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ROTARY CLUB OF WEST OTTAWA
Jean Bégin, President
January 9, 2018 Editor: Rob Shaw-Wood

Program Jan 9, 2018- 1) Ken Murray on *The Free Reading Program* 2) Meetings of committees

Greeters: **Norm Thomas** and **Roy Miller**
Reception: **Marcia Armstrong**

WE START

Following the buffet, **President Jean Bégin** opened this twenty fourth meeting of the Rotary year. The anthem (keyboard accompaniment by **Rod Holmes**) was followed by an invocation delivered by **Jeremy Klein**. **Bill Morris**, "The Man" for this Past Presidents' Draw, had the winning ticket drawn and announced the winner to be **Roy Miller**. **Roy** gave a little whoop of triumph and is now in possession of a \$50 gift certificate from the Morris Home Hardware Store in Westboro. **Marcia Armstrong** introduced our one guest, former member Jake Maars, who is with the South Nepean Rotary Club and a frequent visitor to our club. **Marcia** also took the occasion to note the presence together, for the first time in a long time, of the **Armstrong** boys, **Blair** and **Eric**. She also acknowledged Pat **Henry**, who attends regularly with husband **Keith**.

THE FREE READING PROGRAM

Ken Murray stood in for the vacationing **Bob Harrison** to introduce to us and, he hopes, via us to our friends and contacts The Free Reading Program. This program seeks to help children who are struggling with their reading and language skills. **Ken** referred us to the RCWO website rcwo.org where, on the right-hand side of the main page, there is a link to the program, which now has 117,000 student beneficiaries, all of them students between kindergarten and Grade 4. We are encouraged to visit this site, consider participating and proposing potential beneficiaries, and reporting our comments and suggestions back to **Bob**. **Ken** said that the site is easy to use and that the program designs itself to meet each student's needs and abilities. Parents and teachers can use it as a tool, and enroll others through their own sign-in site, so that they can monitor and help those in their care. We should feel free to explore it and find others who can benefit from its support. When we refer people to the program through the RCWO site the program will go with our logo. Schools,

Luncheon tickets and attendance: **Linda Flynn**
Past Presidents' Draw: **Bill Morris**

teachers, educators, support workers and refugee families to work can all benefit from the program. So, get your thinking caps on and be prepared to help **Bob** find the best uses for The Free Reading Program. Have friends and children test it out and talk to **Bob** when he returns.

Ken added parenthetically that **Bob's** absence was the result of his wife's invitation to take him to Mexico and he hoped that the concept would catch on with other spouses of Rotarians.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joan Heyland said she will be in touch this week with all those who volunteered to host Foundation Dinners to provide details on their guests, so that volunteer hosts may get in touch with them to arrange timing and other details.

Linda Flynn updated members on the Rotary Club of Ottawa Adventures in Citizenship program, which will run from April 27 to May 2 this year. Members volunteering to provide bed and breakfast to two or more students from across Canada over this period will need to arrange daily transport for these students to and from their daily activities. Support will be provided as required. Personal references for the family and a current police check must be provided for at least one member of each host household. For further information and application forms, please contact Margot Nicholls, RC Ottawa Program Coordinator at 613-860-1521 or at admin@rotaryottawa.com.

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Marilyn Letts and **Bill Rolph** were both acknowledged for birthdays this week.

-The curling club will need to be notified by January 15th of any members wishing to participate in their event on February 2nd.

President Jean has additional information for those interested.

-The funeral for Dr. Julius Frank would be on Wednesday, January 10 in Brockville, and that a condolence letter was circulating for members to sign. Members planning to attend the funeral were asked to meet with **President Jean** after the meeting to discuss logistics.

-Members were referred to two reports prepared by **Rod Holmes** that had been left on all tables. One was the Duty Roster to April 17. A second report was on members' club attendance over the past six months. Sixteen members, including the sparkling and good-looking **Rob Shaw-Wood**, were highlighted as having had **a perfect record**.

-President Jean then reported on a letter she had received from the Bell's Corners United Church thanking us for the \$1000 the Club had contributed for our use of BCUC facilities during the Mums delivery program.

- The Ottawa South Rotary Club had written to express their appreciation for our contributions to the Dominica Recovery Project.

- Ottawa Mission had written to thank us for a recent RCWO contribution to their efforts on behalf of the homeless in Ottawa.

-Our stock of RCWO trading banners was low and we were invited to consider reprinting the existing banner, or changing to a new design that also featured Parliament Hill. During the discussion that followed, in which support for both was voiced, some members pointed out that we should consider alternative media altogether, such as flash drives and post cards. In view of the diversity of opinions **President Jean** said the matter would be considered by Board of Directors and make a recommendation to the Club

THE REST OF THE MEETING

There followed meetings of many of the Club committees and then **Mike Traub** was selected to do "Happy Dollars."

- **Joan Heyland** provided an update on our RI funded international scholar from France, Charles-Henri Houze-Cerfon and his family and invited members to get in touch with him, particularly if they speak French.

- **Bill Rolph** commented on his time over the holidays, and his granddaughter's continued enjoyment and success as a Rotary exchange student in Brazil.

- **Henry Akanko** wished everyone a happy New Year.

- **Ken Murray** was happy that some lost medication was returned to him from the Nepean Sportsplex - -

- - **Sucha Mann** reported on his holiday in Cuba and how impressed he was with the people there and with the political and social changes that seem to be taking place.

And with that President Jean reminded us that we are Rotary Making a Difference and to bring likely contacts to check us out at a meeting and then brought the meeting to a close

Cash Calendar

Here are the winners of the Cash Calendar draws for the period, December 27-31, 2017:

3629 \$20 Frank Fowler, St. Philips, NL

0862 \$25 Elizabeth Norrie, Kanata, ON

0845 \$25 Ashley Snodden, Ottawa, ON

1749 \$25 Paul Macnamara, Cumberland, ON

4965 \$200 Guy Trottier, Cambridge, ON

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Jessie Thomson, CARE Canada: The Global Panel on Refugee Issues

Intro: Marilyn Letts Thanks: **Navin Parekh**

Greeters: **Mike Traub, Luana Achihaei** Invocation: **Inna Flyazhenkova**

Reception: **Cletus Peters** PP Draw: **Hadi Mortada**

Ticket Sales/Attendance: **Mary Wattie** Editor: **Gaye Moffett**

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Predictions: **Rocco Disipio**- Sports; **Cam Ross**- Finance; **Carol Bell Thompson**- Real Estate

Intro: **Gaye Moffett** Thanks: **Ed Balys**

Greeters: **Joe Wattie, Jen Ahde** Invocation: **Phil Bronsther**

Reception: **Sucha Mann** PP Draw: **Ken Murray**

Ticket Sales/Attendance: **Mary Wattie** Editor: **Don Butler**