



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

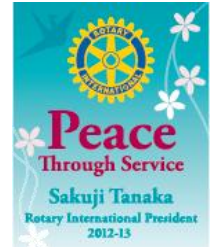
Vol. 19, Issue 30 Feb. 5, 2013

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

President:	Lindsay Hendy	Phone: 604-467-0331	E-mail the President
Secretary:	David Riddell	Phone: 604-406-8882	E-mail the Secretary
Editor:	Peter Boekhorst	Phone: 604-465-3392	E-mail the Editor

February is World Understanding Month



TODAY: Pat Bell - Minister of Jobs, Tourism & Skills
NEXT WEEK: Darrin Froese - BC Housing

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

Feb. 5	Terry Becker
Feb. 12	Brian Bekar

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

In December, I spoke at the first of the three Rotary Global Peace Forums we have planned for this Rotary year. This first event, with the theme "**Peace Without Borders**" was held in Berlin, the home of the Berlin Peace Clock. The clock, intended as a piece of art, is 3 meters high and weighs over 2 tons. On its side are inscribed the words, *Time bursts all walls asunder*.

The clock was unveiled on 9 November 1989. That was the day the Berlin Wall fell. It was a wonderful coincidence that the moment the hands on the clock began to move, the orders were given to open the border to West Berlin. The words written on the side of the clock had come true.

In Rotary, we do not divide our work by nation, culture, or language. It does not matter what is printed in your passport. What matters is that you believe in **Service Above Self**. But even in Rotary, it is easy to think in terms of countries or communities. This project may help someone in my own community, or that project may help someone from Germany, or Kenya, or South Africa. Sometimes we think of different types of borders. This project, we think, helps the young. This helps the elderly. This

helps people who are hungry, poor, or sick, or who have disabilities.

The truth is that Service Above Self does not know such borders. When we serve, the impact is not limited to our community, or the community we are helping. We are not only helping the young, or the elderly, or this school, or that orphanage. When we serve, we are helping all of humanity. The effects of what we do go on and on.

When we put Service Above Self, we are making a choice. We are choosing to put other people's needs ahead of our own desires. We are saying, "Your problems are my problems, and I care enough to help you."

Rotary brings peace by addressing the needs that cause conflict: the need for clean water, for nutrition, sanitation, and health care. When these needs are met, there is opportunity. And there is hope. Hope has no borders. It is the garden from which peace can grow.

Peace Through Service brings out the best in us. It makes us aware of the borders we set up around ourselves – and it helps us tear them down.

Sakuji Tanaka
President, Rotary International

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

In lieu of our regular meeting, a combined social and business supper meeting (or "fireside") was held at the home of Patrick and Stephanie O'Brien, with a large number of family members and other guests attending on January 29, 2013.

Several of the Club's Committee Chairmen gave an update on what was going on in their Rotarian neck of the woods. Some of these reports included:

Community Service: Angie Edmonds reported that her Committee (which is responsible for handing out gaming funds to various community organizations and causes) had met to review the criteria applicable to funding requests, and to develop an application form which will be posted on the Club Website. This will make it easier for those who are requesting funds from our Club to know our criteria and guidelines, and the information which we need to make a decision about their request. The application form will not be limited to gaming funds, but will be wider in scope so that we can better co-ordinate within the Club the disbursement of funds available from other club sources, such as the Wine Fest.

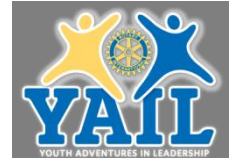
Club Service: Urma Mollema was previously asked by our Board of Directors to investigate the feasibility of continuing our Wine Fest in its present form and to make recommendations as to what it might be transformed into, if it was found that we might need a fresh approach to this event. Urma has not yet reported back to the Board and no final decision has been made, but her preliminary conclusion was that due to the number of wine fests currently being put on by other organizations and other factors, the Club might consider an "Oktoberfest" (not necessarily held in October).

Bylaw Committee: At the Club meeting to be held on February 26, the Club will vote on (and not just discuss) the motion to adopt the new Club Bylaws. All club members are therefore asked to read the proposed Bylaws (which may be found on the Club's website) so they may make an informed decision. In the meantime, any members who have questions about its contents may contact the Bylaw Committee.

Rotary Foundation: Terry Becker reminded us that the Rotary International Peace Project conference will be held on February 23 at the Fairmont Hotel at the Vancouver Airport. A number of great and informative speakers will be in attendance. Any members wishing to go with Terry to that event should get in touch with her without delay.

Membership: Eric Mollema gave us the Club's current membership statistics. Club members were urged to think about who in our community would be potential Club applicants, and to forward to the committee the names and contact information of these individuals.

New Business: Terry Becker advised that February 23 will (subject to Municipal Councils' approval) be declared Rotary Day in honour of Rotary's fight against Polio and the 100th anniversary of Rotary in British Columbia. This is an initiative of our District Governor Sean and other Rotarian Leaders. This will be a great opportunity to let the public know about Rotary's ideals of service and world peace, and the good that we are doing in our communities and throughout the world.



The highlight of the evening was the delightful talks given by two enthusiastic and charming young ladies who had the privilege of attending YAIL - which stands for Youth Adventures in Leadership. This Rotary-sponsored weekend event gives young people the chance to meet inspiring leaders and develop skills and tools which will help them in their lives. Our two guests, who were introduced by Doris Gagel, were Moseve Abbott and Shayla Riggins.

Their talks included the following statements – which say it all:

"At YAIL we got to meet some wonderful and inspiring people"

"I will carry memories of this event for the rest of my life"

"Everyone there was so caring, and helped us to become better leaders"

"It was so much better than school programs"

"At school, you are grouped - at YAIL you get to know who you are deep down"

"It was phenomenal"

"At school we hang out with some kids, who others wouldn't touch with a ten foot pole"

"At YAIL, you got to discover who you are"

"We met Will (Robson, one of the leaders). I love him - He was 7 feet tall - like a big fairy"

Reporters note: It left all of us on a "big high" - knowing what is really important - and amazed at the good work that our District and Club leaders are able to accomplish in the lives of young people.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson

See the next page for a report from Ken Paterson about the Rotary Global Peace Forum in Honolulu.

JAN. 25-27, 2013 HONOLULU, HAWAII



By Ken Paterson, Feb. 2, 2013

When Sekuji Tanaka became RI President for 2012-2013, he announced his motto as “Peace Through Service”. To help accomplish his motto, he envisioned RI conducting one or more peace forums, which would provide “An opportunity for people of different ages from different parts of the world to gather to share ideas and develop strategies to progress toward a more peaceful world”.

His vision, now being accomplished, was to convene Rotarians in locations most impacted during WWII where healing is most visible. Berlin – November 30 – December 2, 2012; Honolulu – January 25 – 27; and Hiroshima – May 17 – 19, 2013.

I was privileged to attend the 2nd Rotary Global Peace Forum held in Honolulu last week, as a delegate of the Meadow Ridge Rotary club. It was a natural for me to attend as Gayle and I were staying in Honolulu at the same time. I am pleased to report that the forum definitely got me thinking about peace and what we as a Rotary club might do to develop our own contribution to a peace initiative.

This week I will provide an outline of the Forum structure, goals and of some of my experiences and the workshop topics. Next week I will conclude with an outline of the plenary sessions and the messages from the keynote speakers.

The format of the Peace Forum was like that of the RI International Conventions, with large Plenary Sessions, numerous workshops, and a friendship room.

Before I went to the conference, I gave some thought as to how I would define peace and what could I take away from the forum. I must say that my definition of peace has been pretty well the idea of “no more wars”. After all, that is what we were singing in the 60’s to the music of Mr. Dylan. I soon realized that there is more to peace than the end of world conflict. The concept of peace transcends from peace within one’s self, to peace in the family to the school yard to the work place and so on. This was manifested in the wide variety of workshops and session topics at the forum.

55 workshops were spread over the 3 days. These were divided into 4 categories Service, Communication, Collaboration, and Action. This categorization was interesting. The Action workshops really meant action. The 1st workshop I attended was one of these. We sat at round tables where we interacted under the guidance of a moderator to consider “Using Appreciative Inquiry [AI – google it for more info] to Develop a Vision of Peace.” We were taken through an interactive process where we used AI to get us to articulate a high point in a story where we had experienced peace in our life. Try that on an early Friday morning to get the brain going!

The American Red Cross presentation was entitled Peace Through Humanitarianism. Did you know that the ARC was required by an Act of Congress to attend each and every disaster that occurs in the United States [there are over 70,000 “disasters” in the US each year] but receives exactly zero in

funding from the US Government. An example of the power of the forum to bring groups together occurred during the question period when a group of Shelterbox people asked the RC people if they were using Shelterbox provisions. From the questions from the RC people, it appeared that they had not heard of Shelterbox but were very interested and got together after to discuss working together.

Many of the workshops were directed at the youth attendees, most who were members of Rotary’s “New Generation” and who shared a passion for peace. Many of them were already involved in peace projects and had come to the forum from all parts of the world to share their ideas. Over 1/3 of the 1,861 forum participants were under 30. To that extent, many of the workshops were directed at youth.

The former Chief of the Honolulu Police Force did a presentation on the application of Martial Arts as a tool for peace through character building in children.

Dream it. Do it. Three workshops directed at New Generations to help them turn dream peace projects into real ones. Presented by Ashoka, the leading social entrepreneurship organization in the world.

Helping Children Find Peace Through the Practice of Yoga – a hands on exposure to Yoga.

Other workshops focused on personal character development. “Gratitude: The Way of Peace”, Forgiveness as a way of life, Intercultural understanding, Inner Peace Through Meditation, Stress and Anger Management.

As you can see, the search for peace is very complex. It is not even a simple process to define what peace may mean to each of us.