

**A personal invitation to the 2003 RI Convention
in Queensland's sunny capital.**

I'm pleased to invite you to join your fellow Rotarians from around the world in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, for the 2003 Rotary International Convention, to be held 1-4 June.

This most important Rotary gathering of the year will provide Rotarians the opportunity to gather in superb fellowship and exchange ideas and share experiences of Rotary service. As always, the convention offers something of interest to everyone: informative and interesting plenary sessions, captivating guest speakers, project and program workshops, fantastic entertainment, and the always popular House of Friendship. All events will be held at the recently completed Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, conveniently located adjacent to the South Bank Parklands and just minutes from the city's central business district.

The Host Organization Committee has planned special events showcasing all that Brisbane and Australia have to offer. On 31 May, join Rotarians and their families in the South Bank Parklands for an entertainment experience patterned after the country's annual cultural celebration, Australia Day. This diverse program, which is free, will feature music, visual arts, performing arts, literature, and food, as well as a spectacular fireworks show over the Brisbane River. You're also invited to a typical "Australian show" on 3 June, where a different aspect of the country's heritage will take center stage. Expect an evening filled with sheep shearing, show jumping, and other traditional Outback action. Other planned events include a home hospitality night, where local Rotarians will welcome visiting Rotarians into their homes for an evening of fellowship, food, and fun.

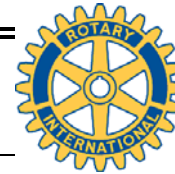
Rotarians and their families also will want to take advantage of every opportunity to explore Brisbane on their own. Those who appreciate the outdoors won't be disappointed with this stunning bayside city. From the sprawling new Roma Street Parkland to the cliffs at Kangaroo Point, there's an oasis around every corner. Art lovers will want to stroll through the galleries of Fortitude Valley or check out the permanent collection at the Queensland Art Gallery. Don't miss the chance to taste seafood fresh from the bay along Eagle Street Pier, sample the creations of some of Queensland's top chefs in the East End, or dine in the open air along the Queen Street Mall.

Preconvention and postconvention excursions might include scuba diving on the Great Barrier Reef or an evening out on the high-energy Gold Coast. Within just a few hours of Brisbane, you can set sail through tropical waters, retreat to a rambling country ranch, or embark on a rugged Outback adventure.

I hope to see you on the banks of the Brisbane River, where together we will *Sow the Seeds of Love*.



Bhichai Rattakul
President, Rotary International



The Four Way Flasher

**Rotary Club of
MeadowRidge Newsletter**

**Vol. 9 Issue 12
Sep. 24, 2002**

Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Maple Ridge Library
President: Stan Wade Phone: 604-462-9080
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INVOCATION Sept. 24: Craig Vernon Oct. 1: Andrea Vevers

BINGO SCHEDULE BE ON TIME!

	3:30-5:00	5:00-6:30
Sept. 26	Brian Bekar	Ron LePore
Oct. 10	Merlyn White	Dave Reekie

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or e-mail pboekhorst@telus.net

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Charles Lester - Canadian Blood Service

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Vanessa - Public Library - Literacy presentation

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Sept. 29	3:00pm	Frisbee Golf	Dave Rempel
Oct. 1	1:30pm	Sports Banquet Meeting	After regular meeting
Oct. 22	6:30pm	Sports Banquet	Meadow Gardens
Dec. 16	noon	Executive 2003/04 Elections	Regular meeting

The 50/50 Jackpot will be close to \$1,400

An interesting fact:

If everybody buys the same number of tickets, your chance of winning the jackpot is 1:160, independent of how many tickets you buy!

Who cares? You will buy more tickets anyway!

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$1278 + 1/2 of today's sales, 4 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!



REMINDERS

The Frisbee Golf is almost around the corner on Sunday September 29th starting at 3pm at Dave Rempel's house. If you can, please do attend this fun filled event. Bring your spouses or other significant other halves or your children (as long as they can throw a Frisbee and hit the target!)

Another reminder for Rotarians is, that the Sports Banquet is just about sold out. If anyone requires tickets they should see Ken Paterson or Kevin Nosworthy asap. Don't miss out on this most important fund raiser for the MeadowRidge Rotary Club.

LAST WEEKS PROGRAM

Today's big news is of course ... the 50/50 has still not been won. We are now up to a total of \$1,278 and only 4 cards left. Better odds than Vegas for sure!

It was also a business meeting and the following reports were delivered:

We have received in correspondence a letter from the M.R. Arts Council thanking us for our recent donation of \$3,500. We were also advised by the Library that the room is not available to us on November 5 so we may try to have a Fireside then, keep your eyes on the Four Way Flasher for further updates on this.

Club Service reported that they continue to work on a "calendar" project and aim to have one up and running for 2003/2004 barring any unforeseen roadblocks along the way. This is potentially a HUGE fundraiser.

Community Service recently awarded monies to the following:

Kings Inn Kitchen - \$500

Terry Fox Run \$203

We will also be awarding money to the Salvation Army as soon as all approvals are in place.

The committee has also decided to put a request for proposals out to all the district schools for a possible \$500 funding if they meet all the Bingo and Rotary Criteria

The Golf Tournament committee reported that they anticipate having \$2,200. available for the club to donate to Polio Plus. Now that's a BIG bite out of our \$10,000 goal, but we have to keep our sites on that goal in order to achieve it.

International Services has invited Jack Frisk to speak to us on December 3 re the Wheelchair program available for matching grants. Be there if you want to be up to date on our possible International donation for the year.

Vocational Services will be holding a meeting on Wed 18th to which they have invited students from all the high schools who may be interested in Rotary in their community. This meeting is hoped to take steps towards reaching the "youth in Rotary" initiative set out by RI, by inspiring and encouraging young people to start up and join Interact and Roteract within MeadowRidge.

The Secretary and Treasurer both reported that things are going well in their areas.

Sports Banquet reported that we have now sold 150 of our 200 tickets! Looks like it will be another sell out. But don't forget each Rotarian is expected to bring at LEAST two items for the silent auction/balloon draw. So hit up all your contacts and lets raise those funds for the kids of Maple Ridge to better participate in sports.

Submitted by Debi Pearce

YOUTH IN ROTARY

On Wednesday, September 18th, approximately 15 students and young adults participated in the first Interact/Rotaract group. Students came from the following schools - Haney Pitt Meadows Christian School, Westview Secondary, Garabaldi, Pitt Meadows Secondary and Maple Ridge Secondary, so this diversity could be a sign for a very successful future.

Dr. Rempel, member of the MeadowRidge Rotary and School District 42, spoke about upcoming events in which we could get involved with: the Frisbee golf tournament and the Esteem Team, which will be coming in the new year. Many of our group members have also decided to help out at the Sports Banquet on Tuesday, October 22.

We were privileged to have such guest speakers as the District Rotaract Chairperson, Lyle Konner; the Vice President of the New West Club, Robyn; and Mary Robson, Andrea Vevers and Ineke Boekhorst from MeadowRidge Rotary. Students were informed on what Rotary means and what is offered; scholarships and exchange programs seemed intriguing. Past ideas such as helping with hampers, care facilities, festivals, etc. got everyone excited and eager to create and start making their own great ideas a reality in our community and internationally.

Before the meeting was over, we had all learnt something about one another and formed an Executive Board. Here it is (where is the drum roll when you need it?) . . .

President -	Brandine Philips	(Garabaldi Secondary)
Vice President -	Stacey Cunningham	(Pitt Meadows Secondary)
Treasure -	Felisha Cairns	(graduate of Garabaldi Secondary)
Secretary -	Salina Weal	(graduate of Westview Secondary)
Fundraising Chairperson -	Ming Sun Kim	(Westview Secondary)

Everyone was really cooperative and we are all excited to see each other again at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 1st at 7 p.m. located in the Maple Ridge Library. There we plan on meeting more new faces, getting some ideas out in the open, planning to fundraise, and finding ways to put action to our words. I am excited about the potential this group has in making a difference. 'The world is at our doorstep'; we need to welcome it inside and change things we don't want to see instead of going into a drawer to get an eye patch. Glad to share this news with you and hope to tell you more as the people of this young group meet more.

Thank you and God Bless.

Secretary,
Salina Weal

