

# The Four Way Flasher



Vol. 21, Issue 16

October 21, 2014

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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#### **October is Vocational Services Month**

**TODAY:** Dane Spence, Fire Chief of Maple Ridge

**NEXT WEEK:** Clint Callison – Who's Who

| Happy Birthday | Happy Anniversary | Invocation |                 |
|----------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
|                |                   | Oct. 21    | Patrick O'Brien |
|                |                   | Oct. 28    | Dave Rempel     |

#### **CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:**

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|------|------|-------|-------|
|      |      |       |       |

#### PAST RI PRESIDENT WILF WILKINSON TO VISIT

Past Rotary International President, Wilf Wilkinson will be visiting local Rotary clubs in November: Langley Central on November 19 and Chilliwack on November 21.

Rotarians are welcome to attend either meeting for a rare opportunity to hear one of Rotary's senior leaders.



Wilf is from the Rotary club of Trenton, Ontario and served as Rotary President in 2007-8 ("Rotary Shares") and Trustee Chair of the Rotary Foundation in 2012-13

## THE WHITE HOUSE HONOURS ROTARY WOMEN FOR THEIR HUMANITARIAN SERVICE



Tina Tchen, assistant to President Barack Obama, and chief of staff to First Lady Michelle Obama, thanks the Rotary honorees for their humanitarian work.

Photo Credit: Rotary International/Alyce Henson

Senior Rotary leaders gathered Tuesday at the White House to honour 10 women for their service projects, an event attended by members of U.S. President Barack Obama's senior staff.

The Rotary members presented their projects, in the hopes of creating new inroads for government partnerships and support.

"This is recognition of the great work that they do but also serves as a great vehicle to inspire others to do similar kinds of things," said Rotary General Secretary John Hewko. "One of the things we're doing a better job of is sharing our story to the non-Rotary world."

The honourees were selected by Rotary senior leaders and endorsed by the White House from clubs around the U.S. but their projects touch lives across the globe.

(See the full story at www.rotary.org)

#### **LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

**Laura Cherille** gave a <u>Rotary Moment</u> as told by Rotary International Director Julia Phelps.

Two quotes were on the mind of Julia Phelps as she listened to 10 Rotary women telling the stories of their volunteer efforts to an audience at the White House where she attended:

"Be the change you wish to be in the world" (Mahatma Gandhi) and "never underestimate the power of a small group of people to change the world. In fact, it is the only way it ever has" (Margaret Mead).

The volunteer efforts of these 10 women largely focused on children, young girls in particular. These women were living Rotary's motto of 'Service Above Self' every day, and were Lighting up Rotary.

#### Guests

Our meeting was favoured with nine guests:

 Hugh and Phyllis Mitchell and Evelyn and Malcolm Kennedy, from the Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary Club. Malcolm is the team leader on the Nicaragua project



- Donald Pike, Angie Edmonds' father who travelled with Angie to Nicaragua
- **Linda Whitehead**, Rotary District 5050 liaison to the Wheelchair Foundation
- Kim Roberts and Graeme Ross both potential new members

#### Happy and Sad

**Bob Shantz** – was sad that he missed Oktoberfest, but extremely happy that \$83,500 generated from the Duck Race will be given out to 31 youth groups in our community and KidSport on October 15, 2014, at a combined meeting of the Meadow Ridge and Haney Rotary clubs.

**Patrick O'Brien** - to raise money for Polio Plus, Patrick will bring pumpkins to our next Rotary meeting, where they will be sold two for \$20.

**Ineke Boekhorst** - visited her daughter in Kelowna, and then travelled to Chase to see the salmon run. It is a small world because at Chase she met a lady from the Rotary Club of Kamloops West, who is going to Nicaragua to volunteer on the same project as we do and after that on another community project there.

**Matt Debruyn** - proving that were never too old to participate, he told of an 83-year-old gentleman just recently retired from Citizens on Patrol (an organization that Matt is involved in).

Matt and Linda recently returned from Holland where he went to visit his nephew (a husband and father of young children) who tragically lost both of his legs in an industrial accident.

Matt also advised that (despite the school strike) two classes are about to have a session on the Four Way Test at Laityview School on Monday, October 27. Volunteers are asked to contact Matt.

**Mark Vosper** - despite being 50 seats short on the ticket sales, Oktoberfest was a success.

**President Eric Mollema** – the District Foundation Dinner will be held on November 15, 2014. Those able and willing to attend are asked to contact him.

**Evelyn Kennedy**, one of our guests from the Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary club and a supporter of the Nicaragua International Project, is making rainbow loom elastic bracelets to raise money for Nicaragua. To help out with this fundraiser, we can go to the craft store, Michaels, where we can purchase six bags for only \$20 and give them to Evelyn, or we can donate the \$20 to help with the purchase of them, and contact Evelyn about it. To date Evelyn has made 650 bracelets.

#### **Guest Speaker**

Our speaker came all the way from Nicaragua to speak to us and other Rotary clubs. He is **Gerry Caceres** who operates Monty's Beach Lodge, where our Nicaragua team stayed while on their trip there in 2014. Gerry was born in Nicaragua and moved to Florida, but eight years ago returned to Nicaragua where he has now been involved in volunteer efforts besides operating his Lodge business.



Gerry explained how the Nicaragua project was funded, by \$2,500 donations from each of several clubs including Coquitlam Sunrise, Coquitlam, Skagit, and our own Meadow Ridge club, as well as donations from District 5050.

Various projects are underway in Nicaragua, including:

- equipping of the Vocational Training Centre, which is constructed out of 18,000 plastic Coca-Cola bottles filled with sand and then cemented together to make the walls
- VTC Training Garden
- Roof & Painting of the Jiquilillo & Los Zorros schools
- Medical Centre upgrade
- Community Soup Kitchen in El Limonal

The training and education centres will focus on teaching young people the skills they need to make a living, including a marine trade, carpentry (including artisan work), baking, and particularly working in the hospitality trade. There is a focus on tourism because it requires less investment with good returns.

Jiquilillo School is an elementary school for grades 1 to 6. A project is underway to repair the roof with good quality materials that will last for 30 years, as well as painting inside and out. Another roof repair job is on the community medical clinic, where it is hoped that a dental clinic can be added on, so that a dentist will be able to come about once a week to provide muchneeded service. At the present time approximately 50 people are served per week in the medical centre.

At a soup kitchen, 250 children per day are served hot meals. These children make a living on the garbage dump recycling what they can salvage.



Our guest encouraged members to

consider traveling to Nicaragua on the next international project where, in addition to some hands-on labour, they will enjoy Rotary Fellowship — everything from sand boarding on a volcano, fishing, sightseeing, swimming, and walking on a beautiful 10 km beach. Gerry assured us that Nicaragua is the safest country in Central America (according to the New York Times), and, says Gerry, probably in the whole of Central and South America.

Attached is a page from the October 2014 Peace Arch Journal, describing the project to Nicaragua

#### 50/50

Diamonds "are a girl's best friend", but not the best friend of **Bob Shantz**, who again won the draw but was only rewarded with seven of them, the 7 of diamonds that is.

#### **Submitted by Laurie Anderson**

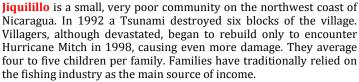
### "Peak Experience Project" goes to Phase Three in Jiquilillo, Nicaragua

In October 2012 the Rotary Clubs of Coquitlam Sunrise and Kamloops West replaced pit toilets at 3 schools in the Jiquilillo area of Nicaragua. The objective of the project was to build modern latrines complete with flush toilets, septic systems and hand washing facilities at each school. The goal was to improve sanitation and health for 450 students and the 16 staff members, plus prepare lunch for 250 children at a local soup kitchen. With the assistance of a District 5050 Grant we were able to successfully complete the project.



In January 2014, we went back to do phase two of a multi-year, multiclub planned program. The partners involved this time included: the Rotary Clubs of Coquitlam Sunrise, Meadow Ridge, Global Change for Children and a District 5050 Grant. Our primary goal was to build kitchens at the 3 local schools so that the children would be able to receive one nourishing meal each day.

In addition we assisted with the preparation of one school for painting, and replaced the roofs on three of four buildings at two of the three schools. We repaired/replaced shelving for the classrooms and worked in the local soup kitchen.



The **Soup Kitchen** is located at the Chinandega City Dump. These children & their displaced families were economic victims from not only a change in national government but also from the devastation of a hurricane. There are very few men, mostly women and children. There is a high rate of sexual abuse and extreme poverty.

Phase three will see a number of Clubs from District 5050 including the Rotary Clubs of Coquitlam Sunrise, Coquitlam, Port Moody,

Meadow Ridge and Skagit. Plans are under way to have teams from the participating clubs to be on site from December 28 through to January 31. Main focus will be on setting up and equipping a Vocational Training Centre in the Jiquilillo area. The centre has been constructed out of recycled soft drink bottles filled with sand and held in place with rebar and finishing cement. The Rotarians will work on painting 2 of the 3 schools, replace roofs on 3 buildings at 2 different schools, upgrade the medical centre, develop a community training garden and prepare and serve lunch to 250 children at the Chinandega City Dump.

It is not all work, there is as much **Rotary Fellowship** and vacation time as there is hands-on labour. Teams usually work on projects until 1 o'clock, which is lunch time. The afternoons are too hot to do anything very physical so the time is spent enjoying the beach in front of our accommodations. Jiquilillo is about an hour away from any major centre so shopping is very limited, what you bring is basically what you have. There are side trips available for fishing, volcano sliding, turtle hatching and site seeing.

We stay at Monty's Beach Lodge, right on the ocean, and our room and board includes transportation to and from the airport and to the varies worksites.

To find out more about the area visit www.montysbeachlodge.com

We are still looking for club partners willing to invest US\$2,500 into a hands-on, turn-key International project with a Global Grant, a work project within a vacation in Nicaragua.

For more information please contact Malcolm Kennedy Project Coordinator Rotary Club of Coquitlam Sunrise malcolm.rotary@outlook.com 604-941-8606













The Soup Kitchen

Walls are

made of these





