

## RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My fellow Rotarians:

Lord Byron wrote, "The days of our youth are the days of our glory." For me, that is the line that springs to mind whenever Rotary's youth programs are mentioned. In Rotary, September is New Generations Month – a time to focus our attention on our programs for youth and the role they play in shaping the Rotarians of tomorrow.

Our youth programs – Interact, Rotaract, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange – are some of the most important programs of Rotary. I say this because of the unparalleled potential they have to influence young minds and souls toward peace, goodwill, and harmony. That potential is the greatest in youth because the experiences of our early years never leave us; they shape who we later become. In the words often attributed to St. Francis Xavier, "Give me a boy until he is seven, and I will give you the man." For myself, I would give it a bit longer than that – but there is no doubt that the experiences of our youth have a greater formative power, and a greater ability to shape character, than any we may have in our adulthood.

When a teenager from the United States has the chance to travel to India to participate in a National Immunization Day, or when a student from Brazil spends a year studying in Japan, that person will be forever changed. These young people will have formed connections and affections that will endure. They will never think about their own country, or the world, in the same way again. Their perspective, their priorities, and their values will have been permanently shaped by that experience in a way that no later experiences will have the power to do. Your hard work ensures that these experiences continue to be possible – that these programs continue to be available, to be well run, and to earn the trust of the participants and their families.

The impressions of youth are strong, and they are lasting. There is never a second chance at them. We may grow and change as we get older, and we are surely changed by all of our experiences. But there is never another chance to build who we are. That happens only once: in our youth.

The days of our youth truly are the days of our glory – but through Rotary's youth programs, those days become the glory of all of Rotary.

John Kenny - President, Rotary International

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

Thousands of people age 30 and younger participate in Rotary programs to learn skills that will help them become future leaders.

Youth programs allow participants to discover more about themselves and the world by participating in community projects, leadership training, or cultural exchanges. Young people also learn about the principles of ethics, service, and fellowship that Rotarians exemplify.

#### Rotary Youth Exchange



Rotary Youth Exchange students may spend up to a year living with host families and attending school in a different country.

#### Rotaract



a Rotary-sponsored service club.

Men and women ages 18 to 30 can help in their community through Rotaract,

#### RYLA



personal growth.

RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and



# The Four Way Flasher

## Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 16 Issue 9  
Sept. 1, 2009

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### September is New Generations Month



#### INVOCATION

Sept. 1	Jim Coulter	Sept. 8	Vladimir Cukor
Sept. 15	Ron Curran	Sept. 22	Jan Dale

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Bob Paddon - VP Corp/Public Affairs - Translink

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Dr. Nigel Murray – Fraser Health Authority

#### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sept. 2: Fraser & Debbie MacRae Sept. 6: Jack & Liz Attarmigirian

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sept. 3: Dave Rempel

#### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sept. 19	7 pm	Wine Festival	Thomas Haney Rotunda
Sept. 26	3 pm	Frisbee Golf	Dave Rempel
Sept. 29	noon	DG Larry Jubie's visit	
Oct. 6	6 pm	Fireside, Heather Hill	25494 117 Ave. M.R.
Oct. 20		Sports Banquet	

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$188.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 45 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Last week's meeting was a prospective member meeting, and there was an excellent turn out. Our Guests were Lindsay Hendy, Jeremy Bekar, Adam & Jennifer Seward, Lise Jinnah, Shannon Balla, Dean Barbour, Ross Dunning, Carla Jorge, Carly Ferguson, Debora Quan, Nasser Lalji, Andrew Etal, and Valerie Spurrell.



Ken spoke of Rotary's role with the United Nations. Rotary and the United Nations have a long history of working together and sharing similar visions for a more peaceful world. In 1942, Rotary clubs from 21 nations organized a conference in London to develop a vision for advancing education, science, and culture after World War II. That event was a precursor to UNESCO. In 1945, 49 Rotarians went to San Francisco to help draft the UN Charter. Rotary and the UN have been close partners ever since, a relationship that's apparent through PolioPlus and work with UN agencies. Rotary currently holds the highest consultative status offered to a nongovernmental organization by the UN's Economic and Social Council, which oversees many specialized UN agencies.

Marco spoke about Rotary's End Polio Campaign. He proposed that we make a \$1,000 USD donation to the campaign. All members in attendance were in favour.

He spoke of the Group Study Exchange to Brazil in 2010. He advised that this is an opportunity is for non-Rotarians, 25 - 40 years old, with professional careers to travel to Brazil for six weeks, all expenses paid.

A "Four Way Test" wristband was circulated. These wristbands are for students participating in the school program in place of the key chains we were handing out. Matt felt that more students may wear these than carry around the keychain.

A list was circulated to find volunteers to man a ticket sales table for Winefest in front of Save-On-Foods for September 12 & 13 between 12 - 4 pm. The 11x17" posters are ready for display. Matt needs about 70 volunteers for the event and currently has 30 - 35 signed up.

Robert ran the new "Prospective Members" DVD from Rotary International which featured segments on "Rotarians at Work" and the Ambassadorial Scholarship program. Marco distributed packages to those guests in attendance that would like to pursue membership.

Marco ended the meeting commenting that we're all living our motto "Service Above Self".

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence



## RIDE & BBQ

Last Saturday we did some horseback riding at the Mustang Stables in Mission.

The day couldn't have been more perfect.

Perfect weather, perfect ambience, perfect camaraderie with fellow Rotarians and their families, perfect food, and perfect riders – just one example: Kevin was perfect even though it was his first time.



We really have to thank Matt, who came up with this idea and organized it. Hope we can do it again.

