

Shelterbox Village in Memorial Peace Park



Wow, we did it! A Shelterbox Village of 12 tents, right Downtown Maple Ridge and it was really amazing! Saturday morning May 23rd bright and early we transported all boxes to the Park and thanks to the help of Marco, Mike, Peter, high school students and Hilda, one of the BIA ambassadors, all 12 tents were set up in about one hour.

The day went by fast; between preparing lunch, talking to interested people and preparing dinner, the day seemed to just fly by.

Lunch was a lot of fun, our new member James rolled in his "hotdog cart" and his dad and daughter came along as well. For dinner we used the "borrowed" BBQ's, which Brian Bekar picked up on Friday, from Marco, Robert and himself, We enjoyed hamburgers, fruit and veggies.

For the "overnight adventure" David brought along his son Edward, Robert participated, Lynda joined us and Peter and myself stayed as well. We also had about 14 students staying overnight.

Saturday night the students liked most; we had students from Garibaldi and Pitt Meadows Secondary. They really got involved in all kinds of discussions with the Rotarians and it was a great experience for all. What can be more fun than camping in the middle of Downtown under a beautiful star filled sky, candles lit, lots of chips to eat and good discussions to boot!

Sunday morning came early; wow that sunshine is bright!

At 8 am it was time for breakfast, fresh bagels, scrambled eggs, fruit, cereal, coffee, tea and milk. Joan Hamilton and her husband from the Kiwanis Club came out to help us with the preparation of breakfast and it was a true feast!

Mayor Ernie Daykin honoured us with a visit and joined us for breakfast, so did Dave Rempel, Marco and Mike.

After all this it was time to break up camp and by 9:45 it was all history, not even a sign, there was any camping going on earlier.

We really did prove a point: it is fairly easy to set up and break down these Shelterbox tents.



This was a memorable event, connecting Rotary with high school students and another Service Club and together we had a wonderful time.

Let's also not forget the purpose of the event, raising awareness for Rotary in general, the Shelterbox project in particular and raising money to be able to fund as many as possible Shelterboxes.

We did that and much more:

- We spoke to many people about Rotary, something we probably should do more often.
- We presented the Shelterbox project in a very visual way and created awareness and also a "media buzz"(all three local papers reported the event)
- We created awareness and interest by many youths for the project(most participating students would like to return next year and are interested to raise funds to sponsor a Shelterbox with their classmates)
- Connected to the Kiwanis Club of Golden Ears, great to see Service Clubs work together(they also took a Shelterbox package for their Club)
- Collected almost enough for 8 Shelterboxes, total \$9040 (short \$560, you can still participate!), that means we are able to help 80 people!

This was a great event and a great big THANK YOU to everyone who participated.

If you didn't participate this year, we invite you to do so next year, there are many ways (big and small, everything helps) anyone can help and most of them very rewarding and lots of fun!

Thanks to all Rotarians and non Rotarians for your generosity.....and if you still would like to be part of this fantastic project.....all we need is \$560 total to complete 8 Shelterboxes.

Submitted by Ineke



The Four Way Flasher

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INVOCATION

June 2	Nizar Virani	June 9	Walter Volpatti
June 23	Stan Wade	June 30	Rustam Yazdgerdian

TODAY'S PROGRAM:

Who's Who – Marco Terwiel

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 1: Eng Hock & Catherine Tan

June 2: Anil & Zulekha Bharwani

June 4: Brian & Sharon Bekar

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 29: J0-Ann Knuttila

May 29: Catherine Tan

June 5: Lynda DeBruyn

June 6: Zulekha Bharwani

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
June 12		(Friday) Installation Dinner	Marco Terwiel's home

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$951.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 18 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

MAY 16TH MEETING

Our Guests today were Rotarian Ryan McAdams, Amy Steele, Rob Thiessen and Jim Isherwood.

Our Guest Speaker today was Lorne Mayencourt, Founder and first Executive Director of the Baldy Hughes Treatment Centre in Prince George. From 2001 thru 2008, Lorne was the Liberal MLA for the Vancouver Burrard riding. In the 2005 Provincial Election Lorne lost on Election Day. When the absentee ballots were counted, he actually won by 11 votes and was given the nickname "Landslide Lorne".



During his terms in government, he had a lot of people coming into his office with either mild mental health issues, homeless, living below the poverty line or addicted, all needing to find a place to live.

He spent a week as a homeless person to try and understand the obstacles faced by those needing his help. He spent a couple of nights in an SRO (single room occupancy) hotel where he found broken facilities and an unsafe environment. He then stayed in a shelter that he shared with about 50 people which he found awkward and unsafe. He also slept in the park for a couple of nights where he actually felt the safest. He met a native Indian by the name of Larry who had been living on the streets for 12 years and was suffering with an alcohol addiction problem. Larry helped Lorne and provided insight to life on the streets.

Lorne then started looking at various treatment centre programs as he realized that the 28 day treatment programs offered were just returning people back to the street and their old acquaintances without providing any after treatment support. The result, they fell back into their old habits and became addicted again.

Portland has a program that has reduced homelessness by 80% over a 4 year period. They work on fixing all the problems - housing, mental health, medical, life skills, job skills and additional services.

Delancy Street, located in San Francisco has a clean and well maintained 400 condo complex that houses harden criminals and addicts with mental health issues who are trying to start over. The residents built the complex themselves and take great pride in the building.

He spoke of San Patrignano, a community in Italy that is home to recovering addicts. Since 1978, San Patrignano has taken in over 18,000 people who have serious drug abuse problems, offering them a home, healthcare, legal assistance, and the opportunity to study, learn a job, change their lives, and regain their status as full members of society, completely free of charge and without government funding. This community includes 60 businesses and raise 65% of their operating costs through the manufacturing of bikes, home décor products, wines and cheeses, a beauty and perfume line, a floral nursery and more. They also breed horse and dogs. They grow 85% of the food required to feed the community. The most important element is the "circle of support". Some residents stay for 2 - 3 years allowing them to conquer their addiction and learn a trade that will support them in the future. San Patrignano has a 70% success rate with its clients.

Lorne spent time speaking with Rotary Clubs throughout the province about the addiction issues and how to conquer this growing problem. Everyone agrees that longer term programs are needed that bring the components together and provide time to make it work.

In Prince George Lorne found the perfect location for a residential treatment facility - the Baldy Hughes Air force Base, which was decommissioned in the '50s. The site includes 23 buildings on 160 acres with its own sewage treatment plant.

This location provided immediate housing in a remote area with a supportive community. With the help of his colleagues in Prince George, \$100,000 to get started, and a "leap of faith" this therapeutic community was established.

A therapeutic community is a drug-free environment in which people with addictive problems live together in an organized and structured way to promote change and make possible a drug-free life in the outside society. The therapeutic community forms a miniature society in which residents, and staff in the role of facilitators, fulfill distinctive roles and adhere to clear rules, all designed to promote the transitional process of the residents. Self-help and mutual help are pillars of the therapeutic process in

which the resident is the protagonist principally responsible for achieving personal growth, realizing a more meaningful and responsible life, and of upholding the welfare of the community.

They run an abstinence based program that provides vocational training. It started with 42 residents who are involved in all aspects of the facility. They learn trades thru local contractors and are currently building a "state of the art" medical centre, dental centre, school, gym and laundry facilities. By doing the work themselves it helps to sustain the operation and provide the residents with a sense of pride in their work and the facility. The longer they stay, the better chance of their success. If they go through a 90 day program there is a higher success rate than the traditional 28 day programs. Longer term, 16 months into a program 6 out of 10 residents will stay, while the other 4 usually leave within the first 4 weeks. Lorne would like to see facilities and programs that allow residents to stay for up to three years to ensure a higher success rate in the treatment of drug abuse. They currently have some staying 6 - 8 months and some up to 14 months.

The cost of not treating an individual is about \$60,000 per year not including the cost of the crime committed while they're living on the streets. There is approximately \$500,000 of government funding that goes to 160 agencies who are duplicating services. The government will not fund abstinence based programs, but supports harm reduction programs. Baldy Hughes is privately funded, but receives some federal and provincial funding for capital costs. There are an estimated 1,000 beds in the province and another 500 are desperately needed. Lorne said that they should have the capacity for 100 clients by December 1st, 2009.

For more information on the Baldy Hughes Therapeutic Community, please go to www.baldyhughes.com.

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

GSE TEAM FROM ECUADOR

Another event is behind us. We said farewell to the GSE Team from Ecuador, who visited us from May 24 till May 28. The Team consisted of Lupe Delgado Velasquez – Team Leader (tourist advisor), Marcela Jalón Cedeño (graphic arts), Fabian León-Tamariz (pharmacist), Diego Pereira Orellana (lawyer), and Madeleine Abarca Runruil (economist).

They started the week with a visit on Sunday evening to the Fox's Reach Pub, where Robert and Cailin were making music.



One of the activities was a visit to the Friend in Need Food Bank, where they were put to work, sorting out donated food items.

Tuesday was a busy day, starting out with a meeting with Mayer and Staff of the District of Maple Ridge, followed by a visit to Greybrook Academy which has Spanish classes. In the afternoon the Team was probably the first non-construction group, walking the new Golden Ears Bridge.



The day ended great with a potluck BBQ at Dave Rempel's house. Rotarians from the Coquitlam Club – where they were the first week - and the Mission Club joined us in a great Rotary Friendship happening.

As usual we exchanged banners.

On Thursday the GSE Team left for the District 5050 Conference in Chilliwack, accompanied by Robert and Marco.

