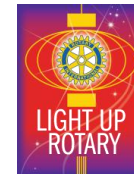


Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## December is Family Month

**Today:** Rhian Piprell - Literacy

**Next Week:**

### Happy Birthday

### Happy Anniversary

### Invocation

**Dec. 16** Walter Volpatti  
**Dec. 23** Mark Vosper

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Dec. 17	7pm	CP Holiday Train – Arrives 7:30pm at Port Haney and 8:45pm Harris Rd. crossing in Pitt Meadows	

### TOP 10 CLUBS FOR NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

White Rock Peninsula	100.00%
Chilliwack	93.00%
Marysville	88.61%
Semiahmoo (White Rock)	87.82%
Arlington	87.58%
Coquitlam Sunrise	86.67%
<b>Meadow Ridge Rotary</b>	<b>84.80%</b>
North Delta	84.00%
White Rock	82.73%
Fidalgo Island	82.61%



### THE ROTARY FOUNDATION RISES ON EXPERT LIST OF TOP NONPROFITS

The Rotary Foundation has continued its steady growth, moving up 35 spots to 85th in The Chronicle of Philanthropy's [annual ranking](#) of the top 400 non-profit organizations in the United States. The ranking is based on monetary contributions from private sources and reflects the increasing generosity of those who support Rotary's mission.



According to The Chronicle of Philanthropy, The Rotary Foundation received \$239,576,000 in 2013, a 32.4 percent increase from the previous year.

"This clearly shows our members recognize the unparalleled value of giving to their Foundation," says John Hewko, Rotary's general secretary. "They know that by giving to the Foundation

their dollars have a much greater impact. And friends of Rotary respect that the Foundation puts their gift to great use."

The Foundation recently earned a [4-star rating](#) from [Charity Navigator](#), the largest and most prestigious independent evaluator of nonprofits in the United States. In the 2013-14 Rotary year, 92 percent of the Foundation's expenditures were applied to programs, with only 6 percent spent on fundraising and 2 percent on administrative expenses. The Foundation funded \$23.5 million in district grants and \$47.3 million in global grants. These grants support local and international humanitarian projects as well as scholarships.

Together with its partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, Rotary has led the effort to eradicate polio, contributing more than \$1.3 billion to the initiative since its outset. When an outbreak of polio threatened the Horn of Africa and the Middle East in 2013, Rotary provided emergency funds, including a \$500,000 rapid-response grant for Somalia and a \$500,000 grant to the World Health Organization (WHO) to cover operational costs in the Middle East. As a result, the outbreak in the Horn of Africa slowed, and Syria reported only one case of polio in the first half of 2014.

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Happy and Sad (what is going on in our members lives)

During a recent trip to Japan, **Sharon Kyle** was in an upper floor of a high-rise in Tokyo when the earthquake struck there about three weeks ago. Talk about a moving experience!

When **Terry Becker** was in New Zealand last year on a Rotary Friendship Exchange (after going to the Rotary International

Convention) she made contact with a friend who is now coming to Canada to visit with her for a while.

**Ineke Boekhorst** and her daughter **Marjolein** will both be Presidents of their respective Rotary clubs in the same year and will therefore be attending PETS together. Not that they need much introduction to how Rotary operates! Marjolein is an ADG and instructor at PETS, and Ineke (a past president of our club) could teach us all a thing or two (or three or four or five) about Rotary and Service Above Self.

**Bob Shantz** was sad to see that only one-third of our members showed up at the Christmas party at Adrienne's home, and in so doing missed a great group of young singers entertaining us with some Christmas songs, not to mention a great meal and wonderful fellowship.

**President Eric** took this opportunity to remind all club members that if they sign up to go to an event where food is catered, they will be expected to pay for the meal even if it's a no-show.

### Celebrations

Newlyweds **Peter and Ineke Boekhorst** have just celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary.

### Announcements

**Ineke** reminded us that the CP Holiday Train is coming to town on December 17, arriving at the Maple Ridge station at 7:30 PM. Friends in Need Food Bank can use some help collecting money and food on that evening, and anyone that can attend are asked to come between 6:30 and 7:00pm to get the festivities and collection of donations underway.



Ineke also reminded us to purchase some cyclamens to help the fundraiser for our Nicaragua project. (Ineke made all the Christmas cards herself - they alone are worth the price!)

**Betty Johansen** advised that our regular Club meeting on Tuesday, December 23 (the last of the year) will be a Christmas lunch party. Everyone attending is to bring a gaily wrapped gift costing \$10 or less, to add to the fun of the occasion.

### Guest Speaker



Our guest speaker for the meeting was **Corporal Alanna Dunlop** of the RCMP detachment, on the topic of homelessness in our city. The RCMP detachment conducted a Social Outreach Survey (between October 13, 2013 and January 14, 2014), when they interviewed 15 homeless street people in down-town Maple Ridge. Data was collected from enhanced street checks (a proactive and/or enforcement program used by police to check individuals to gather information with respect to location, date, clothing and circumstances).

She then told us of about 15 typical "clients" that frequent the downtown core area and noted their commonalities, which included:

- History of criminality; minor offences
- Mental illness
- Poverty

- Street entrenched older adults
- Desire for freedom to pursue their own lifestyle
- Come from colder climate
- Drug use; typically do not self-identify as Addicts
- Numerous medical issues, but are not engaged with medical system
- No driver's licence
- Lack of family support
- Minimal financial support from social services
- Unemployable

Corporal Dunlop said that the primary cause of the homeless problem is drug addiction, and that the only way to solve the problem is to take a long-term approach by attacking the root cause - the drug problem.

A recent newspaper article summarized the essence of Corporal Dunlop's talk to us. It said in part:

*When a homeless camp is spotted and reported, the RCMP is expected to dismantle it. When a homeless addict is high in public, passed out on the street or causing a scene by screaming for no reason or kicking and punching the air, Mounties are expected to haul the person away.*

*While many think the number of problematic homeless people has increased in Maple Ridge, Ridge Meadows RCMP Cpl. Alanna Dunlop said it's a handful of people who cause a large number of calls to police. "Some clients create calls in the hundreds," Dunlop said. "One in particular generated 500 calls." Most homeless people have some kind of mental illness, and many of them also have addiction problems.*

*While the Mounties' primary job is policing, they are increasingly falling into the role of de facto social workers. Issues stemming from mental health have created the need for specially trained officers. A crisis intervention coordinator for the local detachment takes an active interest in mostly known people with mental health issues by keeping track of them, connecting them with service providers and even personally taking them to seek treatment.*

*The clients vary from an old lady with dementia getting lost everyday, needing to find their home, to the homeless. The coordinator's work is exhausting but it does produce success. She will immerse herself into learning about a person's mental history, past, contact family, and provide Crown counsel detailed reports of a person in hopes that by providing enough details, the court will order a person to undergo treatment. She will sometimes spend hours at the hospital with an individual, making sure they get the help they need.*

*Dunlop said such an approach is needed to actually solve Maple Ridge's social problems as the cycle of arresting people, clogging the court system, and repeating resolves nothing. "What we want to have is a proactive approach," Dunlop said. "The last resort is apprehension (arrest)." While the police have a role in dealing with homelessness, addictions, and the crime that comes from it, they can't make changes alone.*

### 50/50

Our newest member, **Libby Nelson**, got it half right (the 50/50 draw, that is). She got the winning ticket, but not the Queen of Hearts.

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**