

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

President: Ineke Boekhorst Phone: 604-467-2420 [E-mail the President](mailto:ineke@meadowridge Rotary.ca)  
 Secretary: David Riddell Phone: 604-406-8882 [E-mail the Secretary](mailto:david@meadowridge Rotary.ca)  
 Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-3392 [E-mail the Editor](mailto:peter@meadowridge Rotary.ca)



## DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

Today: **AGM & Election of Officers**

Next Week:

**No meeting on Dec. 27**

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	Dec. 10: Peter & Ineke Boekhorst

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Dec. 7	6:00 pm	Haney Club Christmas Party: Adults \$35, Children 5 - 12 two options Buffet \$15 or Chicken Strips and Fries \$10, Kids 4 and under are free	Meadow Gardens Golf Course
Dec. 10	6:00 pm	Christmas Social – Theatre in the Country; Dinner & “Miracle on 34 <sup>th</sup> St.” Pre-Social at Angie’s home at 4:00 pm	<a href="#">9975 272 St., Maple Ridge</a>
Dec. 16		Christmas Train; “get together” at the Billy Miner before the event	
Dec. 20	Noon	Christmas lunch / Gift exchange (Fun “stealing gifts from each other)	

### RI PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



I joined Rotary as an engineer. There are almost as many classifications in the profession of engineering as there are in Rotary, but I happen to be a mechanical engineer. A mechanical engineer calculates the heating and cooling loads for a new building, makes sure the right lights are in the right places, and plans the plumbing so your hot water pipe doesn’t end in a drinking fountain.

Mechanical engineers don’t stand out in a crowd, and they don’t call attention to themselves with what they do. You probably haven’t thought much about the engineers who designed the buildings you use, the car you drive, or the traffic patterns you follow. But every time you get in an elevator, turn the key in your ignition, or cross the street when the light says go, you are entrusting your life to an engineer somewhere whom you’ve never met. You trust that your elevator will open at the floor you want it to. You trust that your car will start and stop as it should. You trust that the traffic light is going to turn red before the walk light goes on. Every day, you put your life in the hands of people whose names you do not know and whom you might never meet. You might not think about them at all – but they touch your lives every day.

I could draw the same parallel to any number of other vocations – ordinary occupations with the same kind of life-changing impact. In so many ways – some of which we see and some we don’t – our vocations allow us to help other people live better, safer, and healthier lives.

Just like the work we do in Rotary.

Through our vocations and in our clubs, in our communities, and across continents, we are touching the lives of people we don’t know and might never meet. And in every part of the world, every single day, whether they know it or not, people are living better, safer, and healthier lives because of the work of Rotary.

The people we help might not have met a single Rotarian. They might not even know that Rotary exists. But they are drinking clean water from a bore well that Rotary dug. They’re learning to read with books that Rotary gave them. They’re living lives that are better, happier, and healthier – because of *Rotary Serving Humanity*.

**John F. Germ**  
President 2016-17

## CYCLAMEN SALE:



We will have our annual Christmas plant sale again this year with all proceeds towards the Starfish Backpack Project.

The order forms are available online at [meadowridgerotary.ca/Downloads](http://meadowridgerotary.ca/Downloads)

When using Google Chrome browser, download the form pdf-file and open in Acrobat (Reader). From here you can submit it.

## JOB OPPORTUNITY: A FACEBOOK ADMINISTRATOR

We urgently need somebody to keep our Facebook Page up-to-date. For that, most information can be found on our website or this bulletin.

Please contact Peter if you can help.

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

### President Ineke's Quote for the Day

*Whenever a bird poops on my car, I eat a plate of scrambled eggs on my front porch, just to let them know what I'm capable of.....*

Rotary Exchange Student Program - President Ineke reminded us again that we are still in need of a host family for an incoming exchange student. Even if someone could volunteer to have the student in for just one month, that would be helpful.

### Happy and Sad

**Eric Mollema** extolled the virtues (not!) of his recent attempt at a 30 day diet. If he lost 30 pounds, it was just "loss of water", and he confirmed his long-held belief that his "body and vegetables are extremely incompatible", and only resulted in a lot of vom...& dia.... [Never mind! Lunch is being served].

**Libby Nelson** is happy that her grandson is starting at alternate school program.

**Ineke** reported that the Environmental School had heard about our dictionary program and wondered why they were not included. As a result, our club ordered 20 more dictionaries (and although they were not exactly the same, they will be arriving shortly). Deborah Hyslop has agreed to help Ineke deliver the books when they arrive.

[If you do not know what an Environmental School is, see the foot note at the end of this report].

**Brian Bekar** is happy to give a "buck to be back".

### Announcements

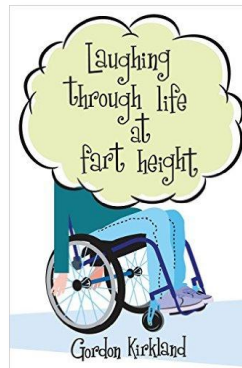
**Sharon Kyle** needs the names of two young people between the ages of 15 and 17 to go to **Youth Adventures In Leadership** ("YAIL"), on January 22. She reminded us that YAIL is a great and inspiring program for young people, so if anyone knows possible candidates, please speak to Sharon.

The **cyclamen sale** is underway, but poinsettias are available for those with that preference. Ineke reminded us that we can support the sale even if we don't want the flowers for ourselves by purchasing the plants and directing that they go to Hospice where they will be greatly enjoyed by residents of that facility.

**Starfish Backpack program** - Ineke advised that she has received calls from a few principals of elementary schools saying what a great program it is, and thanking us for getting it underway. The lawyers and staff at Centra Lawyers (the firm of Eric Mollema and Adrienne Dale et al) have taken on their Christmas project to donate the money to purchase one backpack (the cost of which is \$525). The Starfish Program is now up and running in three schools, but five other schools are asking for the program.

### Today's Program

We were sorry to learn that our scheduled speaker, **Gordon Kirkland**, has just had a heart attack and is in the hospital recovering, and was therefore unable to speak to us. As most of us know, several years ago Gordon was driving his car when he was rear-ended (not once - but twice in two separate accidents), causing him a spinal injury which has resulted in his now being confined to wheelchair. Gordon was the benefactor of an organ donor who saved his life a few years ago, and he was going to tell us about the launching of his 10<sup>th</sup> book about how he has coped with that and other life altering experiences. Being a very tall man but now confined to a wheel chair has given him a perspective on life which is both spirited and humorous, as one can tell from the title to his new book, "*Laughing Through Life at Fart Height*". We will re-schedule his presentation to us when he is able to join us again.



**Laurie Anderson** reminded everybody that our **District Governor Scott Dudley** did not wait until life's end to donate one of his kidneys to a total stranger, and that (along with hearing about Gordon Kirkland's lifesaving experience) should encourage all of us to become an organ donor ourselves. Laurie handed out **organ donor cards** to everyone at the meeting [and hopes that everyone will fill in a card and mail it in to the organ donation society!].



As a pinch-hitter, Laurie gave a brief summary of some of the **changes to the law of wills and estates** which were brought about by the introduction of the *Wills, Estates and Succession Act* which became law on April 1, 2014. Those changes include the following:

1. A person making a will is no longer referred to as a testator or a testatrix, but the much more friendly term “will-maker”.
2. A person now has the ability to make a will when they turned 16.
3. The old rule was that if a person got married after they had made a will, the marriage automatically revoked the will (unless the will indicated a contrary intention). This rule is now abolished (unless the marriage took place prior to the new law coming into effect).
4. Under the old law, if a married person had appointed his or her wife or husband as the executor and made them a beneficiary under their will, and then got divorced, the will would thereafter take effect as if the spouse had predeceased. But this rule did not apply to a common-law couple who subsequently became separated. Under the new law this now applies to both married and common-law spouses. If married spouses separate for two years (whether or not they are divorced) then the rule applies; and if common-law couples separate, then the rule applies immediately upon separation.
5. Under the old law, a will had to be in writing and signed and witnessed in a certain way to be valid and the court was powerless to correct it if it was not done properly. The court has now been given the power in certain restricted circumstances to declare certain documents to be a valid will notwithstanding that the correct procedure was not followed. It is now even more important (not less) to get the Will done properly to avoid expensive litigation.
6. Previously, if two people died at the same time or in circumstances where it was unclear who died first and who died second, the younger of the two was deemed to have died last. That rule is now gone, and in those situations each of the two persons will now be deemed in law to have survived the other, with the result that the will or other relevant document will be interpreted on that basis. With respect to real property held in joint tenancy or a joint bank account with right of survivorship, for example, the respective estates of each of the two people would be entitled to one half of the assets, and the right of survivorship would not apply.
7. BC law now recognizes the ability of a person to have multiple wills. For example, if a person is the shareholder of a private company he or she may have one will dealing with the shares in the company (which would not be probated), and another will dealing with all other assets (which would be probated). By not probating the will dealing with the shares, probate tax on the value of the shares (could in the right circumstances) be avoided. However, the shares would have to be of sufficient value to justify the extra cost of setting up this type of arrangement.

50-50

**Walter Volpatti** won the draw and pulled the Queen of Hearts from the deck, thereby winning the jackpot of \$605. He has now donated \$300 of that money to the Foundation. Congratulations, and well done Walter.



Ineke’s Closing Quote for the Day

*When a woman says “What”? It’s not because she didn’t hear you, but she’s giving you a chance to change what you said.*

Foot Note: What is the Environmental School?

See the full article at

<http://www.mapleridgenews.com/community/137056008.html>

by Robert Mangelsdorf - Maple Ridge News, posted Jan 11, 2012

*Through the soggy western hemlock, Douglas-fir and red cedar, a handful of students and their teacher trudge down a hiking trail in the UBC Malcolm Knapp Research Forest.*

*It’s a typically wet B.C. winter morning this particular Friday, and the students, part of School District No. 42’s Environmental School Project, have spent the better part of the morning in the woods working to repair the trail as part of a “social responsibility project” for the class.*

*Bundled up in their waterproof jackets and gumboots, they are oblivious to the cold January drizzle. Under the supervision of teachers, even the youngest students work with hacksaws and shovels, clearing away the underbrush and digging up the dark, rich soil, ensuring hikers will have a well-marked trail through the forest.*

*The group follows the freshly cut trail, looking for the rest of the class, who have gathered in a clear-cut a few hundred metres away, well out of sight and earshot .....*

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**