

The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

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Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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January is Rotary Awareness Month

TODAY: Samira Atthari & Lindsay Stadnik -

Youth Adventures In Leadership (YAIL)

NEXT WEEK: Duck Race Information

Happy Birthday

Feb. 5: Robert Goodrick Feb. 7: Maureen Goodrick

Feb. 7: Brett Paskar

BUILDING COMMUNITIES BRIDGING CONTINENTS

INVOCATION:

Feb. 1	Lynda Lawrence	
Feb. 8	Debbie MacRae	
Feb. 15	Patrick O'Brien	
Feb. 22	Brett Paskar	

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Feb. 15		New Member's Meeting	

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: KNOWN BY OUR WORKS

Rotary International News -- 26 January 2011

Each month, we highlight Rotary's history and share an inspirational quote from past Rotary leaders. January's quote:

"Our success or failure will not depend upon the machinery of Rotary or its physical growth, but upon the extent to which Rotary's ideals or objectives are translated into positive, tangible results in personal, business, community, and international life. We shall be known by our works."

— Almon E. Roth, 1930-31 RI president, in *The Rotarian*, July 1930



LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Our guests today were Samantha Stanley and Gordy Robson jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Lynda announced that the Club was ranking second in District for Polio Plus contributions, however we are \$3500.00 short for our RI contributions. She requested members to consider making a donation to the Every Rotarian, Every Year program.

ROTARY MOMENT:

President Lynda asked members to have a look at the latest January edition of the Rotarian Magazine as it was the 100 publication and particularly newsworthy.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Samantha Stanley. - "Free the Children"

Samantha told the Club about an organisation which she was involved in and how she would be going to Kenya in July to visit the schools and work with the children, which the organisation had assisted. For more information on the organisation, see an excerpt from the official website www.freethechildren.com.



"Free The Children has been

operating in Kenya since 1999 within the Narok South District, working with both Kipsigis and Maasai communities. Through the Adopt a Village program, we've engaged 10 communities across the Mara and built a total of 70 schools, libraries, water projects, latrines, kitchens and teachers' accommodations. There are more than 40,000 community members engaged in development and education projects in these communities and our team of community outreach and development workers consistently works with 100 active women's, men's and youth groups.

26% of Kenyan children aged five to 14 are working in child labour;

30% of Kenyans live in extreme poverty on less than \$1 per day;

Although mosquito nets could reduce the spread of malaria by 50%, only 15% of Kenyan children under the age of five sleep under a mosquito net."

Laura Cherrille - "Who's Who"

Laura gave the club a bit if background on her life growing up and her working career. She is currently the Executive Director of the Meadow Ridge Hospice.

She was born in the 60's in East Vancouver, one of 4 children and the only girl. Her father was a truck driver with Swift Meats. She spoke fondly of her Nan (granny), who lived in the basement and who was a great influence in her life. She described herself as a tomboy and an avid sportswoman in the early years, playing BC Woman's lacrosse at age 16.

She was eager to leave home and immediately on completing her last semester at school, secured an interview with Scotia Bank. She was hired on the spot as a stenographer and within three months was promoted to an accounting clerk. By the time she was 20, she had worked her way up to the position of customer service supervisor.

She met her first husband Alan at 15 and they were married when she

was 20. They moved to Maple Ridge in 1988. At the time she had been promoted to assistant manager at the Vancouver branch of Scotia Bank.

Their daughter Kristina was born shortly afterwards and their son Garret 19 months later. Sadly Garret passed away at 3 months old. She described this as the time when her world came crashing down.

However, she was able to turn this very sad event around into something positive to support others in the same situation. Laura and another mom, who had also lost a child, started a support group called "Empty Arms", which she ran for almost 10 years. Two years after Garret's death she gave birth to her son Cody.

She decided to begin studying for a BA degree at Simon Fraser University which she completed it in 2005. She was immediately hired as a bereavement coordinator for Hospice. No doubt her personal life experience was greatly instrumental in "qualifying" her for the job.

She married her second husband in 2007. They have just completed building their dream home in Mission, where they live with their 2 dogs Buddy and Oreo. They love to travel and garden.

Submitted by Adrienne Dale