



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

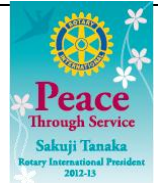
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Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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September is New Generations Month



TODAY:

NEXT WEEK:

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

Sep. 25: Warren & Adrienne Dale

Sep. 18

Sharon Kyle

Oct. 2

Lynda Lawrence

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sep. 25		Meeting cancelled due to joined meeting Sep. 26	
Sep. 26	6 pm	2012 Duck Race Celebration / Fund Distribution	The ACT
Oct. 01		Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Oct. 06	3 pm	"Ride & BBQ", Mustang Riding Stables	14729 Sylvester Rd, Mission
Oct. 20		Meet RI President Sakuji Tanaka (Lunch)	Vancouver Westin Bayshore Hotel
Nov. 13	noon	District Governor Sean Hogan's official visit.	Bella Vita Restaurant

MEADOWRIDGE ROTARY CLUB 22ND ANNUAL SPORTS BANQUET MONDAY OCTOBER 1ST, 2012

Meadow Gardens Golf & Country Club
19675 Meadow Gardens Way, Pitt Meadows
6:00 pm No Host Bar 7:00 pm Buffet Dinner

Emcee John McKeachie
HomeTown Heroes Inductee
Live & Silent Auctions

TICKETS \$150 Per Person, available thru the following Rotarians:
Mark Forster (604) 604-463-9945 Lynda Lawrence (604) 467-3333

MeadowRidge Rotary has raised well over \$500,000 for sports facility projects that benefit the many youth sports organizations within our community.

Baseball, hockey, football, soccer, lacrosse, kayaking, track & field are just a few of the sports we've supported over the years.

Join us for an entertaining evening and meet this year's Home Town Hero inductee.

FIFTY YEARS OF ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE IN JAPAN

By Megan Ferring

The Rotarian -- September 2012

In 1962, Australia was a country grappling with change. Many older Australians were still emotionally rebuilding after World War II, and the nation was beginning to dismantle its anti-Asian "White Australia" immigration policy.



When Yoko Sekimoto arrived in Melbourne that year as Japan's first Rotary Youth Exchange student, she didn't realize that many people were wary of her visit. Fifty years later, she continues to marvel at the graciousness of her hosts.

"Everyone treated me like a daughter or sister. It was only 17 years after the war, but I felt a warm welcome and great hospitality," says Sekimoto (her married name – at the time, she was Yoko Miyazaki).

Japan's Youth Exchange program began with help from an Australian Rotarian. Don Farquhar addressed the 1961 RI Convention in Tokyo about the need to build friendships and

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$494.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 32 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

cultural understanding throughout the world – particularly with Japan. He considered student exchange to be the best way to do that.

“It was a hard time for Japan when I was 16,” Sekimoto says. “When I came to Australia, it was just like heaven. It was such a different style of living. That became a big turning point for me – it completely changed my life.”

Her experience as an exchange student awakened a curiosity to explore the rest of the world. After returning home to finish high school and college, Sekimoto worked as a flight attendant, married, and lived in Egypt before going back to Japan.

“Yoko’s story is just one great example of Youth Exchange,” McDonald says. “Fifty years later, thousands of friendships have been formed between people from all over the world and Japan.”

LAST WEEKS MEETING

President Lindsay managed to start and end the meeting right on time. Great job!

Invocation: Melissa reminded us that we all with our individual capabilities in a common bond bring strength to Rotary.



Angie presented two cheques of \$500 to respectively Lorraine Bates in support of the local annual agricultural fair



and Rob Hornsey for the Odeum Theatre Society.

Peter presented the **Rotary moment** in giving us how our periodical The Rotarian started in 1911 and since then has grown into an award winning magazine with a circulation of more than 500,000.



At first the name was: The National Rotarian, but after only one year it was necessary to change it to “The Rotarian” since there were now Canadian and UK clubs. In addition there are now 31 regional Rotary magazines in over 20 languages and distributed in more than 130 countries.

Laura made a plea to support the Hospice Hoe-Down. Only half the number of tickets of last year’s event has been sold and it is one of their major fundraiser.

Happy and Sad:

– Gordy was very happy to have received a diagnosis and effective treatment for his longstanding ailment. Linda shared that happiness, since Gordy is now a much easier person to work with. Other Gordy happiness: His daughter

Kira and husband are settling in Kindersley, Saskatchewan and saying farewell to Egypt.

- Marco was happy to have read in the Peace Arch journal that our club for the first time ever was #3 in the District attendance with Over 90% for the month of July. Furthermore he has started a new treatment and feels somewhat better.
- Ken Paterson completed his 200K bicycle tour with minor rear end consequences.
- Bob S. reminded us about the Duck Race disbursements on September 29 at the Act. 4 PM with dinner to follow. Do not miss this fun social event put together by both Rotary clubs. Fred Armstrong will be the MC. The Haney club sold 276 Duck race tickets and our club 1550. The participating youth organizations sold the balance of the 88,000 tickets! Brilliant to have them do the bulk of the painful work of ticket sales.

Announcements: Kisha, the Haney club president will come and talk about their club’s youth program.

Lindsay and Marco represented our club at the Mt. Vernon polio event. We both enjoyed the well run evening with lots of pleasant social interaction, good food and much a better than expected musical performance.

Mark is looking for silent auction donations for the sports banquet and will be happy to accept individual ticket sales instead of full tables.

Randy Kamp our MP will support the polio eradication campaign and carry Rotary’s message to Ottawa.



Special Olympics
British Columbia

Rachel Borer gave a **presentation** about the Special Olympics program for intellectually challenged individuals. This is contrast to the Olympics for the physically disabled. She introduced her local volunteer coordinator Candace Davison. This is a grassroots organization where outstanding participants will progress to compete on the municipal, Provincial, Canadian and International level. The organization is volunteer driven with only 15 paid staff for BC. They utilize trained coaches providing quality programs for various age categories. There is a summer and a winter program. They build self- confidence and learn to set goals.

Participants attend one hour minimum once a week for 12 consecutive weeks. >75% is over 21 years old. The program for children ages 2-6 is called “Active Start”, followed by “Fundamentals” for 6-12, and “Sport Start for 12-18 year olds.

The Benefits are the acquisition of multiple skills, improved fitness, peer interaction and long term involvement in sports.

Website: www.specialolympics.bc.ca

Submitted by Marco Terwiel