

The Four Way Flasher



Vol. 26, Issue 30

February 4, 2020

Website: MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

Today Feb 4: Marceau Chavanne - Exchange Student from France **Next Week** Feb 11: Katherine Wagner & Ronda Eyben - Golden Ears Writers

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

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Feb. 5	6:00 pm	Visioning Session	Bella Vita Restaurant
Apr. 25	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30-May 3		District Conference in Harrison Hot Springs	Harrison Resort
June 6-10		RI International Convention in Honolulu	Hawaii Convention Center

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy 115th birthday, fellow Rotarians and members of the family of Rotary!



Much has changed in the world since 1905. Then, the global population was roughly 1.7 billion. Today, it is 7.7 billion. There were 5 telephones per 100 people in the United States 115 years ago. In 2020, it is estimated that 96 percent of the U.S. population has a cell phone — and both China and India have more than a billion cell phones in use.

In the 115 years since Rotary was founded, seemingly everything has changed except Rotary values. We began, and remain, committed to fellowship, integrity, diversity, service, and leadership. While our Service Above Self motto dates to 1911, the ethos behind those words had already been ingrained by Rotary's founders.

As the pace of change worldwide continues to accelerate, the need for Rotary service is greater than ever. It's one thing to read about service projects, quite another to see them in action and to see the grateful faces of people who have benefited from them. Rotary projects change lives and connect the world. And over the past year, I have seen some amazing Rotary projects in action.

Gay and I visited Japan's Fukushima prefecture last year. Few places in the world have had to deal with the kind of devastation that visited Fukushima in March 2011, when a tsunami touched off by an earthquake led to disaster at a nuclear power plant. But the story of Fukushima today is not one of destruction; it is one of hope and renewal. Rotary grants have helped improve access to

medical and mental health care for victims of the disaster and reduced the isolation of these communities by sharing the experiences of people from other parts of the world who have also recovered from disasters. Our grants have also helped to foster self-motivation and encourage sustainable long-term community recovery across the region.

In Shanghai, I learned about the Careers in Care program. This helps migrant workers fill the need for skilled professionals in elder care facilities. After taking a course, trainees receive certification to boost their employment prospects, while the care industry benefits from an expanded talent pool. Rotary projects like this are successful because they address a local need, and they have the potential to attract local government funding to sustain their impact.

And in Guatemala, Gay and I went to Sumpango. Global grants there provide mechanical cows to produce soy milk; an improved water distribution system; water filters; clean compost latrines; family gardens; support for income generation; and training in WASH and literacy programs. The food items sold there not only provide nutrition to women and children, but also create a source of income for local women.

In every area of focus, and in every part of the world, Rotary projects are improving lives and helping communities adapt in a time of rapid change. As we celebrate another great year for Rotary, let us rededicate ourselves to strengthening the connections that make our service so impactful. We will make lives better as Rotary Connects the World.

Mark Daniel Maloney President 2019-20

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Adrienne Dale presided.

Guests:

Angie MacLeod - HIP Strategic Consulting in Maple Ridge

Margaret Spratt - Seniors Network Arlene Major - Seniors Network

Marceau Chavanne - Rotary exchange student from France

Mike Murray - of the Haney Club, and host family of Marceau

Rhian Piprell - Rotary Club of Coquitlam Sunrise

Ron Postma - Rotary Club of Coquitlam Sunrise

Cheque Presentation: Inter-Generational Garden

Margaret Spratt and Arlene Major, representing the Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Katzie, Seniors Network, accepted a cheque in the

amount of \$1,000 to support the Inter-Generational Garden. The Intergenerational Garden is a joint project between the Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, Katzie, Seniors Network; Ridge Meadows Seniors Society; District of Maple Ridge and School District 42.



The Intergenerational Garden is located at 22527 121 Ave. in Maple Ridge. It is a neighbourhood based initiative that brings together children, teens, seniors and the wider community in shared learning. In the garden, senior and adult volunteers teach students how to grow vegetables, herbs, flowers and berries.

The Seniors Network was formed in 2008 to strengthen the health and well-being of older adults in our communities by advocating for improvements in: seniors' transportation options, seniors' affordable housing, health care, home support programs, mental health and dementia supports and more.

Arlene especially thanked the Club for putting on the Christmas dinner for seniors, stating that those in attendance had a wonderful time.

Cheque Presentation:

Maple Ridge Festival of Light and Lantern Parade



Ineke Boekhorst accepted a cheque in the sum of \$500 to support this free family oriented fun community festival which will be held on Friday, February 28, 2020, from 4 to 8 pm, where you can make a lantern, watch amazing local cultural entertainment, listen to hometown poets, and enjoy the Vancouver Lion Dancers as they parade through Haney Place Mall. Join the fun at Centre Court from 4 to 8 pm.

Presidents Quote for the Day:



Mini Programs:

Share Hug Event

Angie McLeod is the founder of HIP Strategic Consulting in Maple Ridge. For more than fifteen years she has helped women entrepreneurs in BC make strategic decisions that grow strong businesses. She reminded us that many members of our community feel alone and isolated. Studies show that one in four people say they are unhappy, and one in five have some mental or health



disorder. In Canada there are approximately 4000 suicides the year mainly resulting from loneliness, isolation and depression.

Angie says that February 14, Valentine's Day, is a hard day for many people: the elderly, those with mental health issues, and those who feel they don't belong. Statistics show that 1 out of every 4 Canadians is not happy, and therefore, advocates Angie, it is time to change that by "sharing the love". She says, "Let's get out and give them a boost by showing them that they matter, and that they are an important part of our community - by giving them a simple but priceless, hug!" This is a volunteer led community event, where teams of 3-5 people go out and give hugs to seniors and other isolated people. Angie says, "Not a hugger? No worries, we will have chocolate hugs to distribute as well for those who aren't comfortable giving or receiving hugs!"

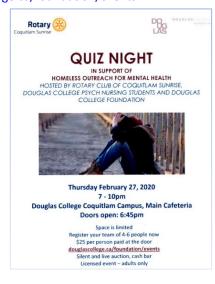
<u>Coquitlam Sunrise Rotary Club - Quiz Night</u> - Thursday, Feb. 27, 2020, from 7-10 PM, at the Douglas College Campus, Main Cafeteria

Rhian Piprell and Ron Postma of the Rotary Club of Coquitlam

Sunrise invited us all to a fun filled evening to raise money to support this Douglas College students' community mental health project - Homeless Outreach for Mental Health - in the Tri-Cities, Maple Ridge and the Vancouver Downtown Eastside. This event is hosted by the Coquitlam Sunrise Club, as well as Douglas College psych nursing students and the Douglas College Foundation.



Register your team of 4-6 people; \$25 per person, paid at the door - douglascollege.ca/foundation/events



Rotary Exchange Student



Mike Murray again introduced **Marceau Chavanne**, who spoke to us about his trip so far. Marceau has now been in Maple Ridge for 5 months, and said that he has met some good people while here, including Patrick O'Brien and family who took him to Victoria.

He enjoyed snowboarding while in France (which is his favourite thing to do), and has taken up skateboarding while here (which he practices every day). The Greg Moore Youth Center has a skateboarding facility for youth.

Differences which he has noticed between France and Canada, are that school courses in France are very academic oriented and do not have classes like woodworking, textiles, etc. for which the students receive credit here in Canada. Another thing is public transport. Here, everyone gets a ride to and from school as well as out-of-school activities, whereas in France students are more self-sufficient as there is public transport. For example, in France he goes to school on the bus which takes him about 20 - 25 minutes. Unlike France, in Canada everyone puts up Christmas lights, and Halloween is not much celebrated in his own country.

Our Club's Wine Festival



Our fundraising event has been set for Saturday, April 25 between 7:00 and 9:30 PM at the ValleyFair Mall.

All club members are expected to purchase at least two tickets. If they are purchased before the early bird deadline of Feb. 15, 2020, you will save \$10 as the regular price is \$50 and the early bird price is \$45 each.

Tickets can be picked up from **Deddy Geese** at Hagens Travel [11958 224 St. Maple Ridge, 604-467-5535] or through Ineke at Downtown Maple Ridge BIA [#34 - 22374 Lougheed Hwy, 604-467-2420].

Submitted by Laurie Anderson