

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

In Rotary, August is the month we set aside to focus on membership. It's appropriate that this time occurs at the beginning of the Rotary year, because everything that happens in Rotary begins with membership.

When I speak at Rotary gatherings, I often tell the story of how I was invited into the organization. I was new in my town of Trenton, Ont., Canada, and my wife, Joan, and I hadn't yet met many people. We were active in our church and in the Boy Scouts, so it probably would have just been a matter of time before we were asked to join a service group. And as it happened, I was invited to a Rotary club meeting.

Rotary seemed like a good place for someone like me to meet like-minded people. I talked about it with Joan, and we both thought it could lead to some new friends, and possibly a good chance to do some worthwhile community service. I thought I might even attract some new clients to my fledgling accounting practice. So, when I was invited to join, I did.

Now, 45 years later, that decision has shaped our lives. I thought I was joining a club. Really, I was joining one part of an organization that strengthens communities, improves health, creates possibilities, saves lives, and makes the world better in too many ways to count, every single day.

So many things I've seen as a Rotary leader have made me proud to be a Rotarian. But I know that being proud is not sufficient. We must share our pride with colleagues, friends, and family members, and we must seek out qualified men and women whom we'll be proud to see as Rotarians.

A new generation of Rotarians is essential to every club, and to Rotary. In some parts of the world, our clubs are thriving, and new ones are forming. But in others, clubs are aging and doing little to attract new members. As members leave, there is no one to replace them – and when a club disappears, there is no one to take on the work that's left undone.

All of us know that when we ask someone to join Rotary, we are not imposing a burden. We are giving a gift. We are sharing with another person the wonderful, amazing force that is Rotary, just as *Rotary Shares* with us. So I urge each of you, this very week, as proud Rotarians, to share Rotary with a qualified individual. Submit the name of at least one prospective member, and if approved, ask that person to join – just as someone did for me, and just as someone did for you.

Wilfrid J. (Wilf) Wilkinson President, Rotary International

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UN Global Compact and Dalberg Global Development Advisors, who developed the report in preparation for the summit, surveyed 20,000 companies worldwide, identifying 550 NGOs, UN agencies, foundations, and other organizations with which companies had partnered, and profiled 85 of those based on company ratings.

Organizations that ranked higher than RI showcased long-standing partnerships with corporations. Because RI's global partnerships include only UN agencies and other nonprofit organizations - and only Rotary clubs and districts have partnered with corporations to date – the organization's ranking should be considered exemplary. RI has a long and distinguished history of collaborating with other organizations in the name of humanitarian service.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

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August is Membership & Extension Month

INVOCATION

July 31	Laurie Anderson	Aug. 7	Liz Attarmigirian
Aug. 14	Terry Becker	Aug. 21	Anil Bharwani

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:

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
Oct. 16	6-11pm	Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Course

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$129.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 46 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests today were Irena Shantz and Brent Paskar.

Mike presented Ineke, on behalf of the Maple Ridge downtown BIA, with a \$1,000 contribution towards the BIA Core Ambassador Program. This program provides on-street Ambassadors downtown to assist our visitors, residents, and merchants.



Mike also presented a cheque for \$500 to Lisa Shepherd as a donation towards the new Arabian Nights Festival, a colourful and lively celebration of diversity, with a "gypsy caravan" feel. The fun will include belly dancers, a community dance circle, and vendors selling authentic clothing, arts, jewellery and cultural food. August 26th, noon 'til 7 pm at the Memorial Peach Park on 224th Street.



Announcements included a reminder that the Wine Fest co-coordinators require each Rotarian to donate a bottle of wine or \$30 cash for the purchase of a bottle of wine for the wine seller to be auctioned at the event. Ineke advised that she had located the missing Rotarian baby pictures and that they have been returned to their owners.

Our Guest Speaker was Kathy Booth who spoke on literacy in BC. Kathy works with Lynn Easton on the "Legacies 2010, Literacy Now" project, which is a Community Literacy Initiative. The goal is to make BC the most literate province by 2010.

Among working age Canadians, 3 million (14.6%) struggle with very serious literacy challenges, while another 5.8 million (27%) can work with print information but not well (survey Dec. 2005). Literacy skills effect family income, health and overall quality of life.

Our community has indicted its desire to be part of this community program. The Library will steward this program with the first step being to conduct a "literacy audit". A taskforce has been developed to inventory the community

There have been some gaps identified. Douglas College used to provide one on one tutoring with the help of volunteers to teach illiterate adults, there have not been enough volunteers to continue the program. The prison population (a small segment) of our community are either low literate or illiterate.

One successful program for Children is the School District's "Breakfast & Books" program at Mount Crescent School. Very successful, but not broad based. Currently underway within our community are summer reading clubs, such as the "Catch the Reading Bug" thru the library.

Kathy asked for our Club's support and involvement beyond funding. They have asked Sharon Kyle to attend a Community Meeting in the fall when their Action Plan will be presented. Kathy asked that we consider ways

we can help, either by volunteering our time, providing input for the Work Place Survey or helping to raise funds.

Ineke mentioned a Rotary International program in the States that costs donors \$5 per month, and provides a book on a monthly basis to a child from birth to five years of age. There is another program that provides a dictionary to every child in Grade 3.

There was also mention of a Black Bond Books Program within Maple Ridge that provides reading books to kids in need, which are distributed through the Friends In Need Foodbank.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

HARVEST WINE FESTIVAL 2007

September 15, 2007 at Thomas Haney Centre:

Every single member 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!

ROTARY RANKED AMONG TOP FIVE NGOs FOR CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

Rotary International News

11 July 2007

The *Financial Times* has ranked Rotary International one of the top five nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) for corporate partnerships. In the newspaper's special supplement, *Corporate Citizenship and Philanthropy*, Rotary came in fifth in the global rankings of 34 finalists.

Published in conjunction with the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit held 5-6 July in Geneva, the supplement reached some 1.4 million senior business executives, industry and government leaders, and private/institutional investors across 140 countries.

The summit, which was chaired by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, featured an international roster of business leaders, government ministers, and heads of civil society and focused on such key challenges to building future markets as human rights and climate change. RI Director Bernard Rosen of Belgium represented RI President Wilfrid J. Wilkinson at the event.

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