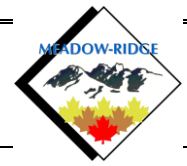




The Four Way Flasher



Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

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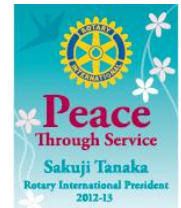
Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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June is Rotary Fellowship Month

TODAY: No regular meeting this week. Installation on June 9th.
NEXT WEEK: Elizabeth Rosenau



Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

June 9	Lynda Lawrence
June 11	Debbie MacRae

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
June 09	6:00 PM	Installation of 2013/14 Executive	Pitt Meadows Golf Course
Jun 23 - Jun 26		Rotary International Convention - Lisbon	
Aug. 4	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Rotary Duck Race (Race starts at 1pm)	Maple Ridge Park

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,



A Rotary convention is a powerful thing, and a first convention is an experience you never forget. My first was in Chicago, in 1980. That was the year I was president of the Rotary Club of Yashio. I thought we should learn more about Rotary, so I asked nine other members of my club to join me, and we traveled to Chicago together. We did not know what to expect from a Rotary convention. What we found was more than any of us had imagined.

That convention showed me Rotary, and changed me forever. It gave our club something to strive for. I came to that convention as a member of a Rotary club. I left it as a Rotarian. The feeling that entered my heart in Chicago is still there today.

I am glad I will have the opportunity, as an RI president from Japan, to be part of the convention in Portugal. Portugal and Japan have a history together that began in the year 1542. This was the year that a Portuguese boat landed on a southern Japanese island. The Portuguese sailors did not plan to come to Japan. Strong winds blew their boat off course. But it was a happy accident, and the beginning of a peaceful and prosperous relationship.

In 1993, Japan and Portugal celebrated 450 years of good relations. Portugal was the first European country visited by the Japanese, in the middle of the 16th century. And the long Portuguese presence in Japan has had a lasting effect on my country.

The Portuguese found Japan by accident. But it is no accident that Lisbon has been chosen for this convention. Lisbon is A Harbor for Peace. And peace is the theme of this convention, as it has been the theme between Japan and Portugal for nearly 500 years.

As Rotarians, we work toward peace in many ways. We do it through humanitarian service. We do it through our belief in Service Above Self. And we work toward peace simply by being who we are. Every year, when we come together for a Rotary convention, we see, for a few days, the world as it could be. We see people of all colors and cultures come together. We work to build a better world.

I hope you will join me, and your fellow Rotarians, as we celebrate this year of *Peace Through Service* together.

Sakuji Tanaka
 President, Rotary International

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Terry Becker conducted the meeting. Our guests were **Lynda DeBruyn** and **Irena Shantz**.

A smiling **Brian Bekar** graciously accepted his cheque, representing the proceeds of the 50-50 draw which he won the previous Tuesday.



Happy and Sad

- Brian “**Starsky**” Bekar gave a happy dollar for his luck in winning the 50-50. He also gave another dollar with a tale that occurred a couple of days ago on his property. A woman drove her truck up to their barn, got out, and started to load the truck up with Brian’s tools. Unfortunately for the driver, Brian’s brother, Hutch, saw the escapade and they both went to investigate. Caught in the act, the woman jumped into the truck and drove out of the driveway crashing the stolen vehicle she was driving into a tree. She then escaped on foot. The Bekars kept watch until the police arrived and caught the bird, who was hiding in the bush.
- **David Riddell** [who admits that the limit his athletic prowess is watching his children in their sports activities] has a happy dollar for his 11-year-old son whose hockey team won the Steveston tournament, and another for his daughter Charlotte whose pony club came second in their equestrian competition. Meanwhile, Charlotte grossed out her dad (or was it vice versa?) by giving graphic details the ins and outs of her upcoming adenoidectomy.
- **Terry Becker**, our erstwhile substitute president [as a result of Lindsay’s absence due to his new job] paid a happy dollar for the fact that Adrienne Dale will (at our next regular luncheon meeting) be taking over the job of president, thereby making Terry and Lindsay both happy to be past-presidents at the same time.

Rotary Moment

Eric Mollema reminded us members that there is going to be a Rotary “Flash Mob” somewhere in Vancouver during the upcoming 5050 District Conference, and played to us the video on how we can learn the “moves”. However, there were no volunteers at the meeting willing to show off their rhythm. [We all recently received an email about District Governor Sean Hogan’s interesting way of getting the message out to Vancouverites about Rotary. Be sure you look at the video which is in the email we all received, and see what the excitement is all about.]

Duck Race

The Duckmobile will be in the Pitt Meadows parade to be held on the first Saturday in June. There will also be a venue where tickets will be sold. [Good fun will be had by all.]

Who’s Who

Mark Vosper - that’s who - was asked to tell us a little bit about himself.

Mark hails from the Plymouth / New Devon / Cornwall area in the south of England. His father was in the RAF so the family moved around a lot. The family moved to that interesting and historic Roman city now called Bath for a couple of years, and then his dad was transferred to Australia, resulting in his family living in Sydney for the next three



years. Being an inquisitive young child, he brought home some interesting looking snakes and spiders which were apparently poisonous, but he lived to tell the tale.

At that time, the Australian government wanted to encourage persons to come to Australia and therefore paid 10 pounds per person to help pay for their passage[how is that for alliteration?]. Mark was therefore referred to by the Aussies as a “10 Pound Poms”. Mark tells your reporter that a “Pom” is a slang term for “British person” [also known as a Limey (or Lime-Juicer), a Tommy or an Engrez, eh David?]

During the second world war, Mark’s father was stationed in Singapore and was evacuated in a ship called the SS America. That ship was subsequently sold to a Greek shipping line, and was the same ship that “evacuated” the Vosper family back to England, thereby repeating a bit of family history.

Mark joined the British Army at the age of 16 years, and stayed in the Army for five years. He ended up with the Army in Germany, and remained there for three years after being discharged. Thereafter, he moved back to Cornwall and started and for three years operated a house repair business. Subsequently, he moved north in England and for 12 years operated a pest control and house inspection business. This evolved into bringing homes of lower income people up to a higher standard by the installation of such things as proper windows and installation, and introduced Mark to a career of helping people who were in need of assistance.

Then one day Mark shocked his wife by advising her that he wished to move to Canada. After visiting Canada a few times, she learned he was really serious because he made his application for a visa and within three years got the approval and moved here. Mark said he was - and is - very impressed by the spirit of volunteerism which we have in Canada, but which as a general rule he found absent in England and Germany. After working as the manager of the SPCA in Vancouver and other locations, he joined Hospice in Maple Ridge as its Executive Director, the position he holds today. Mark pointed out that many people think Hospice is just part of the hospital or of the Hospital Foundation. In fact, Hospice is a society which operates on the basis of volunteers of time and money - by private individuals. Mark describes the Hospice Society as a “fantastic organization” and one that he is proud to be associated with.

When asked how it was that he ended up in Maple Ridge, Mark said that he travelled around the province of British Columbia and read literature about the best place to live - where there was reasonably priced housing, good job opportunities, etc. and decided that Fort St. John (one of the places that he hadn’t visited) sounded like a good place to raise his family. So they went to visit Fort St. John one April (via Edmonton) but was immediately disillusioned by the “crunchy” gravel streets and town drunks, and turned around and evacuated themselves back to the lower mainland. An acquaintance mentioned Maple Ridge, so he went and bought a home here, has been in Maple Ridge now for five years, and is convinced we have a great community.

[We are all convinced that Mark is a great new member of our Rotary club, who has already volunteered as a member of the Oktoberfest committee. With Mark’s dedication to the principle of volunteerism, Mark will be a great Rotary member who doesn’t just talk the talk, but also walks the walk of “service above self”.]

50-50

On the first day of a new race to find the Queen of Hearts, our guest **Lynda DeBruyn** drew the lucky ticket and won \$15, thereby not only earning enough money to take Matt to Tim Hortons, but also giving the Queen a couple of weeks to find another hiding place within the new deck of cards.

Submitted by **Laurie Anderson**