

December 19, 2007
Meadow Ridge Rotary

On behalf of the Board and staff of Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Community Services, I would like to thank you, once again, for your very generous donation of \$1500.00 for our Meals-on-Wheels Program.



We thank you for recognizing Meals on Wheels as a valuable service in our community, and for offering this donation to assist us in maintaining this quality program. Please be assured that your donation does make a difference.

In closing, I would like to express my personal appreciation for your kindness.

Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!

Joanne Leginus
Director of Administration and Services

UNDERSTANDING WILL MAKE DIFFERENCE IN ENDING WORLD POVERTY



A basic understanding of poverty is the inspiration Rotarians need to eradicate it, keynote speaker Deepa Willingham said during the second spouses plenary session at the International Assembly.

Willingham, a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Ynez Valley, California, USA, told the audience that 1.3 billion people around the world live on less than US\$1 a day and that 10 million children die each year before they reach their fifth birthday due to extreme poverty. "I find these numbers staggering and overwhelming. My heart aches with sadness," she said.

Figures like these led Willingham to form [PACE Universal](#) (Promise of Assurance to Children Everywhere) in 2003. The organization's mission is to nurture the education, nutrition, health, and social development of young girls in the slums of Kolkata (formerly Calcutta), India, and other areas around the world.

"I'm just a simple Rotarian from a small town in Southern California, but I believe that I can make a difference by doing my share, however small that may be," Willingham said.

Her club partnered with the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan to build a permanent building for the Piyali Learning Center, which will eventually serve 1,200 girls and 500 boys from impoverished villages around Kolkata.

The center will also help provide clean water, sanitation, and solar ovens to the community of Piyali Junction. "The aim of the center will be to bring about sustainable changes to the lives of citizens," said Willingham.

Those living in extreme poverty "live with no hope in their hearts, they have no voice in their destiny or the ability to determine their future," Willingham told the audience.

It's up to Rotary to make a difference in the existence of extreme poverty, Willingham added. "Rotarians' actions are a perfect example of how the power of one can work, changing the life of one child, one community, one village at a time."



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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January is Rotary Awareness Month

INVOCATION

Jan. 22	Debbie MacRae	Jan. 29	Marina Marrocco
Feb. 5	Kevin Nosworthy	Feb. 12	Patrick O'Brien



There is no Bingo work for January, February and March!

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Dennis Tjernagel – Principal, Thomas Haney Secondary School

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Barbara Desjardins – North Fraser Therapeutic Riding Assoc.

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jan. 27: Sharon Kyle Jan. 28: Mike Davies

HAPPY ANIVERSARY

Jan. 22: Gord & Mary Robson

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$560.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 31 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Another lunch meeting at Meadow Gardens Golf Course, since the Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant is still under renovations. Compliments to Meadow Gardens, beautiful lunch buffet was served and enjoyed by 26 attendees.

Marco supplied an information pamphlet, regarding the GSE program. Looking for business or professional persons between 25 and 40, with an aboriginal heritage, or involved in aboriginal culture. In Sept./Oct. 2008 a team of young professionals, led by a Rotarian Team Leader, will travel to Western Australia for a 4-5 week tour, focused on aboriginal cultures. Basically all expenses will be paid.

If any members know of an eligible person, please inform Marco.

Patrick informed the members on the developments of his fundraising campaign for the Shelter Box project. Feb. 15, 16 and 17 are confirmed for Memorial Peace Park. A tent will be set up and members will be staying overnight to collect pledges. Members can also collect pledges (pledge forms available from Patrick) Every member is expected to collect \$200.= in pledges. Media coverage will be provided shortly.

One of our guests today is Maynard Embree (guest of Matt), work experience coordinator at Westview Secondary School. Mary addressed Maynard and thanked him personally for his involvement with our Club in many different aspects. Maynard has been participating actively on the Vocational Committee and also been instrumental in supplying volunteers for the Sports' Banquet. He has been helping to put together a brochure with the Vocational Committee, to better publicize our Bursary Program to eligible students in School District 42.

Guest Speakers Rupert Greep and Mark Kauhane representing the RM Minor Baseball Assoc.

Presenting a proposal to rebuild Hammond Stadium and to restore it to its Original Glory, through funding from the Sports' Banquet proceeds. Our communities have a rich Baseball history; baseball has been documented as far back as the 1940's. In 1951 Hammond Stadium opened with over 2000 spectators per event recorded. A real "Community Event Place" At this time 850 families are represented and benefiting from the RMMBA, which has been providing baseball to children for over 50 years. Providing baseball to families that cannot afford the cost, making sure of equal opportunities for all children.

After all MR is home of future MLB Hall of Fame Larry Walker Jr. (who is also one of our "Hometown Heroes")

Some of the benefits:

- The stadium would provide a positive activity to the area
- Would position RM as a destination capable of hosting Provincial, National and even International events; improving Sports Tourism
- Place Community at par with neighbouring communities in terms of facilities and sporting infrastructure.
- Provide a "showcase" and source of inspiration.

Proposal put forward is very similar to Delair Park in Abbotsford, seating 500.

Financial part of proposal:

- RMMBA/DMR have commissioned a \$1.7M capital project
- RMMBA/DMR have submitted a Grant Application for \$1.2M under MRIF program (Prov./Fed. Funding)
- DMR has committed to funding of \$250K and approved a loan of \$325K to RMMBA
- RMMBA is seeking funding for \$325K

Questions about capacity of parking, was answered positively. Neighbourhood acceptability? Has not had any negative reactions yet, but no public meetings have taken place yet. Naming opportunities (Rotary Park/Field?) are possibilities, depending on sponsorship.

Submitted by Ineke Boekhorst

'THANK YOU' LETTERS

We received several 'Thank You' letters. Two are on this page, and the third one on the back page



Dear Mr. Shantz,

January 10,2008

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff and the communities we serve I would like to thank you and all the members of your Rotary Club who provided such wonderful assistance to our agency during the 2007 Christmas season and throughout the past year.

The volunteers that supported us at the Santa Parade and the Holiday train enabled us to collect over 25001bs of food and cash donations of \$2100.00. In addition the Rotarians donated 85 pounds of food and \$292.40 as a cash donation. Please extend our thanks to all that braved the cold and rainy evenings to make the Holiday Train and the Santa Parade such successful campaigns.

During the year your members are always quick to answer a call for help when we need extra hands. For this we thank you.

All of us here at Friends In Need Food Bank wish all your members a very happy and healthy 2008.

Glenda Williams, Administrator

The Rotary Club of Meadow Ridge.

January 6,2008

I was very happy to receive the phone call from Mr. Shantz, informing me of the Calendar win. What a great way to start the New Year. I would like to thank all of you for this great fund raising project.

My late husband Lloyd Whitebone (Founder of Garden Hill Funeral Chapel) was a Rotarian, joining in your Charter year 1952. In 1953 Lloyd and I were married. We received a pair of Hudson Bay blankets from your Club. In 1957 we had a Son. I was a Rotary Ann and was given the first silver baby spoon to be given out.

Over the years I have kept an interest in your Club activities.

I wish you much success in the coming year and I again Thank You.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jule Hester
Maple Ridge