



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

Vol. 18, Issue 41 Apr. 10, 2012

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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|------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|
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APRIL IS MAGAZINE MONTH



TODAY: Dan Herbranson , Ridge Meadows RCMP detachment's Communications Strategist and Training Coordinator - "We Can't Help" Campaign

NEXT WEEK: MP Randy Kamp

Happy Anniversary

Apr. 14: David & Sharon Rempel
 Apr. 16: Robert & Cailin Campbell

Happy Birthday

Apr. 11: Brian Johnston

April 10

Invocation Walter Volpatti
Note Taker Melissa Kramer

April 17

Lauri Anderson
 Sharon Kyle

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| April 21 | 7pm – 10pm | Meadow Ridge Rotary Wine Festival | Thomas Haney Centre |
| June 01-03 | | District 5050 Convention | Semiahmoo Resort, Blaine, WA |
| June 22 | | Installation of new Executive | Pitt Meadow Golf Course |

DID YOU KNOW???

There is a Smartphone application, which will give you information on Rotary clubs nearest you when you are traveling, if you have the GPS activated.

You can download it from:

<http://rotary.org/en/AboutUs/SiteTools/ClubLocator/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

APRIL IS MAGAZINE MONTH

April is Magazine month. *The Rotarian* and *Rotary Canada* are outstanding sources of information about the work and programs of Rotary. They are excellent tools for membership recruitment and promoting Rotary. Share the magazine with potential new members, contribute copies to the waiting rooms of local health practitioners, legal and financial advisors.

The Rotary magazines are tools that inform Rotarians on innovative and diverse projects around the world. One year ago the first digital edition of the *Rotarian* has been launched. Check out the digital edition at

www.rotary.org/en/mediaandnews/therotarian/pages/ridefault.aspx.

Did you know that 100 years of the *Rotarian* are available on Google?

The Rotarian and *Rotary Canada* - read them and share them.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO STRIKE IT RICH: BUY ALL TICKETS AND YOUR CHANCE OF WINNING IS 1:16!

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$1057.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 16 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Jim announced there were no guests today, since Deborah Hyslop is now a member as of last week.

Happy and sad:

- Marco was sad since he was called upon to do some doctoring on the way to Holland, instead of having a good sleep in business class.
- Mark had an interesting story about his parents selling their home and the realtor needed a signature to finalize the deal. However, the parents could not be found, and there was a report that 2 people had been swallowed by the sea in Tofino. Their identities were not known. Fortunately, it turned out that they were having a break in Victoria.
- Urma was happy that her daughter had signed up for RYLA.

Mystery greeter: our newest member, Deborah, who still had some trouble with names of some of her fellow members.

Fine master, Mike Davies extracted some money from members not wearing their badges or pins. He created quite a bit of anxiety among all of us and especially Walter with the date that Canada joined the UN.

Announcements:

- Eric has two scarves, left over from the social evening for sale. Janis bought both of them.
- Urma announced that she will continue to bug us every week until we have sold 200 tickets for the WineFest.
- Mary announced that we have two candidates for RYLA at \$285 per person.
- Lindsay reminded us that there will be a District assembly on April 14 across the border. The club will have to pay for 5 members to attend, whether we attend or not. He will drive and invited us to join him.

President Terry then introduced our speaker Laurie Darcus.



Aside from her responsibilities in keeping the municipality of Pitt Meadows on track, she has a degree in anthropology and archaeology and is putting that knowledge and skill into practice in both Benin and Ethiopia. She described both in words and supported by pictures the duality of both countries, where the population is with one leg firmly planted in the ancient culture and the other in a modern society. Motorcycles are a common means of transportation that carry up to 7 people in urban areas. In contrast, there are many small villages the family compounds with goats roaming around. Somehow, people seem to know which goat is theirs. Most of the life takes place outside and houses are only used to sleep, store possessions and make babies.

There are still some kingdoms within the modern democracy. She met one of these kings and described the very worthwhile function they still perform in maintaining the fabric of society. The King takes care of approximately 15,000 subjects and liaises

with the government on their behalf. The King is entitled to have 49 of everything, including wives and was asking to keep one of Larry's colleagues.

After the ancient kingdoms the Portuguese settled in the country and conducted slave trade very successfully with the assistance of the local population. Eventually the French took over the country until it became independent.

Funerals are an interesting phenomenon, especially where it concerns the burial of rich people. They will celebrate the anniversary of someone's demise for years with a parade. 27% of the population is Christian and 27% is Muslim and everyone is still adhering to the ancient voodoo practices. There is a strong belief that if you do good, it will get back to you or your family. The reverse is true for a few who do bad things.

We saw a picture of a baobab tree with many holes drilled in the bark. People will blow their ways into these holes. Gasoline is smuggled from a neighbouring country in bottles. Markets are run by women, and there is no bargaining, because they know how much everything cost (unlike the men!).

Lori described some of the problems emanating from replacing the ancient order with modern amenities. She then spoke briefly about Ethiopia, where many of the problems are identical with those of Benin of the shift of communal living to individualism.

Submitted by Marco Terwiel

ROTARIANS HELP ORPHANS OF HIV/AIDS IN UGANDA

Rotary International News -- 6 April 2012



More than 1.2 million of Uganda's children have lost both parents to HIV/AIDS.

The Rotary Foundation and its partners are providing health care, and hope for the future, to over 500 orphans in the country.

"Despite the fact that their parents died, they wish to have the best life that we all have. So we give them assistance," says Joseph Matovu, a senior clinic officer and member of the Rotary Club of Kalisizo, Uganda.

The effort of Rotarians in Matovu's community is just one example of Rotary's work in the disease prevention and treatment area of focus. You can help support these efforts by making a special gift to The Rotary Foundation in honor of World Health Day on 7 April.

Direct your Annual Fund gift to [SHARE](#), to help support the local and international activities of clubs in your district, or direct your entire gift to the [disease prevention and treatment area of focus fund](#), to be spent on quality disease prevention projects identified and implemented by Rotarians around the world.