

# **The Four Way Flasher**



Vol. 23, Issue 07

August 16, 2016

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

	weet	ings: Tuesday 12 Noon, B	ella vita Restaurant	
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Today: Graeme Ross - Credit Counselling Society

Next Week: Ineke & Peter Boekhorst - Their trip to the RI Convention in Seoul, Korea

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
Aug. 20: Laura Cherrille	

# CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue	
Aug. 27		Summer BBQ at Patrick O'Brien's home	10328 276 St, Maple Ridge	View map
Sept. 9 - 11		Rotary Camping Weekend is in Fort Langley		fortcamping.com
Sep. 13	Noon	DG Scott Dudley's official visit	Bella Vita Restaurant	
Sep. 18		Frisbee Golf at Dave & Sharon's home	10607 277 St, Maple Ridge	View map

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Ineke's Opening Quote of the Week by Lana Turner:

"A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.

A successful woman is one who can find such a man."

**Ineke** congratulated everyone who participated in this year's Duck Race event which was held on Sunday, August 7, 2016.

The kids' games (which sold for \$0.40 per ticket) brought in \$180.

**Kevin Nosworthy** took the microphone as MC at the event and gave a tribute to **Popa Duck Bob Schantz. Irena Shantz** made available yellow helium filled balloons upon which those in attendance could write a tribute to Bob after which Irena release them skyward. Said Irena, Bob would be looking down and probably saying, "Okay, that's enough of that".



A full report on the Duck race will be given at a later time in the near future.

Ineke also thanked those participated in the Rotary Garage Sale in Memorial Peace Park on Saturday, August 6, 2016. This event brought in \$520.80 which will be donated to the Rotary Foundation.

### <u>Guests</u>

Apart from our speaker, Irena Shantz was our only guest for this week.

Happy and Sad - (happenings in the lives of our members)

The **Dave Rempel** household was filled with 52 new tiny feet (represented by 13 newly born British bulldog puppies), but tragedy almost struck when they all got ill; fortunately, the 13 little dogs are now all eating and getting better from whatever ailed 'em.

The **Eric and Urma Mollema** household, on the other hand, welcomed only two 85-year old feet in the form of Eric's mother who is visiting from South Africa for two weeks.

**Irena Shantz** put five dollars in the cup to commemorate Bob, who passed from our midst one year ago on August 8, 2015.

**Ineke** gave a happy dollar for the fellowship generated by the Duck Race and Rotary garage sale.

**Matt Debruyn** stated that the illustrated dictionaries, to be given out by our club to the local grade four students, have arrived at the warehouse and volunteers are going to be needed to put 1100 Rotary stickers in 1100 books. (**Past Pres. Mark Forster** noted that shouldn't be too much of a job as we recently put over 5500 stickers on 5500 rubber duckies).

**Brian Bekar** thanked our local fire department who helped at the duck race.

#### Guest Speaker- Valerie Patenaude - "Earth, Air, Fire and Water"



Introduction of our guest speaker **Valerie Patenaude**:

Valerie has been associated with the Historical Society of Maple Ridge for the past 23 years, and is now its Executive Director, as well as the director of the Maple Ridge Museum.

Valerie has two daughters (one of whom is a newly minted lawyer living in Toronto, and the other, a plant specialist for the VanDusen Botanical Gardens in Vancouver), a

husband (who is a geologists), and, Valerie herself, a past career which includes 15 years as an archaeologist who was involved in digs on what is now the Mary Hill Bypass in Port Coquitlam, as well as at Duke Point on Vancouver Island (where the ferry terminal is now located). Our own **Mike Davies** has been a director of the Historical Society of Maple Ridge for many years, along with other community-minded citizens such as Sheila Nichols, Faye Isaac, and Dick Sutcliffe.

Valerie Patenaude entitled her talk "Earth, Air, Fire and Water" after the four Classical elements typically referred to as the prescientific concepts in Ancient Greece, which were proposed to explain the nature and complexity of all matter in terms of simpler substances. For purposes of her talk today, it represents the four types of natural (usually man-made) disasters that have struck our community in the last 125 years - landslides, severe storms, fire and floods.

**Landslides:** apart from smaller landslides usually caused by excavation of roads or railway lines, the most spectacular landslide was that which occurred in February 1880 in the area of what is now River Road to the west of the Billy Miner pub. The Howison family which then owned the land on what was then the bluff above the Fraser River had cleared their land to plant potatoes. A warm monsoon drenched the land with water, causing the whole land mass to move into the river, trees and all still standing. The river was completely frozen, and the ensuing tidal wave pushed the frozen ice across the river, killing an unfortunate Mr. William Edge who lived on the south side of the river.

**Storms:** one of the most severe storms was that which occurred in October 1962 when Typhoon Freda uprooted trees, and demolished many man-made structures such as the local drive-in movie theatre and wooden bleachers in public parks.

**Fires:** there have been many spectacular fires in our community. Of course, in the early days, structures were made of wood and clustered together and firefighting equipment and access to water was inadequate. A fire could therefore take out many important buildings in a small community such as Hammond, where in 1916 the main street was largely wiped out. The same year saw a fire to the west of, and adjacent to, the what is now the Billy Miner pub, which destroyed what was then a bank - but fortunately only seared the west side of the pub building. In 1932 the adjacent building used as a café on the east side of the pub was destroyed by a fire caused by a faulty motor in a refrigerator, and again the Billy Miner pub building only suffered a serious

sideburn (*sideburns were apparently in fashion in those days*). Other notable fires include:

- the 1953 Father's Day fire which destroyed the Maple Ridge Secondary School (then located where the Maple Ridge library now stands)
- the 1962 fire at the "five and dime" store where the Bingo Plex was later constructed
- industrial fires of the Hammond Mill (which had its own fire department and fire trucks); and
- the Abernathy and Lougheed lumber mills fire of 1926 (after which, no doubt, Abernathy Way and the Lougheed Highway were named).



Fire at Haney Brick and Tile in the 1940's

**Floods:** in the late 1800s dikes had been built in Pitt Meadows largely by hand to help create the Pitt Polder, but the 1894 flood raised the level of the water 4 feet above the dikes.



Perhaps better-known is the famous flood of 1948 where most of the low lands in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows were inundated (no doubt in an inglorious attempt to re-create the flood made famous by Noah and his Arc).



Ineke was busy looking at Pokemon monsters during lunch today

### <u>50-50</u>

With a good Irish name like O'Brien, one would think that Patrick would have had greater luck than drawing the 6 of Diamonds. The 6 of Diamonds was nothing but a bad joke for Patrick, but here are a couple of better ones:

"I've been married for thirty years and buying diamonds for the same woman – and I'm still in love with her. If my wife ever finds out, she'll kill me!"

A woman walks into a jewellery store. "We have a problem. You sold my husband a diamond ring last week but it's the wrong size."

The jeweller looks up calmly. "No problem at all, we can adjust the ring size for you at no cost."

"Oh, no, you don't understand. You sold him a one carat size and I take a five carat size."

#### And now for President Ineke's Closing Quote of the Week

....this one by Douglas Adams:

I love deadlines. I like the whooshing sound they make as they fly by.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson