Rotary makes first disbursement from Gates Foundation grant

Nine countries and two World Health Organization regions have received The Rotary Foundation's first distribution from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's US\$100 million challenge grant for polio eradication. WHO and UNICEF are using the funds, disbursed in January, to carry out immunization activities in the four polioendemic countries — Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan — plus five others where "imported" polio cases have been reported. WHO is also funding surveillance and technical support in its African and Eastern Mediterranean regions.

Following the grant distribution, a team of 54 Rotarians and friends from Australia, Canada, France, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States helped carry out India's National Immunization Days, reaching more than 170 million children in February. RI Director Kjell-Åke Åkesson of Sweden participated in the NIDs, as did Rotary Foundation Trustee Carolyn Jones.



"Now is the time to step up the momentum to get polio out of India forever."

Deepak Kapur

Delhi-West and almost 100 PolioPlus capwearing students from a local Rotary club-sponsored school, the team took part in a rally in Sohna to promote the NIDs. Many of the students, and one of the Delhi-West Rotarians, are themselves polio victims.

Joined by members of the Rotary Club of

"It is the most amazingly exhilarating and dramatically humbling experience," reported Mark Brown, a member of the Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest, Newfoundland, Canada, on the team's

Rotarians and students rally in support of India's February NID s.

blog (rotarydreamteam-india2008.blogspot.com). "Immediately, we were poured on by people wanting their children vaccinated.

No time to ponder. Just two drops in each child's mouth and a permanent marker on the finger to show they'd been done."

"Now is the time to step up the momentum to get polio out of India forever," says Deepak Kapur, chair of India's PolioPlus committee.

WORTH REPEATING

"Children die not because nobody can help them but because too often, nobody does. But you and I ... are Rotarians, and helping is what we do best."

— RI President Dong Kurn Lee speaking at the 2008 International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA



Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

Aug. 26, 2008 Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge Rotary

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Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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INVOCATION

Aug. 26	Vladimir Cukor	Sep. 2	Jan Dale
Sep. 9	Mike Davies	Sep. 16	Wende Dawes

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
Sep. 18	Mary Robson	Gordy Robson
Oct. 16	Sharon Kyle	Robert Campbell



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

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

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Barrie Seaton, P.R. Chair for District 5050

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sept. 13	7pm	WineFest	Thomas Haney Centre
Sept. 23	5pm	Fireside	P.M. Corn Maze
Oct. 7		Sport's Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Nov. 4	Noon	D.G. Larry Stinson's Visit	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

August 28: Dot Ralston

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 28: Patrick & Stefanie O'Brien

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guest today was Bruno from the Haney Club.

Announcements:

Kevin announced there will be a Fireside Meeting on Tuesday, September 23 at 5:00 p.m. at the Corn Maze. This event will be happening rain or shine and we will need the numbers soon so we can arrange for the food. Jim Coulter will be presenting his Who's Who so please do come on out. Friends and Family are welcome.

Hockey Night (Tampa Bay vs. Canucks): Kevin has also arranged for 20 tickets to be available for February 23, 2009. Cost is \$67.00, which includes bus and entrance fee. The bus will be leaving Canadian Tire at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested please contact Kevin as there are only 20 tickets and it's first come first serve.

Ineke gave us a friendly reminder of the upcoming Wine Festival on September 13th and we can donate \$30.00 or a bottle of wine for the "Wine Cellar Auction" Tickets can be purchased for \$40.00. Also if you are able to help during the evening please contact Matt as he needs volunteers.

Lynda announced there will be an Executive Meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 27th at Kings Kitchen.

Kevin will be picking up our French Exchange Student (Nicholas) this coming Saturday from the airport.

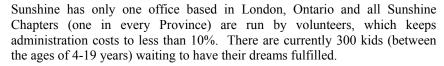
Mary thanked all the Rotarians for kindly helping with the Heritage Days event.

Our newest member Ron Curran was installed today. ⇒

Alphonse introduced our Guest Speakers Marc Alexander and Tim Germaine from the Sunshine Dreams for Kids Foundation.

The Sunshine Foundation was established 20 years ago by a

London, Ontario police officer as a legacy to his child who passed away of muscular dystrophy. Sunshine is the only Canadian charity making Dreams for Kids with severe disabilities as well as life threatening illnesses come true. The dreams that have been fulfilled have reached more than 6500 children across Canada.



On December 9th a Dream Lift will be taking place with 76 children heading off to Disneyland!

The Sunshine Foundation will be holding their 13th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, September 19th at Meadow Gardens. There are still openings available \$1000 includes 4 for golf and dinner. The Foundation is looking for volunteers and prizes for the event. If you are interested in participating or donating please contact Marc (604) 240-4122, Tim at (604) 826-3844, or email sunshine.drms@gmail.com. If you have an opportunity please check out their website at www.sunshine.ca

Submitted by Maureen Goodrick

LEE THANKS ROTARIANS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

August 2008

Dear friends,

Thank you very much for your good wishes and kind congratulations welcoming me as RI president. It is heartwarming to see the outpouring of messages that my wife, Young, and I received. We appreciate and are humbled by the attention.

I am honored to have been chosen as the 2008-09 Rotary International president. Young and I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving Rotary. We feel that with the continued support of dedicated Rotarians around the world, we can truly *Make Dreams Real*.

I am particularly pleased by the response to my RI theme, *Make Dreams Real*. It is gratifying to hear that my call for Rotarians to make the world a better place for children has resonated with so many of you.

I am glad you are ready to embrace this theme and to stand shoulder to shoulder with me to achieve this goal.United in Rotary, we can *Make Dreams Real* for all of the world's children by reducing child mortality.

As we begin this new adventure of Rotary service, Young and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible and visiting your many worthy projects. Stop by my Web pages monthly to see the various places we have visited during our RI travels.

Sincerely, Dong Kurn (D.K.) Lee President, Rotary International

