

Convention caps off Rotary's 101st year



RI President-elect William B. Boyd presents his family and his wife Lorna to the audience,

Copenhagen, Denmark — As Rotarians looked ahead to Rotary's 102nd year, the 2006 RI Convention drew to a close the night of 14 June. This concluded the first Rotary convention to be held in two countries. The event drew more than 14,700 attendees from about 140 countries.

After presenting his family and his wife, Lorna, to the audience, RI President-elect William B. Boyd gave an address echoing Jeffrey Sachs's earlier comments that day. Boyd stressed that Rotary provides an incredible example of how to overcome obstacles of bureaucracy and intolerance.

"Through Rotary, we have had the chance to touch lives in ways that we could never have imagined before we were part of [it] — through the tremendous power of our vast network of clubs and members," Boyd said. He went on to emphasize the power of Rotary through club service and fellowship as something that transforms the lives of members and the community. He offered examples of how Rotarians came to the aid of thousands following devastating disasters, such as the south Asian tsunami.

Boyd is continuing RI President Stenhammar's emphases of water management, health and hunger, and literacy. He also adds a fourth emphasis: family of Rotary.

Boyd also acknowledged the challenges of keeping Rotary's ranks going strong. He stressed that Rotary must keep strengthening existing Rotary club programs and projects. "The daily work of making a Rotary club good, inviting, and useful is up to every one of you," he said.

"We must make our Rotary clubs and activities welcoming to those of all ages. Club projects can involve family members, and clubs could hold events that are affordable and appealing to all," Boyd said.

He closed by asking all Rotarians to put the coming year's theme, *Lead the Way*, into action. "We are not content with the status quo, and we do not look at a problem only to say, 'Someone else will solve it.' We are the ones who ask, why not us? And we are the ones who must *Lead the Way*. This is an affirmation of my belief in the power of Rotarians to change the world, one positive act at a time."

2007 Rotary International Convention Committee Chair Julio Sorjus then arrived, dressed as a rugged American pioneer to promote the next convention in Salt Lake City. The city's mayor — and Rotarian — Ross "Rocky" Anderson promised an unforgettable experience in the Rockies for next year's attendees. About 1,650 Rotarians have already registered for the convention, the highest advance registration in recent memory.

Then it was time for a heartfelt farewell from RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar. In his closing comments, Stenhammar stressed that during the year he has met with Rotary members all over the world and has seen the strides made to get back to basics.

He inspired attendees with a story about a Zone Institute meeting he went to in Korea, which 219 Rotarians attended. "As the institute came to a close, someone raised a resolution that every participant give US\$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation," Stenhammar said. "It only took 30 seconds to raise \$219,000 for our Foundation."

"It's been splendid and extraordinary for me to meet all of you, and I hope that every one of you will meet me on Rotary paths [in] the future," he said.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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INVOCATION

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|
| June 20 | Kevin Nosworthy | July 4 | Mina Park |
| July 11 | Ken Paterson | July 18 | Debi Pearce |

BINGO SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| | 6:15 - 8:15 | 8:00 - 10:00 |
| July 13 | Brian Bekar | Matt deBruyn |
| August 6 | Doris Gagel | |



SERVICE Above Self

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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Business Meeting - International

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Change of the Guard

A big 'Thank You' to Bob and Irena Shantz for hosting last weeks Fireside.

*Next Week is Installation Dinner at 6:30pm at Meadow Gardens.
There will be no regular meeting!*

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|--|
| June 21 | Noon | Executive Meeting | Home Restaurant, MR |
| June 27 | 6:30pm | Installation Dinner | Meadow Gardens Golf Course |
| July 16 | Noon -9pm | Caribbean Festival | 224 th St. Maple Ridge |
| August 19 | 4:00pm | BBQ at Vladimir and Zdenka's | The Bee Farm – 129 th Ave. Pitt Meadows |
| Sept. 16 | 7-10pm | Harvest Wine Fest | ACT |

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$184.00+ 1/2 of today's sales, 45 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

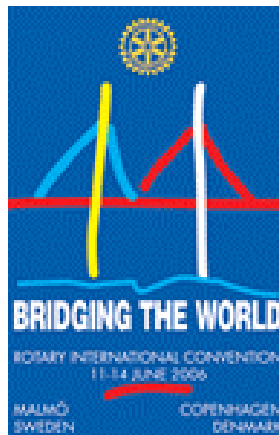
RI CONVENTION 2006 IN MALMÖ-COPENHAGEN

Hi Everybody,

Hello to all from Holland, where I am now, after attending the 97th Annual Rotary International Convention in Copenhagen/Malmö last week. I had an absolute fantastic time! Met so many people and made so many connections, wow....where do I begin??

The official theme for this Convention was: "Bridging the World" very fitting for the first RI Convention ever, taking place in 2 countries (Denmark and Sweden) connected by a (very long) bridge.

I arrived Saturday afternoon, picked up my registration package and walked through the House of Friendship, an enormous area, where all booths, exhibits and vendors are located...and where you meet Rotarians from all over the World. You can spend hours in this area and find out anything and everything you ever wanted to know about Rotary! This year I personally focussed on, the kinds of International Projects displayed. I noticed some from previous years (like the Shelter Boxes, Wheelchair Foundation, Operation Smile, Jaipur Limb Project, etc.) and some very good new ones, like Solar Cooking System, Biosand Safe Water Project, Constructed Wetlands (natural wastewater treatment) and many more.



That first evening I attended the "Tivoli Dinner" (a ticketed event). Tivoli is a beautiful Amusement Park in the Centre of Copenhagen. We were directed to one of the many different styles of Restaurants in the park and served a traditional Danish 3 course dinner. After this, beautiful concerts, pantomime, in this wonderful (completely "lit up" Tivoli Park) and to close a fabulous Fireworks display all specially organized for Rotary of course...it was GREAT!

On Sunday was the official Opening Ceremony with a live presentation based on Denmark's greatest literary export: Hans Christian Anderson. HCA being the "master" of the fairy tale, with the underlying lessons of life in all his tales. The featured entertainment (as always) was very good....and made us laugh and cry!

The official opening was supposed to be attended by Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, but apparently, she had a knee-operation and was unable to attend, but Crown Prince Frederik and Princess Mary did attend and are even more popular by the Danish population than the Queen.

The Flag Ceremony is also always a very dramatic event, with the entrance of a flag for every "Rotary" Country (182 total!)

Monday's General Session Keynote Speaker was on Literacy by Sister Ethel Normoyle, who presented a very emotional address, which left many of us in tears.

Every day, between all general sessions, there were many workshops and Interactive Discussion Groups. And you just needed to decide which ones you're interested in. All of them very interesting and a lot of "networking" going on at those! Some of the topics: Youth Activities, Public Image, Rotary Foundation, Literacy, Membership Recruitment Workshop etc.

At Night we had our "Host Hospitality Night", where you usually go to another Rotarian home and enjoy a family dinner. This time they divided all interested guest under all local Rotary Clubs. I ended up with a group

of approx. 150 Rotarians (again from all over the World) at Frederikborg Castle, a former Royal Palace (1600's), we enjoyed a tour through the Baroque Gardens, where served a delicious dinner and to close were treated to a concert in the attached church. It was a beautiful night.

Tuesday June 13, was more or less a business meeting, with the introduction of the Board of Trustees. The Keynote address was "Bridging The World" by 2 very well spoken Rotaractors (Markus Granlund from Sweden and Kristine Binzer from Denmark)

A presentation on the Rotary Foundation by Frank Devlyn (Trustee Chair). After this it was voting time for all Club Delegates (including me). Tuesday Night was "Swedish Night", transported over that (very long) bridge to Malmö, Sweden. We were then, in a live presentation show, told about the many Swedish Seasonal Feasts and traditions and during this show given the foods (and "Schnapps") fitting with these celebrations(pickled herring, potatoes, red cabbage, duck, crawfish, apple cake, Carlsburg beer etc.) It was a lot of fun!

We moved on to a different theatre and were then treated to a live stage show of famous (unknown to most of us) artists....a fabulous show, ending with a fantastic presentation of ABBA songs.....Another GREAT night!

Wednesday Jun 14, already the last official day of the Convention.... The general Session with the election of Officers and RI President nominee (for 2007/08). This was exciting for Canada and many Canadian flags were waved! Wilfrid Wilkinson, of the Rotary Club of Trenton Ontario, Canada will be the incoming RI President-nominee!

Keynote Speaker today was very interesting. Jeffrey Sachs, Director Earth Institute, Columbia University, Director of United Nations and Author spoke on the issues of Water, Health and Hunger....The end of Poverty. Standing ovation!

Later that day the Closing Ceremony:

Introduction of RI President elect and his family, Bill Boyd from Auckland New Zealand.

Presentation to promote next year's Convention in Salt Lake City.

RI President Carl Stenhammar's closing remarks,

and a live Viking Stage Show (as usual: the best of the best local entertainment, a potpourri of traditional and contemporary Danish and Swedish music and dance, backed by the world renown Danish Radio Orchestra and a HUGE cast of dancers and singers).....and to close: the traditional singing of "Auld Lang Syne" with everybody holding hands (that's an emotional moment with 14,000 Rotarians in the hall!)

During the Convention, I also volunteered as a "Sergeant-at-Arms", showing people where everything was located, from transportation, registration, general sessions, ticketed events, to computer access etc. It was great, because I had the privilege to meet an enormous amount of people from all over the world, also re-connected with some people from previous years....but also ran into, for instance, the in-coming president from White Rock....and a fellow member from the Centennial Club also in White Rock, Don Boyce (Charter Member of our club) is a member of!

All and all...a fantastic experience. I hope some of you will be able to attend next year in Salt Lake City, it promises to be another Fantastic International Convention!

See you all soon,
Ineke

