



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 13 Issue 05
August 1, 2006

Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

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FOLLOWING ARE THE AUGUST WINNERS FOR THE HOSPICE CASH CALENDAR:

1	\$20	Rhonda Bell-Johnson	Maple Ridge, BC	16	\$20	Louis Pinette	Prince George, BC
2	\$20	Robin Hester	Maple Ridge, BC	17	\$20	Glenda McLeod	Maple Ridge, BC
3	\$20	Roberta Shepherd	Maple Ridge, BC	18	\$20	Claire Fogarty	
4	\$20	Marthe Sivecki	Maple Ridge, BC	19	\$20	Eva Cole	Maple Ridge, BC
5	\$20	Rev. R & L Cooper	Maple Ridge, BC	20	\$20	Val Brown	Maple Ridge, BC
6	\$20	Karena & Jason Harvey	Maple Ridge, BC	21	\$20	Helen McIvor	Pitt Meadows, BC
7	\$250	Alice Boyes	Maple Ridge, BC	22	\$20	D. Vey-Lourens	Maple Ridge, BC
8	\$20	Mike Schwartz	Maple Ridge, BC	23	\$20	Lisa Albrecht	Maple Ridge, BC
9	\$20	Alexia Stroud	Mission, BC	24	\$20	Amellia Klassen	Maple Ridge, BC
10	\$20	Bernadette Arbour	Maple Ridge, BC	25	\$20	Ralph Barton	Maple Ridge, BC
11	\$20	Lindsay Murray	Maple Ridge, BC	26	\$20	Britta Cederberg	Maple Ridge, BC
12	\$20	Chris Hargreaves	Maple Ridge, BC	27	\$20	Kelsey Klassen	Maple Ridge, BC
13	\$20	Bob Derby		28	\$20	Sara Sun	Pitt Meadows, BC
14	\$20	Cory & Jenny Myhre	Surrey, BC	29	\$20	Jenny Erin Jone	Maple Ridge, BC
15	\$20	Kristyna Crowhurst	Mission, BC	30	\$20	Sherry Postnikoff	Maple Ridge, BC
				31	\$250	Lance Johnson	N Vancouver, BC

DONATED MILES HELP IRAQI WOMAN'S DREAMS SOAR

Rotarians in the United States and Jordan united to make a 27-year-old Iraqi woman's chances for a better future soar.

Hana'a Thigeel lost the use of her legs after being struck by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while on her honeymoon in Iraq. Unable to receive therapy in Iraq for her injuries, she needed to seek alternatives. That's when the Rotary Club of Greeley (Centennial), Colorado, USA, offered to help. Using the United Airlines Charity Miles Program, the club flew Thigeel from Amman, Jordan, to the United States for therapy.

The club was able to raise 280,000 air miles and purchase two first-class tickets — a retail value of US\$14,000. "We wanted her to be comfortable," says club member Thomas Miller, "and for cultural reasons, she could not travel alone."

Thigeel lost everything but her life when the IED detonated two years ago. She was newly married with a promising career as an assistant to the professor of veterinary medicine at Baghdad University. But that fateful day left her a widow and without means of support.

"Baghdad University is not handicap accessible," explains Hope Cassidy, a Greeley club member and director of the [Greeley Center for Independence](#) where Thigeel receives treatment.

Therapists at the Colorado facility are donating services through November when her visa expires, working to maximize Thigeel's muscle tone in the lower body while healing the emotional wounds she suffered.

She also works with Paula Cowen, a disabled veterinarian employed by the United States Department of Agriculture. "Paula met Hana'a while in Iraq and told us of her story," Miller says. "She has since mentored Hana'a."

In addition to raising the air miles, Rotary club members found an apartment neighboring the rehabilitation center for Thigeel, and they donated enough items to furnish the two-bedroom handicap-accessible apartment. "Everyone has made me feel like I am in my home" Thigeel says. "I feel safe here."

Rotarians have set their sights on doing even more to help Thigeel. Cassidy said the club hopes to do what it can to help Thigeel extend her stay so that she can pursue her interest in furthering her veterinary medicine education in the U.S.

Thigeel is happy for the opportunity Rotary has given her. "This is my life, my destiny," she explains. "And I want to face it."

INVOCATION

Aug. 1	Gord Robson	Aug. 8	Mary Robson
Aug. 15	Bob Shantz	Aug. 22	Marco Terziel

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
August 10	Doris Gagel	
Sept. 07	Mary Robson	Gord Robson

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



TODAY'S PROGRAM: Constable Jim Wakely – Policing Strategy for the Community

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Rhian Pipprell – Guatemala Book Library

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
August 19	4:00pm	BBQ at Vladimir and Zdenka's	The Bee Farm – 129 th Ave. Pitt Meadows
August 22	Noon	DG Rod Thomson's Visit	
Sept. 16	7-10pm	Harvest Wine Fest	ACT

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$290.00+ 1/2 of today's sales, 40 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEKS MEETING

Guest were:

Felix Bernier-Turmel, Zoe Lemieux guests of Cheryl Johnson
Sophia Hwang guest of Mina Park
Fraser Stamp guest of Brian Bekar

Visiting Rotarians:

Jim Wakely of the Abbotsford Club

Gordy Robson provided each Rotarian of our club with a very special book, “Conquering Polio” about Rotary’s role in a global program to eradicate the world’s greatest crippling disease. Thank you very much Gordy. Reading this book will raise awareness!

Tourism Centre – Cheryl Johnson

Cheryl Johnson and her team from the Tourism Centre gave a presentation to the Rotary Club today about managing and brining tourism to Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. Her exchange students Felix Bernier- Turmel and Zoe Lemieux from Quebec are learning and working in BC.

The Visitors Centers annual core services include revenue generation, marketing and promotion, visitor’s services and advocacy and education. Their vision statement is “To develop an international reputation for Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows as a premier outdoor experience destination in Greater Vancouver.” Their values include: imagination, innovation, integrity, inclusive, respect and sustainability.

The number of visitors to the areas has grown dramatically year over year and the busiest times for the year for the centre are the summer months. In addition, parties staying over 1 night minimum has also increased year over year and is the focus of visits- to encourage overnight stays. The economic impact of the visitors who are tracked from visiting the centre have has also increased year over year and now is tracked at over 4 million!

The visitors centre participates in key trade and consumer shows in BC and Washington with total attendance of 250 000 participants. It also promotes itself by “farm” tours-taking industry partners on tours of our area! We were shown examples of advertising placed in international publications with over 4.9 million readers to promote Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. The centre also assisted in production of the visitors information and map guide to Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows (over 40,000 copies printed and distributed through BC, Alberta and Washington state).

The centre produced “Dine around Maple Ridge” where 16 restaurants and over 1000 patrons participated this year during the traditional slow restaurant season. The centre produced Circle Farm Tour which highlighted 9 listings and 13 events, and involved 5 communities. 10 000 copies of “101 days of summer” was produced and distributed around the Lower Mainland. Tourism Industry “Passport to Fun” was produced and distributed through the Lower Mainland. We look forward to the tourism Centre’s

“Great Experience Car Rally” which is coming up September 10th and is fun for the whole family.



Pitt Meadows Tourism Center was ranked No. 5 of all Tourism Centres. This rating is compiled from blind visits to the Centres across the province. Congratulations for such a high rating!

The significant issues for the Tourism centre are: Lack of tourism product in the area including major attractions and a lack of guest rooms needed to attract major regional sporting events, meetings and other groups. The goal is to achieve a steady level of occupancy before more accommodations are built. Also a lack of major festival and events to encourage overnight visits is a concern. The current festivals are day only events and do not encourage participants to stay over in MR/PM. Also US in-bound traffic continues to decline with strong Canadian dollar and looming passport requirement.

We have a vibrant tourism center working for us in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows and we thank Cheryl for her efforts there and for speaking with us today.

Submitted by Vivian Hatiras

4TH ANNUAL FAMILY OF ROTARY BARBECUE / FARM TOUR

SATURDAY August 19, 4:00 PM at Vladimir & Zdenka’s Honey Bee Farm

This is a “By Donation” event: all donations to Rotary Foundation

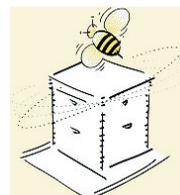
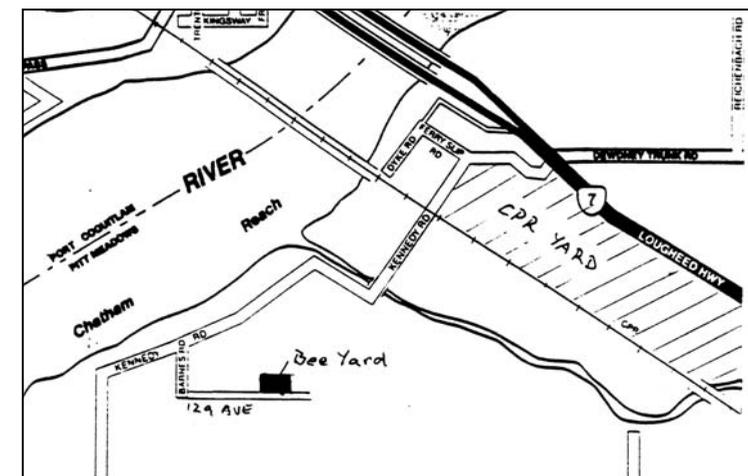
A friendly invitation to all MeadowRidge Rotarians and family:

Vladimir and Zdenka, will be hosting once again this wonderful Family Barbecue + informative social. You’ll be able to experience and find out everything there is to know about a “working honey bee farm” Again this year featuring a “Live Auction” with all proceeds going DIRECTLY to the Rotary Foundation, Vladimir’s award winning Honey will be for sale (part proceeds to Foundation) + a FABULOUS barbecue!

LOCATION: Vlad’s Apiary
129th Ave. Pitt Meadows

PLEASE BRING:

Cash (or credit card!) for Rotary Foundation,
a good appetite(the food is fantastic!),
a happy face.
Everything else will be provided (even wine!) by Vladimir and Zdenka, no cost to this great Family Social.



PLEASE MARK ON THE CIRCULATED SHEET IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING AND WITH HOW MANY PEOPLE.