

Marco's Report continued

I have never seen baggage handlers work so fast.

They were still loading while the engine on the other side was already running. Last bag in, door closed and immediately taxied off to the runway on the one engine. The other engine was started near the take off point and with 30 seconds to spare we were off. We had a full plane with 26 kids going home to Coral after attending the aboriginal games in Duncan BC and there were no funds to put them all up in Rankin for the night, nor beds for that matter. I guess they would have been put up in one of the school gyms. Anyway we got to Coral and the flight crew had to stay there since they had "timed out". They had to take over from the one with the mechanical trouble on top of the flights they were scheduled to do. The unloading of the bags took forever in sharp contrast to the loading in Rankin. The ground crew of two guys gets paid for overtime and the slower you go, the more money you make. They have a truck that gets parked next to the plane and then every bag is taken out put onto the truck and when it is all done they drive 55 yards (I measured it) to where the passengers are standing next to the terminal and then all the bags get unloaded by hand and one by one by one guy, because the other one is the driver of the truck and beneath his dignity to handle bags.

The kids were met by the locals and taken home in various vehicles and I claimed the taxi to take me to Coral Harbour itself. You do that by tossing your bag in the back of the truck before others do that and jump in.

In Coral there is only one taxi/ambulance/hearse and the three flight crew and a physiotherapist and I all needed to avail ourselves of the only way to get to our destination. We crammed into the cabin of the taxi/ambulance/hearse and started the long trip to Coral Harbour on 20 km of gravel road. That was the nearest spot to the community they could build the airstrip on the tundra. All was as dark as it gets there, which is not very dark this time of the year. Everything was shut down for the night, including the health centre. I woke up the nurse on call and got in. Unpacked and crashed in the holding room of the healthcentre onto a real hospital bed. That was to be my resting place for the week in this remote community. There is some sort of a B&B in Coral, but what masquerades, as food is probably not good enough for our dog. Nor is the place very clean, and therefore I stay in the health centre in the one room where we keep patients in case we are weathered in and nobody can be flown out in case of an emergency.

In case you wonder why I am doing crazy things like this, I sometimes wonder that too.

This am started on a long list of problem patients and worked my way through with pleasure, Most of them were well known to me and they knew me as well and that was fun

Marco



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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INVOCATION

Aug. 19	Jim Coulter	Aug. 26	Vladimir Cukor
Sep. 2	Jan Dale	Sep. 9	Mike Davies

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Aug. 21	Doris Gagel	Brian Bekar
Sep. 18	Mary Robson	Gordy Robson



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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Installation of Ron Curran
Sunshine Foundation

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Kevin Rakhra – R.C.M.P. Presentation of Organized Crime

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Aug. 22	1pm	Golf Fun	Surrey Golf Club, 7700 – 168 th St., Surrey
Sept. 13	7pm	WineFest	Thomas Haney Centre
Oct. 7		Sport's Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Nov. 4	Noon	D.G. Larry Stinson's Visit	

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$269.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 44 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August 21: Ron LePore, Stefanie O'Brien

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests today were ADG Denis Boyd and his wife Maureen, Michelle DeBruyn, Zdenka Cukor, and visiting Rotarian Mitch Marcus.

Announcements:

Vlad spoke briefly on the Bee BBQ. \$2,988 was raised between the auction and donations. He thanked Robert, Cailin and Alphonse for providing the very good entertainment. He suggests inviting more friends with deep pockets, and acquiring some higher value auction items for next year.

Robert asked for an opinion on the proposal for a quarterly Canadian insert in The Rotarian. An insert of 8 pages per issue starting July 2009. The additional cost will be \$4 per member. It was questioned as to the benefit for the additional cost. More information to be gathered for further consideration and vote.

Robert advised that the District Simplified Grant for the pre/post natal care program with the local health authority has been approved. The cost of the program will be \$5,900. The grant will cover \$3,200. and the balance (\$2,700.) will need to be raised. Alphonse has agreed to take the lead on this project, and Robert is looking for a seasoned club member to assist him.

Terry advised that she has Wine Fest posters available for display. There are a couple of sizes available. Please see Terry if you can display a poster at your place of business.

Assistant District Governor, Denis Boyd along with his wife Maureen and past-President Bob performed the induction ceremony of Cailin Green as our newest Club Member. Welcome Cailin!



Matt spoke briefly about the importance of the Four Way Test School Program. He was able to introduce the program into local schools earlier this year with the help of the SD 42 Superintendent, Dave Rempel, Amber Huguette (SD 42 Social Responsibility Co-ordinator) and our Guest Speaker, Derek Tyler. He introduced Derek Tyler, a 7th grade teacher at Hammond Elementary. Derek provided suggestions during the first session, which was held in his class, that assisted Matt and the other club members involved to better communicate with the students.

The session had groups of 4 students with each Rotarian. The Four Way Test was explained and then applied to everyday moral dilemmas that students may encounter as a tool they can use for decision making. Derek advised that he is very pleased with the program and the students' positive response.

He relayed a little story:

He visited the classroom where the second session was being held. Along the way, he was looking for one of his students from the first session to speak with the new group of Rotarians and provide some positive feedback. The only student he could find along the way, he advised, was probably the last student that he wanted to have speak with anyone. When the boy spoke, he was amazed. The boy was so positive about the program and what it meant to have the Rotarians share their time with the students. The boy advised that he had recently used the test to help resolve a moral issue that he faced, with success.

Derek advised that a number of the kids have indicated they've applied the test in their lives and have acknowledged that it does help them to make the responsible decision. He feels that it's a fine program and a worthwhile investment of our club members' time. He said he would be happy to facilitate any future sessions.

Please let Matt know if you are interested in volunteering to bring the test into more schools. He's already had a request for a session for the class his daughter teaches in one of the local elementary schools. Matt is also looking for someone to take a leadership role in the program so that he can travel this winter.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

MARCO'S REPORT FROM 'UP NORTH'

Greetings all,

Currently I am in Coral Harbour, the only human settlement on Southampton Island North of the Hudson Bay. It has one of the largest caribou herds in the North and lots of other wildlife. I am too busy to see any of that, but I got a glimpse of the beluga whale hunt here. There was a pod of them in the bay right in front of Coral Harbour and the Inuit shot a few. A big event, since they now have lots of food for a while. Something that is often a real problem for those who cannot afford the very expensive food that is flown in. You should see the local elders feasting on pieces of beluga blubber, cutting pieces of it with their ulus (an Inuit cutting tool) and eating it raw. I tried some and I must say that it does not taste too bad, but tougher than shoe leather and I would not put it on top of my favourite food choices. My jaw muscles got a tremendous workout though. They gave me a piece to take to the health centre where I am staying and after tasting the raw bit, I decided to boil the rest. That made it much more palatable and a lot less tough, but still I do not think that I will freeze the rest and let you guys try it.

Getting here to Coral Harbour was an exercise in Northern resilience. The 13.15 flight from Rankin Inlet, my home base, was delayed because of mechanical trouble in Churchill. The airstrip is only three minutes away from my apartment and thus I stay "home" till I know that I will be flying to wherever I am supposed to go. "Call back in a half hour". I did and then to call back in 45 minutes, then another hour etc. Finally "Oh yes, we are flying at 18.15". Be sure to be there. They must have trouble reading what time it is, because the plane came in at 19.20. And the runway was going to be shut down at 20.00. If we were not airborne by that time we would not fly that night.

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