



Good Luck and take care: we'll miss you!

Some wonderful news for Paul and Phyllis Charbonneau...but some sad news for the Rotary Club of Windsor St. Clair. During their recent visit to Cancun, they closed a long standing deal with their US partners which would allow them to exit the business immediately and move to Mexico, fulfilling a life-long dream. The Charbonneau's expect to put their house up for sale in April and wrap up operations in Windsor by early summer.

"It's was an opportunity that only comes along once in a lifetime," says Paul. "Phyllis and I love Mexico and had always planned on spending more time there. Now we can begin the next phase of our life immediately rather than waiting 10 to 15 years." Both Paul and Phyllis have plans to remain in Rotary when they move to Mexico and plan on teaming up with Dave LaBranche, an honorary Windsor St. Clair Rotarian, who was thrilled when he heard the news.

Windsor St. Clair President Alan Drouillard says that losing the Charbonneau's to Mexico will be a great loss – particularly as both Phyllis and then Paul were scheduled to lead

the club for the next two years. "They both personify what being a Rotarian means," said Drouillard on hearing the news. "They have supported all of our fund raising initiatives and have always given their time and energy to club projects, particularly the student exchange program."

"We'll certainly miss all of our friends at Windsor St. Clair," says Phyllis. "We'll be back to visit the kids and will make sure we stop at the Yacht Club on Thursday mornings."

Drouillard said he plans on calling an emergency Board meeting as soon as possible to address the situation. He has already been in contact with District 6400 Governor Neil McBeth and is exploring the many different options which the club can pursue. "The first option that comes to mind is to see if one of our many past presidents will step forward and fulfill the presidential obligations for 2010-



2011. This would allow us to slot Chris Woodrow in as President-Elect, which would put us in the market for a President-Nominee. But right now, this is all conjecture."

Following the emergency Board Meeting, plans will be released for a 'Going Away' party for Paul and Phyllis. More details will be released when they're made available.

Buena Suerte, Paul and Phyllis!

COMING EVENTS

April 6 Club Vision Workshop

April 15 Bingo

April 24 District Assembly
Schoolcraft College

May 13-16 District Conference
Grand Hotel, Mackinac

May 29 Pedal for Polio
(See Page 3)



END POLIO NOW: A skydiver jumps over the Amazon River in Manaus, Brazil, with an End Polio Now banner. Ten skydivers made the jump. Photo by Robson Custódio

Message from the PRESIDENT



Alan Drouillard

April marks the last quarter of our current Rotary year. PE Phyllis has just returned from PETS with planning for next year in full swing; however as a club we have a number of important events and activities to complete before July 1.



Of utmost importance requiring the input of every member of the club in our **CLUB VISIONING EXERCISE**, taking place on Tuesday April 6, 2010 at the Riverside Library (6305 Wyandotte Street East). The session will start at 5:00 PM with dinner provided. It is anticipated the session will last 3 to 4 hours. The session will address these issues:

- ▶ What our Club stands for in the community we serve;
- ▶ The target membership size for our Club in 5 years;

- ▶ Identification of the attributes the Club will have;
- ▶ The top-three prioritized objectives for focusing efforts in each of the four Avenues of Service; and
- ▶ Recommendations for improvements in the Club's leadership development.

Facilitation will be led by experienced volunteers representing Rotary roles from PDG through PEN. Many members of the Vision TEAM are longtime Rotarians and knowledgeable about Rotary at local, district, and international levels.

This activity will serve to create the blueprint for the club, it's goals and objectives for the next 5 years. To be candid, I view non-participation in this exercise like an election: if you don't exercise your right to vote you don't have the right to complain about the government. If you don't participate in this exercise your ability to add *positive commentary* on club direction, activities and priorities over of the next five years will be somewhat diminished.

"...This exercise cannot be a success without your input..."

Each member will have two opportunities to provide initial input. First will be a questionnaire emailed to you in the next week. I would hope every member takes the opportunity to complete this questionnaire: if you are unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts please allow this to be your medium for input. However, this is just the beginning, and the work that goes into *fine tuning* the results of the questionnaire will take place on Tuesday night. So if you haven't confirmed your attendance on our website please do so ASAP. This exercise cannot be a success without your input.

Foundation Month

April is also foundation month in our club. As is customary, the club will match any donation to the Rotary Foundation General Fund made by our members. The Board has set aside \$2500 to use as matching funds for all member donations made in the month of April. Please consider making an extra donation to the Rotary Foundation this month, so that your donation accomplishes twice as much.

In your scheduling this month please also consider attending the District Assembly on April 24th (register on the website) and finally registration for DisCon 2010 on Mackinaw Island is closing soon, so if you are planning on attending you need to finalize your booking ASAP.

Thanks and I hope to see everyone at the Club Vision Exercise.

April To-Do List

1. Attend the Club Vision Exercise
2. Make a Donation to the Rotary Foundation
3. Attend the District Assembly on April 24
4. Register for DisCON 2010 at Mackinac Island

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday...

April 2	Carl Fama
April 4	Nick Torra
April 14	Michael Browne
April 15	Nick Krayacich
April 18	Chris Woodrow
April 18	Shelly Duben
April 21	Phil McCullough
April 23	Bruce Taylor
April 28	Marg Prince

Happy Anniversary...

April 25	Bill and Denise Proulx
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RYLA makes learning life's lessons fun

By Ryan Hyland

Taylor Mathis, a high school junior from Orland Park, Illinois, came home from a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) event with lifelong friends, leadership skills, and the excitement of becoming a Rotary Youth Exchange student.

Mathis was one of more than 80 high school students from the Chicago area who participated in a RYLA event hosted by District 6450. Students spent three days taking part in outdoor and indoor activities that focused on leadership, conflict resolution, trust building, problem solving, and creativity.

"RYLA was simply an amazing program. I had so much fun," says Mathis. "The games we did weren't just games for fun, but actually were meaningful. I've implemented a lot of the leadership skills I learned into the programs I'm in at school."

Starting this summer, Mathis will spend her senior year studying in Germany as part of the Youth Exchange program. She credits RYLA with opening her eyes to different cultures and the possibility of

experiencing them.

"RYLA is an effective way to combine Interactors, Rotaractors, and Youth Exchange students," says Linda Yates, district RYLA committee chair. "It creates great exposure to all the possibilities of Rotary."

The RYLA event included Reality Stores, a popular learning activity that presents students with financial

situations they might face as adults. The experience encourages them to consider different career choices and helps them understand the challenges of single parenthood.

"The whole point of RYLA is to learn something while having fun," says Yates. "We want students to go home and spread the word to their friends about their experience."



RYLA STUDENTS: (Left to Right) Haley Jones, Tanja Joksic & Kelsey Santarossa were on hand at a March club meeting to tell us of their participation and involvement in leadership activities with the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Conference at Schoolcraft College in Michigan.

Plan to PEDAL FOR POLIO and make Polio History!

Join the Global Campaign: Let's Make Polio History!

After 20 years of hard work, Rotary International and its partners are on the brink of wiping out this stubborn disease, but a strong push is needed now to root it out once and for all. Please join us for the **PEDAL FOR POLIO** event on May 29 and help us Make Polio History!

Choose one of our three leisurely cycle routes on the award winning Wine Trail Rides to three beautiful Essex County wineries where you will

sample local wines before enjoying a fabulous dinner at your final destination. At the end of the evening take home a complimentary bottle of wine to remember your day.

Check in 12 noon. **(Location and more details to be announced soon)**

Ride begins at 1 p.m. \$100 ride includes escorted tour, sampling at 3 wineries, a special multi-course dinner, complimentary bottle of wine and a tax receipt for \$60.

PEDAL FOR POLIO is multi-faceted event to raise funds for the eradication

of polio in the world. The event will include a family ride on the Chrysler Canada Greenway where families and individuals can enjoy a leisurely cycle on the Greenway, take in some special events along the trail and support polio efforts at the same time. Special prizes will be awarded to the top three individuals/families with the most pledges.

In the fall, we will continue our efforts with a cycling challenge around Essex County.

Stay tuned for more details!

FOUR WAY TEST: Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Program Schedule APRIL 2010

SPEAKER & TOPIC

- 1 Presentation of Paul Harris Fellow to parents of Mickey Renaud
- 8 D6400 Assistant Governor Wayne Titus
- 15 John Calhoun Windsor's Heritage Properties
- 22 Lisa Kolody Leadership Windsor-Essex
- 29 Nick Krayacich Membership

INTRODUCER

- 1 Vicki Houston
- 8 Caro Lepain
- 15 Andrew McAvoy
- 22 Michelle Moro
- 29 Club Celebration

THANKER

- 1 Thom Hunt
- 8 Ken Lepain
- 15 Phil McCullough
- 22 Marg Prince
- 29 Club Celebration

GREETERS

- 1 Bob Graham
Deb Harshaw
- 8 Ilias Kiritsis
Nick Krayacich
- 15 Ed Link
Linda Lord
- 22 Diane McKinley
Bob Morand
- 29 Panos Sechopoulos
Lea-Ann Suzor

Rotarians assigned duties of introducer, thanker and greeter are responsible for finding a replacement if unable to fulfill the duties.

BOARD NEWS

- ◆ Attendance for February was 67%. Membership stands at 50.

COMMITTEE NEWS

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ▶ Committee voted to donate \$150 to Mark Hunt, \$250 to Battle of the Brains and \$250 to the London Military Family Support Centre.

YOUTH SERVICE

- ▶ Committee discussed Youth Exchange and possible host families. No suggestions at present. Discussion on interview process and goal to organize at least 2 members from the youth committee to conduct the home interviews next session for potential outbounders, obtain exit interview questionnaires, and choose members from youth committee to conduct interviews.

MEMBERSHIP

- ▶ Membership Recruitment Strategy was discussed and agreed by the committee. Will take to the Board for approval and then implementation. More details to come.
- ▶ Ganatchio Cleanup was discussed and will wait for a date from the Community Service Committee. Once set, the committee will look after the BBQ and the Community Service Committee will look after the cleanup details.

INTERNATIONAL

- ▶ The club has received confirmation from the Kozani Rotary Club that they have started the shelving project at the grade school in the town of Agios Germanos in Northern Greece and that they are working to reduce the costs of the project so additional assistance can be provided with the club contribution.

- ▶ The committee received a report and pictures from Phyllis and Paul Charbonneau on their visit to the Inner Wheel Club in Cozumel over the holidays. They will be asked to provide a report at a regular club meeting to inform the club of the good work accomplished in Cozumel with our support. Pictured below, the Charbonneau 'brigade' shops at the local Cancun WalMart for items to donate.



- ▶ Pictures were provided of the school children that will be helped in Afghanistan through the construction of a school for girls by the Canadian Rotary Clubs. The construction will be commencing shortly.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- ▶ The committee discussed strategies to improve club participation and involvement with the newsletter, the weekly bulletin and the web site. Select club members will be approached about assisting the PR committee in producing these publications.

Service Above Self



The Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair was founded November 20, 1975. Regular meetings are every Thursday at 7:15 a.m., at the Windsor Yacht Club, 9000 Riverside Drive, Windsor, Ontario. For more information visit www.rotarywindsorstclair.com.