



The Four Way Flasher



Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

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Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

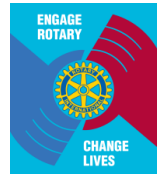
Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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October is Vocational Services Month

TODAY: Business Meeting – No Speaker

NEXT WEEK: DG Denis Boyd's visit



Happy Birthday

Oct. 18: Betty Johansen

Happy Anniversary

Invocation

Oct. 15 Laura Cherrille

Oct. 22 Jim Coulter

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Oct. 22	12 Noon	DG Denis Boyd's visit	Bella Vita Restaurant
Oct. 26	10am – 3pm	Used Book Sale – Nicaragua Project	Thomas Haney Secondary

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Breaking his leg did not prevent **David Rempel** breaking out in song by leading our [some might say less than perfect] rendition of O Canada, thus starting the meeting.

In addition to those persons putting on our program, our **guests** included **Lisa Prophet, Irena Shantz, Ethne Roodt and Betty Levens**.

Happy and Sad

Marco Terwiel advised of the death of his friend **Dr. Clarence Fernandez**, a very nice man, and hard working, dedicated Doctor, who has ushered many babies into the world.

Marco also pointed out that apparently a lot of young people do not even know what Polio is, which demonstrates that we as Rotarians needs to do a better job of getting the word out.

On a happy note, Marco drove himself to the meeting (which may mean that even though Marco may be dangerous, he's not contagious).

David Rempel advised that the international project in Russia which he is still working on may be moribund, but is still breathing. (You may recall that the project concerns helping a boys school for disadvantaged youth in as town called [or at least pronounced] Ussirisk which is located not far from Vladivostok. Our club previously provided funds and a matching grant to buy machinery or vehicles for the school). The Rotary Club in Russia

which was to partner with us has now gone kerplunkov, but Dave may have a new contact person there. Stay tuned, comrades.

Attention all bookworms! **Ineke Boekhorst** announced that there will be a used book sale on October 26, 2013 at Thomas Haney School to raise money for our Club's international project in Nicaragua. Members are urged to go through their shelves and clean out some books which are gathering dust and donate them to this club fundraiser.

Bob Shantz recently attended a meeting of the First Haney Beavers and handed out certificates in connection with the Duck Race. Bob pointed out that probably 900 Beavers benefited from participation in the Duck race, and that thousands of other young people benefited in total. Bob stressed the importance of us supporting this great club project which is our biggest fundraiser.

Who is **David Johnston**? He is Canada's Governor General who spoke at a Chamber of Commerce meeting in Kelowna attended by **Terry Becker**, and told the meeting of the book program and the good that it was doing at Repulse Bay in Nunavut, the inspiration for which came from Marco. "Hey, our club is doing that!"

Patrick O'Brien has once again proved "there really is a **Great Pumpkin**, Charlie Brown". Patrick has 141 pumpkins from his pumpkin patch for sale at \$10 each, with all the proceeds going to Polio Plus.



50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$274.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 38 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

That will pay for a lot of polio vaccines if we can help sell them all. Pumpkin pie, anyone?

Matt Debruyn acknowledged the great support of a number of persons outside of our Rotary Club who are making possible the introduction of the Four Way Test into the schools. Those individuals include **Ethne Roodt, Warren Dale, Kevin and Debbie Noseworthy, Lynda Lawrence, and Chris Duyvestyn** as well as our own members **Patrick O'Brien, Debbie McRae, Adrienne Dale and Janis Elkerton** [did I miss anyone?].

Keesha Rosario (past President of the Haney Rotary Club) advised that one young student was contemplating suicide, but after going through the Four Way Test program felt inspired enough not to go through with it. It appears that this program may not only changes lives, but also save them.

Eric Molema confessed that the Oktoberfest Committee underestimated the amount of beer that we Canadians are capable of downing. (Was that Eric whom we heard had to drive to Mission on a late evening beer run?).

Our **President Adrienne Dale** thanked all those who attended and helped out on a successful Oktoberfest, where almost 200 people attended. She gave special thanks to Mark Vosper and staff who were responsible for selling about 85 tickets.

Rotary Moment

Ineke introduced us to “**Rotary Fellowships**” [no doubt something which few of us knew anything about]. Rotary Fellowships are groups of Rotarians, Rotarian spouses, and Rotaractors who have fun and enhance their experience in Rotary by joining together to:

- Share a common interest in worthwhile recreational activities
- Further their vocational development through acquaintance with others of the same profession
- Make new friends around the world while exploring new opportunities for service.

Each Fellowship is operated independently of Rotary International, with its own rules, dues requirements, and administrative structure. Fellowships must be international in nature with active members in at least three countries. To learn more about Rotary Fellowships go to www.rotary.org/fellowships There are existing fellowships that you can join such as Doctors, Doll Lovers, Editors and Publishers, Golf, Home Exchange, and Lawyers. Ineke and Peter belong to a Rotary Fellowship for Recreational Vehicle owners.

Program

Current **Haney Rotary Club President Ken Holland** and immediate past president **Keesha Rosario** presented to us an interesting talk and slide show about their Club's participation in a trip to Guatemala. Last year our Club contributed \$1,000 towards this International Project to help fund the one youngster's participation.

Both Ken and Keesha, together with fellow Rotarian **Rod Hughes**, accompanied four Canadian boys and two American girls from Bremerton, Washington, to a remote part of Guatemala where they installed 60 cooking stoves in homes (shacks, really with dirt floors and no ventilation) in some poor villages in that country.

The stoves cost \$250 each, and the recipients pay \$25 for them (which is a lot of money for the poor villagers).

The **Rotary YES Program** (which originally stood for Youth Experiencing Service, but now stands for Youth Engaged in Service) was started eight years ago by Beverly Huntington of the Burlington, Washington, Rotary Club. Past District Gov. Sean Hogan and others were so impressed with YES that it is now a District program.

The program introduces community minded youngsters to service on an international level. To participate in the program, students have to complete 80 hours of local community service as well as taking part in fund raising projects to finance the trip. The youth participants are actively involved in planning, fundraising and researching about the country which they are about to visit. When they arrive at the destination they are actively involved in helping the international community that they have visited.

It took 2 ½ days to drive from the main airport in Guatemala to arrive at the remote villages, after driving over what was obviously some rough terrain and roads. This program in Guatemala saw the youth help assemble and install the cooking stoves, including the installation of the chimneys to ventilate the smoke out of the huts. Before such installation, the homes were so filled with smoke that the occupants found it difficult to breathe and their eyes were watering. The participants experienced firsthand these unhealthy living conditions which they helped to alleviate. The villages were on steep mountain sides, with no running water, toilets, showers or other amenities that we take for granted.

The participants also got to interact with the village children and adults. The children in the villages could not afford store-bought toys, and were thrilled to receive and play with the soccer balls and horseshoes which were donated by Canadian Tire and left with the villagers.

We could easily have imagined the impact that this experience would have on the youth which participated. But we didn't have to use our imagination. Three of the youths attended our meeting and advised us that it was a “life-changing” experience.

Three of the four Canadian youths that participated attended our meeting and gave their first hand account of what it meant to them . They were **Brendan and Daniel Clarke** (brothers) and **Connor Allan**. Connor broke his leg shortly before the trip, but was so motivated that he went with a cast on his leg. The other student who attended was **Ryan Stushnoff**. “Everything was new” for them (including, said Brendan, “spiders that were so big you could put a leash around them and take them for a walk”).

When asked whether other students in their school could be inspired to do this type of thing, they admitted that one has to be community-oriented, and a lot of young people would not want to take the time that was necessary to prepare for the trip, including doing the 80 hours of community service, meetings, and fundraising that was a necessary part of this life-changing experience. Asked why they wanted to go, one reply was “we wanted to do good”.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson