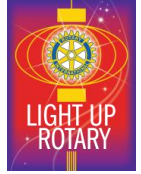




Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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



December is Family Month

Today: AGM and elections for the incoming Directors and Officers

Next Week:

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

Dec. 02	Graeme Ross
Dec. 09	Bob Shantz

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Dec. 5	6pm	Christmas party at Adrienne and Warren Dale's home	10295 248th St. M.R.
Dec. 6	6-7pm	Santa Claus Parade – assemble 5:30pm on Brown Ave. near the School District offices	Downtown Maple Ridge
Dec. 17	7pm	CP Holiday Train – Arrives 7:30pm at Port Haney and 8:45pm Harris Rd. crossing in Pitt Meadows	

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



If you take a look at the Rotary calendar, it's easy to see where our priorities as an organization lie. The Rotary year begins in July; in August we mark Membership Month, in September we celebrate New Generations, October is for vocational service, and so on, turning our attention to different topics that are important in Rotary.

It's a great idea to do this, because it reminds us to talk about subjects that we might otherwise overlook during our busy Rotary year. But we all know that every topic on our calendar – from fellowship to our Foundation – is important. All of them are part of what makes Rotary what it is, and what makes all of us Rotarians.

In Rotary, December is Family Month. Looking back on my years as a Rotarian, I have seen how important family is in Rotary – and how important Rotary can be to our families.

My wife, Corinna, chose to join Rotary just a few months ago, after many years as a Rotary spouse. All three of our children are also Rotarians. All of them joined their own club, in their own time. All of them have found unique interests in Rotary. As we have watched them find their own paths, we have been struck by how wonderful it is to have so many members of our family involved in Rotary service.

Rotary gives us something good that we can all do together. With Rotary, we always have interesting things to talk about at dinner. We are all involved in different service, in different clubs, so when we sit down together, we are talking about humanitarian needs of every kind, in every part of the world. There is always something new to learn.

Our conversations are also a wonderful way to teach our children, through our own actions, what is really important in life. They learn

about what life is like in different parts of the world, and how all of us have an obligation to help others when we can. I can think of no better lessons to teach our families than the lessons of Rotary service.

I hope that in this Rotary year, many of you will encourage your family members to join Rotary, Rotaract, or Interact. Bringing your family into Rotary doesn't just Light Up Rotary – it lights up your own lives as well.

Gary C.K. Huang
RI President 2014-15

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Cheque Presentation

Angie Edmonds presented a cheque for \$500 to Brenda Garcia, a community organizer of **Help Portrait**. Brenda advised that Help Portrait is a global event to be held this year on December 6, 2014. It is the fourth year in Maple Ridge, and is held in 57 countries. The event gives homeless and other people and families in need the opportunity to have an individual or family portrait that they could not otherwise afford.

One person had this to say about it:

Kind of a lame thing to do, you might say - needy families need far more basic things, food, clothing, a safe place to stay, and I agree. But there is power in a photograph as well. Self-confidence, a sense of stability, or even the simple act of being made-up, babied, and made the complete and total centre of attention can do wonders.



50/50 Draw - Jackpot at \$671.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 20 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

Guests

John Bourdeau attended our meeting as a guest of President **Eric Mollema**.

Mystery Greeter

One of our new members, Jim Michals, collected a few shekels as our mystery greeter for the day.

Happy and Sad

Although only one person had happy news this week, **Mark Forster** made up for it with 20 happy dollars to announce that he and his family have finally moved back into their home which was devastated by fire on Halloween night, 2013. Great news, Mark!

Announcements

Our Club Christmas Party, which will be a catered event, will be held on Friday, December 5, 2014, when Adrienne and Warren Dale will welcome us all into their lovely home to enjoy their great hospitality and a fun evening.

The Haney Club Christmas party, to which our club and family, children and friends are invited, will be held on Wednesday, December 10, at the Club's regular meeting place at Meadow Gardens Golf Club.

The election (or will it be an acclamation?) of our own club's officers and directors will be held at our next club meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 2014.

Business Meeting

As it was a business meeting, various committee chairpersons and members updated us on the Club's activities. Full committee reports have been posted on our website and/or emailed to the members directly. The following is therefore only a sample of some of the "goings on" in our Club.

Secretary David Riddell's report was the shortest and sweetest - "All is ok on the western front!"

Treasurer Walter Volpatti reported that all money that had been donated for our Repulse Bay project has now been used up, with the result that the monthly funds sent to Nunavut to support the literary project are no longer available. Although the club has \$50,000 in assets, one half of that money will need to be satisfied to secure the Line of Credit needed to satisfy the licensing requirements for next year's Duck Race. The \$5000 that we need to purchase our new flock of baby ducks will be funded from the balance of the Sports Banquet funds which are available. The club decided that this was appropriate in view of the fact that all of the monies from this great event go back to support mainly sports activities in our communities.

Club Service chairman Betty Johansen, in addition to reminding us of the Christmas party being held on December 5, urged club members to bring forth recommendations as to future guest speakers to our weekly meetings.

Communities Services chairman Angie Edmonds advised that this Rotary Year we have had 12 applications for funding and have paid out \$4,000 so far. That leaves approximately \$4,300 to spend until our next gaming grant in Jan/Feb 2015, after taking into account the \$18,700 for committed funds (i.e. vocational bursaries, 4-Way Test, fire fighters bursaries & 7% operating costs as advised by Walter). Depending on how we do with Oktoberfest this coming year, we may have additional funds for other projects that don't qualify for gaming funds. Angie would like to see some "hands on" projects in the community to raise awareness about what we do and increase our visibility as a club as well.

International Committee chairman Ineke Boekhorst advised that our Nicaragua project (which was to go forward in early January 2015) has been delayed for a month or two because a Rotary grant failed to get approved on a technicality. That however will be fixed, and the trip to Nicaragua will be delayed until late February or the beginning of March 2015, which may give some members who could not attend in January the opportunity to consider doing so.

Fundraising for the project will include the sale of **cyclamens at our local hospital** on Tuesday Dec. 9 between 1:30 and 5 pm and on Wednesday Dec. 17 between 9 am and 5 pm. Any members who can help out Ineke and Peter on those days would be most welcomed.



The annual **Santa Claus Parade** will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014 where donations will be collected for Friends in Need Food Bank. Those able to attend are to meet at 5:30 pm on Brown Avenue near the School District offices, with the parade starting at 6:00 pm and over by 7:00. (More info www.mapleridgechristmasfestival.com)

Food and donations to the Food Bank will also take place when the annual **CP Holiday Train** comes through town between 7:30 and 8:30 pm on the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Poppa Duck Bob Shantz (who fortunately for us all has not given up the title yet) advised of the successful organizational meeting of the 2015 Duck Race, which will be held on the third Sunday in July of 2015.

The Haney Club has agreed to take responsibility for ticket control which Bob and his staff have looked after for the past four years. The Haney Club has also committed \$5,000 towards the purchase of the new ducks.

Ineke Boekhorst has volunteered herself and Peter to look after venues for the ticket sales (a dedicated, time-consuming, labour intensive job, last year looked after by Matt DeBruyn and his wife Lynda) - on the condition that Ineke and Peter will be relieved of looking after the events taking place at the site on Race Day (which was, in itself, a huge undertaking).

Ineke (with the full support of Bob and others) believe that the events at the park on the day of the race be "contracted out" to a professional person or organization. This could bring the day of the Race to a new level - an annual Community Event - with other activities going on that would be fun and interesting to the community, with the duck race as the highlight of the day, but with other events happening to attract a larger community participation.

Chris Duyvestyn of the Haney club has graciously agreed (or, is that "has been graciously voluntold"?) to store the ducks on his property when they are not frantically paddling to the finish line.

50/50

Having given our Club the Budget Report and having drawn the winning 50/50 ticket, **Walter** said to himself:

*The budget report is now through,
But there's still one last thing I must do -
Pull the Queen from the pack
That's a Heart, and not Black,
Making sure that the Red one's in view!*

Alas, all Walter was able to do was to reduce the card deck and increase the pot, which is growing substantially.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson



Christmas Plants; building a Vocational School in Nicaragua!

The Meadow Ridge Rotary Club is presenting a Festive Christmas Fundraising Event, with ALL PROCEEDS to a Vocational School Project in Nicaragua, providing employable skills to kids!

We are selling beautiful greenhouse grown 6" Cyclamen.

These fabulous plants are locally grown (Amsterdam Greenhouses), come with a beautiful handmade Christmas card for easy gift givingall you have to do is sign your name on the card!

This is the perfect gift for staff, associates, clients, friends, family, neighbours, hairdresser, teacher.....you name it!



Plants will be available at the MAIN ENTRANCE of RM Hospital
 Tuesday Dec. 9 (1:30 – 5pm) and
 Wednesday Dec. 17 (9am – 5pm)
 or call Ineke 604-467-2420 for delivery in MR/PM

Only \$15 each or 3 for \$40 (tax included).

ALL proceeds to the Nicaragua Project!

Local Rotarians are traveling early 2015 to Nicaragua to complete the work!

