

September 2006

Friends of the Foundation:

Ten years ago, I attended a reception in Chicago held in honor of the president of Argentina, who was visiting the city. Among the Chicago-area Argentineans I met at the event was a doctor who was also director of one of the city's largest hospitals. When he saw my Rotary pin, he told me that he had first come to the United States about 30 years before on a Rotary Foundation scholarship for graduate studies in medicine.



Luis Vicente Giay

I asked, "Are you a Rotarian?"

"No," he replied.

"Did you have any contact with Rotary or Rotary clubs?"

"Unfortunately, I never did."

I was struck by how we had missed out on extending membership to this remarkable professional. This scenario repeats itself around the world thousands of times. About 100,500 people have participated directly in the Foundation's programs. Of these Foundation alumni, 37,500 are former Ambassadorial Scholars (this figure includes some 180 Rotary World Peace Fellows), approximately 58,000 participated in Group Study Exchange (GSE), and close to 5,000 served as volunteers. The grand total includes approximately 15,700 Rotarians who participated as GSE team leaders, Rotary Volunteers, and the like who have become Rotarians. While we don't have accurate statistics, estimate that only 3 percent to 4 percent of non-Rotarian alumni have joined Rotary. That's really unbelievable!

The cause of this significant flaw is sponsoring clubs and districts that do not follow through on the Foundation's generosity. In a recent survey conducted by RI's Membership Division, about two-thirds of the Foundation alumni who responded expressed interest in becoming Rotarians. Our alumni are part of the family of Rotary. RI President Bill Boyd has included in this year's Presidential Citation the challenge to invite at least one Rotary Foundation alumnus or alumna to join your club — an on-target decision and an example to be followed.

Ignoring our alumni is comparable to leaving the ripened crops in our carefully tended fields unharvested. We have invested time and money to help them get ahead in life and advance in their occupations. In recent years, The Rotary Foundation has made an emphatic effort to identify, bring together, acknowledge, reward, and promote the recruitment of our program alumni, and much progress has been made. We now have a strong team of Rotary Foundation alumni coordinators and a support network in all of the zones, but we still need everyone's help to carry out this complex task.

Therefore, I urge you all to reflect this month on the enormous potential, that untapped reserve, available to us and to think about how we can intensify our efforts to bring our alumni into the Rotary fold. They have benefited from Rotary as few have, and it is time that many more rejoin our family.

Sincerely,
Luis Vicente Giay
Trustee Chair, The Rotary Foundation, 2006-07



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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SEPTEMBER IS NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

INVOCATION

Sep. 12	Sandy Wakeling	Sep. 19	Laurie Anderson
Sep. 26	Liz Attarmigirian	Oct. 3	Brian Bekar

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Oct. 05	Debbie MacRae	Walter Volpatti
Nov. 02	Bob Shantz	Dave Rempel



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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Gordon Kirkland: Using Humour to Deal with Stress in the Workplace

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Dr. Ward Tinney: Medical director of RMH

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

LAST WEEKS MEETING

The meeting was held at the facilities of the Heather Hills Farm Society.

Our guests were Joanne Knuttila, Brian Koch, Sharon Becker, Lila Jane Terweil, Cailin Green, Irena Shantz and our visiting exchange student Anne.

Bob Shantz chaired the meeting in Sharon's absence. He reminded us that Wine Fest is September 16th. He asked that the members who have not yet donated a \$30. bottle of wine, please ensure that it's brought to the next meeting or just write a cheque and the committee will pick out the bottle. This is actually easier as a good selection of wine can be purchased at one time. Matt advised that he has some Wine Fest promotional cards to help sell tickets, if anyone is interested.



Bob advised that a representative of Victim Services was to be our Guest Speaker this week, but cancelled as they've ran out of funding and aren't doing anymore speaking engagements.

Bob advised that the Lacrosse Box opening is scheduled for September 28th at 6 pm. at MR Senior Secondary. He asked if any of the Rotarians would like to attend on behalf of the Club. He said that he would be there on behalf of the Hospice Society, and asked if one of the Sports



Banquet organizers would like to join him. Gordy advised that the monetary commitment to the Lacrosse Box had not yet been paid out of the Sports Banquet funds, and made the motion to prepare a cheque form presentation.

Motion made by Gordy to donate \$50,000. towards the construction cost of the lacrosse box. (This will provide the Club with a naming opportunity). Seconded by Brian, then Marco, all were in favour. Motion was passed.

Gordy will be attending, but on behalf of the District.



Mary announced that the Sports Banquet prep is underway. The venue is confirmed and booked, the entertainer is booked, the professional teams have been contacted and Ineke has advised that she will Chair the Auction Committee once again. (Thank you Ineke!). Mary's awaiting the wrap-up of the Wine Fest before full organization and ticket sales begin. Members can assist by selling tables. There are 10 tickets per table at

\$125. each. Seating for 8 guests with 2 tickets donated for Sports Celebrities and Home Town Heroes. We can also start collecting silent auction items.

Bob advised that on October 11th, the Hospice Society will be having the opening of the new Hospice Centre by the hospital. Again, there is a naming opportunity for the Club for either the Dining Room or the Lounge. Bob advised that he had deferred this year's calendar project due to health issues. There are some ads sales and photos collected, but he feels that there is not enough time this year to do the sales successfully. It was agreed that we would keep taking ad copy and collecting garden pictures to produce the "Gardens of Maple Ridge" theme calendar for sales to begin mid 2007.

Gordy then welcomed the Club members to the Heather Hills Farm Society's facilities. He explained that the property had to have an "agricultural or green" use, which is why he built the golf course. It will be used as the funding vehicle for the Home Free Society, which will operate the house next door that will be used to provide room & board for children in need of a safe and secure environment much like Father Flannigan's Boys Town in the States. Meadow Ridge School has agreed to provide the educational component.

Patrons supporting the organization will get use of the facilities, which include the course and clubhouse, swimming pool, covered patio, campsites and picnic BBQ areas. As the course is a private venture, patrons will be asked to participate by invitation only and will be limited to a total of 333 patrons. The one time Registration Fee for the first 100 applicants will be \$250. Then \$500 for the next 100 registrations, and then \$1,000 for the next 100, with the last 33 being priceless. (Of course there is room for negotiation).



The fees will provide the funding, required to operate the Home Free House, the clubhouse and lands, and provide programs for the kids. It will provide a long term funding vehicle that should be sustainable for the next 50 years.

Once the first 100 patrons are signed, there will be a Grand Opening Ceremony at the clubhouse. This will be an ongoing project that will provide naming opportunities for those interested in becoming a patron or a benefactor of the Society. Gord then provided a tour of the facilities.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence