



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

Today: Probably a video about **Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution**

Next Week: **Genelle Grubb**, our outgoing Exchange Student to France in 2013/14

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	Feb. 2: Eric & Urma Mollema

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Feb. 20	8:45am – 3:00pm	Grants Management Seminar	Sunrise Banquet Centre - Surrey, BC
Mar. 5		Membership Seminar	Rotary Field House, Surrey, WA, US
Apr. 16	7 pm - 10 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30 - May 1		District Conference	Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, WA.
May 12-15		RYLA	WA, United States
Aug. 7		Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In life, sometimes the experiences that matter the most are the briefest. They pass in the blink of an eye: a few days, a few hours, a few moments. They are the experiences that illuminate the landscape of our memory, shining brightly even years later. They are the moments in which we see, suddenly, something we had not seen; we understand something we had not understood; we forge a connection we had not expected.

For me, this has been a Rotary year like no other. I have been around the world, traversing countries and continents. I have been to places I had never seen before, and I have returned to familiar places and seen them, as for the first time, through the lens of Rotary.

When you travel for Rotary, you travel with a different sense of perspective and a different sense of purpose. There is an awareness of being part of something larger than yourself. When you board a plane or a train, or leave your home in the dark hours of early morning, you may be leaving for lands unknown – but at your destination, there will be no strangers. There will be Rotarians, waiting and welcoming. There will be work to do, something to learn, and perhaps something to teach.

There will be connections to forge, friendships to build, and memories to carry for a lifetime.

This year, I have been the traveler, and I have been welcomed by Rotarians around the world. A few months from now, from 28 May to 1 June, I invite you to step into my experience: allow me to welcome you to Seoul for our 107th International Convention.

The Koreans have a saying: 사람이 나면 서울로 보내라. In English we would say, "When a person is born, send them to Seoul." For Seoul is a city of opportunities: a wonderful destination with rich traditions, modern conveniences, and a culture unlike any other. But I ask you to join me in Seoul not only for all of this, but also for the experiences you will have there with your fellow Rotarians.

For a brief moment in time, you will experience Rotary as I have experienced it: in all its diversity, all its warmth, and all its potential. You will be greeted as an old friend by people you have never met; you will share your thoughts, even without a shared language. You will learn with wonder of what Rotary has achieved, and leave inspired to achieve even more.

Before this Rotary year comes to its close, I ask you to do what I have done: to leave your homes, to board your flights, to travel toward the unknown with an open heart and an open mind, confident that Rotary will welcome you. Join me, and your fellow Rotarians, as we *Connect with Korea – Touch the World*.

K.R. Ravindran
RI President 2015-16

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Rotary Moment

Clint Callison noted when teaching the Four-Way Test in schools, that a couple of students misconstrued the true intent of the four-way test and interpreted it in a way that seem to be self-serving.

[No doubt the members who attended at the school were able to clarify the misunderstanding.]

- Of the things we think, say or do
1. Is it the TRUTH?
 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Family Matters

"Happy Birthdays to you" were celebrated by **Sharon Kyle, Angie Edmonds, Mike Davies and Terry Becker**.

Happy and Sad

Betty Levens (who, as we all know, is an Aussie) said that today is "Australia Day" - the official National Day of Australia.

[We learn on-line that, "celebrated annually on 26 January, Australia Day marks the anniversary of the 1788 arrival of the First Fleet of British Ships at Port Jackson, New South Wales, and the raising of the Flag of Great Britain at Sydney Cove by Governor Arthur Phillip". It would appear that Australia did no better than Canada in the treatment of its indigenous peoples, as we also learn that in Australia "in the era of colonial and post-colonial government, access to basic human rights depended upon your race. If you were a "full blooded Aboriginal native or any person apparently having an admixture of Aboriginal blood", or had a "strain" of Aboriginal blood, you were forced to live on Reserves or Missions, work for rations, given minimal education, and needed governmental approval to marry, visit relatives or use electrical appliances."]

President Mark Forster was sad to see so many members afflicted with "business meetingitis" which kept them away from today's business meeting, and instructed next week's Fine Master to fine anyone who failed to attend on January 26.

Business Meeting Reports

Secretary David Riddell said that, not counting members who are on leave of absence, our active membership is down to the low 20s.

Treasurer Walter Volpatti advised that the gaming application for the Duck Race is "very close" to being completed and approved; and that the \$25,000 grant for the Club from gaming had been approved for one year.



Community Services Chair, Adrienne Dale (who is very sick with the flu and could not attend the meeting) provided a written report, advising that the committee had given out 9 donations so far this year, and that our Treasurer estimates that we will have \$16,384 to get out for Community Service projects until January 2017.

Ineke attended at the Whonnock School Christmas concert to hand over their cheque, which was very well received, and she met with a few of the parents and expressed the Club's thanks for their volunteering.

Adrienne also advised that we have been asked by the Coquitlam Club to take over the men's Christmas meal, sponsored by Thrifty's, as the facility has moved to Maple Ridge. Adrienne believes that this will be a great hands-on project.



Ineke Boekhorst, reporting for the **International Service Committee**, advised that she and Dave Rempel had been requested by various clubs to present a program on their trip to Russia. Her Committee will be sending a container in the fall of 2016 to Russia, and if anyone has items to include in the container (such as used computer equipment) they should contact her or Dave. Also, the Club is going to sponsor and pay for one Shelter Box this year. She also reported that we won't be having an exchange student for next year, and that our current exchange student who is overseas is doing very well and learning the language at a faster pace than she had expected.



Vocational Service Chair Matt DeBruyn (currently in the southern climes) reported that the committee had paid out 4 bursaries at \$1500 each for graduates of 2015. One regular bursary for one 2015 graduate is still outstanding, but the total payout will not exceed \$800 as they Band has paid for the tuition. One CONNEX bursary for \$1500 is outstanding, but the student has not enrolled yet; we have informed the teacher involved that we want to know the student's plans before January 31, 2016. Also, the Four Way Test in Elementary Schools Program will continue in April 2016 when Matt returns from down south.

Sharon Kyle, who has agreed to fill in as chair of New Generations, reported that her granddaughter attended YAIL and she was so enthused and excited about it that she thought it should have gone on longer than the three days.



Membership: John Thomson (of EPR) may be considering joining Rotary after the tax season is over, replacing Betty Johansen who recently retired and moved to Hope. In the future, club members who lose their name tags will have to pay for their own replacements, due to shortage of club funds.

Clint Callison reported that the New Years Gala paid approximately \$1500 profit, and that the event was fantastic, and gave good exposure to Rotary in the community.

Some good news is that **Bonnie Telep**, of the Haney Club, advised that their club is on board with the Duck Race, and that the car is confirmed through Maple Ridge Chrysler. So the Duck Race is definitely "a go", and set for August 7, 2016.

50-50

Past President Eric Mollema was lucky, then unlucky, all within one minute.

Submitted by **Laurie Anderson**