

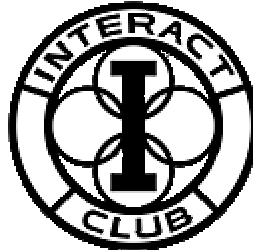
RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Rotary International presidents can't have favourites among Rotary programs. But throughout our many years as part of the family of Rotary, Lorna and I have always had a special fondness for Rotary's programs for young people.



Programs like Interact, Rotaract, and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) have tremendous value, not only to their participants, but to the future of Rotary. By introducing volunteer service at an early age, these clubs teach the lifelong lessons of Rotary: the satisfaction that comes from helping others and the fun of good work with good friends. Everyone benefits, including the communities, the young people, and the Rotary clubs that sponsor young people. These benefits are immediate, in terms of the work members do and the lessons they learn, and they are long-lasting, in terms of raising a new generation of potential future Rotarians.



Programs like Rotary Youth Exchange and The Rotary Foundation's Ambassadorial Scholarships open everyone's eyes. Exchange students and Ambassadorial Scholars further their educations while fostering international understanding, gaining new appreciations of their homelands, and building bridges to new and different cultures.

The idea of building bridges is central to Rotary. Together, we work to create connections around the world by sharing projects, by sharing knowledge, and by coming together in fellowship at our annual RI Convention. No matter how many conventions you attend, each one is different and special. The 2007 convention in Salt Lake City promises to be a wonderful experience, and I urge you all to attend.



If you live in the United States, Salt Lake City is easily accessible by road or rail, and it is a scenic trip from most parts of the country. If you will be arriving by air, it is an easy trip from most major hubs, and downtown is just a few minutes from the airport. With its clean streets, friendly inhabitants, and great natural beauty, Salt Lake City is the perfect site for an RI Convention and a wonderful destination for a family vacation.

This year, convention registration will begin a month earlier than usual. For the lowest rates, register by December 1, 2006. (If you're 18 or younger, a member of an Interact or Rotaract club, a Rotary Youth Exchange student, or the recipient of a Rotary Foundation scholarship or fellowship, be sure to check out the reduced rates available to you.) Registration forms and more information can be found at www.rotary.org/events.

Whether you are a longtime convention-goer or are thinking about planning your first trip, this convention promises everything that RI Conventions are known for: good friends, warm fellowship, inspiring presentations, and an international experience like no other. Lorna and I look forward to seeing you there.

William B. Boyd
RI President 2006-2007



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of
MeadowRidge Newsletter

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SEPTEMBER IS NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

INVOCATION

Sep. 5	Stan Wade	Sep. 12	Sandy Wakeling
Sep. 19	Laurie Anderson	Sep. 26	Liz Attarmigirian

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Sep. 07	Mary Robson	Gord Robson
Oct. 05	Debbie MacRae	Walter Volpatti



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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Victim Services (Nickie/Connie)

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Gordon Kirkland:
Using Humour to Deal with Stress in the Workplace.

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sept. 16	7-10pm	Harvest Wine Fest	ACT
Nov. 7		Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$350.00+ 1/2 of today's sales, 37 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEKS MEETING

Our guests today were Matija Cukor, Haney Rotarians John Bale and Bill Harkness, and Alice Sellers who was our Guest Speaker.

Gordy invited the club to have our next luncheon meeting at Heather Hills Farm Society club. He advised that we can have the Gourmet Hideaway cater the luncheon. Those in attendance liked the idea so Sharon advised that she would have Ineke email all the members to get an attendance list for next Tuesday.

Sharon was asked to give a Hospice Calendar update. She read the letter from Bob Shantz that was received by the Executive earlier this week. Bob is concerned that he's run out of lead time for publication by the end of September.

He requested that we continue selling ads for a 2008 calendar. Ineke said that she has sold 25 ads out of the 60 to be sold, but even if we pulled together to sell the balance of the ads, there is still a need to source pictures for the calendar – the theme was to be “Gardens of Maple Ridge”. Late production would also result in less calendar sales. It was agreed that we would continue selling the ads for next year, and that we would advise our current advertisers of this ASAP. Ken advised that we need to notify Gaming of the cancellation as soon as possible.

Our Guest Speaker, Alice Sellers, is with Virtues ‘R’ Reality Youth Program, a non-profit society operating within our community providing guidance to youth when then have no one available.

Alice moved into single parent, low income subsidized housing when she came to Maple Ridge. She is studying Child Development and working to get her ECE.

She found a lot of wandering, aimless kids when she moved into her complex. She tried to befriend them for her son's sake, and invited a few of the kids to make friendship bracelets. The next day more kids showed up. By the end of the week, 15 kids were in her yard making bracelets. As they worked on their bracelets and talked among themselves, she was horrified over the conversations she over-heard. Kids, being left alone all day, hungry, without any guidance.

She decided to start a club for the kids if she could get a place for them to meet. The reason she started the club was her fear for her son. He was being taunted by racial slurs. She wanted a safe after school place for the kids in the complex that would provide education, hobbies and homework time while building self-esteem. She attained the use of the common room for Wednesdays between 3 – 5 pm. It was named the 3 – 5 Club as this is the highest crime rate part of the day for youth. The first day there were 27 kids and it was out of control.



She approached 3 well balanced youth to work with the kids, helping them with their homework and supporting their growth. 80% of the children within the neighbour have “special needs”. The kids became involved in a fundraiser and just “shone”, she realized the great pride they felt in their roles, and the change and transformation that took place when they were at the club.

She viewed a show on Ophra featuring the book “The Family Virtues Guide”. She realized that it was a lack of respect that lead to bad behaviour and violence. The key is to respect people. She started the “Virtues Club” which helped kids start to understand the words and meaning of “patience, tolerance, respect, understanding, etc. They began painting the virtue words on rocks. The neighbourhood began to change, for the better.

Alice recalled her “transformation”. Andrea Vevers was one of her former high school teachers. Andrea bought Alice to our club on a previous occasion, and it proved a major impact on her life. She said that Andrea helped her gain self-esteem and a positive outlook. She related how, years later, she had been invited to attend a Club luncheon. She had a fear of speaking in public, and attended not realizing she was the Guest Speaker. She recognized that this was an opportunity to be a voice for the kids to develop programs to fit their needs, and that it was not about her. She gave her first speech.

A non-profit society was formed - Virtues ‘R’ Reality. The program trains young leaders, gives the guidance needed and uses volunteers’ experience with the kids. They have received some funding from the National Crime Prevention to produce a video called “You Make A Difference”. It shows the difference mentors make in kids lives. Various agencies have been involved with the Club including RCMP, Child Protection, Kiwanis Club, and the National Elders Council.

They receive a lot of support from the District, and the FHA provided funding last year, but at the current time they have no funding. Sharon suggested that she apply for funding from our Community Service Council. Alice was appreciative of our members’ time and said she would apply.

The final message “What we do in life, echoes in eternity”.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL 2006

All Club members are asked to donate a "good" BOTTLE OF WINE from either Australia, France or "International" with a minimum value of \$30.00 (Absolutely NO home-made wines!). If you are unable to do so, we would ask you to just donate \$30.00 and a Committee member will buy the bottle for you.



These bottles will be used for our "Live Auction" at the Harvest Wine Fest, September 16th. We will have Fred Armstrong auctioneering off 2 exquisite "wine cellars"! As you can see, we really need **every** member to participate in this, otherwise we will not have enough bottles to make this new and exciting "wine cellar-auction" successful. Please bring your bottle ASAP to the lunch meeting or to any Club member, who can deliver it to the meeting for you. (hand to Walter or Ineke, if cheque: make payable to MeadowRidge Rotary)

Thanks for your help and Please don't forget to sell lots of tickets (\$35.00 each) for the Harvest Wine Fest, our success depends on EVERYBODY'S participation!!

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE THIS WEEK FROM DEBI PEARCE