

SHELTERBOX IN HAITI

After 10 years of bringing aid to thousands of disaster victims, ShelterBox faced its most daunting challenge yet after a powerful earthquake rocked Haiti on 12 January, plunging the struggling nation into one of the worst humanitarian crises on record.

The quake, the nation's strongest in more than 200 years, killed at least 200,000 people and left more than one million homeless and in desperate need of food and shelter. The ground support that ShelterBox deployed days after the quake struck was unmatched by anything the organization had done before.

"This is the largest, quickest, and most complex deployment in our history. We organized across four countries to get ShelterBoxes to the people of Haiti quickly," says John Leach, head of operations.

With most of the capital, Port-au-Prince, flattened, hospitals were in dire need of shelter for victims. Hundreds of tents were used as emergency shelter for postoperative patients.

Founded by Tom Henderson, of the Rotary Club of Cober Valley Helston, England, in 1999, ShelterBox is a Rotarian- and Rotary club supported non-profit that brings shelter, water, and comfort to victims of disaster and conflict. Each 49-gallon box is packed with necessities such as tents big enough for 10 people, blankets, water purification tablets, cooking supplies, and tools.

At press time, more than 10,000 containers had been distributed in Haiti. In the last decade, ShelterBox has responded to more than 100 crises in over 60 countries, with support from Rotary clubs around the world.

SHELTERBOX VILLAGE IN MAPLE RIDGE

A clarion call went out to have a "Minga," an Ecuadorian term for an urgent call to the community to work for the benefit of others. The citizens of Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows and beyond heard the call and responded beyond the wildest expectations of the organizing committee. The demonstration Shelterbox village in Memorial Park provided a realistic picture of what kind of help your donation would provide for the victims in Haiti. Your donation was used to purchase Shelterboxes that were delivered by Rotary volunteers directly to the victims, teaching the locals how to set up the ten person tent and how to best utilize all the other contents of the box. No middlemen, no bureaucracy; minimal overhead and thus maximum benefit for the Haitians!

During the weekend of January 22, 2010, the MeadowRidge Rotary club, the Haney Rotary club, the Kiwanis and Scouts of Canada joined hands to put together an event that all participants will remember as a prime example of how our fellow citizens could share in the spirit of a Minga. A terrific band, "Newhouse," presented a free concert.

The event raised over \$50,000 or enough for 50 Shelter Boxes.



ShelterBox village in Maple Ridge as a Haiti relief fundraiser on Jan. 22-23, 2010



Display of what goes in a ShelterBox



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR GUESTS!

INVOCATION

May 11	Peter Tam	May 18	Walter Volpatti
June 1	Stan Wade	June 8	Rustam Yazdgerdian



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 13: Jan Dale

TODAY'S PROGRAM: New Members Meeting
 Installation of Lyndy Buyze - Kerr

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Carol Tichelman - Rotary Foundation 101

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
May 13-16		District 5050 Conference	Tulalip Resort Casino, USA
May 25	6:00 pm	Fireside at Marco Terwiel's residence	21616 River Rd. M.R.
June 20-23		Rotary International Convention	Montreal
June 29		Installation Executive 2010/2011	Heather Hills Farm

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$926.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 22 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our Guests were Adrienne Dale – Rotary Club of Johannesburg, S.A., Mariella Ignatieff a guest of David Riddell.

Marco had 5 happy dollars for being able to find someone to do the Invocation, Fine master, Rotary moment and mystery greeter – 4 people stepped up! He says often he is not able to find someone, so was really pleased this week. Also the UBC Research Forest BBQ has 14 members going this Thursday. He is familiarizing himself with the new database and encourages everyone to log on and give it a try and to remember to keep it updated. Jim said he can't be here next week and someone will have to do Sgt At Arms for next week. Kevin Nosworthy will do this.

Laurie Anderson is happy for a recent tour of Alta and BC including the Tyrell Museum – he shared with us all that he was not quite sure what it was that took him to the Museum and imagined it had nothing to do with his age! Bob Shantz had happy money for attending the MRCF Fundraising Gala and again announced Ineke's COY.

Ineke is happy to be hosting the BIA BC in Maple Ridge this Friday. She also let us know, that this Saturday is the Gala for the Ridge Meadows Education Foundation and she has tickets for sale.

Kevin Nosworthy passed on a phone call he received for sponsoring a youth for RYLA and what a positive experience that was. Linda Lawrence was happy that Brian Bekar is back as next week is our membership meeting.

Dave Rempel was Finemaster and brought his new cup and started fining us.

- Brian Bekar for being so picky about who he's sitting beside. Kevin for not being Rotarian enough and expressing is disappointment about who he is sitting beside – oddly enough Brian and Kevin were next to each other – no group hug ensued.
- Those 6 folks who happily raised their hands expressing disappointment about Dave being finemaster and those that expressed themselves in laughter because they didn't indicate they were disappointed but were happy also paid a fine.
- If you have not attended a club committee in April you were fined a dollar.
- If you had not attended a community fundraiser you owe a dollar.

Dave Rempel auctioned off 2 tickets to the RMEF dinner this Saturday that were graciously donated by Lynda Laurence.

Mystery Greeter Laurie Anderson who was only too happy to take the new cup from Dave and add to it's coffers.

Marco read aloud a thank you letter from MR Hospice - Laura Cherrile - for choosing them at the MRCF Fundraiser. Kevin immediately announced that it was a team effort (aka loss) and had something to do with ants.....?

Rotary Moment by Lisa – she is a polio survivor and gave us a brief history of how the virus was discovered and the experiments that were started and that while we all remember Dr. Salk, we received an education on his able assistants.

Fireside at Marco's on May 25th – Outdoors with firepit etc. Weather permitting or indoors as per last Fireside. Meal will be catered by the same caterer. There were so many good comments about the food and those of us who attended remember how good it was.

Guest Speaker – Mike Morden – M.R. Councillor – Introduction by Gord Robson – Mike started in the Securities Business – originally from Britain, he immigrated at 17. A current member of Haney Club and he's here to speak to us about how things have happened over the past 18 months.

Mike started by telling us that he wasn't here to talk to us about what we thought he might be.

He gave us his rendition of the Fox and Hedgehog theory – those that know lots of things vs. those who know a lot about one thing. He likened Mr. van der Zalm to a Hedgehog. He likened Rotary to one with a big vision.

He said we need more foxes in local government to build a community and have vision – he said he doesn't consider himself a politician – he's here to recruit those who want to move the community forward with his vision and make a difference. He's here to look for a team to evolve. He says the community is divided and he says we need a vision. Past Mayor Robson had the vision, but didn't have the team.

He said Rotary was started by one man with a vision – Paul Harris. We have the current opportunities and it's time to “get on with it”.

He talked about the big picture and costs of civic works – sometimes it doesn't all make sense.

Farmland, trees falling over and Environmental are single issues. Environmental issues – one little issue comes up and he said they come out in droves and are very good at it. Business is busy doing business and can't come out come out like the Environmentalists to oppose them on issues.

A question about the Capital Infrastructure Money and what has happened to that and how much might be left? Mike was unsure and said he didn't see it being used in his lifetime.

A question about donations to local government – should they be continued? He suggested they might be considered Peddling of influence and getting the Union donations. He suggests no cap of any sort should be considered or implemented and the system should stay the same – private corporations and businesses need to be able to donate to Mayors and Councillors.

When asked, Mike said he will probably run for a second term.

Marco thanked Mike for coming and speaking to us.

Peter B won the 50/50, but did not draw the right card.

Submitted by Terry Becker

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?