



David LaBranche checks in from 'paradise'

'Hola' from Honorary Windsor St. Clair member David LaBranche, who is alive and well in Cozumel. Our club donated \$3,000 to the Inner Wheel Club of Cozumel and David kindly sent us a photograph of the cheque presentation.

In his message he mentions that the club is truly appreciative of the donation this year as the economy is very bad where he is and raising money is extremely difficult.

Inner Wheel Club is an international organization closely linked to Rotary International. Before 1989, Rotary generally prohibited women as members. As a result of their non-membership in Rotary, a second club was made for the wives and daughters of Rotarians, known as the Inner Wheel Club. Despite women now being able to join Rotary, there are Inner Wheel clubs in many countries.

Additionally, he donated 500 pesos (\$50) as a Pay it Forward gesture to the Chrysalis Group in Cozumel.

The Cozumel Chrysalis Group is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing financial scholastic support for the island's students. Mexican public school students pay a registration fee and must provide their own uniforms, classroom supplies and some books.

Many families in Cozumel lack the financial ability to send their children to school. The Cozumel Chrysalis Group

assists those students who show a desire to better their lives through education, so that they can meet and maintain established academic standards.

The organization began by assisting 16 students in 1995, and in 10 years that number has grown to over 250. Once a child enters the program, they receive assistance throughout their school years.



***Inner Wheel:** David LaBranche is in paradise with three members of the Inner Wheel Club of Cozumel.*



The 2009 Pluck-a-Duck Ticket Draw is scheduled for **May 9** at **3 p.m.** at Devonshire Mall, in front of Le Château which is close to the Food Court.

Come on out and participate in the draw - maybe you sold the winning ticket or better still, maybe you'll be a lucky winner.

COMING EVENTS

April 30-	District Conference
May 3	Mackinac Island
May 9	Pluck-a-Duck Draw
May 23	Shanfield Shores/ Ganatchio Trail Cleanup
May 28	Board Meeting
June 3	Nijola Golf Tournament

A look back at the life and times of Rotary's founder

*By Lauren Kalal and
Stephanie Giordano*

Rotary International News - 14 April 2009

Born in Racine, Wisconsin, USA, on 19 April 1868, Paul P. Harris was the second of six children of George N. and Cornelia Bryan Harris.

At age three, he moved to Wallingford, Vermont, where he grew up in the care of his paternal grandparents, Howard and Pamela Harris. He attended the University of Vermont and Princeton University and received his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1891.

While he was in school, both of Harris's grandparents died, and he spent the five years after graduation traveling around the country. After arriving penniless in San Francisco in 1891, he worked as a reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle and then as a ranch hand, grape picker, actor, and cowboy. He was also a hotel night clerk in Jacksonville, Florida, and a traveling marble and granite salesman.

In 1896, he settled in Chicago and opened a law practice. Along with Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and

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A Message from the President

Shelly Duben

At both the Polio Gala and at District Assembly, we had the pleasure of listening to Past Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson. On Friday evening, he spoke about the progress made in the fight to eliminate polio around the world and the need for us to increase our effort to get rid of this debilitating disease once and for all. Polio is still present in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria, and unfortunately, the number of new cases has increased in Nigeria. PDG Bob Gallagher and Mary Jean are planning to lead an NID to India in the fall and many other NIDs will take place over the next year to the other countries.

Polio is still present in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria

Wilf said that during his year as Rotary International President, he had the privilege of meeting the Secretary General of the United Nations on two occasions. On both of these occasions the Secretary General praised Rotary's efforts to eradicate Polio and promised his full support until our goal was reached. However, on both occasions he also brought up the United Nations Millennium Goals and asked Rotary for help in achieving them.

On Saturday morning, Wilf spoke to us about a new Rotary initiative called ROTA (Reach Out to Africa). He is chairing this initiative which was developed in response to the growing problems in Africa and in response to the request by the UN Secretary General.

The goals of ROTA are as follows:

- ▶ Mobilize African Rotarians in developing service projects that address community needs and motivate them to include "hands on" participation in these projects;
- ▶ Build awareness among Rotarians in developed countries of the compelling needs of the continent and motivate them in deploying resources to address these needs;
- ▶ Develop partnerships among Rotary clubs in Africa, Rotary clubs in other countries, and international organizations interested in humanitarian service. To include a special advocacy role for countries that share a language or close ties with Africa;
- ▶ Provide guidance on Rotary International and Foundation programs to Rotary clubs in Africa, especially as a resource for service projects and partnering with clubs in other countries;
- ▶ Facilitate communication and better understanding among Rotarians of different nations, religions, beliefs, cultures and communities as they work together;
- ▶ Involve youth and the Family of Rotary in the Reach Out to Africa Initiative to build bridges of understanding;
- ▶ Promote Rotary values and increase membership in Africa;
- ▶ Improve communication and the image of Rotary in Africa.

The ROTA task force also identified six areas for projects and activities:

- ▶ Water Management
- ▶ Health Initiatives (HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis)
- ▶ Literacy and Education
- ▶ Economic Empowerment
- ▶ Children's Welfare
- ▶ Disabilities



Polio Gala: Michael and Shelly Duben with Wilf Wilkinson.

It is clear that there will be a greater focus on projects in Africa by Rotary International over the next several years. We can see this starting at the District level as well, with DGE Neil McBeth's announcement of his District-wide project in Nigeria during his Rotary year. During a recent visit to the country Neil identified a community in Nigeria in great need of assistance and he is asking all Clubs to consider supporting this project in some way during the next Rotary year.

Windsor St. Clair should be proud of literacy and health initiatives in Africa

The Rotary Club of Windsor- St. Clair is ahead of much of the District in its support and implementation of projects in Africa. Over the past 8 years, we have worked with community partners to send a fire truck to Namibia; we have purchased food tunnels for an orphanage in South Africa; we have sent three R.E.L.A.Y. teams to Ghana, one to Kenya and we have plans to send one to Ethiopia in August and Ghana in December; and we have supported an anti-malaria project in Tanzania. Of our current membership, 11 members have traveled to Africa on one of these projects, with a total of 23 trips. We should be proud of our Club's support of literacy and education, water and sanitation, and health initiatives in Africa. I hope that we will continue our support for these projects and consider how else we can provide aid to the people of Africa.

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A look back at the life and times of Rotary's founder

Hiram Shorey, he founded the Rotary Club of Chicago in 1905 and was elected its president in 1907.

Club membership grew rapidly. Many members were originally from small towns and found an opportunity for fellowship in the Chicago club. Harris was convinced that the club could be expanded into a service movement and strove to extend Rotary to other communities.

In 1910, he met Jean Thompson during an outing with the Prairie Club, a Chicago-based organization for wilderness enthusiasts. Harris and Thompson married three months later and settled on Chicago's South Side.

In the same year, the National Association of Rotary Clubs was formed, and Harris was elected its first president. He held the office for two years and afterward became president emeritus, serving as the public face of the organization and promoting membership extension and service around the world.

He wrote several books about Rotary and his life and travels, including *The Founder of Rotary* and *This Rotarian Age*.

In addition to his work with Rotary, Harris was involved in other civic organizations, including the Chicago Association of

Commerce and Industry, City Club of Chicago, Chicago Bar Association, Prairie Club, and Easter Seals. He was also recognized by the Boy Scouts of America and honored by the governments of Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Peru.

Harris died on 27 January 1947, leaving a rich legacy of fellowship, professionalism, service, and friendship. His passing also sparked an outpouring of donations to The Rotary Foundation from all over the world, allowing the Foundation to greatly expand its programs and services.

PAY IT FORWARD

APRIL

Ann Fama

Ann knows of a young couple working in a diverse area in Toronto. They work full time but also spend time volunteering with street youth and sometimes struggle to keep up with their commitments. They work with a program that brings young people from across Ontario to teach them to minister and help other youth. Ann chose to support this couple and their work with street youth.

Thom Hunt

Thom arranged to have Laurel Hicks speak to the Club a few weeks ago about her involvement with a program called **Off the Mat**, a group of yoga instructors who volunteer time and resources to do charitable work in countries with high needs. Laurel is raising funds to return to Cambodia so Thom donated his money to her cause.

Steve Daley

Through the Salvation Army, Steve is involved with the **Clothing Closet**, a service at Hotel Dieu Hospital that provides clothing to patients being discharged from the psychiatric ward. Many patients don't have *street clothes* to wear when discharged, so the **Clothing Closet** provides clothes free of charge. Steve said they are often in need of track pants, particularly for men, so he used his funds to purchase clothing.

Nick Krayacich

Nick is also familiar with the **Clothing Closet** and gave \$25 to support the program. He also decided to perform a *Random Act of Kindness* by giving \$25 to the cashier at the drive through of his local Tim Horton's and asked that the money be used to buy the next several orders in line.

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, please visit
www.rotarywindsorstclair.com



The first four Rotarians (from left): Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey and Paul Harris.

BOARD NEWS

- ◆ Attendance for March was 87.8%. Our membership is unchanged at 51.
- ◆ With regret the Board accepted the resignation of **Laura (Gray) Miernicke** effective April 28, 2009.
- ◆ The Board approved **Leaves of Absence** for the following members: **Caro Lepain** and **Ken Lepain** from April 28 - May 30, 2009 due to illness; and **Meg Bang** from April 28 - June 30, 2009 due to business pressures.

New Member Proposals:

- ◆ Dan Allen (classification - City Councillor, Retired) proposed by Michael Duben
- ◆ John Caro (classification - Entertainment Centre) proposed by Michael Duben
- ◆ Laurel Hicks (classification - Automotive Engineer) proposed by Thom Hunt.

If you have not done so please review your contact information on the club web site. Once you login to the members-only section go to My ClubRunner, click on View Club Directory and click on your name.

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

Committee Reports...Committee Reports...Committee Reports

Community Service

- ▶ Committee received several requests for funding which were filed. Motion to provide \$250 to WETRA – which was carried.
- ▶ **Volunteers to lead Community Service Projects:** Golden Oldie Awards - Phil McCullough; Saturday Night Soup Kitchen - Alan Drouillard; Ganatchio Trail Clean Up Ed Link ; Humanitarian Award Alynng Anglin, Bruce Taylor.

International Service

- ▶ Committee has been looking for a potential project in northern Greece

in the village where Ilias Kiritsis was raised. There has been some email correspondence and waiting for a reply. In a neighbouring village, there is a school which may need some assistance. Ilias will continue to explore potential projects there. If this project does not materialize, Panos and Ilias will explore the possibility of a project in southern Greece, where many homes were destroyed last year in fires.

- ▶ **RELAY – Voice for Hope** – Quotes and blueprints have been received from Ethiopia. The two room building quoted may be used as a community centre and library. Funds have already been sent for a toilet facility and will be completed before the team arrives. \$3500 remains from Grosse Pointe Rotary for a water project. Part of the purpose of the project is needs assessment. Once the team arrives in Ethiopia, it will determine other community needs. A new aspect for fundraising for this project is that each team member will be expected to raise a minimum of \$500 for the project. Each member will be given a fundraising “form” similar to the one Carl Fama showed the Club for his trip to Ecuador

Membership

- ▶ Shanfield Shores/Ganatchio Trail Clean Up - the work stoppage at the City of Windsor may affect plans. May have to postpone planting, if so, will go ahead with the cleanup of the trail- rain or shine.
- ▶ Nijola Golf tournament – has been scheduled for June 3 at Kingsville Golf and County Club.
- ▶ The Peche Isle event is scheduled for July 19, 11am- 5 pm. Tentative agenda: transport to island 11a.m.-noon; Dedication of the Rotary Peace Park 12:30-1 p.m.; Lunch 1-2 p.m.; followed by guided tour of the Island. City shuttle back for those who want to return early. Cichon's to transport the remaining participants.
- ▶ The President Elect swearing in ceremony will be at Shanfield Shores Park on June 25.

Youth Service

- ▶ 4-Way Test Contest, decided as a committee, to limit contest to one school this year, in order to maintain reasonable work load for committee members. St. Pius to participate this year, 3 grade 8 classes, totaling approximately 90 students.
- ▶ Interact Update - Bob Morand and Terry Cloutier to make brief presentation to the teachers of St. Joseph's H.S.
- ▶ Request for funding for Pedometer Project - motion to provide \$250 which carried.

Program Schedule for MAY

SPEAKER & TOPIC

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 7 | RYLA Students and former Exchange Student Carley Schweitzer |
| 14 | Luciana Rosu-Sieza/BANA |
| 21 | Marie Mailloux/ Armed Forces Family Resource Centre |
| 28 | Club Celebration |

INTRODUCER

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 7 | Debra Harshaw |
| 14 | Panos Sechopoulos |
| 21 | Hardy Wheeler |

THANKER

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 7 | Michelle Moro |
| 14 | Bill Proulx |
| 21 | Lea-Ann Suzor |

GREETERS

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 7 | Dick Marentette
Diane McKinley |
| 14 | Bob Morand
Marg Prince |
| 21 | Danielle Stuebing
Bruce Taylor |
| 28 | Chris Woodrow
Carlo Abati |

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

BINGO UPDATE



The Club should be receiving an update on Electronic Bingo within the next 2 - 3 months. Charity responsibilities will be communicated as soon as possible.

Bingo has contributed large financial opportunities to our Rotary Club. Please consider signing up for either a four hour, or six hour time slot.

The Bingo presently has 27 time slots available.

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday...

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| May 1 | Carlo Abati |
| May 2 | Karen Cichon |
| May 2 | Todd Grondin |
| May 7 | Gary McNamara |
| May 8 | Ann Fama |
| May 15 | Diane McKinley |
| May 25 | Steve Daley |
| May 25 | Phyllis Charbonneau |
| May 28 | Bill Carey |

Happy Anniversary...

- | | |
|-------|------------------------|
| May 5 | Chris and Teri Woodrow |
| May 8 | Mike and Bonnie Brown |