

ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE COMMITTED TO POLIO ERADICATION

By Maureen Vaught

Rotary International News 27 June 2007

Approximately 95 percent of all polio cases occur in Organization of the Islamic Conference member states. But two OIC statesmen are leading efforts to reduce that alarming statistic and ensure a polio-free world for all. In recognition of their exceptional work, Rotary International presented Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and OIC Secretary-General Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu with the Polio Eradication Champion Award. The award recognizes governments and world leaders who have made outstanding contributions to polio eradication.

Under Abdullah's leadership, Malaysia has made polio eradication a top priority. In 2003, it placed the topic on the agenda of the Tenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference and, after the summit adopted a resolution supporting polio eradication, was the first member state to contribute financially. Malaysia's donation of US\$1 million has spurred other OIC countries to enact policies and make contributions totaling \$8.6 million.

To combat misinformation in Nigeria, Ihsanoglu took measures to encourage leaders, clerics, and parents to have their children immunized. He also wrote to the governors of five states in northern Nigeria with a high incidence of polio asking them to provide necessary support to stop the spread of polio in their communities. "I am honored to recognize Professor Ihsanoglu for his unwavering support of a polio-free world," said Past RI President Glen Kinross, who presented the award. "His advocacy efforts have resulted in additional funding and political and religious commitment from OIC member states."

Past recipients of the Polio Eradication Champion Award include former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Australian Prime Minister John Howard, former U.S. President Bill Clinton, Nigerian President Mamadou Tandja, and Alpha Oumar Konare, chair of the African Union Commission.

SITE CHANGE FOR THE 2009 RI CONVENTION

Salt Lake City — The Rotary International Board of Directors has changed the tentative site of the 2009 RI Convention from Seoul to Birmingham, England. The event was provisionally scheduled in Seoul for 21-24 June 2009.

The change was necessary because some segments of the planning for the convention were behind schedule. These delays and other associated issues hindered the ability of local Rotary clubs to organize and host such a large-scale, international meeting.

Rotary International's annual convention is a worldwide gathering of Rotary members who participate in a broad agenda of plenary sessions and workshops focused on how Rotary clubs help to make the world a better place through volunteer service.

The decision was taken at the conclusion of the 2007 Rotary convention in Salt Lake City, USA, attended by nearly 17,000 Rotary members.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

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INVOCATION

July 24	Sandy Wakeling	July 31	Laurie Anderson
Aug. 7	Liz Attarmigirian	Aug. 14	Terry Becker

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



TODAY'S PROGRAM: Kathy Booth – Literacy in B.C.

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
August 10, 11		Pres. Membership Conference	Vancouver – SOLD OUT
August 18	3:00pm	Vladimir's Honey BBQ	The Bee Farm - 129 th Ave., Pitt Meadows
August 28	noon	DG John Bosch's visit	The Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant
Sept. 15	7:00pm	Harvest Wine Festival	Thomas Haney Centre

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$104.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 47 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOB

Fellow Rotarians,

I look forward to working with each of you in the coming year as "Rotary Shares." Our club has a proud record of service in our community. Let's be more active, have more fun, and raise more money than ever before: for in truth it is in the giving that you truly receive.

Anyone who has more time or ideas to contribute, step forward!

Yours in Rotary,

Robert D. Shantz

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guest today was Jen Dawkins (GSE).

Bob made the following announcements:

On August 17th the Rotary Golf fun event will be held at the Homestead Golf & Country Club in Lynden, Washington.

August 18th is Vladimir's BBQ to raise funds for Rotary International.

Our District Governor, John Bosh and his wife, will visit us on August 28th. Club members are encouraged to attend to welcome our new DG.

Ineke announced that about 18,000 people attended the Caribbean Festival last Sunday. It was a great success.

Our Guest Speakers today were Vivian Chow and Claudia Almander, who are with Service Canada Centre for Youth. Located at 22325 Lougheed Hwy, open 8:30 - 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday, they help youth looking for summer jobs and employers requiring staff.



They assist youth with writing resumes and do mock interviews. For employers they post job opportunities. The program helps students acquire new skills. There is also a casual labour program which assists not only businesses but home owners who require help with gardening and yard clean up.

The youth are taught safety issues and their rights under the LRA. Employers are provided with information on the BC Labour Standards Act.

Students are typically paid \$10-12 per hour, but no less than minimum wage.

They can be reached at 666-HIRE.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL 2007

Request to all Club members regarding our 12th Annual Harvest Wine Festival, September 15, 2007 at Thomas Haney Centre:

Every single members is asked to donate a "good" BOTTLE OF WINE 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 (discount available to our Club!).



We will then put together 2 exquisite "wine cellars" (one "Canadian" and one "International") to be auctioned off at the event! As you can see, we really need **every** member to participate in this, otherwise we will not have enough bottles to make this exciting "wine cellar-auction" successful.

Please bring your bottle to the lunch meeting ASAP, or to any Club member, who can deliver it to the meeting for you. (hand to Brian Fox or Ineke, if cheque: make payable to MeadowRidge Rotary) Thanks for your help and Please don't forget to sell lots of tickets, they are now available (\$35.00 each from Rotary member or \$39.00 from the ACT) our success depends on EVERYBODY'S participation!

Not Everyone in Need Has a Brick

A successful man known for his philanthropy was driving his new car through a poor part of town. He'd driven the route hundreds of times before on his way home.

A young boy tried to flag him down. The man was in a hurry and didn't want to get involved, so he pretended he didn't see him. The traffic signal turned red, though. As he slowed for it, he heard a loud thud. The boy had thrown a brick at his car! The man burst out of the car and grabbed the boy. "You juvenile delinquent!" he screamed. "You'll pay for this or go to jail!" "I'm sorry, mister," the boy cried. "My mom's lying on the floor in our apartment. I think she's dying! Our phone's been cut off and I've been trying to get someone to stop. I didn't know what else to do! Take me to jail, but call a doctor for my mom first." The man was filled with shame. "I'm a doctor," he said. "Where is she?" The grateful boy took him to his apartment. The man administered CPR and called an ambulance.

"Will she live?" the boy sobbed. "Yes, son, she will," the doctor said. "Then it's worth going to jail. I'm so sorry I hit your new car. You can take me in now." "You're not going anywhere," the doctor said. "It was my fault you had to throw a brick to get my attention."

The doctor made sure the boy was taken care of, and as he drove home he resolved not to fix the dent. He would keep it as a reminder that not everyone in need has a brick to throw.

Source: Taken from Michael Josephson's *Character Counts Network* (Week 519).

For information on Michael Josephson refer to his website: <http://www.charactercounts.org>