



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

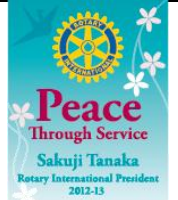
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Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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October is Vocational Service Month



TODAY:

NEXT WEEK:

Happy Birthday

Oct. 11: Tom Manion

Happy Anniversary

Oct. 10: Ken & Jo-Ann Knuttila

Invocation

Oct. 9

Lynda Lawrence

Oct. 16

Debbie MacRae

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Nov. 13	noon	District Governor Sean Hogan's official visit.	Bella Vita Restaurant

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Every Rotarian is different. Every Rotarian was drawn into Rotary for different reasons, and many vividly remember their first "Rotary Moment" – the moment when they went from being members of their Rotary clubs to being committed Rotarians.

I love hearing these stories and learning about what drew each Rotarian into Rotary. For some, it was a Rotary office, a particular project, or a convention. For me, it was a speaker at an ordinary weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Yashio, about two years after I'd joined.

I am a charter member of my club, and I was invited to join by the charter president. I had never heard of Rotary, and at the time, I didn't really know what service meant. But I was new to Yashio. I had just moved there from Tokyo, and I didn't know many people. I thought Rotary would be a good way to make friends and to help my business, and I respected the person who invited me, so I joined.

But to be honest, for the first two years, we didn't do much. Every week, I came to my meeting, I ate lunch, and I listened to a speaker. I paid my dues, and I gave money to The Rotary Foundation. But I wasn't involved in any service. I didn't know what Rotary service was supposed to be.

That all changed one week, when we had a speaker who talked about vocational service. This was a new idea to me. Until then, I had never thought much about the purpose of my life, or why I was in business. I was too busy working. I was always focused on my business, and on how to make it larger and better. I never stopped to consider any deeper purpose of my work.

Understanding the idea of vocational service completely changed my attitude toward my work, and toward my own purpose in life. I realized that the goal of a person doing business is not only to earn a living. The purpose is to be a contributing member of the community, to make the community stronger, and to help make other people's lives better. When I understood this, and understood the concept of Service Above Self, it changed my life – and set me firmly on the path to a life of Rotary service. That is my Rotary Moment.

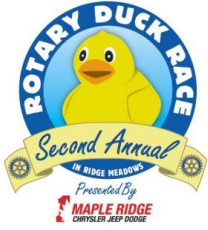
Sakuji Tanaka
President, Rotary International



LAST WEEK'S EVENTS

The last two weeks we have been busy quite a bit. We didn't have regular lunch meetings, but we all did our share.

Duck Race Appreciation Dinner



First of all there was on September 26 the Rotary Duck Race Appreciation Dinner held at The ACT.

The Rotary Duck Race was organized by both the Haney Club and the Meadow Ridge Club. We handed out more than \$88,000 to 34 youth groups.

We also recognized all Prize and Event Sponsors and the volunteers, who worked so hard to make this a successful event.



Maple Ridge Chrysler, who donated a Jeep as the Grand Prize.



You can see all the pictures on our website at meadowridgerotary.ca

This is the article in *The Times* of Sep. 28, 2012

Eric Langton Elementary Playground

On Sep. 29 the new playground was installed at Eric Langton Elementary. The Sports Banquet contributed \$35,000 to it.

It will be a benefit not only to the students, but also to the families in the neighbourhood. It is the first fully accessible playground in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.



You can see all the pictures on our website at meadowridgerotary.ca

This is the article in the *Maple Ridge News* of Oct. 3, 2012



Last but not least was the Sports Banquet on October 1.

From the first project in Albion, to the sports court at Pitt Meadows Secondary, to the field at Samuel Robertson Technical, to the track at Maple Ridge Secondary, Rotary has been funding sports projects since its inception in 1990.

Through the years the MeadowRidge Rotary Sports Banquet has raised more than \$500,000 for long-term sports facility projects in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

"We are blessed with so many wonderful people - not just athletes - but people in general," said Sports Banquet organizer Mary Robson, who estimates more than \$20,000 was made at this year's event from the silent auction and other fundraising.

This year the Home Town Hero honour was given to 20-year-old swimmer Nathan Stein, who just recently returned from winning a silver medal at the 2012 Paralympic Games in London.



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