

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear fellow Rotarians,
February is World Understanding Month, a time when Rotarians, clubs and districts think of international service projects. During my trips around the world, I have seen many wonderful projects where several countries have been involved.

One such project is *Ciudad de los Niños*, run by the Rotary Club de San Borja, Peru . The club has developed 18 programs for an orphanage of 550 boys. The youngsters can stay there until they are 18 years old — boys who otherwise would not have had a home to go to or daily food.

In another joint effort, the Rotary Club of Hoensbroeck, The Netherlands, has worked with the government of The Netherlands to set up a sewing workshop and the construction of dormitories. The club has also contributed funds for a kitchen and dining room equipment. District 7950 (Massachusetts, USA) has participated in building a shoe workshop and a hen house — the latter expanded with the help of the Rotary Club of Martha's Vineyard (part of District 7950). A carpentry workshop and a bakery have been built with the help of the Rotary Club of Saxmundham, England.

All the projects are meeting the needs of what they were intended for — to generate income for the *Ciudad de los Niños* so that the young residents can learn a profession.

Another worthy project is located in Senegal, called "One Million Trees to grow the Sahel Green Again." This is a long-term project, also supported by Rotary clubs in England, France, Senegal, and other countries, resulted in the planting of more than 85,000 trees in the Sahel region of Africa by the end of 2003. This is truly an international project — Rotary at its best!

Another project can be found in Argentina — the National Braille Publisher in Buenos Aires. This organization provides equipment for the blind and visually impaired. Special software digitally reads print on a computer, then verbally describes what is on the screen, allowing the user to process the text, transcribe electronic correspondence and navigate the Internet. The funding for this project was the result of a combined effort of The Rotary Foundation of RI, the Rotary Club of Buenos Aires and District 7000 (Puerto Rico).

These are just a few of the fine Rotarian efforts that demonstrate the power of cooperation that make a positive difference in our communities and in our world. The size of your Rotary club, district or project does not matter when you reach out to other Rotarians beyond your own communities and countries. It is our motto of *Service Above Self* and our cooperation on service projects that make a difference in the world.

Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, President, Rotary International

About Rotary

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 31,000 Rotary clubs located in 167 countries.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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February is World Understanding Month

INVOCATION

Feb. 14	Peter Boekhorst	Feb. 21	Robert Campbell
Feb. 28	Vladimir Cukor	Mar. 7	Murray Davelaar

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
Feb. 23	Maureen Goodrick	Janice Armstrong
March 23	Ron LePore	Stan Wade

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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Membership Meeting

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Bob Shantz - the "Olson Case"

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Apr. 8	8:00 – 2:00	District 5050 Assembly	Kwantlen Univ. College, Surrey, B.C.
May 19-21		District 5040/5050 Conference	Whistler, B.C.
May 24		Haney Rotary Golf Tournament	
June 11-14		RI Convention 2006	Malmö and Copenhagen
June 14		Haney Rotary Ladies Night	

Last week the 50/50 was won by Paul's daughter - \$30. The jackpot stays the same.

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$786+ 1/2 of today's sales, 22 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!



SERVICE Above Self

ROTARY, A BRIEF 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 honour, totalling 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 Test

From the earliest days of the organization, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics is The Four-Way Test, which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as RI president) when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy.

This 24-word test for employees to follow in their business and professional lives became the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to this simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary in 1943, The Four-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways. It asks the following four questions:

"Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?**
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"**

Four Avenues of Service

Based on the [Object of Rotary](#), the Four Avenues of Service are Rotary's philosophical cornerstone and the foundation on which club activity is based:

- Club Service focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.
- Vocational Service encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards.
- Community Service covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.
- International Service encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace.