

WINE FESTIVAL 2010

Last Saturday was another great Wine Festival; our 15th annual one.



On the left is the Wine Cellar for the live auction that was made possible by the contributions of our Rotary members.



Lots of excellent music by the Gary Bowman Jazz Trio



Just one of the many volunteers: our own Ken P.



The Four Way Flasher

**Rotary Club of
MeadowRidge Newsletter**

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Web-site: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, The Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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March is Literacy Month



INVOCATION

April 13	Michael Serry	April 20	Alphonse Seward
May 4	Bob Shantz	May 11	Peter Tam

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 14: Dave & Sharon Rempel

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 14: Sandra Dunning
 April 18: Anil Bharwani

April 17: Jennifer Dawkins
 April 18: Ken Knuttila

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Kathleen Goodin – GSE Presentation

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Allen Heinrichs – GSE Presentation

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
?		New Members Meeting	
May 13-16		District 5050 Conference	Tulalip Resort Casino, USA
June 20-23		Rotary International Convention	Montreal
June 29		Executive 2010/2011 Installation	Heather Hills Farm

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$809.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 24 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Jim introduced our guests, Sandy Blue, Jim Rule and Matthew Lynam (new Rotarian).

Happy/Sad – Marco announced that Val and Nizar will be transferring out to other clubs because of work commitments.

Brian Bekar – will be missing the next 4 meetings due to holidays.

Dave Rempel – His dinner fundraiser was not as successful this year, however a good time was had by those in attendance.

Wine Fest tickets are not going as well as we hoped. Marco announced that we must all chip in to sell the tickets.

Matt deBruyn – his vacation property is in the Mexican earthquake zone – he hasn't had word, but is hoping all is well.

Anil Bharwani – announced a passing of a long time client and friend of his.

Fine Master – Anil – Quizzed us on Rotary facts.

Rotary Moment – Peter Tam – G.S.E.

Marco made announcements about GSE upcoming and introduced our Guest Speaker, Sandy Blue, Economic Development Office from Maple Ridge.

Sandy joined the District of Maple Ridge in 2008. Her past careers included 25 years with Telus and HSBC Bank - both in Marketing. Her most recent position was as Business Development Manager with the Abbotsford International Airport. Her involvement in Community service is long and in 2000 the City of Burnaby recognized her volunteer hours to Victim Services. Sandy is a Director of Metro Vancouver Commerce, a member of both the Economic Developers Assoc of Canada and of B.C. A graduate of BCIT and has just received her Certificate in Economic Development from the University of Waterloo.

Sandy spoke to us about her presentation that she goes out and shares with the investment community they often meet with. This is the same presentation they share at Trade Shows.

She showed us the Invest in BC sponsorship they participated in this year. MR has the back page this year. They are tracking the hits to the website and have noticed this has increased substantially since the magazine has been sent out.

The investment opportunities they hear a lot from are information based. Lifestyle is what attracts a lot of their interest.

They sell accessibility and affordable land for investment. Priority sectors being attracted are advanced technology and post secondary education and tourism. Goals are to attract commercial and to create high value local jobs. Primarily focussed in the town centre and to attract a post-secondary institution.

Some things to get the word out are very targeted ads, partnering with groups such as Metro Vancouver Commerce, together they have put a program that was used during the Olympics. 100 investors came during the Olympics alone. They are expecting to see some of the growth as a result of that.

In the downtown core, there is a tax incentive of over 4 stories of residential buildings. They are trying for commercial in the bottom and residential on the top. The Planning Department got an award for the plan they put together. Metro is projecting the population of Maple Ridge to double.

Housing prices according to CMHC – compared to Burnaby (932T), in MR (560T).

Festivals in MR are attractive to new people. Lifestyle is high.

Business – Translink study forecasted 400 new businesses (new bridges). Why – location, talent, access, affordability, strong business.

New Developments – 256th Kanaka Industrial, Albion area study, application by the Peltons to have their property removed from the ALR and made Industrial and the new Spirit Square

Marco thanked Sandi and donated a book to the Guatemala Mobile Library in her name.

Submitted by Terry Becker

UNITING TO 'KICK POLIO OUT OF AFRICA'



In the months leading up to the FIFA World Cup in June, Rotary clubs across Africa have been gearing up for the final push to kick polio out of the continent.

On 23 February, Rotary's 105th anniversary, a Kick Polio Out of Africa campaign launched with the symbolic kicking of a soccer ball signed by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, a polio survivor.

The journey began in Cape Town, South Africa, one of the host cities for the 2010 World Cup. The ball will travel through 22 polio-affected countries en route to the RI Convention in Montréal, Québec, Canada, in June. The primary sponsor of the campaign is DHL Express.

During the ball's four-month journey, Rotary clubs in the polio-affected countries will hold soccer-related polio awareness events to

mobilize public support for immunization activities. Along the way, the ball will be signed by each national PolioPlus committee chair.

Synchronized immunization activities took place in 19 Central and West African countries 6-8 March, with more than 400,000 health workers and volunteers reaching over 85 million children. The initiative was made possible largely by US\$30 million in funding from Rotary International.

The synchronized immunizations were part of an ongoing response to the epidemic that spread in 2008 from polio-endemic Nigeria to neighbouring countries that had been polio-free. The effort will be repeated in the same countries on 24 April.

"We at Rotary are proud to have provided the necessary funding for the March rounds, and we call on others to play their part in making Africa polio-free by providing funding necessary for more high-coverage campaigns," says African Regional PolioPlus Committee Chair Ambrose Tshimbalanga Kasongo.

The synchronized immunization strategy has proved effective. The first wave of infected countries -- Benin, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Niger, and Togo -- stopped the outbreak in 2009. In addition, this year the number of cases in Nigeria has plummeted to just one as of 23 March, compared with 90 for the same period in 2009. However, the outbreak is still active in nine other countries.

"What this means in very simple terms is that we are now reaching more children. Ending polio in Nigeria is now more than ever before seen as realistic, clearly achievable," says Nigeria PolioPlus Committee Chair Busuyi Onabolu. "And Rotary International, as catalyst for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, is determined to mobilize the citizenry toward ensuring that every child is immunized."