



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

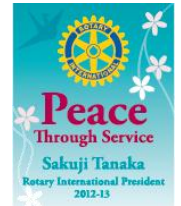
Vol. 19, Issue 22 Nov. 27, 2012

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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|------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|
| President: | Lindsay Hendy | Phone: 604-467-0331 | president@meadowridgerotary.ca |
| Secretary: | David Riddell | Phone: 604-406-8882 | secretary@meadowridgerotary.ca |
| Editor: | Peter Boekhorst | Phone: 604-465-3392 | editor@meadowridgerotary.ca |

November is Rotary Foundation Month



TODAY: The Minister of Families & Children - Stephanie Cadieux

NEXT WEEK:

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Dec. 10: Peter & Ineke Boekhorst

Invocation

Nov. 27 Ken Paterson

Dec. 4 David Rempel

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|---------|-----------|---|------------------------|
| Dec. 1 | 4pm – 8pm | Christmas Parade - Donations to FIN Food Bank | Memorial Peace Park |
| 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 |
| Dec. 18 | 7pm | CP Holiday Train – Donations to FIN Food Bank | Haney Station |

ROTARY WILLS PROMOTION



Give a gift that will continue to do good in the world, beyond your lifetime. Help secure the future of Rotary's educational and humanitarian programs by including The Rotary Foundation in your estate plans.

Rotarian lawyers, attorneys and notaries from Rotary District 5050 have agreed to provide significantly **discounted Wills** both as a vocational service project for Rotarians and to promote the Bequest Society of the Rotary Foundation.

The Bequest Society is a **recognition** of those individuals who have made provisions for a **gift of \$10,000 or more in their Will, life insurance, trust document or other estate plans for the Rotary Foundation.**

All Bequest Society members receive recognition from the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation. Donors will receive an engraved **crystal recognition piece and a Bequest Society pin** if requested.

If you are a lawyer/attorney/notary who would like to participate in the program, please email Sean Hogan at shogan@buckleyhogan.com.

For more information, see the District 5050 website



RIDGE MEADOWS MINOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU.....

RMMSA has just completed an exciting **NEW** addition to our training facility. **1500 square feet, which includes 3 new batting lanes.**

We would like to extend an invitation to you to join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony and Christmas Open House. Ribbon cutting will take place at 3pm.

- Highlights**
- * Ribbon cutting ceremony
 - * Refreshments
 - * Kids craft centre
 - * Christmas music!

Come out and meet your fellow players, coaches, executive, and local representatives.

-Contact person: Sue Purton Phone 604-467-8692 E-mail: aspurton@shaw.ca

Sunday December 9th, 2012 Time: 1pm to 4pm RMMSA Training Warehouse #7 23382 River Road, Maple Ridge

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Ms. Manpreet Chutai of the Rotaract Club of Cloverdale invited us all to support a fund raising event at the Guilford Golf and Country Club on November 29, 2012 to "raise funds and awareness for marginalized youth in South Africa". The event will include lively music, a talk by motivational speaker Rick Bain and a special presentation by J. Christopher Meyer of the South African Honorary Council. All proceeds will support music education for children living in poverty. The Cloverdale Rotaract Club is also selling beautiful (and tasty) Christmas candy wreaths for only \$20 each.

Visiting guests included our speaker for the day, Steve Thompson, the Minister of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations for the provincial government, his ministerial assistant Bruce Strongitham, Mike Morden of the Haney club, George Klassen of "Projecct Wellness" [his society has been responsible for building over 30 fresh water wells in Africa], and, of course, our Rotaract visitor Manpreet Chutai.

Gordon Robson announced that on December 9 there will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony in conjunction with the Ridge Meadows Minor Softball Association for the new park for which funds were provided by the club.

Marco Terwiel gave a happy dollar as he attended the Toronto-Eglinton Rotary Club, where he reported the average age was "ancient". (You are only as ancient as you feel, right Marco?)

Angie Edmonds gave a happy dollar because the renovations of at the Bank of Montreal (where she hangs out in the daytime) are finally completed, and she has now been let out of her cubbyhole to look for her own shadow.

Ken Patterson gave a happy \$5 because his son sent him the image of his new (still unhatched) grandchild, only three months en ventre sa mere (as they say in legal circles). Ken said that although the image was an ultra sound one (and not clear enough to see "what was down there" - point-point) it did clearly showed how far developed a three month old foetus really is, and caused one to think about the issues surrounding late-term abortions.

Mary Robson had a happy dollar - she and Gordon just returned from Dubai where they met their recently-hatched grandson. While there, they attended a Rotary meeting (the one which allowed women through the door), and will bring a banner from the Dubai club to the next meeting. Mary thought better of gate-crashing the other Dubai club which still does not allow women within 100 yards of the meeting hall. (Good thinking, Mary! I'm sure you have been thrown out of better places than that, so why risk it.)

Laura Cherrille was the mystery greeter. Our own Pres. Lindsay was fine master. All of those of us who had not helped the Friends-in-Need Food Bank by going on line to log in at "Craft food for families" had to pay a fine. (Did you remember that every time you log in and follow a few simple instructions, at no cost to yourself, 50 cents will be paid to the Food Bank? You can log in every day. If all club members did every day, between now and Christmas the Food Bank would get over a \$1,000.

It was announced that on December 5 there will be a joint Christmas party with the Haney Club. The price of tickets is \$45 for adults and half the price for children.

Lindsay reported that he and his better half attended the District Foundation dinner. He also presented to Marco Terwiel a 4 chip Paul Harris pin, awarded only to Rotary members who have left a bequest in their will of more than \$100,000.

Bob Shantz passed around a sign-up sheet for those who wanted to purchase a Four-Way Test wall plaque, which members can hang in their office and thereby spread the word about Rotary.

Our guest speaker for the day was Steve Thompson, the Minister of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations for the provincial government. The Hon. Mr. Thompson is also a member of the Kelowna Rotary club. (His Ministry has the second longest name of any government office). His portfolio includes forestry, resource development, archaeology, mining and a wide range of other related activities. His first portfolio in 2009 was as Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Thompson noted that at first there was a lot of criticism when the government decided to restructure his portfolio, but he was happy to announce that the new structure maintained its original commitment to natural resources and the environment, and was working effectively. He reported that the Premier set specific targets which his department had not only met, but had exceeded. One example of changes made is that, previously, if some company wanted to develop a resource they had to get numerous permits from various departments, many of which simply duplicated the same information. Now, the applications can all be brought to "one window" which cuts out the duplication and the cost.

Another key area was forestry, with the government working to develop markets for the industry without having to rely mainly on the United States. The need for this became very apparent after the collapse of the United States housing market. Whereas sales to China was previously \$69 million, that has now increased to \$1.1 billion in 2011, and it is expected to exceed that level in 2012. The approach which they fostered is for the industry to work together collectively to develop markets, after which they could compete with one another once the market was established. His Ministry is developing and responding to labour needs in both forestry and oil and gas, with all proceeding on a collective approach. In the next 5 to 10 years, it is estimated that 25,000 new employees will be needed, as there is a huge demand for skilled labour. In conclusion, Mr. Thompson emphasized that the development of resource industries is crucial because it brings in government revenues which enables the government to support health and education and other needed public services.

The meeting ended with a loud round of applause, not for the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, but for Pres. Lindsay who got his tongue untwisted long enough to correctly state that a book was being sent in the name of the Minister to the Nunavut "Imagination Library" (which, like Dolly Parton, has the real thingies) and not the "Imaginary Library" (which only exists in the shadows of the mind).

Unfortunately, Sharon Kyle was no better at seeking out the Queen of Hearts than was your note-taker at the last meeting.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson