

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S REMARKS
MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION MONTH



I can remember my first meeting as president of the Rotary club. My first correspondence was from two members resigning from the club! Great start, I thought, we are one week into the year and we are -2 members!

Cathy and I were fortunate to preside at a number of Board and Executive Installation ceremonies during late June and early July. Each of the clubs has their own culture and unique approach to living Rotary, all of which we enjoyed. One theme, however, resonated with each of the club presidents, incoming and outgoing, and that was membership. It was interesting to hear about the membership goals of the clubs, and their

membership growth in the past Rotary year.

I have sometimes heard it said by Rotarians that their club is just the right size, or that they only want quality members to join. While I certainly respect their opinions, I sometimes ask if they would be in Rotary today if the person who proposed them had the same attitude?

Rotary can only exist through growth, because as we know from business, standing still is actually falling behind. In fact, while Rotary continues to grow worldwide, we have declining membership in North America. In one of my new member induction addresses I note that there are approximately 1.2 million members of Rotary, but there are many more Rotarians, some of whom have not yet been asked to join us.

If you believe your club is just the right size, would you perhaps be willing to start a new club in the area? Can't find "quality members"? Perhaps it is time to review the classifications present in your club and make a list of unrepresented industries in your area.

Perhaps your club does not reflect the diversity of business in your community through gender or ethnic representation. Maybe it is time to concentrate on these areas, not through tokenism, but rather because Rotary succeeds best when it broadly represents a community.

At two of the club installations there were discussions about how young we were when we joined Rotary, and there were all these "old guys" in the club. The stark realization is of course that we are now those old guys!

August is Membership and Extension month for Rotary, which does not mean membership is unimportant the other 11 months, just more in focus this month.

As each club addresses membership, I want to remind you of some of the resources available to you. District Membership Chair Gene Vickers and his team love the opportunity to speak to clubs and help them. PDG Dave Robinson is a Regional Rotary Membership Coordinator and has tremendous presentations for you to utilize. You can reach them through their email and phone contact information on the District Website. You can also subscribe to the Zone 22 Membership Matters at the link provided for regular membership tips and updates. <http://www.clubrunner.ca/zonedata/22/html/386/MEMBERSHIP%20MATTERS%20-%20July%202006.pdf>

Enjoy Rotary...and ask someone to enjoy it with you!
District Governor (2006-2007) Rod Thomson



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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AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP & EXTENSION MONTH

INVOCATION

Aug. 8	Mary Robson	Aug. 15	Bob Shantz
Aug. 22	Marco Terwiel	Aug. 27	Walter Volpatti

BINGO SCHEDULE

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



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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Rhian Pipprell – Guatemala Book Library

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Bill Neal – Pitt Meadows Airport

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
Nov. 7		Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$315.00+ 1/2 of today's sales, 39 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEKS MEETING

Our guests were Jagdish Singh, Valerie Spurrell, Norm Casler, Lorna Anderson and Rotarian Inspector Jim Wakely.



Mike Davies brought Norm Casler to speak briefly about the upcoming Jazz & Blues Festival that will be held on Saturday August 12 at the Memorial Park on the 224th Street. We donated \$500 to this event.

It was reported that the Rotary Lacrosse Box is ready, and that they are currently working on the new all weather field at Westview.

Vladmir's Bee BBQ will be held on Saturday August 19 at 4 pm at his bee farm.

Harvest Wine Fest tickets are available for \$35 each for the Saturday September 16th event at the ACT.

The Sports Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday November 7th.

Robert Campbell was in attendance this week. He is currently looking for employment here in Maple Ridge, so hopefully we'll see more of Robert at our weekly meetings starting soon.

Inspector Jim Wakely was our Guest Speaker this week. He began by thanking Mike Davies for his work on the Emergency Operations Plan.

Jim then took a few minutes to thank Paul and his family for their generous support of the Ridge Meadows Youth Diversion program. He presented Paul with the Officer-In-Charge Commendation Letter. The dinner raised over \$9,000. this year, which was the third year this fundraiser has been held. The support of the Prokops has made this a very popular event and an important annual fundraiser.

Inspector Wakely then began his presentation. He advised that he is travelling throughout Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows talking about the RCMP's Policing Strategy for the Community. He advised that the Ridge Meadows Detachment is working hard to enhance security and change the public's perception of the lack of safety in the downtown core. The focus is on community safety, and the RCMP are getting the full support of the Mayor and Council of both communities.

Jim left Maple Ridge in 2002 and was taken aback by the deterioration of the city's core when he returned. There is a new phenomena, created in part by the crystal meth epidemic, that has occurred.

He advised that there has been the perception of a lack of police presence, which has led to some recent changes. He has collapsed the Property Crimes team, the Drug Enforcement team and the Community Policing group and put the focus on a Crime Reduction team to provide proactive not reactive policing.



There are now bike patrols, foot patrols and COP working on street enforcement, meeting with local businesses and residents to "take back our streets". Uniform members sweep the core each morning for sleepers prior to the merchants opening for business.

They have a municipal employee working with the RCMP to develop communication strategies. The Times and the News are involved. There is a connection with Social Services, Alouette Addiction, Outreach and the Salvation Army to get the drug users off the street and into rehab so that they can become productive individuals once again. There is a new program called the Cell Program where individuals with addiction issues can get into treatment and get the help they require rather than stay in jail. Ron Lawrance of Alouette Addictions will visit the person at their jail cell and if they're ready, get them into treatment right away before they are back on the streets.

It's a matter of looking at the bigger picture and working together to get these members of our community the help they need, while making our community safe again.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

'BEE' THERE AT THE 4TH ANNUAL FAMILY OF ROTARY BARBECUE

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:

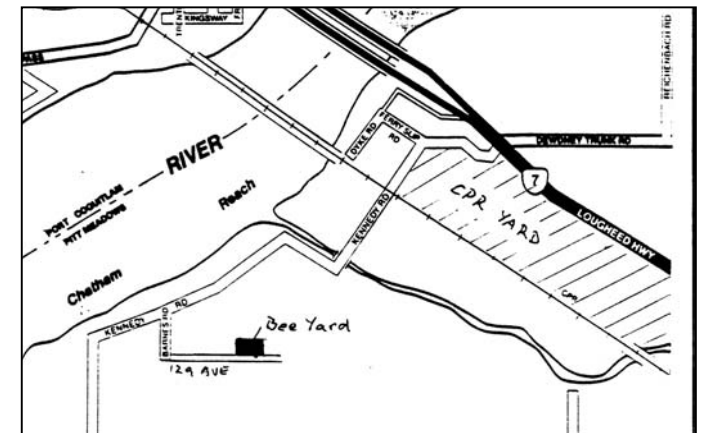
Vladimir and Zdenka, will be hosting once again this wonderful Family Barbecue + informative social. You'll be able to experience and find out everything there is to know about a "working honey bee farm" Again this year featuring a "Live Auction" with all proceeds going DIRECTLY to the Rotary Foundation,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

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

At Pitt River bridge turn left onto Kennedy Rd.
Over railroad, follow bend in road right, left.
Left onto Barnes Rd. (sign for Gun Club)
At the end, left onto 129th Ave.

PLEASE BRING:

Cash (or credit card!) for Rotary Foundation,
a good appetite (the food is fantastic!), and 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.**