LEE ASKS ROTARIANS TO 'MAKE DREAMS REAL' FOR WORLD'S CHILDREN

Rotary International President-elect Dong Kurn Lee addressed incoming district governors on 14 January at the 2008 International Assembly, urging them to use their resources to help curb child mortality. Lee said he was in disbelief when he learned that 30,000 children under the age of five die every day from preventable diseases such as pneumonia, measles, and malaria.



"Once I understood the issues behind that terrible number, I knew what I needed to do," Lee said. He told the incoming governors that Rotary will keep the service emphases of recent years -- water, health and hunger, and

literacy -- but asked them to focus their efforts in each of these areas on children.

"In 2008-09, I will ask you all to *Make Dreams Real* for the world's children," he said. "This will be our theme, and my challenge to all of you."

"Children are killed by illnesses that become deadly in combination with poor sanitation and malnutrition," Lee said. In addition, families stricken by extreme poverty are trapped in a cycle that only leads to more unnecessary deaths. "It's a cycle that is not interrupted because there is no access to education."

He challenged the audience to do their part to give children "hope and a chance at a future" by reducing the rate of child mortality in the world.

"We will bring clean water to their communities and create sanitation projects that keep children healthy," Lee said.

As the incoming governors begin preparing for the year ahead with the training and inspiration they receive at the International Assembly, Lee reminded them of Rotary's power and encouraged them to use their resources efficiently to maximize the good done around the world.

Governor-elect Geoffrey Mathis, of District 9930 in New Zealand, thinks the upcoming RI theme allows Rotary to dream big. "*Make Dreams Real* will be an easy theme to sell around the world. We all like challenges; Lee has allowed us to put our dreams to practice."

Rotarians can improve children's health, Lee said, even in small ways, such as delivering mosquito nets, rehydration salts, vitamins, and vaccines. "So much more can be done with just a little more: a trained birth attendant, a simple clinic, a school feeding program, a visiting nurse," he continued. "These are simple and direct ways to save children's lives."

In 2008-09, Rotarians will be asked to open their eyes to the needs of children in communities near and far, Lee said. "Children die not because nobody can help them, but because too often, nobody does. But you and I, here in this room, are Rotarians, and helping is what we do best," he said, adding that "our job is to *Make Dreams Real* for children. If every one of us does this, at the end of our year, we will all have achieved something wonderful."



Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

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January is Rotary Awareness Month

INVOCATION

Jan. 29	Marina Marrocco	Feb. 5	Kevin Nosworthy
Feb. 12	Patrick O'Brien	Feb. 19	Mina Park



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

TODAY'S PROGRAM:	Barbara Desjardins – North Fraser Therapeutic Riding Assoc.	
NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:	Andrew Lenton, - President of Golden Ears Athletics. MRSS Track & Field Project	

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
April 12		District Assembly	Kwantlen University College, Surrey, BC
May 15		2008 District 50/50 Conference	Holiday Inn, Pine Street, Everett, WA

'VALENTINES DINNER - DANCE

Join the Haney Club for their 'Valentines Dinner' at Meadow Gardens Golf Course.

February 13, 2008 @ 6:00pm

We'll have cocktails from 6 to 6:30 and a three-course dinner will be served starting at 6:30 pm.

While you are dining there will be live piano by Robert Campbell, and after the meal Cailin Green and Robert's 5-piece band will play music for dancing the night away.



Roses and Truffles supplied and here's the choices you'll need to make for dinner:

For your starter choose from a Smoked Salmon Corn Fritter or a Sun dried Blueberry stuffed Pork tenderloin. For your Entree choose from a Grilled Alberta Beef tenderloin or a Pan Seared Chilean Sea Bass (or a Vegetarian Meal if you wish).

Finally your meal will finish with an Orange Ginger Crème Brule, with a chocolate dipped Strawberry & White Chocolate truffle.

Tickets are \$100 per couple for this event, and tickets are available now. Please let Robert Campbell know!

It would be great to continue the fellowship and camaraderie between our two clubs; They would love to see us join them.

THE ZAJAC RANCH FOR CHILDREN

Happy New Year! We are excited to announce that The Zajac Ranch for Children has been chosen as the partner charity of the Abbotsford Safeway store for the Safeway We Care program. From now until March 31, the Abbotsford Safeway will be raising funds and awareness for the Zajac Ranch, telling the community about the wonderful work we are doing to "raise the spirits" of children with serious and chronic illnesses and disabilities. Three special dates to mark on your calendars:

Saturday, January 26 – Safeway Miles Bring Smiles Day:

for every \$2 you donate to the Zajac Ranch, you receive 5 Air Miles. This is quite a deal, considering you normally need to spend \$20 at Safeway to earn a single Air Mile!

Saturday, February 9 – Safeway Charity Checkout Day:

"Round up" your grocery bill and the difference goes to the Zajac Ranch.

Saturday, March 1 – Safeway We Care Day:

Join us for cake, games, and a celebration of the Safeway We Care campaign! Purchase a \$3 coupon book; the money goes to the Zajac Ranch, and you'll get some great deals.

Zajac Ranch staff and volunteers will be on hand to say "howdy", answer any questions about the Ranch, and possibly give away some free Zajac Ranch calendars and other exciting gifts. And if you can't make it on these dates, you can still contribute to the Ranch anytime you're at the Abbotsford Safeway. Please spread the word to help us make this program as successful as possible and help BC's special children experience the joys of childhood.

If you have any questions, please call Christina at 604-739-0444 or email info@zajac.com.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PEACE COMMUNITY PROGRAM

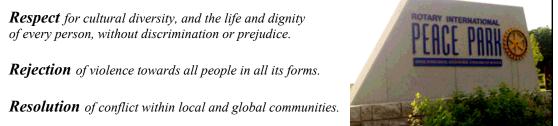
The Rotary Peace Community Program is truly a worthy exercise to breathe new life into Community Service. It is an opportunity for local Clubs to form an alliance with local town or city councils, the police service and other community agencies in making a declaration of Community Peace.

As Rotarians and community leaders, we can foster the promotion of world peace and understanding by rewarding communities, citizens, government representatives, organizations and students for their participation in voluntary service. They deserve recognition and can provide great examples for others to follow.

This project is based on the philosophy that peace begins in the Family, in the Home and in the Community. In Rotary, we believe that peace belongs in the hearts and minds of each individual. Through awareness, goodwill and rejection of discord, we can stimulate a shift in attitudes within both our local and global communities.

Rotary Community Peace Credo:

Respect for cultural diversity, and the life and dignity of every person, without discrimination or prejudice.



- **Rejection** of violence towards all people in all its forms.
- **Reconciliation** of differences in the pursuit of harmony

In proclaiming Peace Communities, cooperative partnerships are formed between Rotary and Local government bodies.

It is recommended that a "Community Peace Sub-Committee" of the local Rotary Club be formed to encourage and help support any existing Community Service organizations. There may already be other interested groups or peace initiatives in the community, which should be researched and helped in a cooperative spirit.

Peace begins at home and in each community. It transcends the simplistic view of an absence of war and encompasses all those measures that improve human relations with positive and harmonious outcomes. The rejection of violence, the respect for life and human dignity, the resolution of personal and urban violence and the reconciliation of differences can realize those freedoms under which peace and harmony can flourish.

We hope that you will discuss this project with your District Governor and Club Members with the object of developing