



# The Four Way Flasher



**Meadow Ridge Rotary Club**

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Website: [www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca](http://www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca)

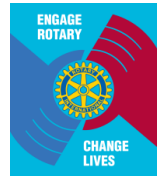
Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## October is Vocational Services Month

**TODAY:** Ken Holland - Guatemala project

**NEXT WEEK:** Business Meeting – No Speaker



### Happy Birthday

Oct. 11: Tom Manion

### Happy Anniversary

Oct. 10: Ken & Jo-Ann Knuttila

### Invocation

<b>Oct. 8</b>	Peter Boekhorst
<b>Oct. 15</b>	Laura Cherrille

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Oct. 22	12 Noon	DG Denis Boyd's visit	Bella Vita Restaurant

### RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In Rotary, October is the month we set aside to remind ourselves of our second Avenue of Service: vocational service. While some Rotarians call this the "forgotten" area of service, I would disagree: In fact, vocational service is the avenue through which we serve so often, we don't always recognize it as service.

Vocational service has its roots in the second object of Rotary, which encourages all Rotarians to hold high ethical standards in our business affairs and our professions, to recognize all useful occupations as worthy of respect, and to dignify work as an opportunity to serve society.

In short, the idea of vocational service is that our jobs, in themselves, are a way of serving society. Whether we are serving customers, teaching students, or treating patients, whether we're involved in commerce, research, the media, or any one of countless other fields – we take pride in doing our work with competence and integrity. Every occupation fills a need, and by doing our work well, we are contributing to our communities and our society.

The role of vocational service in the club is important, even if it isn't always prominent. By maintaining high standards individually, we earn a reputation that we share collectively. By valuing all occupations equally and by maintaining a classification system in our clubs, we ensure that our clubs reflect our communities – and can serve them well. A Rotary club of all lawyers wouldn't be capable of nearly as much as one that also had teachers, engineers, business owners, and dentists; in Rotary, our diversity is our strength. That diversity is an advantage not only to our service but to our members: It gives us all a valuable way to find the connections and opportunities that help us in our own careers.

That aspect of membership is as old as Rotary. Paul Harris himself wrote often of the business advantages of Rotary membership, believing, as I do, that being a Rotarian means a person holds a certain set of values that will make him or her a good person to do business with. Today, with the world more connected than ever, Rotary membership is an honor that we should be proud to share.

Ron D. Burton – R.I. President

## UPDATE IN FRANCE

Hi everyone,

So far it's been a little over six weeks since I've arrived in France and already time has flown by. School is quite different here; there isn't a set schedule from 8:30-2:30 each day so some days I start school from 8am until 7pm and others from 10am to 3pm. Even though the days can be quite long there is a long lunch hour and breaks in-between classes. School is getting easier each day and I have made friends that are both current exchange students, past exchange students, and regular French students.

Talking with everyone at school was hard at first, especially since they use slang, but I'm understanding almost fluently now.

Two weekends ago I went to Annecy for the Inbound Youth Exchange Orientation with 50 other students. I made quite a lot of friends there and we have been seeing each other both through Rotary and outside of school during breaks. It was a fantastic weekend! We had a small dance and stayed up later the Saturday night and on the Sunday we went on a small hike, had a picnic, and then a boat tour around Annecy Lake. My blazer is getting quite full now with all the pins I've exchanged.

I have yet to attend a Rotary meeting for my club or meet my counsellor but they have enrolled me in French lesson with the other students in my club. So far I haven't learned anything new but I've only been to two lessons. My teacher says that my writing and grammar is quite strong but that my Quebec accent needs some work to change into a French accent.

My host family is fantastic! They are very kind and in two weeks they're taking me to the south during school break and also Lyon.

I'm having an absolutely fantastic time here and thank you again for this fantastic opportunity. I hope Michiel is enjoying his exchange as well.

Until later, Genelle

