

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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**Today:**

**Next Week:**

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary	Invocation
July 30: Brian Bekar July 30: Deb Hyslop		July 28: Betty Johansen Aug 4: Laurie Anderson

**CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:**

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Aug. 23		Frisbee Golf at Dave Rempel's place	10607-277th St. - Maple Ridge
Oct. 27	noon	District Governor Bill Robson's official visit	

**LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

Rotary Moment - presented by **Laura Cherrille** on the Subject of Literacy

Laura presented some interesting stats: *Around the world, millions of adults are unable to read or write, and therefore struggle to earn a living for themselves and their families. Even in the United States, with its considerable resources, there are 36 million adults who can't read better than the average third-grader. Illiteracy affects all areas of life. Those with low literacy skills are far more likely to live in poverty, face health problems because they can't read prescription labels or instructions, and grow isolated in a world increasingly dependent on computers.* Laura told us of a Rotary Club in Detroit which is striving to do something about this problem.

Guests

Our guests were **Assistant District Governor Clive Evans and his wife Joyce Evans**, and "moma duck" **Irena Shantz**.

Happy and Sad - member happenings

**Jim Coulter** has become a granddaddy.

**A.G. Clive Evans** congratulated us and the Haney Club for our success on the Duck Race.

**Dave Rempel** thanked all those who helped with his bird display at the Duck Race.

**Ineke Boekhorst** [who worked tirelessly on the Duck Race and couldn't help but say, she wasn't unhappy that it was over for another year] thanked Dave for his effort on the bird display, which was especially enjoyed by the children (both of the young and old variety).

**Laurie Anderson** was saddened to hear that his niece's house burned down, but thankful that everyone got out of the house safely.

Duck Race Report



**Bob Shantz** gave a brief report on the Duck Race. Firstly, he thanked Jhammi-Leigh Gunnarsen and Breanna Mathewson who, despite the 33 degree heat, still entertained everyone in the duck suits. He also thanked the river crew who consisted of Jose Viverios, Peter Davies, together with Scouts and the Maple Ridge Fire Department. This year 21 groups participated to sell tickets, compared to 31 last year. Over that past five years the Race has

generated almost \$400,000 for the youth of our communities. The distribution dinner (when we hand out the money and some appreciation awards) will be held at Meadow Gardens Golf Club on September 9th. **Ineke** reported that the children's games at the Race brought in \$906 and the 50/50 draw earned \$105 for KidSport.

Guest Speaker - via Video - Our new RI President:

**K.R. (Ravi) Ravindran**



The following are excerpts from the speech given by our new Rotary International President K.R. (Ravi) Ravindran, whose theme for this 2015/2016 Rotary Year is **"Be a Gift to the World"**:

*We are all mortal. Our time on this earth is finite. And yet, we forget. We spend our days, as the poet Rabindranath Tagore wrote, in stringing and unstringing our guitars, while the song we came to sing remains unsung. What will it take for us to see every hour, every day, every year that we have been given, as a gift — one that is precious, fleeting, and irreplaceable?*

*From the moment we are born, we receive gifts. The first gift is life itself. And then we receive gifts of love, of caring, and the nurture of our families; of education; of health; of every talent and ability that we learn and acquire. As we move through our lives, our parents, our friends, our spouses, and our children, our livelihoods and our material wealth — all are gifts to us.*

*I know that you are thinking now of how many gifts you all have to be grateful for. And I ask myself and I ask you: What do we do in return?*

*Will we come to the end of our lives and realize that we have wasted our gifts, achieving nothing that will outlive us? Or will we look back and know that when we pass from this world, the good that we have done will remain?*

*Our first challenge, our greatest challenge, is the eradication of polio. When we made the promise to eradicate polio, more than a quarter of a century ago, we had 125 endemic countries. More than a thousand children were being paralyzed every single day. Today, we have three countries that are endemic. And in all of last year, we had only 333 cases of polio. Almost all of them were in one country: Pakistan. The government and people of Pakistan are striving, along with Rotary, to reach a polio-free future — while the Taliban on motorcycles shoot the women who are on their way to immunize babies, and now have resorted to killing innocent children in their classrooms. No one could have envisioned 25 years ago that it would come to this. But the work of 25 years, the faith and dedication and trust of millions, will not be brought low by so lowly an opponent. We will battle on. We will prevail. Because a future without polio is a gift that we have promised to the children of the world. And indeed, it is a gift that we will give.*

*We know that Rotary has tremendous potential. But we also know that in so many clubs and districts, the reality of Rotary is not the way it ought to be. I believe that we have to find a way to bring back the fundamentals that built our organization: the emphasis on high ethical standards in all aspects of our lives, and the classification system that encourages a diversity of expertise in each club. When you have a club formed of people whose honesty is unimpeachable and whose breadth of expertise allows them to do anything they set their minds to, then you have the kind of club that is truly a gift.*

*But we are all too aware that we cannot talk about Rotary today the way we did a century ago and still expect it to grow. We live in a new reality now. The new focus on branding is indeed necessary. We need to reposition our image, which we recognize has faded in many parts of the world.*

*We want to raise more money for our Foundation to do even more good, but we know that if we ask too insistently, or for too much, we will drive away members.*

*We want to attract younger members, but we do not want to alienate the older members who now form our backbone, or lose sight of the recently retired who still have so much to give.*

*We want to encourage club members to participate in activities beyond the club level, to become more involved in the network of Rotary, but we do not want membership to become a burden that demands too much in the way of time and resources.*

*We all have a choice: whether to keep our gifts to ourselves or to use them. Let us Be a Gift to the World.*

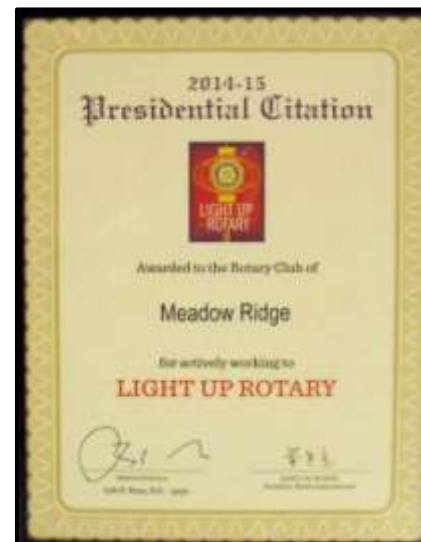
#### Presidential Citation



Assistant Governor **Clive Evans** presented to our Club the **Presidential Citation Award** from Rotary International. Accepting the award on our behalf was last year's Club President **Eric Mollema**.

[This is awarded to clubs by the President of RI for clubs that meets certain specified goals. Our new RI President Ravi has said: "This (2015-2016) year's Presidential Citation is somewhat different from previous ones. In developing this program, I put a lot of thought into selecting goals that, if achieved, would be measurable by all of us and make Rotary demonstrably stronger, more effective at delivering service, and more widely known and respected by the general public. To qualify for the Presidential Citation, clubs must complete two mandatory activities and additional activities as described in each category".

We may learn about what these categories are at a future meeting's Rotary Moment.]



#### 50/50

Once again, **Brian Bekar** is both the winner and the loser - picking the 7 of Spades. The odds are getting better!!

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**