

ROTATEL



News from the Rotary Club of Windsor St. Clair DECEMBER 2009

TV Auction raises close to \$54,000 for local community projects

When the bidding ended for this year at the 2009 Rotary Auction on TV COGECO, close to \$54,000 had been raised for Rotary Club of Windsor St. Clair and Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario (Windsor-Essex County Chapter) community initiatives.

"Many hours of planning and preparation went into the auction," says Chris Woodrow, chair of the 2009 organizing committee. "Without the generosity of local business donating the gifts, we wouldn't have an auction. I would like to thank them all for their community-minded spirit. This year we received close to 400 items. More than 50 volunteers, both Rotarians and others, who staffed the telephones and worked behind the scenes, deserve to be congratulated for a fine job. And the Windsor and Essex County community deserves a pat on the back for coming through for us in these difficult economic times. The Windsor Star was instrumental in promoting the auction and also deserves a vote of thanks."

The Heart and Stroke Foundation uses the monies raised to fund research, health promotion, and community improvement projects while the Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair also uses the money raised to benefit the community, and beyond. In the past, monies raised at the auction have benefited projects like the Ganatchio Trail, Shanfield Shores,



AUCTION SUCCESS: Much of the credit for a successful auction is due to local celebrities such as Mike Kakuk and Lisa Williams volunteering their time to help out at TV Cogeco.

and the Rotary boundary-free playground in the Town of Tecumseh.

This was the 23rd year that the Rotary Club of Windsor-St. Clair has partnered with TV Cogeco to present a television auction and plans will soon be underway for the event next year. "The staff at Cogeco does a fabulous job for us," says Woodrow, "and as soon as we close the books on 2009, planning will begin for next year."

YMCA honours Michael and Shelly Duben for RELAY work in Africa

Congratulations to Windsor St. Clair Rotarians Michael and Shelly Duben who last week were awarded YMCA Peace Medals. They were recognized by the YMCA for their RELAY work in

Africa and the many 'peace-building' activities associated with this volunteer work.

Each year, YMCAs across Canada dedicate the third week in November to celebrate YMCA Peace Week. A special highlight of the week is the awarding of the YMCA Peace Medal to individuals or groups who, without any special resources, demonstrate a commitment to peace through special contributions made within their communities or overseas. Since 1987, over 1100 individuals and groups

have received this award across Canada.



COMING EVENTS

- December 3 Christmas Party
- No Meeting
- December 8 Bingo Training
- December 9 Bingo Training
- December 10 Bingo Training
- December 16 Bingo Training
- December 17 Spitfires vs London
- December 24 No Meeting
- December 31 No Meeting

FOUR WAY TEST: Is it the truth?

Message from the PRESIDENT



Alan Drouillard

Greetings, Windsor St. Clair Rotarians. I want to extend my sincere thanks and congratulations to the TV Auction committee on an excellent job this year. My sincere appreciation to TV Auction Chair Chris Woodrow and his team for organizing an incredibly successful TV auction. I would be remiss if I didn't thank all club members who worked hard this year obtaining gifts for the auction. Thanks once again to all involved.

As we move into December, I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your families Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year. As Rotarians, we are all cognizant of the needs in our community and they are greater than ever. This year as Rotarians we again have the opportunity to assist the community with the **WE CARE, WE**

December Rotary To Do list

1. Enjoy the Christmas Season with Family and Friends
2. Bring in Breakfast Cereal for WE CARE, WE CAN
3. Sign Up to Present a Wii system
4. Sign up for E-Bingo Training
5. Join the New Club Fundraiser Committee

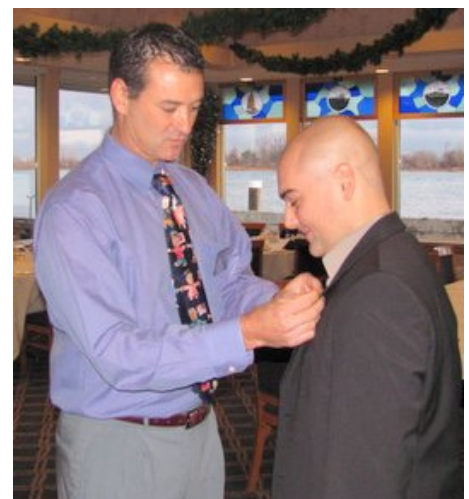
CAN Food Drive, which is an area Rotary Project and a component of the 3 Million Pound Challenge. We have been requested as Rotarians to assist in the collection of Breakfast Foods for the drive. I would encourage you at our next Rotary meeting to bring in a cereal box or two to aid in this effort. December is always a fun month in Rotary. We have our Christmas Party on December 3 and our Christmas Carol meeting on December 17, both are always fun events. I hope to see you there.

Another fun opportunity is the presentation of Wii Systems to 5 Retirement homes in our area. The Community Service Committee received a District Matching Grant for this outstanding project which has us donating Wii systems to the recreational departments of the Seniors Residences in our area, to promote exercise and fitness. The dates of the presentation range from December 4 to December 15 and we are in need of volunteers to attend these events, so visit our website to sign up.

Given the holiday schedule we will not have meetings on December 24 and December 31, however by no means do we have a lack of Rotary opportunities in December. Please once again visit our website and sign up for an activity as we are still in need of volunteers for concessions on December 17 and soup Kitchen on December 26. In addition, please sign up for the E Bingo training on December 8, 9, 10 and 16. We need 20 members trained for E Bingo to prepare for the launch in January.

Looking toward the second half of the Rotary year, we will turn our attention to a number of exciting planning opportunities. On January 20 we will be holding the first meeting of the **New Club Fundraiser** committee. All

are invited to participate in this brainstorming session. Please mark your calendar and sign up on the Website. Also in January we hope to present the club an idea for a New Community Project. Further into the year, we hope to update the Club Vision with the assistance of the District visioning team. More to follow on these in the January Rotatel. Once again all the best this Christmas Season. I look forward to a very exciting 2010 for our club.



WELCOME: Nick Krayacich (left) makes it official. Vini Brignol is the newest Windsor St. Clair Rotarian.

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday...

December 1	Caro Lepain
December 7	Charles Gauthier
December 7	Lea-Ann Suzor
December 22	Glenn Stannard
December 30	Ann-Marie Athavale

Happy Anniversary...

December 2	Alynn and Todd Anglin
December 5	Bruce and Paulette Taylor

Club Anniversary...

December 1	Charles Gauthier (30)
December 1	Bob Graham (32)
December 14	Nick Torra (9)

Award recognizes school for orphaned and handicapped

Tad Venkateswarlu is the recipient of the 2009-2010 Windsor St. Clair Rotary Club Humanitarian Award. Dr. Venkateswarlu has a long list of academic achievements, retiring as Librarian Emeritus from the University of Windsor in 2006. He was recognized in 2007 with an honorary doctorate from the University of Windsor.

But the Humanitarian Award recognizes his service work in India where in 1992 he founded the Educational Organization for Orphaned and Handicapped Children in Tenali. The school is located in a community with a population of 200,000. Within 30 miles it is surrounded by 100 villages. Most of the families exist as a result of working as seasonal agricultural labourers.

During the off season, the unemployment rate in the area can reach more than 40 percent with many of the inhabitants living in poverty. To achieve a better standard of living, many people migrate to other places to find work. Often during the migration process, children are abandoned and forced to take care of themselves and eventually become orphans. Tad Venkateswarlu began the school to help the poor, the disabled, single parents and the abandoned children. The school provides education, free books, room and board, health care, uniforms and vocational training.

The school provides vocational and academic training from students in grades one through 10 (equivalent to Grade 12). Dr. Venkateswarlu

established the vocational programs to enhance the skills of all children thus enabling them to find employment opportunities after graduation. The vocational courses consist of: carpentry, candle making, tailoring, embroidery, vegetable and fruit growing, chalk manufacturing and honey making.

Tad Venkateswarlu is a worthy recipient of the 2009-2010 Humanitarian Award.



WORLD POLIO DAY : Three Spanish physicists climbed 21,440-foot Chulu Far East in Nepal, timing the last leg of their ascent to coincide with World Polio Day. They received support from the Rotary clubs of Sant Pol de Mar-Montnegre, Spain, and Kathmandu, Nepal. (From left) Carlos Osuna, a Sherpa guide, Ignasi Reichardt, and Germano Nardini. Photo courtesy Severino Betancort

Reporting attendance is a responsibility of membership

Club members have been extremely active this year, attending Thursday meetings, at committee work and participating in the many fund raising initiatives we organize. In many cases, members are not receiving credit for the fine work they do.

As Rotarians, we commit to attending 50 percent of regular club meetings in each half of the year. Any missed meetings must be made up within 14 days of a regular meeting. If traveling, club members are encouraged to visit clubs in the new area to make up a missed meeting.

In our case, attendance can be made up through the many meetings and events we have. But the onus is on you to inform Secretary Phil McCullough of your actions. Either email or call him with the information or use the ClubRunner Make-Up feature to send him a message. It is extremely important that as a club, we meet our attendance requirement. So, if you are unable to attend on Thursdays but participate in Rotary through some other event, please let Phil know.

Another option is to participate in an interactive activity on a Rotary e-club Web site. This can be done through our website.



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

BOARD NEWS

- ◆ Attendance for October 2009 was 78.5%. As of November 26, 2009 club membership is 49.

COMMITTEE NEWS

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ▶ The Humanitarian Award will be presented to Tad Venkateswarlu (see Page 3) at a club meeting in January.
- ▶ Wii Program is being rolled out in the early part of December at area senior communities

YOUTH SERVICE

- ▶ Committee discussed policy of sending exchange student to RYLA as other clubs have done. District has indicated it would prefer local high school students be a priority. The committee supports this directive and will only send the

exchange student if local applicants are not found.

- ▶ Committee discussed 4 WAY TEST PROJECT focusing on poster projects, displaying posters at the WFCU Centre during a Spitfires game in March and participating classrooms and then following up with 'skate with the spits'.

MEMBERSHIP

- ▶ Christmas Party is scheduled for December 3 at the home of Ilias and Lena Kiritsis, 1864 Corbi Lane in Tecumseh. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. with Dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person—drinks included. Black tie optional.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

- ▶ New Member Proposals - Joselin Poirier (Poirier Electric) proposed by Diane McKinley.
- ▶ A request was received from the GSE Team leader Derek Locke to support the team in a project they may undertake while in Africa. The committee voted to support the GSE Team trip to West Africa (District 9100) with a donation of \$100.
- ▶ Discussion ensued on the annual support of the Inner Wheel club in Cozumel in relation to the reduction in the committee budget. Committee also discussed applying for funds from the District to offset this expenditure. It was resolved to donate \$2,000 of club funds to the Inner Wheel Club and to apply for a World Community Service Grant from the District of \$1,500. If successful the club would contribute \$2,500 to the Inner Wheel Club.

- ▶ The committee received a request to support the Educational

Organization for Orphaned and Handicapped Children (EOOHC) in India, a project started by Tad Venkateswarlu. In the past the club has sponsored two children at the school. It was resolved to donate \$500 to the EOOHC in recognition and in honour of Tad Venkateswarlu and all of the good work conducted at the school.

FOUNDATION

- ▶ The \$300 in proceeds from the sale of the car magnets will be donated to the Polio Eradication Fund.

WE CARE...WE CAN Food Drive

The 2009 **WE CARE...WE CAN Food Drive** kicked off earlier this Fall at the WFCU Centre. Last year, thanks to the hard work of Rotarians, over 350,000 pounds of non-perishable food was collected for local food banks. Organizers hope to exceed that amount this holiday season.

The initiative is a partnership between local rotary clubs, The Greater Essex County DSB, the Windsor Spitfires Junior Hockey club, local food bank associations and the Mayflower Moving Company.

Please bring breakfast items, particularly cereal, to the Thursday meeting. Arrangements will be made to have all donations picked up.

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.

Program Schedule DECEMBER

SPEAKER & TOPIC

- 10 Linda Lord/Personal Coaching
- 17 Christmas Carols/John Stevenett

INTRODUCER

- 10 Michael Duben
- 17 John Stevenett

THANKER

- 10 Arnie Charlton
- 17 Terry Cloutier

GREETERS

- 10 Dennis Arrand
Mike Browne
- 17 Paul and Phyllis
Charbonneau

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

FOUR WAY TEST: Will it be beneficial to all concerned?