

By Janis Young

Rotary International News - 13 July 2007



Luis Giay, 2006-07 chair of The Rotary Foundation Trustees, thanks former peace fellows Gert Danielsen (left) and Scott Lang for their support of the Rotary Centers.

When Gert Danielsen jumped up on stage at a reception for Major Donors at the [Rotary World Peace Symposium](#) in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, he made an announcement that took the entire audience by surprise. Out of a desire to give something back, the former [Rotary Peace Fellow](#) from Norway pledged to donate US\$1,000 every year for the rest of his life to the Rotary Centers program and challenged other peace fellows to do the same. Inspired by Danielsen's generosity, 2005-07 peace fellow Scott Lang of the United States took up the challenge and also pledged \$1,000 annually.

A 2003-05 peace fellow at Universidad del Salvador, Danielsen currently works for the United Nations Development Programme in South Africa, focusing on making development cooperation more effective for the poor. He also mentors peace fellowship applicants from developing countries and matches them with districts in developed countries that want to sponsor candidates.

"My challenge and support reflects a keen desire to give back to the Rotary family now that I am able to do so," Danielsen says. "Giving a gift annually that I know will inspire Rotarians and others to give more

and provide peace-building opportunities for even more people is a huge privilege to me." Citing education as one of the keys to peace building, Danielsen argues against a quick fix to violence and armed conflict. "Peace needs to be built over time, and we therefore need to invest in education and opportunities in a sustainable long-term perspective," he says.

In addition to his initial challenge, Danielsen promised to increase his yearly contribution to \$2,000 if five other peace fellows matched his gift. He added that he would raise the amount to \$3,000 if [The Rotary Foundation](#) established a Rotary Center in Africa.

Lang, who recently graduated from the University of Bradford, confessed that he hadn't planned to become a donor when he accepted the invitation to the Major Donor reception. "However, the kinetic energy we hold as Rotary [World] Peace Fellows inspired me to co-invest in this unique program that's already placed so much faith in me," he says.

Lang is founder and president of the Post-Conflict Foundation, a group that assists regions emerging from conflict.

"I've been so fortunate in this life to go from being a ward of the state to monitoring elections in Russia and the Balkans, helping Bosnian refugees resettle and later running an NGO there, and overseeing international projects for Northwestern University," he says. "Yet no experience has so opened my world view as that of being a Rotary World Peace Fellow. I owe an eternal debt of gratitude to Rotary for selecting me to take up this calling."

"It was very moving to be in the audience that night," says Rotary Foundation General Manager John Osterlund, "and I'll long remember the moment. The commitment made by Gert and Scott is a real testament to the caliber of the Rotary Centers program."

Osterlund adds that he's looking forward to another exciting announcement someday: "I dream of the day when one of our Rotary World Peace Fellows wins the Nobel Peace Prize and announces during his or her acceptance speech in Oslo, Norway, that they are endowing a Rotary World Peace Fellowship to provide opportunities to future peace fellows. With the likes of Gert and Scott, my dream may be realized sooner than I had originally thought."



# The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of  
MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 14 Issue 3  
July 17, 2007

Web-site: [www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge\\_Rotary](http://www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary)

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

President:	Bob Shantz	Phone: 604-463-9619	<a href="mailto:rdshantz@telus.net">rdshantz@telus.net</a>
Secretary:	Maureen Goodrick	Phone: 604-329-2879	<a href="mailto:maureen.goodrick@interprotech.ca">maureen.goodrick@interprotech.ca</a>
Editor:	Peter Boekhorst	Phone: 604-465-3392	<a href="mailto:mrrotary@telus.net">mrrotary@telus.net</a>

## INVOCATION

July 17	Stan Wade	July 24	Sandy Wakeling
July 31	Laurie Anderson	Aug. 7	Liz Attarmigirian

## BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Aug. 9	Jim Coulter	Matt DeBruyn
Sep. 06	Mina Park	Marco Terwiel

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or email [peter.boekhorst@telus.net](mailto:peter.boekhorst@telus.net)



**TODAY'S PROGRAM:** Vivian Chow – Service Canada Centre for Youth

**NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:** Lynn Easton – Literacy in B.C.

## CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
August 18	3:00pm	Vladimir's Honey BBQ	The Bee Farm - 129 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Pitt Meadows
Sept. 15	7:00pm	Harvest Wine Festival	Thomas Haney Centre

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$87.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 48 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests today were Marina Moracco, Brent Paskar, and Jen Dawkins (our GSE team member who has just returned from Italy).



Mike Davies made two cheque presentations. The first cheque in the amount of \$500 was given to Lorraine Bates of the Pitt Meadows Agricultural Society. (left)

The second cheque was in the amount of \$1,000 and was presented to the Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre. The funds were requested for assessment kits needed for their program, which primarily deals with children up to the age of five. Mandeep Bhuller spoke about his experience with the association as his child has congenital heart disease and has benefited from this program.



Vladimir reminded us of the upcoming BBQ at the Bee Farm in August. Bob advised that a request has come to the Club to sponsor banners for the 2010 Olympics. There were two letters of appreciation that have been received from bursary recipients that were read to us.

Our Guest Speakers were Bonnie Klovance and Amanda of Adopt A Block. Their presentation was on litter and the AAB programs within our communities. The organization was formed 12 years ago. It is funded by the District of Maple Ridge, membership fees, and the BC Gaming Commission.

Goal is to control and prevent litter. Amanda does the educational program at the schools. 11 schools currently participate. The schools are also involved in the "Just Can It" program. The students provide the labour to paint the brightly coloured cans which are located around the schools and other areas in town.

The Adopt A Street program geared towards businesses who adopt a street around their business and maintain the area. Adopt A Block is the residential program with 200 families currently participating by picking up garbage in their neighbourhoods.

AAB also organizes Community Clean-ups. They just held one last weekend to help clean up the downtown core. The Society has a presence at community events to promote public awareness and sign up new members. They are working with festival coordinators to provide litter education, and support.

Bonnie advised that we could help by picking up garbage when we're out for a walk. Businesses can clean up around their properties, and participate in community clean-ups. She then requested some funding from the Club. Some ways we can participate are to donate towards purchasing T-shirts for the volunteers or by purchasing some of the blue clean-up bags which are \$10 each. The bags are given to volunteers along with a grab-it. The original blue bags were sponsored by our club and featured the Rotary logo.

Anyone interested in volunteering, may contact Bonnie at (604) 463-9699.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence



## MAPLE RIDGE CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL 2007

On Sunday July 15, downtown Maple Ridge showed all it's locals and visitors what a Caribbean party looks like! If you weren't there, you missed a real treat...so much music, dancing and just plain ordinary fun. About 18,000 people showed up and everybody had a good time.

The Caribbean food, music, dancers, the parade with all the beautiful costumes and all the different arts and crafts, lots to do for the kids. People came from Maple Ridge, Coquitlam, North Vancouver, Medicine Hat, Edmonton, Washington state, Toronto with their lazy chairs and blankets to just sit around and enjoy all this free entertainment. The Meadow Ridge Rotary Club can be very proud to have been a sponsor for all 7 years that this wonderful Community and family festival has been entertaining thousands and thousands of locals and tourists. Maple Ridge has become a destination for many visitors from all over Canada and the States, every third Sunday in July, to come and enjoy the Caribbean Festival.

Thank You Meadow Ridge Rotary Club for your ongoing support!

