

## RI President's Message

In the late 1990s, I traveled on business to an African country I had never visited before. While there, I met a Rotarian who offered to take me on a driving tour of the province, and I was happy to accept. An hour or so outside the capital, we stopped in a small village of mud-brick huts, with straw roofs and dirt floors. As I walked past one hut, I heard a sound that made me stop – the weak sound of a crying baby.

Squinting into the darkness, I could make out a shape on the floor. As my eyes adjusted, I realized that I was looking at a woman, lying on a mat with an infant. Her child was trying to nurse, but the woman was exhausted and ill and had no milk. It was obvious that both were starving.

My first instinct was to reach into my pockets, to give them money, to find food, to help in any way I could. How could I walk away and leave that mother and that child to die, alone together in the darkness? And in that instant I realized that this horror was by no means unique. All over Africa, all over the developing countries of the world, children were dying – of hunger, of disease, of poverty.

When I returned home, I began to read more about the issue of child mortality. It became clear to me that this was an area in which Rotarians could make a major impact. This is why, when I became president of Rotary International, I chose *Make Dreams Real* as the RI theme and asked Rotarians to work through our emphases of water, health and hunger, and literacy to reduce child mortality in our world.

As I end my year as RI president, I am inexpressibly proud of the work I have seen Rotarians do. When I first learned about the problem of child mortality, 30,000 children were estimated to die of preventable causes every day. Now, UNICEF reports that figure at about 25,000 – still far too large a number, but a significant decrease. There is no question in my mind that Rotary's service has played a role in this change – and that we must continue our work until not one child dies of hunger and poverty. And so I ask you all to continue to Make Dreams Real in the new Rotary year. *The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands* – and the future of the world's children is as well.

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

## Rotary Fellowships

Rotary Fellowships offer Rotarians the opportunity to make friends with others in Rotary who share a common vocation, hobby or recreational interest. Following is a list of the current Fellowships:

Bird Watching, Editors and Publishers, Running and Fitness, Curling, Singles, Poultry Industry, Parades and Festivals, Horseback Riding, Drug Abuse Prevention, Rotary on Stamps, Cricket, Police and Law Enforcement Professionals, Shooting Sports, Home Exchange, Old and Rare Books, Caravanning, Doll Lovers, Automobile and Motorsports, Wine, Flying, Music, Latin Culture, Scuba Diving, Quilters and Fiber Artists, Cycling, Canoeing, Travel and Hosting, Fishing, Internet, Motorcycling, Pre-Columbian, Civilizations, Scouting, License Plate Collecting, Antique, Classic and Historic Automobiles, Chess, Fine Arts and Antiques, Travel Agents, Recreational Vehicles, Yachting, Military Personnel, Lawyers, Esperanto, Railroads, Total Quality Management, Football (Soccer), Marathon Running, Physicians, Convention Goers, Environment, Amateur Radio, Magna Graecia, Gourmets, Tennis, Rotary Heritage and History, Bridge, Petanque, Egyptology, Computer Users, Accountants, Golf, Literacy Providers, Rotary Global History, and Skiing

**Still nothing that interests you? Start your own Fellowship!**



# The Four Way Flasher

## Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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## JUNE IS FELLOWSHIP MONTH

### INVOCATION

June 9	Walter Volpatti	June 23	Stan Wade
June 30	Rustam Yazdgerdian	July 7	Laurie Anderson



TODAY'S PROGRAM: Business Meeting

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 15: Michael & Cindy Serry

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June 12: Sharon Rempel

June 14: Bob Shantz

**Installation on Friday the 12th at Marco's**

**NO MEETING June 16th**

**Regular meeting June 23rd with a dual installation!**

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
June 12	6 pm	(Friday) Installation Dinner @ Marco's house	21616 River Road 2nd driveway east of 216th South side of River Rd.
June 21-24		RI Convention - Birmingham	

**50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$981.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 18 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!**

## "EMAIL ETIQUETTE"

**WHEN YOU ARE REPLYING TO AN EMAIL SENT TO THE CLUB MEMBERS PLEASE CONSIDER WHETHER YOU SHOULD 'REPLY TO ALL' OR NOT. MOST TIMES A REPLY TO THE SEND IS ALL THAT IS NEEDED.**

**ALSO, IF YOU ARE WANTING TO SEND AN EMAIL TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS PLEASE SEND IT TO THE CLUB SECRETARY ( SECRETARY@MEADOWRIDGEROTARY.CA ) OR TO THE PRESIDENT ( PRESIDENT@MEADOWRIDGEROTARY.CA ) AND THEY CAN SEND IT ON YOUR BEHALF.**

**THIS WILL ENSURE ALL MEMBERS GET THE INFORMATION USING AN UP-TO-DATE EMAIL LIST AND WE REDUCE UNWANTED OR UNNEEDED EMAILS INTO OUR OVERLOADED INBOXES. THANK YOU!**

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests today were Irena Shantz, Zulekha Bharwani, Laura and Nico.

#### *Announcements:*

The Installation Dinner is being held at Marco's on Friday June 12<sup>th</sup> starting a 6 pm. The cost is \$35. per person (BYOB). It will be a casual event with music and entertainment. DG Larry Stinson will be in attendance.

Ineke gave a brief report on the success of the Shelterbox Village project, which raised \$9,040. Gordy put a challenge out to Mayor and Council that he would match any funds they raise. So far it does not look like they will bankrupt him.

Robert reported on the success of the District Conference held in Chilliwack which he attended along with Cailin, Nico and Marco. A good time was had by all. The next District Conference will be held in Marysville.

At the Conference, our Club received two awards - one for best Community project - the Pre-natal Program - congratulations Alphonse! The second award was the President's Citation Award for completing the goals set out by our club for the year.

Robert thanked David Riddell for his hard work on the recent GSE team visit. Good job David!

Matt advised that we have seven applicants for seven bursaries.



Today's Guest Speaker was Marco doing his Who's Who. He was born in Holland on a sunny Sunday 72 years ago. His parents had five children in total - 3 boys and 2 girls. His Dad was the local dentist. Business started slowly as dentistry was relatively a new trade with doctors previously handling tooth extractions. The local barber was his first patient, who came to him with an infection caused by a piece of tooth left behind by a doctor. Marco's Dad looked after the barber well, and this patient launched his business.

Marco said that he remembers the smell of war - the German Army, their leather gear and their food. They had a Jewish lady staying at the house. During the war years, Marco had a problem with severe stuttering. His Mother worked with him and helped him to overcome this problem. It took 1½ years, but she was a very patient and thoughtful woman.

One night they had sat down for dinner with the sounds of war in the distance. His Dad felt something wasn't right and told everyone to go to the cellar. His Mother wanted to wait until they finished dinner, but his Dad was insistent. After they had gone into the cellar, there was an explosion and when they emerged later, there had been a direct hit on the dining room.

When the war ended, they were happy to be liberated. Marco began attending school after liberation. He had been taught by a teacher at the teacher's home during the war. He was a good student but worked hard to get low grades so that he was able to stay in the same class with his friends. His Dad decided he should get a job if he wasn't going to work hard at school. He became a deckhand at sea, and later became the cook.

When he went back to school, he did very well and obtained the highest grade in the country. He decided to become a doctor and attended medical school. He found it fun and learned lots. He instructed other students on anatomy. He used to clean the kill when his Dad hunted and became really good at dissecting and skinning.

He worked on the side, instructing high school students in math. He also worked as a travel agent. During this period, he obtained a \$65. first class return ticket, and toured Canada for four months. As it was more difficult to get into a Canadian practise then, he went to the States and attended the University of Washington, settling in Seattle.

He later arrived in Maple Ridge (as reported on King News), and joined Dr. Sid Arbor's practise. Dr. Arbor (Big Daddy), was known to be a little hard on his associates as he was used to giving orders and had little time for those who didn't listen. Being in Holland's Army, Marco was used to giving orders too and was able to stand his ground. He became Arbor's 26<sup>th</sup> associate. They had a 12 year business association, and in the end he asked Marco to become his surgeon .

Marco built the Haney Professional Building. He became the Chief of Staff on the Board of the BC Medical Association. In 1992, he became president of the national board. He became very involved in St. John's Ambulance, and established the local branch. A patient wanted to include him in her will, but he asked that she make a donation to St. John's instead. When she passed on she left \$630,000, which enabled St. John's to purchase their local office.

When fully retired, Marco may write a book but right now he's preparing himself for his upcoming year as President of our Rotary Club.

**Submitted by Lynda Lawrence**