

### GSE Team Hosting

Our club is hosting the Group Study Exchange inbound team coming our way on May 24th through 28th.

A few people have indicated they would host one person at their home. There are 5 on the team - 4 young adults and 1 Rotarian.

Please contact Dave Rempel or Maureen Goodrick if you have offered, or would like to offer, to host one of these young travelers for a few days. We did this last year for the Philippine team and it was a lot of fun.

Don't forget the District conference on the 29th, 30th and 31st weekend! Cailin and I have just confirmed we will be performing there as well!  
Beside some songs as a duo... We will probably be teaming up in the evening for some tunes with the Ken McCoy band - a real good country rock / classic rock band with some fine players.  
WooHoo!

Robert Campbell

### District Governor 2011 - 2012

I am pleased to advise that the District Nominating Committee interviewed candidates for the office of District Governor for the 2011 - 2012 Rotary Year and have nominated Jane Helten of the Rotary Club of South Whidbey Island. Jane is currently serving as Assistant Governor of Area G.

In accordance with Rotary International Bylaw 13.020.6, this is the official publication of the nominee. RI Bylaw 13.020.8 provides that any Club in the District that has been in existence for one full year may propose a challenging candidate for this position, provided the challenging candidate was one of those proposed to the District Nominating Committee. A Club in existence for less than a year may only do so if the challenging candidate is a member of that Club. The name of a challenging candidate must be submitted to myself as Governor pursuant to a resolution by the Club adopted at a regular club meeting no later than 5 pm on March 2, 2009. If no challenging nomination is received by me by that date then Jane Helten will be declared to be the Governor Nominee effective July 1, 2009. If clarification of the foregoing process is required please refer to Article 13 of the RI Bylaws commencing on page 224 of the Manual of Procedure.

I would like to thank all candidates who were proposed to the District Nominating Committee for "tossing their hats into the ring" for this most important and demanding post. I encourage their Clubs to propose them again in the coming years.

Your Governor,  
Larry



# The Four Way Flasher

## Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: [www.meadowridgerotary.ca](http://www.meadowridgerotary.ca)

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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## FEBRUARY IS WORLD UNDERSTANDING MONTH

### INVOCATION

Feb. 17	Patrick O'Brien	Feb. 24	Brett Paskar
Mar. 3	Ken Paterson	Mar. 10	Dave Rempel



**Please bring any prospective members or people interested in finding out more about "Rotary Membership". The Club will pay for "guest lunches" (one per member!), March 10th only.**

**David Riddell and Alphonse Seward are in charge of organizing this meeting. Contact either one of them, if you have any suggestions etc. Please help us to make this a successful "Membership Drive" and let's see everybody bring one guest to this meeting!**

**TODAY'S PROGRAM:** Peter Tam - Boy Scouts

**NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:** Don Waite - M.R. / P.M. History of Photo's.

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Feb. 21	8am / 4pm	Rotary Leadership Institute - Pt. 1 only	Burlington, Wa.
Mar. 10	noon	New Member Drive	
Apr. 4	8am / 2pm	District 5050 Assembly	Kwantlen University, Surrey
May 28-31		District 5050 Conference	Heritage Park - Chilliwack

**50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$657.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 33 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!**

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests today were Deb Nosworthy, Irena Shantz, Coquitlam Club Rotarian Terry Bolton, Tom Tinsley and Niko.

### Announcements:

Robert advised that volunteers are needed for the Four Way Test Program presentation to the SD42 teachers for February 18<sup>th</sup>. This will be an 80 minute presentation at Thomas Haney Secondary School beginning at 9:00 am. Please confirm your attendance by emailing Kevin Nosworthy. It is important that the teachers understand that we do not have an "outside agenda", and that this program is strictly for the benefit of the kids.

Terry Bolton spoke with us about a fundraiser that his club is holding. They are selling 2,000 tickets for a Cruise Raffle. First prize is a cruise for 2 to Alaska. Second prize is a coastal cruise, and third prize is a weekend sailing holiday for 2. Tickets are \$10. each with the proceeds benefitting local charities. He advised that there are cruises to the Mediterranean, Alaska and Pacific Coast that are available at a discount with a \$50. contribution to Rotary International if anyone wishes to purchase a package.



Our Guest Speaker was Katrina Elliott, a former Rotary Youth Exchange Student (1985) and Ambassadorial Scholar (1992) who was recommended by Marco to speak with our club.

Following is an excerpt from her speech:

"In 1985/86, the Kamloops Rotary Club sponsored me as a Youth Exchange student to Kimberley South Africa. As one of 7,000 high school students that travelled abroad that year, I was fortunate to be exposed to South Africa's many cultures and language groups -Afrikaans, English, Zulu, Tswana and Sotho. Beyond learning about these cultures, I also had the opportunity to learn about the cultures of other exchange students – including Australian, New Zealand, Norway, American and Dutch. A number of those friendships continue today. One of my favourite sayings then- and now- helped me navigate the rich cultural

experience I had in South Africa – “nothing is better or worse-just different”.

In 1986, I changed my plans to become a lawyer and began a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Development at the University of Toronto. From seeing the inequities in South Africa, simply because of the colour of your skin, I wanted to chose a career that I could develop skills, in my very small way, to try to put a “right” to these inequities. Those were wonderful years of learning, thinking and friendships. One highlight of my undergraduate degree was working with a friend to organize an electrical and construction brigade to Nicaragua to rebuild a school that had been destroyed by a hurricane and to install electricity to support a community to diversify its economic base. Amazing experience, and the opportunity to find common ground and share skills to promote goodwill and understanding was a theme from Rotary that echoed throughout the experiences I had on this trip.

Part of my undergraduate degree was a requirement to work for 12 months in another country. I chose to go back to Southern Africa to Lesotho. There is a phrase “once you leave Africa, you have to return to reclaim the part of your soul that you left behind”.

After graduating with a B.A. in International Development in 1992, I was fortunate to be awarded an Ambassadorial Scholarship. Since 1947, 37,000 women and men from more than 100 nations have studied as

Ambassadorial Scholars, making it the world's largest privately funded international scholarship program. The Scholarship helped me complete my Masters degree in International Development at the University of Sussex in England. There were 19 nationalities in my class which provided not only an excellent opportunity to hone my international development knowledge but to learn more about other cultures.

Since completing my Masters degree, I have worked in progressively more responsible jobs in various sectors- managing women's economic development programming with First Nations in northern B.C.; developing stopping the violence programming to ensure women who are being abused have a safe place to stay and access to support services; to raising over \$2 million dollars from Bell Canada for economic development projects in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside as the Chair of a Corporate Engagement Team; working as a Vice-President for Four Corners Community Savings- a bank that supported over 5,000 low-income customers in the Downtown Eastside; developing a strategy to use the arts as an economic stimulus for the Downtown Eastside as a centerpiece for the Olympics; developing a new template for the staging of an inclusive Olympics here in Vancouver- that maximizes benefits for low-income people and minimizes harm – benefits such as jobs, training, housing units....this template is now being expanded upon in London for the 2012 Summer Games to my current job- developing and implementing a First Nations engagement strategy for communities to economically diversify their economies that are impacted by the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic. Real gift to work with First Nations communities- so much to give, gone through so much, so much understanding of the imperative to design triple bottom line programming that respects the social, economic and environmental impacts. There is no doubt, on some reserves, there is worse poverty than I have seen anywhere in my travels- right here in our backyards. Lots more opportunity to work with First Nations, as we grapple with the past and support our country to move forward to develop trust and economic opportunities for all Canadians, especially our first inhabitants.

The experience from Youth Exchange and the Ambassadorial Scholarship program have significantly impacted my life. As the Danish philosopher Kierkegaard said, “Life can only be understood backwards but must be lived forwards”. As I think back through the last 24 years, Rotary's 4-way test has served as an ethical compass in my personal and professional life. From speaking to Rotary Clubs in different parts of BC and Ontario, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, South Africa and Lesotho, England, Scotland and Norway and from other adventures to Cuba, Mexico and Vietnam, I have learnt to celebrate differences and try to find common ground....to apply fairness, equity and open mindedness in all situations and to not allow the differences to divide, segregate and fester mistrust. Some would ask in the world of the internet, do we still need programs to promote international understanding and goodwill. Can't we just read about other countries on the internet? No, the experience is different-to be there, to experience it, to live it, makes it part of you and changes your world view. I know it has changed mine.

Rotary's programs have influenced me in so many ways- from the career I chose, to the places I travel and work, to my choice of friends, to our charitable donations, to how I view the world news and to the actions I chose everyday as a way to promote goodwill and understanding.

In a world of sharp contracts and inequities, as wars continue and social, economic and environmental issues continue to segment people, Youth Exchanges and Ambassadorial Scholarships are just as important as when I benefited from them. As world citizens we need to applaud when actions are taken toward world peace and show our dismay, not our apathy, when the opposite occurs. Rotary International makes a tremendous contribution to world understanding. Thank-you for your continued support of international and community programs thru Rotary."

Katrina Elliott