



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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NOVEMBER IS FOUNDATION MONTH



TODAY: Meaghen Taylor-Reid - Community Living BC

NEXT WEEK: Bob Padden - TransLink

Happy Anniversary

Nov. 26: Matt & Lynda DeBruyn

Happy Birthday

Nov. 22: Laurie Anderson **Nov. 23:** Lynda Lawrence

Nov. 22:

Nov. 29:

Invocation	Debbie MacRae	Eric Mollema
Note Taker	Brian Bekar	Ineke Boekhorst

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Dec. 6	noon	AGM & election of Officers for 2012/13	
Dec. 14		Joint Christmas Party with Haney	Meadow Gardens

ROTARY PARTNERS WITH MERCY SHIPS

By Arnold R. Grahl Rotary International News -- 5 October 2011



Rotarians will help improve the delivery of vital health care services to West Africa through a new strategic partnership between The Rotary Foundation and the global charity [Mercy Ships](#).

Through the partnership, the Foundation will offer packaged global grants for Rotary clubs and districts to assemble vocational training teams of medical professionals. These teams will perform or assist in life-changing surgeries. The Rotarian volunteers will also work to enhance the skills of local health care professionals.

The initial projects will take place in West Africa, the area of operations for the charity's 16,500-ton state-of-the-art hospital ship, *Africa Mercy*, now based in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

"This strategic partnership with Mercy Ships enables Rotary to work with a globally recognized leader in the delivery of vital medical and

surgical care to the world's most vulnerable populations," says Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair William B. Boyd. "It allows Rotary club members to directly contribute their valuable expertise and skills within the framework of a proven and highly successful health care program."

Founded in 1978, Mercy Ships uses its hospital ships to deliver free, world-class health care and assistance in capacity building and sustainable development to developing countries. The charity has worked in more than 70 countries, performing services that have had an impact on more than 2.9 million people. Each year, more than 1,200 surgeons, dentists, nurses, health care trainers, teachers, cooks, seamen, engineers, or agriculturalists volunteer their time and skills.

"Mercy Ships is honored to be chosen by The Rotary Foundation as a strategic partner for disease prevention and treatment," says Don Stephens, president and founder of the charity. "The scope of Rotary's service to humanity is truly monumental, and it is my belief that the synergy of our organizations working together will be an even greater force to increase health care delivery systems in West Africa."

Previous projects

Rotarians have a record of working with Mercy Ships, carrying out projects in several countries. The Rotary clubs of Jacksonville, Florida, USA, and Tema, Accra, Ghana, helped equip the *Africa Mercy* in 2007 to provide medical aid in Ghana. Jacksonville Rotarians also partnered with the Rotary Club of Monrovia, Liberia, to support eye and facial surgeries for more than 1,200 patients in Monrovia from 2008 to 2011.

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$571.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 32 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Mike Davies, chair of our Community Services Committee, presented a cheque for \$1,000 to Joan Hamilton who accepted on behalf of Meals on Wheels.



Visitors included Chilliwack Club president, Kevin Wood, who is in the process of visiting all 57 clubs in our district (we were the 24th). Other visitors included Janice Elkerton, our friend Zdenka Kukor who attended with her long-time and dear friend Korana Holub, Michael Hayes and Gilberto Recio all the way from Mexico.

Rotary Moment was presented by Marco. The permanent fund of the Rotary Foundation was first proposed in 1948 by the then Rotary International President but it wasn't until 1992 that it was finally established. Why donate to this Fund? An old man planted a tree, and was asked: "Why are you planting that tree which will not bear fruit for many years after you are dead and gone?" Like this old man, even though we may not be here to see the results of our donations, future generations who live after us will benefit by the seeds which we have planted, and we will live in their memory.

Our keynote speak was Mark Forster who gave his "Who's Who".

Mark was born in 1961 and was adopted by his mother and father. Of particular interest to we Rotarians who continue to support "Polio Plus", his mother was one of the original group of physiotherapists brought over from England to Canada in the early 1950's to support the polio epidemic which saw hundreds of people in irons lungs.



Mark grew up in Delta and was very active in the scouting program, right from youth scouting up to being a Rover. He excelled in his "party years", while attending UBC between 1979 and 1983, but obviously got through it all as he got his CGA designation in 1992. Mark supported himself through college sometimes holding three jobs at once, one of which he got at Art Knapp's Plantland through the recommendation of Bill VanderZalm.

After his early work years, he started his career with Royal Trust in 1986 where he worked until 1992 as accounting supervisor for Western Canada. From 1996 to 2006 he worked for KPMG Consulting/Bearing Point. After a lonely stint in the Bentall Tower ("where have all the people gone, long time passing") he became a business entrepreneur and with his wife runs their own company called Teletouch Services Inc. which provides telephone dictation solutions for writing-challenged doctors, as well as legal, insurance and general businesses in strange places all over the world. As if he doesn't have enough to do, like little Jack Horner, he also has his finger in a number of other pies.

Mark is married to Pauline (his "boss") and he has two step children, Christopher and Reilly as well two children from his first marriage who are Emma and Nicholas. To round out the family, he met his birth-mother in 1997, discovered that he had a

brother and sister (whom he has also met), and was fortunate that it was a happy reunion - with his birth mother becoming a good family friend to his own family and his parents.

To the envy of many Mayors (who, according to Gordy, have on occasion been known by less esteemed epithets) Mark is called a "Worshipful Master" in the Free Masons of which he is a member. Mark is also a trombone player in the Shriner's Band and a skier, and enjoys ATV club activities and recreational vehicle travels with his close knit family. Although not currently involved in scouting, he has over the past 30 years filled many leadership roles in scouting and Venturers. Asked why he joined Rotary, Mark hit the mark, stating that he wanted to give back to the community and make a difference in the world.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION ENJOYS HIGH RATINGS FROM CHARITY WATCHDOGS

By Paul Engleman Rotary International News -- 14 November 2011

Many philanthropists say it is more difficult to give money away intelligently than it is to earn it.

As charities' financial practices make headlines, many donors are concerned about how their money is used.

Rotarians can be confident that their contributions to [The Rotary Foundation](#) are being well spent.

The Foundation has earned a grade of A+ from the American Institute of Philanthropy, a top rating of four stars from Charity Navigator, and full accreditation from the Wise Giving Alliance of the Better Business Bureau.

Only 2.3 percent of Foundation expenditures go to administrative expenses, and 7.3 percent go to fundraising. The Foundation focuses more than 90 percent of its spending on programs, far exceeding the threshold of 75 percent that independent charity-rating services view as a measure of high efficiency.

That comes as no surprise to Foundation Trustee Steve Brown, who says the organization's grant application and review process contains the safeguards necessary to ensure that funds are used wisely.

Typically, Brown explains, international projects funded by the Foundation involve a sponsor club or district, which partners with an on-site host club or district. Funding may go through the sponsor or host. To implement a project, clubs must spell out what they plan on doing, how they plan on doing it, and what Rotarians' involvement will be. All projects require a detailed budget and often additional supporting documentation before receiving Foundation approval.

Once an approved project is funded, Brown says, a detailed progress report must be presented within one year. The reporting includes verification of what has happened (usually with photos) and requires copies of bank statements showing the flow of funds. The presidents of either the host or sponsor club must sign off on the report.

The Foundation has a stewardship committee that can review a project and impose a resolution if issues occur. If money was improperly spent, a club can be asked to return funds or even have its membership in Rotary International terminated.

"You don't want to have everything controlled from Evanston," Brown says. "We probably have more complaints about our rigorous stewardship than applause for it. But 99 percent of the time, things go the way we expect."