



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

Vol. 19, Issue 32

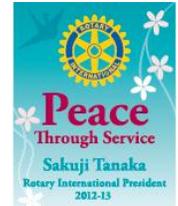
Feb. 19, 2013

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: Malcom Kennedy - Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary Club Project
NEXT WEEK: Business Meeting - No Speaker

Happy Birthday

Feb. 19: Mark Forster

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Feb. 19 | Laura Cherrille |
| Feb. 26 | Jim Coulter |

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|-----------------|----------|--|-------------------------------|
| May 30-Jun 02 | 11:00 AM | iRotary District Conference | Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver |
| Jun 23 - Jun 26 | | Rotary International Convention - Lisbon | |

POLIOPLUS UPDATE

Sean Hogan
Feb 11, 2013



Celebrations & Setbacks

A Polio Free January- A Tragic Start to February

Great news for the start of the New Year: there were **NO cases of polio ANYWHERE in the world for the month of January 2013!**

One day soon, we will be able to say this about every month of every year.

We are making **great progress** - with **only 222 cases** of polio last year compared to 716 cases in 2011 and compared to around half a million children every year when we started.

That news changed on February 6 with the news that a **14 month old child from Karachi, Pakistan was reported as the first case of paralysis in 2013.**

On February 8 there was more tragic news, that nine female **vaccine workers** had been **killed** in an attack in **Nigeria.**

This followed the earlier murder of nine polio vaccine workers in **Pakistan** over a three day period in December, with another 7

clinic workers were killed on New Years Day. The Pakistan attacks appear to be a retaliation by the Taliban to the capture and death of Osama Bin Laden through a fake vaccination program. The fake vaccination was not for polio and did not involve Rotary.

Boko Haram, the militant group claiming responsibility for the attacks in Pakistan, is a militant group that opposes Western medicine as well as the education of females. They killed hundreds in Nigeria last year, but this appears to be the first time that they have targeted vaccine workers.

The governments of Pakistan and Nigeria have pledged to continue the fight to eradicate polio. Health Minister Sagheer Ahmed said that **Pakistan has resumed the campaign** with greater urgency and have given polio vaccine teams special security so that they can carry on their work without fear.

At a gathering last September at the United Nations, world leaders agreed to provide long term funding for the fight to **eliminate polio within 3 to 5 years.**

Rotary's PolioPlus Chair, Dr. Bob Scott noted that Rotary has an **emergency fund for the families** of the "fallen heroes" in the war against polio. When a Rotary volunteer met with the family of a 19 year old killed in the Pakistan attacks, her 16 year old sister asked how old she would need to be before she could be a vaccine worker as she wanted to finish her sister's work.

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$818.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 19 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Lindsay Hendy proved what a great multitasker he is by not only calling the meeting to order, but also leading the singing of O Canada, giving an impromptu invocation and introducing our guest speaker Darin Froese.

Laura Cherrille, our Sgt. at Arms for the day, introduced and welcomed our other guests who were Mark Vosper and Gary Sofko.

Pres. Lindsay declared us all "ambivalent" as no one volunteered to give a happy or sad dollar.

As our Rotary Moment, Terry Becker advised that Eric Mollema together with representatives from the Haney Rotary Club were making a presentation that evening to the Maple Ridge Municipal Council about the work which Rotary does in our community, with the hope that the Council might proclaim a Rotary Day or at least recognize Rotary in some other meaningful way for being an active force for good in British Columbia for the past 100 years.

David Riddell was the Fine Master for the day. He wished us all to recognize the work that had been put into our club's website by Eric Mollema and Peter Boekhorst, and fined those of us a dollar who hadn't yet taken the time to log in. Only Angie Edmonds and a couple of other members didn't have to open their purse or wallet.

The Vancouver Chinatown Club is holding their fundraiser Chinese dinner on March 8. Sharon Kyle and hubby are planning to attend and would like some company. A notice will go out to all members by email about how to obtain tickets.



Our guest speaker, Darin Froese, is the Executive Director of the British Columbia Housing Organization, a government agency which was formed in 1967. Darren has extensive operational experience in social service programs in two levels of government and provincial Crown agencies. He has lived in Maple Ridge for the past 15 years with his family which includes two kids and two dogs (or vice versa).

BC Housing develops, manages and administers subsidized housing within the province, and has responsibility for the administration of the Home Owners Protection Act. Darin advises that British Columbia has 4.1 million people in 1.6 million households. 68% of our population are homeowners, 27% rent in the private market, and 5% of our population live in social housing or subsidized private units. 12.7% are in need of housing assistance. BC Housing has more than 800 nonprofit partners, and had a budget for 2011/2012 of \$789.6 million, and helped approximately 97,000 households ranging from homeless shelters to rental supplemented housing.

BC Housing has four main priorities:

1. Provide support to the nonprofit housing sector.
2. Respond to critical gaps in the housing market.
3. Enhance Aboriginal partnerships.
4. Help improve the quality of residential construction.

With respect to housing and support for the homeless, there are 1,800 year-round shelter beds in 30 communities within British Columbia. Last year 7,600 people were helped. BC Housing provides transitional housing not only for women escaping violence in the home and also serves those with disabilities and mental health problems. Although BC Housing directly owns and manages 7,500 units in their own buildings, the bulk of social housing in BC is through nonprofit organizations which BC Housing supports and subsidizes. This includes the SAFER program, which is the government rental assistance program, providing subsidies of up to \$400-\$500 per month for seniors over the age of 60 with low to moderate incomes (earning less than \$35,000 per year).

Pres. Lindsay thanked Darin for his presentation in the usual way by giving him a package of material from our club to let him know what we are doing in the community, and advising him that we will be sending a book in his name to the Imagination Library which our Meadow Ridge Rotary club supports in Nunavut to combat illiteracy.

Our guest Mark Vosper drew the winning ticket on our 50-50 draw, and not yet being a member took home one-half of the day's pot but was not able to "cut to the chase" of the elusive Queen of Hearts.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson

See Ken Paterson's story on the next page!

JAN. 25-27, 2013 HONOLULU, HAWAII



By Ken Paterson, Feb. 15, 2013

As any of us Rotarians can attest, one of the most personally moving experiences is to attend a RI International Convention. The passion for Rotary literally floats around the venues and on the faces of, and in the voices of, the participants.

The same can be said for the Peace Forum I attended here in Honolulu last month.

Although the number of attendees was much less than an RI Convention, I would say the passion of the presenters was even greater. Certainly, it left me thinking that if these people can do so much for peace, we should all be making some contribution and doing it each year.

The power of Rotary was overwhelming when you realize that the Forum brought together primarily non-Rotarians to outline the mind blowing projects that they have initiated in the aid of peace. There are literally hundreds or maybe thousands of groups working towards peace.

The Nonviolent Peaceforce was created in 2002 and is currently a force of 2,000 unarmed peace keepers presently working to keep the peace in Sri Lanka, the Phillipines, South Sudan, and South Caucasus. <http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org>

The Nonkilling Global Political Science organization was started by Glenn Paige who is here in Hawaii. <http://www.nonkilling.org>

Partnering for Peace was developed by a group of young Rotarians and returned Peace Corp Volunteers. <http://www.partneringforpeace.org>

Addresses by three former Peace Scholars, who are each working now in different peace programs, made it clear that the Peace Scholarship program is working. Marios Antonious presently lives in Cyprus where he works to develop a unified curriculum for schools which up until now have been divided between Greek and Turkish segments of the population. He pointed out that the text books for primary schools up until recently would focus only on either the Greek history of Cyprus or the Turkish history. He believes that in order to change the focus from that of "never forgetting" the conflicts and differences of Cyprus to one of understanding through education. Rotary Clubs also have developed a youth exchange program to bring "Turkish" Cypriot students into "Greek" side homes for an exchange experience and vice versa.

The value of Study Abroad became clear to Peace Scholar Alumnus Bryn Cain as a catalyst for peace. After graduating from University in Australia as a Peace Scholar, she joined the University of Texas where she developed and runs their International Study Abroad program.

Cherine Badawi described how she [being of the Jewish faith] joined with Arthur Romano [of the Muslim faith] to develop programs to promote peace through a program known as Diversity Matters.

<http://www.wolfmanproductions.com/diversitymatters.html>

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize recipient and Member of Parliament in Burma (Myanmar), was the keynote speaker at Rotary's peace forum. She echoed the theme of most speakers that the achievement of peace is in the hands of our youth and that the programs of Rotary focusing on youth are most important and unique.



When she was asked by a Rotaractor, "what encourages people to believe in peace, and especially youth in this process?", she responded that "Young men and women should not need to think about peace. If they need to think about peace there is something wrong with society; there is something wrong with their family situation, or their social situation" .

Suu Kyi continued in her response that, "the young must also understand the sedative for peace and the drive for peace... [and] because there is so much turmoil in the world we live in, that more and more young people understand the value of peace." The full speech can be seen at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=5CmneKGobil

The final plenary session concluded with a forum made up of current RI President Sukuji Tanaka; 2013-2014 Ron Burton RI President; 2014-2015 RI President Gary Huang; and Wilf Wilkinson former RI President who is from Toronto and now is Chair of the Rotary Foundation. They fielded questions from the participants. I must say I felt particularly privileged to be in such company. Sukuji Tanaka has a particularly good sense of humour which comes through even though he uses an interpreter. He was asked by a Rotarctor "What can we as young Rotarians do to further peace?" His answer, "Get rid of old guys like us!" as he gestured to the panel beside him.

By the way, they have a duck race here in Hawaii, along the Ala Wai canal. But, I was advised that their ducks are educated. Note their caps.



Rotary Club of Hawaii Kai

I would like to thank President Lindsay and our club executive for assisting me in attending the forum.

Peace be wid ya!.

Ken Paterson