



# The Four Way Flasher

**Meadow Ridge Rotary Club**

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Website: [www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca](http://www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca)

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## February is World Understanding Month



**TODAY:** New Members Meeting

**NEXT WEEK:** Video Presentation - "The Bali Blood Bank" Marilyn Fitzgerald

### Historic Moments: The first four Rotarians

On 23 February 1905, Paul P. Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram E. Shorey gathered in Loehr's office for what would become known as the first Rotary club meeting.



### INVOCATION:

<b>Feb. 15</b>	Patrick O'Brien
<b>Feb. 22</b>	Brett Paskar
<b>March 1</b>	Ken Paterson
<b>March 8</b>	Dave Rempel

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
<b>April 9</b>	<b>7pm – 10pm</b>	Wine Festival	Thomas Haney S.S.
<b>May 5 - 8</b>		District Conference	Harrison Hot Springs
<b>May 21 - 25</b>		Rotary International Conference	New Orleans

## POLIO RETURNS TO CRIPPLE ANGOLA

Sad news: Polio had been eradicated in Angola in 2002 in spite of the civil war. However the widespread poverty, poor sanitation and a less than diligent vaccination program for the children born after the year 2000 has created once again a susceptible population and it took only the arrival of some workers from India carrying the virus to cause an outbreak in the capital of Angola, Luanda among 32 children that were not vaccinated.

In the meantime that same virus has spread to the Democratic Republic of Congo and the neighbouring Congo and attacked 93 more children.

The Angolan government has pledged to vaccinate all Angola's 5.6 million children under the age of five by the end of this year.

But tackling the polio resurgence will take more than just vaccinations.

Health officials also face the difficult job of bringing clean water to more households and building infrastructure for sanitation and water treatment, since polio is highly contagious and is transmitted through feces.

During rainy season in the slums of Luanda, water floods the streets and forms muddy puddles that pose a health threat to neighbourhood children.

These areas also suffer severe shortages of drinking water.

The luckier households have access to public taps, others spend much of their income on bottled water.

**50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$303.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 42 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!**

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

**GUESTS:** Erik & Urma Mollema, Val Bahnman and three Rotarians from the North Vancouver Rotary Club.

### **ROTARY MOMENT:**

Patrick gave members some interesting information on polio vaccinations which took place in Pakistan during March 2010. Over a period of week, 14 million people were given the vaccination. Bill Gates has publically endorsed the huge contribution being made by Rotary International towards the eradication of polio in the world.

On a sad note Marco announced that there had been some reports of polio outbreaks in Angola.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS : "ANNUAL DUCK SPLASH"**



3 members from the North Vancouver Rotary club came to our meeting to give members a bit of insight into the holding of a "Duck Race" as a Rotary fundraising event and to promote this year's race.

The club held its first duck race in the spring of 1988. The idea was presented to club members the year before and took a full year to plan. In that year \$62,000.00 was raised and the winner won a vehicle.

This year is their 15<sup>th</sup> race, and is now called the annual "Great Duck Splash". It will be held on April 10, 2011. All proceeds go towards the Lions Gate Hospital Foundation, North Shore Rescue, North Shore Neighbourhood House, North Shore Crisis Services Society, and smaller community projects.

16,000 rubber ducks will be dropped from a helicopter and then make their way along the Capilano River. When reaching the end of the course the winning ducks will be rescued by 9 Labrador retrievers. The lucky winner will win a cruise and there are many other exciting prizes.

The event always proves to be a great family outing with a variety of activities including face painting, food sales etc.

For more information on the event, see [www.ducksplash.ca](http://www.ducksplash.ca). Also link up to [YouTube](http://www.YouTube) for some more footage of these events.

Submitted by Adrienne Dale

## DISTRICT 5050 CONFERENCE 2011

The District Conference Committee has been busy planning for this year's District Conference to be hosted at the wonderful Harrison Hot Springs Resort, May 5th through 8th.

Commencing on Thursday with the golf tournament at the picturesque Sandpiper Golf course for those that love to golf, or a 2 hour boat cruise up Harrison Lake, and/or enjoying the local area market businesses on the Circle Farm Tour, there will be activities for everyone.

The Conference officially kicks off on the Friday morning with breakfast headlined by a presentation from **Christopher Gaze**, of Bard on the Beach fame, who will focus on the arts and Rotary.

The RI Representative will be **Jennifer Jones** who many of the incoming Club Presidents will know from Pre-pets. She is a dynamic, energetic and committed Rotarian and is looking forward to officially opening the conference at the first plenary session on Friday and further meeting and chatting with the delegates.

We have several other dynamic speakers including **Ryan Walter**, former coach of the Vancouver Canucks and now coach of the Canadian National women's team talking on getting the most out of yourself and your team. **David Guscott** who was in charge of protocol and governmental relations for the 2010 Olympics who will talk on volunteerism and **Mel Cooper** a former broadcaster and well known for his humour will inject some fun and joviality in to the proceedings.

As far as Rotary business, we have several clubs sharing their fascinating projects which they are passionate about. We will also have **Apoorva Mallaya** of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation giving the delegates an update on the work of the partnership of the Foundation and Rotary in eradicating polio. He was well received at last years District Conference so he is coming back to give us an update.

As at any conference there is always time to 'Let the Good Times Roll'. So aside from the business of the conference there is a stellar entertainment line up headlined by the world famous **Langley Ukulele Ensemble** whose next stop after Harrison is New Orleans and the World Conference! They will be, as they usually are, most entertaining but they may well give us sneak peak of some of their New Orleans material. As well we have the **Reid Sisters** a nice blend of Rock and Roll classics and more modern material at Thursday night's Pub Night. At the District Governor's Ball we will dance the night away to the wonderfully entertaining **Red Line Band**.

Registration is on line. Sign up early (the conference rate goes up in early April) and join your fellow Rotarians for what promises to be a busy, informative and fun filled conference.

See you at Harrison!