half a billion dollars to the cause.

As it approached the dawn of the 21st century, Rotary worked to meet the changing needs of society, expanding its service effort to address such pressing issues as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger, and children at risk. The organization [admitted women for the first time \(worldwide\) in 1989](#) and claims more than 145,000 women in its ranks today. Following the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Rotary clubs were formed or re-established throughout Central and Eastern Europe. Today, 1.2 million Rotarians belong to some 31,000 Rotary clubs in 166 countries.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 11 Issue 34
Feb. 22, 2005

Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant
President: Mary Robson Phone: 604-463-3333, 2
Exec. Asst.: Lynda Lawrence Phone: 604-463-3333, 3
Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-3392

maryrobson@robsonandassoc.com
ljlawrence@robsonandassoc.com
mrrotary@telus.net

INVOCATION

Feb. 22	Vladimir Cukor	March 1	Murray Davelaar
March 8	Mike Davies	March 29	Brenda Exner

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
Feb. 24	Mina Park	Peter Boekhorst
March 24	Mina Park	Sharon Kyle

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or email mrrotary@telus.net

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Who's Who – Janice Armstrong / Sandy Wakeling

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Lola Chapman – Youth Diversion

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

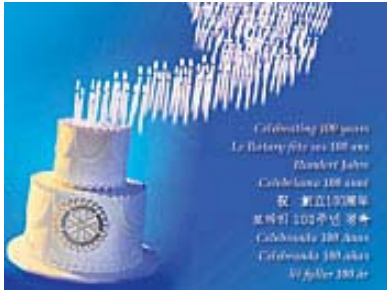
Date	Time	Event	Venue
Feb. 23	7:00pm	Charter of Port Coquitlam Centennial	Michael's on Wilson Rest., Pt Coq
March 16	6:00pm	Centennial Dinner (Dinner @ 6:30)	Meadow Gardens Golf & Country Club
March 22		Fireside	Kevin Nosworthy
April 9	8:00am	District Assembly	Kwantlen University College, Surrey
May 10		Golf Tournament	Swan-e-Set Golf Club
May 12		District 5050 Centennial Conference	Victoria, BC
May 28		WineZest 2005	ACT, Maple Ridge
June 18-22		RI Centennial Convention	Chicago

Cash Calendar: The list of the February winners is posted on our website www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary and will be updated regularly.



50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$1012+ 1/2 of today's sales, 19 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Feb. 23: Rotary International, 100 years young!

Feb. 23: Vladimir Cukor, Johanna Reed

LAST WEEKS MEETING

We had a number of guests who came with Don Boyce who were visiting from the White Rock Millennium Club. They gave a brief presentation on a fundraiser they're working on called "Rotary Donate a Car", where an individual can donate an old vehicle that can be auctioned to raise funds for the Polio Eradication Program and receive a tax receipt for their donation.

www.rotarydonateacar.ca



The Rotary Club of White Rock Millennium

Our guest speaker was Jim Kelly, who is with the Alouette Home Start Society. Jim is a former Maple Ridge resident who has been in the addiction field for 18 years.

Jim gave a presentation on the Society which was formed in December 2003 out of the Homelessness Coalition. The founding members were:

- Alouette Addictions Services
- Cythera Transition House Society
- Katzie Native Band
- Salvation Army
- Virtues R' Reality Society

One of the proposals that they've been working on for Federal funding is the Youth Safe House project. This house will provide transitional housing (five beds) for youth 13 – 18 years of age. The programs will run from 7 days to 30 days. Their goal is to prevent youth homelessness and youth becoming entrenched in street life, and to raise community awareness.

They've had a 35 year old house donated but are dealing with a \$60,000 renovation expense due to the age and condition of the home. The RCMP Community Policing volunteers are coordinating the renovation project and a local business has donated a new roof. They are seeking items to furnish the house, and asked that anyone who would like to make a donation contact Maureen at (604) 467-5179.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

'DOWN UNDER' REPORT

Valentines Day in New Zealand is just about as commercial as it is back home. However one of the two local Rotary clubs gave it a very different "flavour" . It is the club that kind of "adopted" me during my stay in Oamaru.

The mayor of Oamaru is a Rotarian and a member of the "rival" club. That did not prevent him to take "my" whole club and their spouses in his genuine London double deck bus to a fabulous restaurant some 30km out of town for a Valentine's dinner party. He is the proud owner of this vehicle and he kept it in its original state. Bright red and quite a sight so far away from its original home. He makes it available for special occasions, weddings etc in the spirit of a good Rotarian. No charge to the rival club to get us to our destination and back. You can imagine the mood in this vehicle swaying and grinding its way through the New Zealand countryside to Moeraki, a minuscule fishing village on the East Coast South of Oamaru.

The ambiance and the food, sprinkled with excellent New Zealand wine was superb, the conversation animated, all the more so as the evening went on.

I presented everyone of the whole group with a small Canadian flag lapel pin and when it was time to leave we made our way through the restaurant. One of the guests noticed all these Canadian lapel pins and asked what this was about. He was told that a Canadian among them had presented these. Then they pointed out who that Canadian was and where he was from.

The young man just about bowled over when he saw me. The reason: He grew up in Maple Ridge and is the son of a fellow Rotarian of the Haney club Bill Harkness. To travel some 12500km and go for dinner in a out of the way village and yet run into a fellow Maple Ridge resident on Valentine's day is just one of those benefits that Rotary members get to enjoy.

Marco

U.S. SENATE HONORS 23 FEBRUARY AS ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DAY

The United States Senate recognized the many contributions of Rotary with a resolution declaring 23 February as Rotary International Day. Issued on 17 February in honour of Rotary's 100th anniversary, the resolution "recognizes Rotary International for 100 years of service to improving the human condition in communities throughout the world," as reported in the *Congressional Record*.

"In recent years, Rotary International has helped communities around the world to address some of the critical needs of our day, including disease, hunger, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and children at risk," said California's Barbara Boxer during a 4 January session discussing the resolution. "On the occasion of the [Rotary Centennial](#), I send my sincere appreciation and best wishes to Rotary International and Rotarians everywhere."

Past RI President James Lacy was one of the many Rotarians and RI staff members who worked diligently to have the resolution considered. Lacy also works closely with Stevens and other members of Congress as part of RI's collaboration with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and USAID on [polio eradication](#).

"This is quite a great honor for Rotary International on its centennial," said Lacy, speaking from the International Assembly in Anaheim. "This is the first such resolution that has come through the U.S. Congress and will go into the permanent records of the Senate."