

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

Today: Gem Munro - Amarak Society - Their work in the slums of Bangladesh and Pakistan

Next Week: MP Dan Ruimy - Life on Parliament Hill

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Aug. 7	Noon – 2 pm	Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park
Sep. 13	Noon	DG Scott Dudley's official visit	Bella Vita Restaurant

INSTALLATION OF 2016/17 EXECUTIVE ON JUNE 23, 2016

The new executive under leadership-elect of Ineke is piped in,



and welcomed by District Governor-elect Scott Dudley.



More about this in a separate issue.

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Rotary Moment – Youth Exchange Program - Laurie Anderson

Given the fact that our Exchange Student **Jhon Reategui** will soon be heading back to his home in Peru, Laurie stated that it was a great Rotary Moment for our club to be involved in this program. The Rotary International website says to potential candidates (and this describes Jhon to a tee):

Are you interested in learning a new language or meeting new people? Rotary Youth Exchange is the opportunity of a lifetime for the more than 8,000 students who participate each year. By sharing your own culture and embracing a new one, you help foster global understanding—and learn a great deal about yourself and your home country in the process. Youth Exchange is a study-abroad opportunity for young people who spend anywhere from a few weeks to a full year as an international student hosted by local Rotary clubs.

Exchanges are for people ages 15–19 who:

- Have demonstrated leadership in their school and community
- Are flexible and willing to try new things
- Are open to cultural differences
- Can serve as an ambassador for their own country

Costs vary from country to country. Local Rotary clubs generously host students and provide room and board with a host family and a small monthly stipend. Participants are generally responsible for: Round-trip airfare, Insurance, Travel documents (such as passports and visas), spending money, additional travel, and tour fees.

Cheque Presentation:



Community Services chairperson **Adrienne Dale** presented a check for \$1500 to the **Friends in Need Food Bank**, to pay for signage on the Society's new truck. **Nancy Nagy**, who accepted the check on behalf of the Society, stated that the new truck was much needed, and thanked the Club for their continuing support.



Adrienne also presented to **Lindy Sisson**, on behalf of the **Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council**, a cheque in the amount of \$1,000. Lindy advised that these funds would help support their youth programs, including their Arts Ambassador and Theatre Tech Club programs, and to pay for students in School District 42 (who could not otherwise participate) to see artistic performances in the theatre at the ACT.

The Arts Ambassador program is for youth ages 13-18 and meets once a month at The ACT Arts Centre, and learn about Food Safe, First Aid, Leadership Training, Event Planning, Fun Socials, Build your Resume, Volunteer Experience Hours, and Meet New People

The ACT Arts Centre's NEW Theatre Tech Club is also for Ages 13 to 18, where youth can gain technical skills in a fully equipped professional theatre with knowledgeable staff to guide them, and where they will learn about: Lighting, Microphones, Fly System Rigging, Audio Equipment & More!

Program - our incoming Exchange Student **Jhon Reategui**



Jhon attended our Rotary club meeting today for the last time, as he will be leaving his host family **Angie Edmonds** and going with **Mike Murray** to their cabin on a lake up near 100 Mile House, following which Mike will be taking Jhon to the airport to fly home to Peru.

John spoke to us about his experience here in British Columbia. John talked about his life here in Maple Ridge, as he compared his life in Peru. Among his comments, are the following:

- *The food is different. Here, there is quite a variety. At home, in the morning we eat fish. For lunch, we eat fish. For supper, fish.*
- *Here, I wake up to an alarm clock, and maybe get out of bed at 7 or 8 or 9 o'clock, and get driven to school in a car.. At home, my alarm is a rooster, and I get up at 4 o'clock a.m. and go fishing on the Amazon River with my father (who*

fishes for part of his livelihood). Then I go to school in a canoe.

- *Here, I am now on Facebook. At home, what the ... is Facebook? At home, we don't have a phone or electricity or a television.*
- *Here we go out to eat in a restaurant (and I have learned that I don't like spicy Mexican food). At home there are no restaurants in my village.*
- *Having travelled mostly in the canoe, I found flying in an aeroplane scary at first, but I am over that now.*
- *When I left home I did not speak English. [Now, Jhon stood in front of our club and talked to us for 15 minutes without notes !]*
- *I find it very hard to say goodbye to everyone.*



I appreciate very much the opportunity to have been an exchange student. The experience will stay with me all my life. I wish to thank Rotary, and the families that I have stayed with here. I am so happy to have had this experience, as this past year has been very good for me. I like Canada. The most difficult thing for me will be to go home and face reality.



Angie Edmonds presented Jhon with an envelope containing money donated by the club, as a parting gift, stating to Jhon that she hoped that the funds would be helpful to him in whatever way he chose to spend it.

Happy and Sad

Lindy Sisson thanked the club again for the gift to the Arts Council.

Brian Bekar said that his old Mark's Work Wearhouse store site (which he has now sold) will be turned into a small medical Centre in October, containing a pharmacy and doctors offices.

Ineke Boekhorst said that her son Kim has recovered from his broken hip and will now be entering a marathon.

50/50

Brian Bekar won the ticket and pulled the Joker from the deck, but was not awarded the prize money. **[Note to Brian: Brian, you should talk to your lawyer. A Joker is supposed to be able to represent any card in the deck, so you may have a strong legal argument that it is just as good as the Queen of Hearts].**

Submitted by Laurie Anderson