



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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June is Rotary Fellowship Month



TODAY: New Members Meeting

NEXT WEEK: Final Business Meeting

Happy Anniversary

June 15: Michael & Cindy Serry

Happy Birthday

June 14: Bob Shantz

June 12

June 19

Invocation	Adrienne Dale	Mike Davies
Note Taker	David Rempel	David Riddell

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Fri. June 22	6 pm	Installation of new Executive	Pitt Meadow Golf Course

NEW ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP HELPS COUNTRIES GROW FOOD THAT SUITS THEIR NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

By Diana Schoberg and Katie Hills The Rotarian -- June 2012

When Australian Bruce French went to Papua New Guinea as an agriculture instructor 40 years ago, his students asked him to teach them about native edible plants.

"I knew nothing about Papua New Guinea food plants," he recalls. "So I had to start learning."

The result was a series of books on indigenous food plants, and the not-for-profit Food Plants International, which maintains a database of 25,000 edible plants that includes descriptions, lists of countries and climates where they grow, photos and drawings, and cooking methods.

"There are thousands of nutritious plants, but people don't have any information about them," says Buz Green, an agriculturalist and member of the Rotary Club of Devonport North, Australia. "We're trying to bridge some of the gaps."

"Rotarian teams in developing countries inevitably identify hunger, malnutrition, and food security as critical issues," Green explains. "They tend to look to Western solutions to address food production issues."

The problem, he says, is that Western crops don't have the right nutritional profile for people in the developing world, whose diets often have little variety. Indigenous crops can allow them to

eat more nutritiously and are already adapted to local pests, diseases, and climatic conditions.

The "green revolution" of the 1950s and '60s, for example, led to increased agricultural productivity in Asian countries, but also to unforeseen effects. The weeds that grew in rice paddies had served as the primary source of vitamin A for villagers in India, and when those weeds were eradicated, the people became deficient.

"Virtually every woman in the tropical world is anemic," French adds. "We go there with cabbages and make the situation 10 times worse."

French and Green launched the **Learn Grow** project in June 2007 to help people in developing countries grow local food that suits their nutritional needs. Early last year, the RI Board recognized the Food Plant Solutions Rotarian Action Group, whose 195 members will help Rotarians implement Learn Grow efforts, according to its chair, Past RI Director John Thorne, of the Rotary Club of North Hobart, Australia.

The principles of eating locally are gaining momentum in the Western world, French says. "My children and lots of other people thought I was eccentric for 35 years. Now I've become fairly trendy in my old age."



LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Elect Lindsay Hendy presided over his first ever Rotary Meeting - just practice for July!

Guests: Judy Gessler

Happy Sad:

- Janis Elkerton was happy having done a session with the Friends in Need on Saturday and managed to help get mentioned in the newspaper. OH, Sorry Jim, it was "The Times".
Also, happy for participating in the Pitt Meadows Day parade. It was great because, the entire city council walked in the parade.
- Lindsay was happy having attended the District Conference in Semiahmoo where he DID NOT play golf.
- Linda Lawrence was happy and gave a big thank you to all the Rotarians who participated in the Friends in Need food bank promotion. Linda was also happy because her new cat is "on the way".
- Bob Shantz was happy to bring us a message from Irena to remind us to RSVP the invitation to Bob's BIG BIRTHDAY PARTY on June 16.
- Marco Terwiel was sad as he "slept through" his alarm and missed the Pitt Meadows day parade but was happy as he went to the District conference in Semiahmoo. He advised that the next district conference will be in Vancouver.
- Brian was totally sad as he totally forgot about Friends in Need.
- Peter Boekhorst was happy as his cataract surgery was done and his eyes now match, but alas, he got no zoom lenses, darn.
- Adrienne Dale was happy as she also attended the District Conference and was proud to announce that MeadowRidge Rotary won the award for the best community project - the Duck Race. She also reminds us to sign up for the installation party on June 22.

Mystery Greeter was Mike Davies and the only individual who didn't shake his hand was me, Ken who was too busy setting up his computer to take these notes.

Brian Bekar was the **Fine Master**. Big fine is for those who hadn't signed up to bring anyone to the membership meeting next week.

Announcements:

- Bob Shantz on Duck Race - no tickets undistributed. Most popular float in the parade was the Duck.
- Eric: New Members Meeting next week. No of guests. Show of hands - looks like 10 to 12.
- Lindsay reminded us to sign up for installation dinner

Speaker for the Day was Ineke Boekhorst, who gave a report on her attendance at the International Conference in Bangkok this year.

First step is registration – must have your entrance badge to get in. Also get your pin and a badge which indicates what languages you speak. Also get a bag which contains your "bible": your program without which one would be lost. She also got an

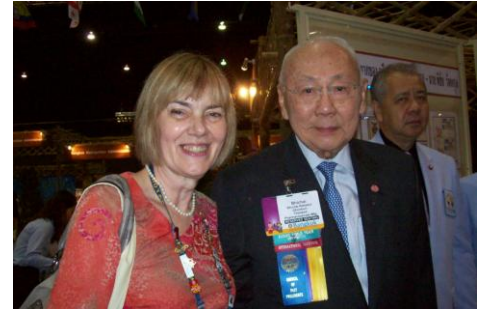
umbrella – very helpful in the Monsoon weather - it was 43 degrees.

She went with Japan Airlines – good service and food. 12 Hours to Tokyo. On layover in Tokyo, there were lots of people waiting and she met guy from Kelowna who knew Marjolein.

She stayed at the Chaophya Park Hotel where they were very welcoming of Rotarian visitors.

Attendance was 35,000 Rotarians and 1,000,000 plus flowers mostly Orchids.

Opening of House of Friendship – President Kalyan Banerjee was there along with many of the Rotary leaders whose names you only see in print.



Seen here in the picture is Ineke with RI President-elect Sakuji Tanaka.

The H of F featured many booths of varied nature, eg, "the friendship of Quilt Makers" which had a quilt made out of old Rotary Ties. Notice to Bob and Ken – now you know what to do with your old ties.

The mornings featured Plenary Sessions and the afternoons, breakout sessions.

Opening Plenary Session – Princess Chulabhorn arrived in a wheel chair – she was recovering from a Botox treatment – but still managed to wear her high heels – wonder where she had the botox?

The Opening Address was by RI President Kalyan Banerjee. The Bangkok Symphony closed out the session.

Second Plenary session: Hugh Evans was the speaker and was typical of the high level of speakers.

All Plenary Sessions were typically featuring great and very moving speakers such as Muhammad Yunus - Man who started the Micro Credit bank program and is a Nobel peace prize winner

Breakout sessions feature lots of varying topics and issues. Ineke chose a youth oriented session.

Hospitality Night was held in the convention centre and featured an enormous food "court" with an incredible variety of food and even a "parade"!

OH, and then Ineke showed us her after Convention pics of a ride on an elephant, a visit to the floating market, and then there was a guy named Jim from Michigan.

Ineke did us proud and we wonder how many other clubs have had any one who has attended 9 Conventions. Next year Lisbon.

Ineke auctioned off a neat "umbrella hat". Sharon was the winner for \$65 after some fierce bidding. Seems like "umbrella hats" might be a popular item here in Rainy Haney.

50/50 went to me – ah ha turned up the 7 of hearts.

Submitted by Ken Paterson