

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

Today: Genelle Grubb, our outgoing Exchange Student to France in 2013/14

Next Week: Ineke Boekhorst & Dave Rempel – Their trip to Russia

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

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

'THANK YOU' LETTER

Hello Rotarians,

My name is Ron Wallsmith and I am a Board member with Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Community Services and I am writing to personally thank you for the Meadows Ridge Rotary Club's very generous donation to our annual silent auction and Christmas Concert which was held in December. Your donation will go a long ways in helping to support our Meals on Wheels program for seniors in our area. Donations like yours allow us to expand our program so that we can support more seniors each year. Thank you very much.

Ron Wallsmith

Board Member for Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Community Services

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL ROBSON

Two weeks ago in Ontario, California, several Districts in southern California hosted the first of five Presidential Conferences to be held around the world.

This particular one was focused on Peace and had almost 170 speakers and facilitators.

These included R.I. President Ravi Ravindran, Foundation Trustee Chair, Past R.I. President, Ray Klinginsmith, Actress Sharon Stone, Claes Nobel, a senior member of the famed Nobel family of Sweden and the Director of the Peace Corps, Carrie Hessler-Radelet.

They had over 1,500 attendees during the three day conference and from the pictures and reports I have seen and heard it was a great success.



The Rotary Peace Centers continue to attract some of the brightest young minds, from around the world, to study peace and conflict prevention and resolution. In just over a decade, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 900 fellows for careers in peace building. Many of them go on to serve as leaders in national governments, NGOs, the military, law enforcement, and international organizations like the United Nations and World Bank. We are making a difference, let there be no doubt.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Rotary Moment - by Sharon Kyle

As the 111th anniversary of Rotary approaches on February 23, 2016, I hope, said Sharon, we will all take this opportunity to reconfirm our commitment to Rotary and the Rotary Foundation. I was reading the Rotarian Code of Conduct as found in the Rotarian magazine, which reads as follows:

As a Rotarian I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life.
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect.
3. Use our professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs and improve people's quality of life in our community and in the world.
4. Avoid behaviour that reflects adversely on Rotary and other Rotarians.

Guests: Sharon's granddaughter **Mackenzie Kyle**

Happy and Sad

David Rempel: reading an article in the Rotarian about the difficulties of the people living in the Middle East made him happy to have the good fortune to be a Rotarian and living in British Columbia.

Patrick O'Brien: happy to be back attending our regular club meetings, and like Dave, to be living here in British Columbia. He is particularly happy and looking forward to a skiing and snowboarding trip to Silver Star this weekend with his wife Stephanie and children. [Should we all wish him luck with the old saying "break a leg"?]

Sharon Kyle: extremely happy to have her granddaughter Mackenzie visiting her and our Rotary club.

Announcements: (in addition to the following, see those listed at the top of our For Way Flasher)

There will be a Fireside held on Friday, February 12, 2016 at the home of our illustrious President Mark and Pauline. [Mark was somehow talked into cooking the meal once again - this time, may be this time the choice of chicken and salmon.]

Program - a "3-parter"

Firstly, Mark showed us a video about RYLA [for those who may not know, the "Rotary Youth Leadership Awards" is an exciting opportunity for young adults, between 18 & 30, to participate in a four day, leadership camp with like-minded individuals where youth will form lasting friendships, hear from professional speakers, develop as a leader, grow as a person and have fun"]

Secondly, we were delighted to hear from **Mackenzie Kyle**, the 15-year-old granddaughter of Sharon Kyle who currently attends to grade 10 at Pitt Meadows Secondary School, who recently attended YAIL, along with Tanner, Libby Nelson's grandson.



President Mark pointed out that YAIL, as far as he can determine, is an initiative only of District 50-50.



[As stated on the District's website, Youth Adventures In Leadership is open to participants, in the 10th and 11th grades (ages 15 - 17) and is held once each year, in January or February. YAIL gives participants

insight into some of the basics of what it means, and takes, to be a leader: to help participants become well-rounded individuals with increased perspective and enthusiasm for growth, and who are able to make informed decisions. YAIL teaches participants through a variety of exercises involving leadership and growth – to empower students to network, plan, and set goals. Participants are divided into groups with an experienced youth facilitator. The program is led by youth, with guidance from adult Rotarians. Candidates are selected and sponsored by a local Rotary Club, with a mix of males & females, Canadians & Americans.]

Mackenzie told us how thrilled to she was to go to YAIL where she had an amazing time. She said that when she arrived, she didn't know anyone, but met some new friends who she still communicates with. She heard some great speakers, and was still very emotional in telling us what a great experience it was for her to attend.

Thirdly, as **February is Rotary's Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution month**, President Mark showed us a further video which reminded us not only how Rotary is a global peace building force, but also that the world is not falling apart: in fact, the number of wars and violence in the world is at an all-time low compared to previous centuries, poverty is decreasing, and acknowledgment of human rights and democracy is on the rise. An important Rotary program to promote peace and conflict prevention our Rotary Peace Fellowships:

Each year, Rotary selects up to 100 individuals from around the world to receive fully funded academic fellowships at one of our peace centers. These fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses. In just over a decade, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 900 fellows for careers in peace building. Many of them go on to serve as leaders in national governments, NGOs, the military, law enforcement, and international organizations like the United Nations and World Bank.

President Mark Forster said that our club is active in promoting peace in the world by such things as our Nicaragua and Russian projects, as well as RYLA, and YAIL. He admonishes us to "**go wage peace**".

50-50

Mackenzie Kyle pulled **Mark Forster's** winning ticket, but the 3 of Spades did not win him any fortune.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson