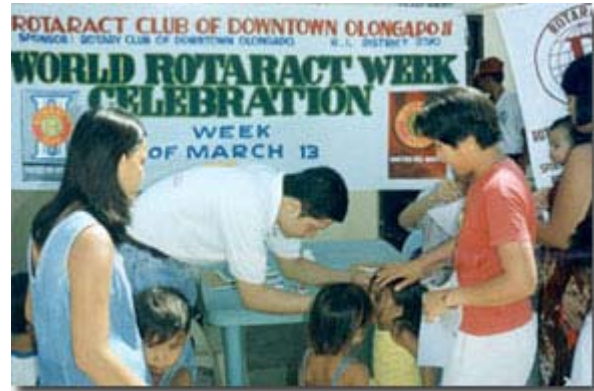


ROTARACTORS CELEBRATE WORLD ROTARACT WEEK, 35TH ANNIVERSARY

Rotaract clubs across the world have been busy hosting special events and activities this week to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the first Rotaract club charter on 13 March 1968. From established Rotaract clubs, such as those in France, to clubs just being formed, like the one on Northwestern University's campus in Evanston, Illinois, USA — Rotaractors took this opportunity to spread the word about their clubs.

World Rotaract Week is held each year during the second week of March to commemorate the club's first charter in North Carolina, USA. The goals of this weeklong celebration are to strengthen ties with the sponsoring club, promote membership growth in Rotaract and increase awareness of Rotaract's service activities in the community.



"Celebrating the 35th year of Rotaract demonstrates the quality of our organization," says Hervé Piglowski, Rotaract club member of Montpellier, France, and communication and information manager for the French Rotaract Multidistrict Information Organization. "We have realized many important actions in the world; we have showed many times that we are partners with Rotary."

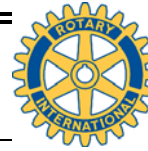
Today, there are more than 7,300 Rotaract clubs in 151 countries with membership exceeding 169,000. Like the Rotary clubs that sponsor them, Rotaract clubs offer men and women ages 18-30 an opportunity for service, camaraderie, and professional development.

In France, where Rotaract clubs have been in existence since 1968, the Rotaract Club of Lyon International will host its third national meeting. Guest speakers include representatives from Handicap International, co-founder of the International Campaign to Ban Anti-personnel Landmines, which will run a conference on landmines, and Laurent Dareau who created a comic strip about Paul Harris's life. In addition, Pierre Girardier, from the World Bank, will discuss a project being developed between Rotaract France and the World Bank in Paris.

Seeking to form Northwestern University's (NU) first university-based Rotaract club, an NU administrator and two students are beginning the application process. Seniors Kyle Weaver and Kiran Varma worked with William Banis, NU's vice president for student affairs and a member of the Rotary Club of Evanston, Illinois, USA, to gain support from the local Rotary club.

"We think Rotaract is a perfect fit for Northwestern University students who are very community-oriented, but who are also looking for an outlet to develop professionally," says Varma.

As part of World Rotaract Week, the students and their faculty advisor visited RI World Headquarters on 12 March 2003. During their visit, they toured the facilities and met with RI staff members as they worked toward becoming Rotary's newest Rotaract club.



The Four Way Flasher

**Rotary Club of
MeadowRidge Newsletter**

**Vol. 9 Issue 35
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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Maple Ridge Library
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 Secretary: Kevin Nosworthy Phone: 604-467-8507
 Editor: Peter Boekhorst

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INVOCATION March 18: Sharon Kyle March 25: Diane Kirkland

BINGO SCHEDULE

	3:30-5:00	5:00-6:30
Mar. 27	Diane Kirkland	Sharon Kyle
Apr. 10	Kevin Nosworthy	Laurie Anderson

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

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Business meeting

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Gordon Green, SPCA Superintendent



CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
March 19	6:30pm	Social committee's Laughter	Giggledam club in PoCo
March 20	12:30pm	WineZest Meeting	Library (down stairs)
April 5	8:00am	District Assembly	Western Washington Univ.
May 1-3		District 5050 Conference	Harrison Hot Springs Resort
June 1-4		Rotary Int. Convention	Brisbane, Australia
June 7	7pm – 10pm	WineZest 2003	M.R. Arts Centre

Some Rules for Life.....

You need only two tools: WD-40 and duct tape. If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40; if it moves and shouldn't, use the tape.

Be really good to your family and/or friends. You never know when you are going to need them to empty your bedpan.

If you wake up breathing, congratulate yourself. You have another chance.

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$266 + 1/2 of today's sales, 40 cards, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEKS MEETING

Last week we had a very special and very nervous guest speaker: our one and only exchange student Mélissa

She is from France and lives in Annecy, a city 40min from Geneva. This city with a population of 110,000 including the suburbs, thrives on tourism, thanks to a nearby lake and mountains. You can enjoy lots of outdoor activities summer and winter. Annecy dates back to the 12th century, which you still can see in the old town centre. Mélissa went to school there and graduated from Lycee Charles Baudelaire last June. In September she hopes to start a study in political science.

Even though Mélissa's parents are non Rotarians, they had 3 exchange students over the last year.

Mélissa likes camping, hiking and swimming with her friends during the summer.



REVISITING THE IRON LUNG

by Ian Brown, District 5360 PEFC Committee chairman

During a polio-awareness promotion at a mall in Red Deer, Alta., Canada, Ian Brown met a woman in her late 30s who asked if she could lie in the iron lung and have a picture taken.

She was obviously having difficulty moving, but her husband was close by her side so together we lifted her onto the bed. I noticed her withered left arm and the slackened muscles in the left side of her face. She sensed my question before I posed it and told us that she had spent one and a half years in an iron lung. I could feel her trembling as I supported her head and helped her put it through the opening. She gave me a weak nod, so we continued, but I pushed the bed into the cylinder very slowly. I could sense her inner struggle as memories of what must have been 18 very difficult months flooded into her consciousness. She regained her composure, so we took a couple of snaps and she even managed a bright smile. But you could see the pain of recollection in her eyes, and it touched us all.



I asked how she contracted the disease. She said, "I was 1 of 2 people out of 800,000 who got the virus from the vaccination." I asked the burning question: "What do you think about vaccinations now?" I was dreading the answer, but I had to know.

She seemed to relax as she said: "You must keep vaccinating the children. I was unlucky, but you can't let an isolated incident affect a program that saves so many people from what I went through."

What a courageous woman.

ROTARY AT A GLANCE

Rotarians — men and women alike — volunteer their efforts to improve the quality of life in their own communities and beyond their communities' borders. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are non-political, non-religious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. Club membership represents a cross-section of local business and professional leaders.

Women have been the fastest-growing segment of Rotary's membership since 1989, when Rotary International voted to officially open up membership to all qualified women worldwide. There are currently nearly 1,900 women club presidents. Women are also rapidly assuming regional leadership roles. Rotarians initiate community projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as violence, drug abuse, youth, AIDS, hunger, the environment, and illiteracy. Rotary clubs are autonomous and determine service projects based on local needs.

Rotarians work with and for youth to address challenges facing young people today. Through participation in Rotary-sponsored Interact clubs (for secondary school students), Rotaract clubs (for young adults), and Rotary Youth Leadership awards, young people worldwide learn leadership skills and the importance of community service. Rotary Youth Exchange gives high school students the opportunity to broaden their world view and build international friendships.

In large cities often plagued by urban violence, Rotary has the community-based network to help. Rotary-sponsored projects and conferences address the root causes of violence such as drug abuse, poverty, lack of role models, and gangs.

Mission

The main objective of Rotary is service — in the community and throughout the world. Rotarians build goodwill and peace, provide humanitarian service, and encourage high ethical standards in all vocations. The Rotary motto is "Service Above Self."

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International was created in 1917 for the purpose of "doing good in the world." It supports Rotary's efforts to further world understanding and peace. Through the Foundation, Rotarians sponsor international educational and humanitarian programs, where some US\$90 million is invested annually.

PolioPlus is Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio. Through the efforts of Rotary and its partners in the fight against polio, more than one billion children worldwide have been immunized since 1985. By 2005, Rotary's financial commitment will reach a half billion US dollars. Of equal significance is the huge volunteer army mobilized by Rotary International for social mobilization, vaccine transport and immunization activities.

Rotary's international network helps link people in need with Rotarians in other countries who can provide resources. The Foundation's humanitarian programs improve health care systems, support sustainable sources of food and water, and provide literacy and vocational training — particularly in developing countries.

The Rotary Foundation's educational programs include Ambassadorial Scholarships, the world's largest privately funded source of international scholarships. More than 1,300 scholarships are awarded annually for study in another land. Grants are also awarded for university teachers to serve in developing countries and for international exchanges of professionals.