

U.S. SHELTERBOX RESPONSE TEAM DELIVERS LANDMARK AID

By Janice Chambers Rotary International News

On her first trip delivering disaster relief for ShelterBox, Trannie Lacquey encountered Maoist guerrillas, crossed swollen rivers on foot, and hiked miles in a remote, tension-filled corner of Nepal.



The Shelterbox that marked 500,000 people helped by the program was delivered to Jagadeo Argairiya, who has a family of 10, including five young children.

But the toughest challenge, says the grandmother of five, was clearing customs at the airport for 410 ShelterBox relief kits, which would help hundreds of families trapped by the monsoon floods that swept Nepal in August. It took 10 days.

“It was tedious and very frustrating. We knew people were waiting,” she says.

Fortunately, extensive training at a ShelterBox Response Team training camp in Cornwall, England, paid off, she says. Lacquey and her husband, John, members of the Rotary Club of Branford, Florida, USA, and Gary Boe, a member of the Rotary Club of Lewis River, Washington, USA, were the first U.S. ShelterBox Response Team members sent on a disaster relief mission.

They also made history, as they delivered the ShelterBox that marked 500,000 disaster victims aided by the Rotarian-sponsored non-profit.

Shelterbox started as a small project by the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard, England, in 2001, but it took off quickly. To date, it has raised £15 million and delivered aid in 33 countries. Recently, the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Charles’s wife, Camilla, agreed to serve as president of ShelterBox. She is believed to be the first Royal Patron of a Rotary club project in the United Kingdom.

Each ShelterBox costs about US\$1,000 and is intended to help a family of 10 survive for six months. It contains custom supplies that typically include a large tent, blankets, water purification and cooking equipment, basic tools, and a multi-fuel stove. Rotary clubs provide more than half the funding, and private donors contribute the rest.

The effort also depends on energetic volunteers like the Lacqueys, who arrived home 1 September after three weeks in Nepal and are now repacking for a weekend in Blackwater River State Park in Florida, where they’ll help train more response team recruits.

They’ll also tell stories from their recent trip. “The rice paddies were still flooded,” John Trannie recalls. “People lost everything. They were living under tarps in the rain. The living conditions were just horrible.” But through it all, he says, “People would help their neighbours. It was a very humbling experience for us.”

Recently, ShelterBox enjoyed another first. It received its first Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation, allowing 24 boxes to be delivered to northern Ethiopia in October, providing desperately needed shelter for Sudanese refugees. The grant was funded by the Rotary clubs of Beaverton, Oregon, USA, and Bahir Dar, Ethiopia. It is part of a massive effort by ShelterBox, called A Million in Africa, which intends to provide shelter for one million of Africa’s eight million refugees.



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 14 Issue 13
September 25, 2007

Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

President:	Bob Shantz	Phone: 604-463-9319	rdshantz@telus.net
Secretary:	Maureen Goodrick	Phone: 604-329-2879	maureen.goodrick@interprotech.ca
Editor:	Peter Boekhorst	Phone: 604-465-3392	mrrotary@telus.net

September is New Generations Month

INVOCATION

Sept. 25	Jan Dale	Oct. 2	Mike Davies
Oct. 9	Wende Dawes	Oct. 16	

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Oct. 04	Wendy Lindvik	Walter Volpatti
Nov. 01	Brian Bekar	Wende Dawes

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



TODAY’S PROGRAM: ??

NEXT WEEK’S PROGRAM: Dick Drew – Shelter Box

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Oct. 16	6-11pm	Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Course
Nov. 9	6-10pm	District 5050 Foundation Dinner \$60 CAD	Coast Hotel Langley City 20393 Fraser Highway, Langley BC

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$302.50 + 1/2 of today’s sales, 40 cards left, Jackpot on “Queen of Hearts” only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests today were Richard Gareau, Patrick O'Brien, and Rob Watkins.

Announcements:

The International Committee will be meeting Tuesday September 25th.

Terry Becker thanked all the Wine Festival volunteers for their time on this successful fundraiser. She said it was an easy function to chair and organize due to all the support she received from the many people involved.

Mary noted that the Wine Festival and Sports Banquet were scheduled too close together this year which has made it more difficult for the Sports Banquet committee to get started with ticket sales, sponsor requests, etc. The Sports Banquet has always been held in the Fall, and Mary asked that the Wine Fest committee consider timing of the event for next year. The Sports Banquet committee is now looking for sponsors and auction items from each Rotarian. You can donate, or find someone else to donate to the auction..

Gordy announced that the municipality maybe partnering with the provincial government for reconstruction of the Hammond Stadium, a \$1.7M project.

"Of the things we think, say or do:

1. **Is it the TRUTH?**
2. **Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
3. **Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
4. **Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?"**

Our Guest Speaker was Judith Ray who is with the Mission Rotary Club. Judith is a nurse who has been a member of the Mission Club since 1994. Her presentation was on the Four Way Test Training program, which is being promoted to students Grades 6 & 7, to provide a sense of value and ethics. The program has been underway in Mission for four years.

The program starts with the students writing anonymous questions to address personal issues of concern. The students are divided into groups with a Rotarian or two at each table to guide discussion, and to provide resources to students seeking help. The questions are read aloud and there is a round table discussion with the test providing the base for conflict resolution. At the end of the session, a Four Way Test coin is given to each student as a reminder of the principles they've learned through participating in the program.



Rotarian Herbert Taylor developed the Four Way test as a code of ethics in 1942. This training program was developed in 1994 by Rotarians, working with teachers to provide positive impact on young people's lives. The Test training has been very successful and has had a major impact on the lives of some of the programs' participants.

Matt stated that he feels this is a very worthwhile program, and would like to be involved in getting the program into our local schools. He asked that any other Rotarians who would like to be involved contact him to see if we can get this training started in Ridge Meadows.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

2008 RI CONVENTION IN LOS ANGELES, 15-18 JUNE

Lights, Camera, Action!

Share the spotlight with fellow Rotarians in the entertainment capital of the world.

Los Angeles is the ideal stage for Rotary International's annual extravaganza. Like the family of Rotary, this sprawling metropolis of 3.8 million people boasts a diverse ethnic mix and cosmopolitan flair. L.A. is the second largest city in the United States and teems with activity and culture — from its star-studded motion picture industry to its picturesque beachfront communities and resorts.

Register early and save

Register early for the convention to take advantage of special pricing!

First deadline: 15 December 2007

Second deadline: 31 March 2008

[Register online](#). It's convenient and secure. Your confirmation materials will be e-mailed to you.



VOLUNTEER SERVICE GRANTS

Foundation Funds are available to enable qualified Rotarians and spouses to travel to a potential WCS project site in order to evaluate or otherwise assess its feasibility. Volunteer Service Grants support the international travel of qualified Rotarians and spouses of Rotarians to provide a needed service to a community and/or to plan the implementation of a needed project in a community.

Eligibility for travelers is based on

1. a defined community need;
2. a need that can be met by the experience and skills of the Rotarians/team; and
3. an understanding that the skills and experience are not available in the community.

The award is a flat grant with US\$3,000 available to an individual or \$6,000 available for a team of up to five members. A single project site may not benefit from more than one grant award at any given time. An individual volunteer may receive no more than two Volunteer Service Grants per Rotary year. Download the application from the RI website or Contact Bill Robson at:

william_robson@yahoo.ca

Phone 604-340-9700

Fax 604-586-3128