

# The Four Way Flasher



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## Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

	Meetings:	Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vit	ta Restaurant	
President:	Eric Mollema	Phone: 778-242-5549	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	LIGHT UP ROTARY

### **September is New Generations Month**

**TODAY:** Ajay Caleb & Gail Finnson - Ridge Meadows Association for Community Living - Rotary At Work

NEXT WEEK: Clint Callison – Who's Who

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary		Invocation
Sep. 23: Mark Vosper	Sep. 25: Adrienne & Warren Dale	Sep. 23	Betty Levens
	Sep. 26: Mark & Linda Vosper	Sep. 30	Debbie MacRae

#### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue	
Oct. 11	6pm	Oktoberfest	Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall, 12460 Harris Rd. P.M.	

#### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

#### <u>Guests</u>

Jim Michals, a former Rotarian, has now visited our club six times, and we hope he may soon choose our club to become a member of.



**Marc Legros,** who is a partner in a **construction company**, was a guest of Clint Callison.

Linda Whitehead was our guest speaker.

#### Happy and Sad

Laurie Anderson and Lorna had a great week during their annual visit to the Flying U Ranch on Greenlake at 70 mile House, where they rode horses for seven straight days and visited their group of friends who attend at the same time every year. They will be there again for a few days over the Thanksgiving Weekend (and therefore not at the Oktoberfest).



**Dave Rempel** had three things to be happy for. Firstly, he had reconnected with his brother that he hadn't seen for some time.

Secondly, he was happy that the school strikes appeared to be finally resolved, and thirdly he was enthusiastically happy about the Frisbee Golf social coming up on the weekend.

**Betty Johansson** advised that the renovations to her office are now almost complete, so she can finally get back to work without too much interruption.

**Mike Davies** has just returned from five weeks touring Canada. He encouraged us to take holidays in our own country as there is a lot of great things to see here in Canada.

**Sharon Kyle** and hubby were happy at their success in bagging 300 pounds of elk meat during their recent hunting trip [the elk, on the other hand, was not so joyous]. Sharon also advised that she, too, would be away on a trip during Oktoberfest.

#### Fine Master

**Ineke Boekhorst** had a very busy weekend attending the 140th birthday celebration of Maple Ridge, and its becoming a "City". She also attended the Terry Fox Run and our Club's social and fundraising Pub Night on Saturday, September 13. As Fine Master, she fined everyone a dollar who had not attended one of these events (and, in the case of the Pub Night, did not contribute to the silent auction).

#### Frisbee Golf



**Dave Rempel** gave us an update on the upcoming social on Sunday, September 21. Up to 40 people are expected to be in attendance with a fun night to be had by all. (See next week's bulletin for a report on this event, which will not only be a social one, but also raise some money for polio plus).

#### Pub Night Report

**Mark Forster** reported that Pub Night was a success and raised \$1,328. 42 meals were served, and money was raised from the meal tickets, the silent auction, and a coin toss. Mark especially thanked **Ineke and Peter** for putting together and collecting the silent auction items.



**Mark Vosper** reminded us of Oktoberfest on October 11 (less than a month away). Tickets are available, and all members are urged to turn in the funds as soon as possible with respect to any ticket sales.

#### Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker was **Linda Whitehead** who, with her husband, has been a member for 22 years of the Semiahmoo White Rock Club, and a past Club President. She is the Rotary District 5050 chairperson of the District's partnership with the Wheelchair Foundation.

Linda asked us to think about our busy lifestyle and all the things we do and where we go, and then to imagine if we were suddenly not able to "hit the floor running each morning" - to

imagine if we had no car or other means to get around - if we were not mobile. Our sense of well-being is tied up in what we do for others and our social interactions. All of that would be gone if we lost our mobility.

Linda brought a wheelchair to show us the type of vehicle which the wheelchair foundation is distributing. Linda said that even though the wheelchair is a simple device, it gives mobility. She referred to an article in the Rotarian magazine which tells the story of what difference one wheelchair can have on a young person's life. That article said in part:

When polio paralysed a young Nigerian boy named Ayuba Gufwan, a friend of his father gave him the nickname "Burki", which means" to apply the brakes". His father had pulled him out of primary school because he considered education to be a waste of resources for a child with a disability. But when his uncle built him a tricycle wheelchair, "it restored my hope, my dignity, and put me on the path of progress once again". He returned to school and went on to pursue a law degree. Recognizing that mobility is a top priority for people with disabilities, he began making wheelchairs. With the help of a retired American pastor, he launched the Beautiful Gate Handicapped People Centre in 1999 which, with grants from the Rotary Foundation, helped the organization build and distribute more than 6000 wheelchairs in Nigeria and neighbouring countries. Our district 5050 has been active in the wheelchair foundation. Two-thirds of the clubs in our District (including our own Meadow Ridge Rotary club) have participated - with the result that 6,000 wheelchairs have been delivered because of Rotary's partnership with the Canadian Wheelchair Foundation, which has delivered 35,000 wheelchairs in 41 countries. Linda noted that some wheelchairs have also been delivered here in Canada.

Linda has also been involved in the delivery of wheelchairs to the recipients. "When I participated in the delivery process, that's when I became a Rotarian", she commented.

[Peter, Ineke and Angie no doubt experienced the same feeling when they went to Nicaragua].

Linda stated that the need for wheelchairs is great; 65,000 to 70,000 wheelchairs are needed. In the Philippines, she commented, wheelchairs do not exist to purchase - they are simply not for sale there. The Canadian Wheelchair Foundation can currently ship a wheelchair anywhere in the world (including the cost of purchasing it) for only \$150 (although the price may soon need to rise to \$200). The same chair if bought in USA or Canada would be in the \$500-\$600 range.

30% of the recipients of wheelchairs are polio victims.

In conclusion, Linda stated that as a Rotary District 5050 International Service Project, the delivery of 100 brand-new wheelchairs to those in need in Panama City will be combined with a Panama Canal cruise on an Island Princess ship, March 6 to 21, 2015 from Los Angeles to Fort Lauderdale. This combined project will enable participants to have the joy of participating in the delivery of wheelchairs to those in need, while at the same time meeting and socializing with fellow Rotarians on a 15 day cruise.

#### <u>50/50</u>

Once again, Treasurer **Walter Volpatti**'s ticket was drawn - but he failed at the cut. [He said he attributes his "close but no cigar" success to the absence of Bob Shantz from the meeting].

#### Submitted by Laurie Anderson



Meadow Ridge Clubs. Not only tried we to beat the other club, but we also strengthened the fellowship between the two Clubs, what is more important.

# Many thanks to our hosts Dave and Sharon Rempel.

Hopefully we get a full report at the upcoming meeting. In the mean time here are some pictures, and all of them can be seen on our website.



Last Sunday we had a terrific Frisbee Golf Tournament at Dave Rempel's place. This was a joint event of the Haney and



