

THE UNLEY ROTARIAN

Meeting 3650 – 17 February 2009

unley.rotaryclub.org.au

2008 - 2009

Rotary Club of Unley Inc.

DISTRICT 9520
CHARTERED 17TH APRIL 1935



PRESIDENT: Jerry Casburn: 8295 8227 or 0407 646 396
SECRETARY: Anne Wehr: 8357 0486
ADDRESS: PO Box 18, Unley SA 5061
EMAIL: unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au
MEETINGS: The Club meets every Tuesday at "Tiffins on the Park",
176 Greenhill Road, Parkside (Cnr George Street) at 6.30pm.
Fellowship at 6.00pm

100%
ATTENDANCE
THIS WEEK

Our Last Meeting

Meeting No.	3650
Date	17 February 2009
Venue	Tiffins on the Park
Guest Speakers	Lt Governor Hieu Van Le Dr Saiful Islam
Chairperson	Stephen Westgarth
Guests	DG Peter & Judy Shipp, Mrs Lan Le, Genese Mullins, Muriel Wallace, Ken & Pauline Daly, Barbara Russell, Margaret Payne, Rohan Singh, Rose Howland and members of Adelaide's Bangladeshi community
Apologies	Mark & Anne Zada, Anne Wehr, Joan Read, Neville Highett
Make Ups	Mark & Anne Zada, Anne Wehr, Joan Read, Neville Highett
Returning Rotarians	Rex Martin
Attendance	100%

International Night

This week's meeting was an **International Night** held with a Bangladesh theme and the aim of raising money for the Operation Cleft Bangladesh project. Pres. Jerry warmly welcomed our distinguished guest speakers, guests of Rotarians and visiting members of the local Bangladeshi community.

President Jerry announced that all the net proceeds from the International Night would be donated to the Operation Cleft Bangladesh project to pay for cleft palate operations at a cost of \$200 each. Unfortunately his presentation on the Operation Cleft Bangladesh project was scuttled by incompatible computer technology, but he hopes to give the presentation again soon.

As hoped, a **100% attendance** was achieved at the meeting and Pres Jerry's wallet is now much lighter having covered the cost of drinks. Thanks Jerry for your generosity.

Spots

Bob Laws showed members new promotional leaflets about Rotary and the Thrift Shop that have been printed for distribution to letter boxes in the Unley area in March. Members will be asked to help with the letter box drops.

Martin Cooper: At its last meeting the Board decided that as from the 17th March Rotarians will serve two consecutive weeks on the **Attendance Desk**. Accordingly, a revised roster will be appearing in the Bulletin for next week onwards.

Great Australia Bike Ride Home Hosting: The Rotary clubs of Stirling, Unley and Walkerville are being given first opportunity to home host the **Great Australia Bike Ride** (see Rotary News) entourage when it comes to Adelaide on the 24th September. Some of the participants will by then have cycled almost completely around Australia, including a 70 year old from Mission Beach and a 60 year old pin up girl from Victoria. No doubt before the event they were all interesting Rotarians but by then I am sure they will all have enthralling experiences to share. They will need looking after from Thursday afternoon until Sunday morning, 24th to 27th September. Please let Martin know if you can help with accommodation.

World Rotary Day: This coming Saturday 21st February the club will again have an **information stand** at the Unley Shopping Centre. The format will be the same as last year: Janet Singh and Martin Cooper will be in attendance from 9.30am until 4.00pm; Rotarians can call by and help for as long as they can spare, half an hour or two hours, it does not matter. Besides the general throng we intend to create we will be talking to prospective supporters and members, spreading the good word about Rotary, looking for those we may be able to help, distributing Rotary literature and, most importantly of all, chasing the kids with our big Blue and Gold balloons; yes we can have fun as well!

Bob Mullins reminded members about next week's **interclub meeting** with the Mt Barker and Murray Bridge clubs at the Murray Bridge Golf Club at 7.00 for 7.30pm. Bob sought an indication of numbers attending and those interested in hiring a coach for the journey; it appears there are not enough wanting to travel by coach to justify hiring one. [Ed: **David Middleton** has offered to drive Rotarians who would prefer not to drive to Murray Bridge. Please contact David if you are interested.]

Stephen Baker: It's time to get mobile on **RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)**. Applications for this year's event, to be held mid April, close on 1 March. The Vocational and Youth Committee relies on nominations from Rotarians, ex RYLarians and university students. There must be a number of potential participants whom you know or know of, just waiting to be asked; the main criteria are age 18-25 with a propensity for leadership. Stephen has nomination forms available or they can be downloaded from the Youth pages in the District 9520 website at www.rotarnet.com.au. District Chair Wendy Gaborit also suggested that it may be useful to contact firms who recruit graduates....any ideas? We would really like to have two or three worthwhile nominees through our club.

Operation Cleft Bangladesh

Judy Shipp outlined how she chose to sponsor the Operation Cleft Bangladesh project during this Rotary year because a friend of hers had a cleft palate and as a consequence of which he could not hear properly nor form words the way a normally speaking person can. When Judy looked around at the plight of children with cleft palates, she realised that we in Australia could support children in Bangladesh needing cleft palate repair operations. Many of the surgeons used by Operation Cleft have been trained by surgeons from Melbourne. Judy closed by pointing out that the gift of a smile is a wonderful thing to give a child and she thanked the Club for supporting the project.



▲ Bangladeshi children playing and singing

◀ Bangladeshi children performed two folk dances



▲ L to R: Judy & DG Peter Shipp, HE Lt Gov Hieu Van Le & Mrs Lan Le and President Jerry

Bangladeshi Dancing & Singing

Dr Saiful Islam introduced four children from our local Bangladeshi community who entertained Rotarians and guests with two traditional Bangladeshi folk dances and a self-accompanied folk song sung in both English and Bangla, the language of Bangladesh. These delightful performances were acknowledged with loud applause.

Keynote Speaker: Lt Governor Hieu Van Le

Chairman Stephen Westgarth introduced our first guest speaker His Excellency Mr Hieu Van Le, the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia. Mr Le is the Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission (SAMEAC). He became the Lieutenant Governor of South Australia in August 2007. Mr Le has been a member of the SAMEAC since 1995, including three years as Deputy Chairman and, since 1 January 2007, as Chairman. Vietnamese born, Mr Le is the first person of Asian ethnic background to hold the position of Chairman of the SAMEAC. Mr Le is a Member of the Community Engagement Board and Patron or an Honorary Member of a number of organisations.

He has a Degree in Economics and a Masters Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Adelaide in South Australia. Mr Le recently retired as a senior manager with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). He is a member of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) and a Fellow Member of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (FinSIA).

Mr Le is a recipient of the 1996 Australia Day Medal for outstanding service to the ASIC and has been awarded the Centenary of Federation Medal for service to the advancement of multiculturalism.

The following is an abridged version of Mr Le's address:

The Richly International Make-up of Our State of South Australia

The current Rotary International theme of "Make Dreams Real" really resonates in Australia, because every year people are coming here from all over the world to do precisely that, to make their own dreams real like we [Mr & Mrs Le] did 31 years ago. They are coming to a country that is nothing if not international and that, I believe, thrives on the basis of two complementary Australian ideals: 1) "Having a go", which is our way of saying initiative, endeavour and industry, and 2) "Giving one another a fair go", which is Australian for freedom, justice and fair play for everybody.

Ours is a land that remains home to the indigenous peoples that had lived here for tens of thousands of years and that today number almost 500,000 and, since the arrival of the first European settlers more than 221 years ago, this land has been enriched by folk representing just about every country, race, culture and religion in the world. Indeed, today's Australians were born in about 200 different countries speaking about 200 different languages.

Recently released figures from the 2006 census reveal just how broad Australia's multicultural mosaic is.

Of the roughly 22 million people living in Australia today almost one quarter, or 4.1 million, were born overseas. Of those born in Australia, at least 3.5 million have at least one parent born overseas. Here in South Australia the proportions are similar to those at a national level and our State is home to over 307,000 people born overseas and almost 185,000 people speak a language other than English at home, and that is not including the many, many indigenous languages that are fading away, unfortunately, in our society today. Incidentally, I can tell you that in your own Council area of Unley 7,500 residents were born overseas and about 5,500 speak a language other than English at home. The State profile is just as textured when we look at religion. When asked their religious affiliation in the census, South Australians identified almost 150 different categories and sub-categories.

Our State has benefited from wave after wave of new arrivals. Many thousands came from Europe after World War II, but from the 1970s many more came from Asia, who when we look back, became the pioneers of the largest wave of migrants and refugees from Asia arriving in Australia after the end of the Viet Nam war in 1975.



Lt Gov Hieu Van Le

In 2009 we are welcoming a whole new generation of people to our State from a whole new set of places. From 2001-06 for example we saw a big increase in arrivals from African countries such as Liberia, Sierra Leone and Sudan. And the number of people from Bangladesh, Moldova, United Arab Emirates, China and Korea more than doubled in the same period. In contrast some of the long-established communities such as the Greeks and Italians are getting smaller as the proportion of people aged 65 or older in this group is rising steeply.

Scenes from Adelaide's Australia Day Parade 2009



There is another area in which we have seen rapid growth, and that is in the number of international students studying in South Australia. We were hosting just under 28,000 overseas students as of late 2008, which was more than 19% up on the previous year. The most remarkable thing about that 28,000 figure is the massive rise on 2002 when only 11,000 overseas students were studying in South Australia. The top three source nations on the current list are China, India and Malaysia, and the top ten source countries are all from Asia. Quite apart from the obvious cultural benefits of having overseas students here, it is worth noting that their presence adds more than \$740 million to our local economy annually and that the international education industry supports 3,200 jobs in South Australia.

Myself, as a migrant and refugee here, I can see a lot more benefits as a result of this influx of international students. Former Colombo Plan students are now leaders in Asia everywhere you go and have a fond memory of Australia. They send their children back here for education and always have a good relationship with our State. We should reconnect with them and ensure that those leaders will be a good point of contact and relationships for establishing business and trade partnerships and developing cultural exchanges with Australia. I can see that international students here in Australia today will be the leaders in Asia soon and that our connections and our relationships would be enhanced. I think that in the future, while we will provide benefits for their countries, there will be benefits for us as well, of peace in the long term and understanding.

It is clear from the figures that I have just cited that our State is an amazingly diverse place. But of course we are much more than a mere statistical collection of people or a mere economy, we are a society. We are a society where all citizens are respected for who they are, no matter where they come from, where they were born, what language they speak, what God they worship or what customs they practise. It is a place where we can share and appreciate our respective cultures, skills and viewpoints. It is a place characterised by social harmony, cultural richness and mutual benefit.

Some people might see overarching Australian values and cultural diversity as opposing concepts and as mutually exclusive, but I see them as complementary and mutually enriching. I can think of no better symbolic display [of this] than the colourful and successful parade that we witnessed in Adelaide on Australia Day when more than 2,000 took part wearing national dress and having made lovely banners and displays. The parade included Greeks, Italians, Zimbabweans, Burmese, Croats, Bangladeshis, Cook Islanders, Eritreans, and Nepalese; in fact, there were 78 of the countries and 41 ethnicities residing in our State represented. It featured Brazilian samba dancers, a canoe made by Papua New Guineans, and a brilliant float made by the Sudanese community with a kangaroo and a rhino facing one another in a form of coat of arms. If you haven't already seen or taken part in the Australia Day parade I urge you, instead of standing around the barbeque, drinking a few beers and playing a few Slim dusty songs, to come out and give them a bit of a cheer.

Multiculturalism is one of Australia's greatest social achievements and assets. It is a result of support and hard work from individuals and groups in our streets and neighbourhoods, in our cities and towns, in our suburbs and in the country. It also derives much of its legitimacy from the bipartisan political support it continues to receive from politicians and parties of virtually every persuasion and every level of government. However, I am enough of a realist to know that multiculturalism needs to be continuously nurtured and practically supported. Anything of real value in this world must be kept in good working order and has to be maintained and defended, and we must be prepared to explain and argue its benefits again and again. Having established such a widely and broadly accepted ethos, we cannot expect its truth to be self evident and to be forever so. Providing daily support for multiculturalism is really putting meat on the bones, which is the job of the Commission that I am the chairman of.

The Work of the SAMEAC

The Commission, which was set up in 1980, has two main functions: 1) Increase awareness and understanding of the ethnic diversity of our State and the implications of that diversity; 2) Advise the State Government and public authorities on all matters relating to the advancement of multiculturalism and ethnic affairs. One thing the Commission definitely isn't is an institutionalised lobby for ethnic groups and it doesn't foster civil rights and condone the primacy of one over the many.

The Commission exists first and foremost for the good of our State overall. Working hand-in-hand with public sector organisations and through Multicultural SA the Commission supports a wide range of ethnic groups to hold community festivals and events with assistance available from grants

Mr Le handed out copies of a multicultural calendar which shows when various ethnic community festivals, cultural events and celebrations are being held throughout the State of SA, indeed on almost every day of the year, illustrating the cultural richness and diversity of South Australia. The Commission also produces magazines and other publications and a multicultural information kit for students and teachers, runs an increasingly popular website, coordinates resettlement planning for newly arrived migrants in SA, runs women's leadership courses and youth forums, promotes the participation of women and young people on decision-making bodies, convenes regional advisory committees in the Riverland, South East and Upper

Spencer Gulf, and regularly meets with the community for consultation and with the State government so that it can better understand the needs and aspirations of multicultural communities.

As a State we are seeking to continue the momentum of multiculturalism and to increase the acceptance of multiculturalism as a positive influence in our community and we cannot afford to be complacent despite apparent indications of success. ■

Chairman Stephen Westgarth thanked Mr Le for his address and Rotarians and guests expressed their appreciation with a standing ovation. The multicultural calendars were all snapped-up very quickly.

Raincheck

Unfortunately, problems within incompatible computer technology also prevented **Dr Saiful Islam** from giving his talk on "The Culture, History and People of Bangladesh". Fortunately, however, Dr Islam has kindly agreed to come back to give his talk to the Club at the next available spot in the meeting program.

Jerry's Jottings

What a great turnout for the International Night on Tuesday and, at this stage, we have raised \$1805, more than enough for nine cleft palate operations. It was great to share our time with the Bangladeshi community and it appeared to me that they enjoyed the night as much as we did. The kids were great and very well behaved. The dancers were great too. Overall it was an exceptional night and a well done to Chandra and the International team. It was good to have our DG Peter and his wife Judy there to join us and we wish him a speedy recovery from recent operations and the radio therapy.

Next week we are in Murray Bridge for a joint meeting with the Murray Bridge and Mount Barker clubs. The subject of the Coorong and Lower Lakes will be interesting and I hope to see many of our club there.

I leave the week a lot poorer, personally, having had to keep my promise of buying the drinks for a 100% attendance but we made it, albeit on the back of a promise from some unable to attend on the night, to do make-ups in the next two weeks. If they don't I'll be back for a whip round.

We have our social event next week and hope those who signed up will make it, I look forward to some fun and a few strained arm sockets from the ten pin bowling. Please try to make it, or, failing that, come to the dinner afterwards."

Yours in Rotary,

Jerry

Rotary News

Year-to-date results through 31 December 2008

By Ed Futa, RI General Secretary Rotary International News -- 12 February 2009

December 2008 marked the first month of positive investment results for both Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation since August 2008. For the fiscal year through December, RI showed investment losses of US\$19 million and the Foundation had losses of \$159 million, most of which were unrealized and should reverse once the markets recover. Revenues from club dues remain slightly ahead of budget, and Rotarian contributions to the Foundation are up by \$3 million over last year.

Operating expenses for both RI and the Foundation remain favorably below budget in most areas, with the majority of these gains projected to remain through the end of the fiscal year.

We continue to receive economic and capital market forecasts from our investment managers. Based on these forecasts, we are projecting no additional investment earnings for this fiscal year,

and we expect earnings to be volatile throughout these remaining months.

Many economists are predicting that the economic recovery may begin in the second half of this calendar year or in early 2010, although any recovery is highly contingent on many factors in economies throughout the world. We are expecting that the current investment climate will continue to present challenges to our organization for the foreseeable future.

Therefore, the general secretary is eliminating all nonessential and discretionary spending in both RI and the Foundation for the remainder of this fiscal year. The RI Board and president recently took actions to suspend several committee meetings and reduce travel for the rest of the fiscal year. The Trustees reduced 2008-09 World Fund expenditures for 3-H Grants, Volunteer Service Grants, and Matching Grants by

\$16.3 million. The RI and Rotary Foundation finance committees are preparing contingency plans for consideration in establishing austere budgets for fiscal year 2009-10.

Let me close by sharing a very encouraging development in our battle to eradicate polio worldwide. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded The Rotary Foundation a further \$255 million, in addition to the 2007 grant for \$100 million. Rotary is asked to raise a total of \$200 million in matching funds by 30 June 2012. To date, Rotarians have raised almost \$73 million in cash and commitments towards this challenge. To be more than a third of the way toward our \$200 million goal in this economy speaks volumes about Rotarians' resolve to End Polio Now. ■

Great Australian Bike Ride

Reprinted from the District Governor's Newsletter – February 2009

On 21st March 2009, the most ambitious bike ride ever held in Australia will begin.

The Great Australian Bike Ride is a nine stage ride around the country, beginning and ending in Melbourne — the birthplace of Australian Rotary Health.

While most riders will be taking on one stage of the ride, some of the braver ones will be taking on the Great Australian Bike Ride Challenge. If you think you can ride the entire route, we welcome you to sign up for the whole ride—nine stages, seven months.

The ride will raise awareness of, and support for, mental illness and is

coordinated by Australian Rotary Health Volunteers.

This ride is only possible with the support of many individuals and the community. Riders will need places to be billeted at the overnight stops and the ride needs a road crew for the entire event.

People with expertise and willingness in medical, physiotherapy, logistics and campsite cooking would be particularly useful.

If you would like to be involved in the support team, download an Expression of Interest form from:

www.greataustralianbikeride.org.au.

The ride's stages are:

Stage	Dates	Where	Rating
1	21/3-27/3	MEL-HOB	Hard
2	27/3-29/3	HOB-MEL	Hard
3	29/3-17/4	MEL-SYD	Easy
4	19/4-7/5	SYD-BNE	Easy
5	9/5-22/5	BNE-TSV*	Hard
6	24/5-26/6	TSV-DAR	Mod
7	28/6-14/8	DAR-PER	Hard
8	16/8-25/9	PER-ADL	Hard
9	27/9-10/10	ADL-MEL	Mod

*TSV = Townsville

Our Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Time	Occasion	Venue Set-up/ Plaque Board	Sergeant	Attendance Desk
24/02/09	Murray Bridge Golf Club on Ritter St, Murray Bridge	7 for 7.30pm	Interclub Meeting with RCs of Murray Bridge & Mount Barker; Prof. David Paton: "The Environment of Lower Lakes and the Coorong"	Anne Wehr	Bob Mullins	Anne Wehr & Anne Zada
01/03/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Akhtar Esmail-Zadeh: "My Life in Iran"	Norm Wallace	Greg McLeod	Anne Zada & Bob Mills
03/03/09	Tiffins on the Park	6 for 6.30pm	Helen Bulis: "The History of Australian Customs"	Mark Zada	Greg McLeod	Bob Mills & Bob Mullins
10/03/09	Sturt Bowling Club	6 for 6.30pm	Annual RC Unley vs RC Mitcham Bowls Match	Stephen Baker	Greg McLeod	Bob Mullins & Chandra Sluggett

Apologies To: Anne Wehr on 8357 0486; e-mail: unley.secretary@rotaryclub.org.au.

Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or contact:

Sergeant-At-Arms: Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au

Venue Set-up or Plaque Board: Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au

Attendance Desk: Martin Cooper on 0403 910 161 or e-mail unley.membership@rotaryclub.org.au.

Members are urged to diarise when they are required to serve and then they will be unlikely to overlook their rostered service duty.

Members rostered on Venue Set-up and Plaque Board should see Tiffins on the Park staff to gain access to the club's meeting paraphernalia. Please remember to gather up all items at the end of the meeting and return them to the storeroom.

Diary Dates

Month	Day	Date	Activity Details	Venue	Enquiries
February	Saturday	21/02/09	World Rotary Day Celebration (Foundation Day 23/2/1905)	Unley Shopping Centre	Martin Cooper
	Friday	27/02/09	Ten Pin Bowling at 6pm followed by dinner Bowling: \$21.50 (two games, plus shoes) Meal: \$30 (2 courses - entrée and main)	Cross Road Bowl Hyde Park Tavern	Jerry Casburn
March	Friday night to Sunday afternoon	13/03/09 to 15/03/09	Rotary District 9520 Youth Program of Enrichment (formerly RYPEN). BBQ on Friday evening to be provided by RCU - all Members welcome	Woodside Scout Camp, Piccadilly	Stephen Baker
	Sunday	15/03/09	Beach Fish and Chip Party Fish and Chips: \$10. BYOG	Brighton Beach	Jerry Casburn
April	Sunday	26/04/09	Botanical Gardens Visit and BBQ Admission: Free, BBQ: \$10-\$15, BYOG	Adelaide Botanical Gardens	Jerry Casburn
June	Sunday	07/06/09	Fireworks and Fun Day from 3pm to 8:30pm	Wayville Showgrounds	Andy Hill

Saturday Thrift Shop Roster: February-March 2009

Week No.	Dates This Month	Early Shift: 9am to 11.30 am	Late Shift: 11am to 1.30pm
3	21/02/09	Glenys Ferguson & Neesha Nandasena	Bob Laws & TBA
4	28/02/09	Sheila Evans, Chandra Sluggett & Kevin Rogers	Martin Cooper & John Peacham
5	NA	Reno Elms & Bob Mullins	Natalie Bowen & Ken Haines
1	07/03/09	Lindsay England & Rohan Singh	Mavis Martin & Stephen Westgarth
2	14/03/09	Stephen Baker, Greg McLeod & Kevin Rogers	Ken Haines & David Middleton

Rotarians, who are unable to attend as rostered, please arrange a swap or contact:

Bob Laws: 8223 6403; (M) 0438 865 305; e-mail: unley.sergeant@rotaryclub.org.au

Nearly on the Back Page



Beer

She told me we couldn't afford beer anymore and that I would have to quit drinking.
Then I caught her spending \$65 on makeup.
I asked her how come I had to give up stuff and she didn't.
She said she needed the makeup to look pretty for me.
I told her that was what the beer was for.
I don't think she's coming back.

The Back Page

Light Aircraft Crash

A local man reported that, "My ex-wife started taking flying lessons about the time our divorce started and she got her licence shortly before the divorce was settled. Yesterday afternoon, she narrowly escaped injury in the aircraft she was piloting when she was forced to make an emergency landing because of bad weather. Some could call it a crash; an accident at the least. Fortunately the children were staying with their grandparents."

"Australian Transport Safety Bureau officials have issued a preliminary determination citing that pilot error contributed to the accident."

"No one on the ground was injured. The photograph at the bottom of this page was taken at the scene and shows the extent of damage to her aircraft."

Anger Management

When you occasionally have a really bad day and you just need to take it out on someone, don't take it out on someone you know. Take it out on an unsuspecting stranger.

It all started one day when I was sitting at my desk and remembered a phone call I had forgotten to make. I found the number and dialled it. A man answered, saying, "Hello."

I politely said, "This is Chris. May I please speak with Robyn Carter?" Suddenly, the phone was slammed down on me. I couldn't believe anyone could be so rude. I tracked down Robyn's correct number and called her. I had transposed the last two digits of her phone number.

After hanging up with her, I decided to call the 'wrong' number again. When the same bloke answered the phone, I yelled, "You're an ass....," and hung up. I wrote his number down with the word 'ass....' next to it and put it in my desk drawer.

Every couple of weeks, when I was paying bills or had a really bad day, I'd call him up and yell, "You're an ass....!" It always cheered me up.

When Caller ID came to our area, I thought my therapeutic 'ass....' calling would have to stop. So I called his number and said, "Hi, this is John from Telstra. I'm just calling to see if you're interested in the Caller ID program?"

He yelled, "No!" and slammed the phone down.

I quickly called him back and said, "That's because you're an ass....!"

One day I was at the shops, getting ready to pull into a parking spot. Some bloke in a black BMW cut me off and pulled into the spot I had patiently waited for. I hit the horn and yelled that I had been waiting for the spot. The idiot ignored me. I noticed a "For Sale" sign in his car window, so I wrote down his number.

A couple of days later, right after calling the first ass...., whose number I had on speed dial, I thought I had better call the BMW ass...., too. I said, "Is this the man with the black BMW for sale?" "Yes, it is."

"Can you tell me where I can see it?"

"Yes, I live at 555 Park Street. It's a yellow house and the car is parked out in front."

"What's your name?"

"My name is Bill Smith," he said.

"When's a good time to catch you, Bill?"

"I'm home every evening after five."

I then said, "Bill, you're an ass....," hung up and added his number to my speed dial, too.

Now when I had a problem, I had two ass....s to call. But after several months of calling them, it wasn't as enjoyable as it used to be. So I came up with an idea. I called ass.... number one.

"Hello." "You're an ass....," but I didn't hang up.

"Are you still there?" he asked.

"Yeah."

"Stop calling me!" he screamed.

"Make me!" I screamed back.

"Who are you?"

"My name is Bill Smith."

"Yeah? Where do you live?"

"I live at 555 Park Street, ass....! It's a yellow house, with my black BMW parked in front."

He said, "I'm coming over there right now, Bill, and you had better start saying your prayers."

"Yeah, like, I'm really scared, ass....," I said. Then I called ass.... number two.

"Hello?"

"Hello, ass....," I said again, without hanging up.

He yelled back, "If I ever find out who you are..."

"Yeah, you'll what?"

"I'll kick your ass!"

I answered, "Well, ass...., here's your chance. I'm coming over right now."

Then I hung up and immediately called the police, saying that I lived at 555 Park Street and that I was on my way home to kill my gay lover. Then I called Channel 9 News to let them know about the war going down on Park Street.

After those calls, I quickly got into my car and headed over to Park Street. There I saw two ass....s beating the stuffing out of each other in front of six patrol cars, a police helicopter and a news crew.

Now I feel so much better.

Anger management really works!



Recent light aircraft crash scene

Remember our Rotary theme for the year:
Make Dreams Real