



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

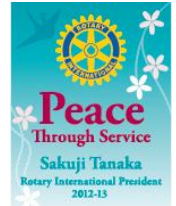
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Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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November is Rotary Foundation Month



TODAY: District Governor Sean Hogan’s official visit.

NEXT WEEK:

Happy Birthday

Nov. 15: Ken Paterson

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

Nov. 13

Urma Mollema

Nov. 20

Patrick O’Brien

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Dec. 5		Joint Christmas party with the Haney Club	Pitt Meadows Golf Club
Dec. 11	noon	Club AGM and election of Executive 2013/14	Bella Vita Restaurant
Dec.18	noon	Christmas Lunch	Bella Vita Restaurant

RI PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

There are many ways to describe our Rotary Foundation. But I think of our Foundation literally – as the foundation for all of Rotary.

We do not often think about the ground beneath our feet. We do not often think about the walls that are holding up our house. We take them for granted. We think about them only when they are not there.

Not long ago in Japan, the ground fell out from under our feet. On Friday, 11 March 2011, a magnitude 9 earthquake shook Japan to its very core. More than 15,000 people died, nearly 6,000 were injured, and another 4,000 are still missing. The total losses of the disaster are estimated at over US\$300 billion.

In a matter of hours, half a million people in one of the world’s wealthiest and most developed countries lost everything. They went from living in comfort and security to facing an uncertain future in school gymnasiums, tents, and ruined buildings.

In Japan, we are used to earthquakes. We thought we were ready for anything. But no one ever expected anything like this.

What happened on that day changed Japan, and everyone who lives there. It has made us realize how fragile our lives are. And it has made me realize how little separates me from the people I help through Rotary.

It is easy to look at the people we help through our Foundation as somehow different from ourselves. They live far away. We do not know their language or their culture. We do not know what it is like to have no running water, no sanitation, no health care, no education. We look at pictures, and we read stories in the news about poverty, wars, and disasters. We see, from so far away, the people who are living through such terrible times. But it is hard to put ourselves in their place.

Today, I tell you that there is nothing at all separating us from the people we help. We are all the same. Only the circumstances surrounding us are different.

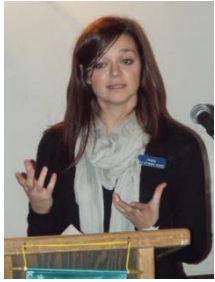
Through our Foundation, we have the power to live the words of our Foundation’s motto: Doing Good in the World. Through it, we can do so much more good than we could ever do alone. And it matters so much – to people just like us.

Sakuji Tanaka
President, Rotary International

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Pres. Lindsay opened the meeting four minutes late, but he redeemed himself by apologizing profusely and subsequently running a very tight meeting and finishing four minutes early.

The singing of the national anthem had a shaky start but ended on a good note.



Pres. Lindsay introduced student nurse Lindsay Thibeault, who gave a spirited presentation about the advisability of getting a flu shot if not to protect oneself but at least others who may be more vulnerable and could get suffer severe consequences or even death.

She emphasized that no one could get the flu from the vaccination because the virus has been killed. A lively discussion ensued.

Tom Manion asked about the live vaccine that can be administered nasally. That is not available yet in Canada. Mark mentioned that there are two philosophies of pro and con, both entrenched. Even if one is opposed, washing your hands frequently will go a long ways in preventing the spread of the flu.

Our Sgt. at Arms Jim introduced our guests Devon Mareello.

Happy and sad:

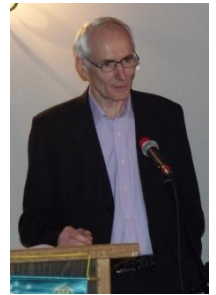
- Marco first of all complemented Angie Edmonds or providing very thorough notes of the fireside meeting. He also mentioned that he was happy to be still alive after suffering a severe allergic reaction to an experimental drug. Furthermore we should not try and compete in a choir competition in view of today's performance.
- Ineke was very happy to announce that she has a new grandchild. Also that she would run the cyclamen sale at Christmas time and counts on the support of the club. Furthermore that three excellent applicants for the youth exchange program were interviewed. It's going to be difficult who would be chosen as the best candidate.
- Tom Manion was very happy to be a Rotarian.

Announcements:

- Adrienne called for nominations for the next executive. She emphasized that it is our duty as members to take up a position, any position.
- Pres. Lindsay mentioned that on November 17 there would be in Rotary Leadership course in Surrey. The club pays for the registration for the first part.
- He also announced the District Foundation Dinner south of the border on the same day and is hoping someone would join.
- Furthermore that the Haney club was running the Men's Night the next evening.
- He also mentions that the District Governor's visit would be next week and is counting on good attendance.
- Lastly that there would be a community services committee meeting following the today's meeting.

Michael Sather MLA was our Guest Speaker.

He did not meet an extensive introduction since he's well known. He pointed out that even though we live in a very good country, there are still in number of local challenges that need attention such as homelessness and the food bank currently serves about 3000 families in our community. He expressed his concern about what we are doing to our environment. The climate change has a negative impact on all of us. The consumption of resources is too high in Canada according to him. Problems with fisheries where we deplete stocks such as the Eastern cod, the removal whole mountains for coal.



To put this in context he mentioned that in 1960 the world had 3 billion inhabitants and this has now risen to 9 billion.

He encouraged us to adhere to the principle of the hundred mile diet. That is to try and eat food that is grown close to home. He also expressed concern that people have lost interest in the political process by declining numbers of people who bothered to vote.

A discussion followed with Ineke encouraging us to spend 10% of our income in our own community and the positive effects this would have on local prosperity and jobs. Marco asked if Michael had any ideas on how to address the issue of the increasing discrepancy between rich and poor, but no concrete suggestions for forthcoming.

Brian suggested that we legalize the use of marijuana and redirect the resources currently being spent on policing, court procedures and incarceration of people who in essence are not criminals. Time has shown that this whole effort of controlling the production of marijuana on has been a dismal failure in spite of the billions spent.

Angie expressed her concerns that agricultural land is being bought out by foreign interests and that farmland is sitting idle.

The 50-50 draw was won by Devon Mareello, who received half of today's take.

Submitted by Marco Terwiel

FOUR WAY TEST

There will be one last 'Four Way Test Session' in school this year:

Thursday November 15 10.15AM – noon; 1 session

Laity View Elementary
21023 123 Ave

Class of Ms. Michele Normand

**PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP
PLEASE EMAIL ME OR PHONE: 604-462-1570**

We need 3 additional Rotarians / adults

We have 4 Rotarians, who already registered.

Thank you for helping!

Yours in Rotary Service,
Matt DeBruyn

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