



THE BULLETIN



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Brian Thompson**

RI President Gary C.K. Huang

Week February 25, 2015

Board 2014-2015

President: Mark Winson, Past President Michael Bell, President Elect: Jack Fleming, Secretary: Ron Miller,

Treasurer: Don Edwards

Directors: Donna Cansfield, Gregory Dobson, Gillian Dugas, Ingrid McGaughey, Frederik Martin, Kester Trim, Hugh Williams

March 04, 2015 – SPEAKER: Allison MCDONALD – Executive Director Salvation Army Mental Health

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek

Today's Speakers: Susan
CHAMBERLAIN & Seana MASSEY
George Hull Center for Children and
Families



President Mark introduced Susan and Seana. Susan is the Director of Residential and Day Treatment Services and Seana is the Director of Development at the George Hull Centre for Children and Families.

Susan Chamberlain began by saying that 2015 will mark 30 years of George Hull Centre providing children's mental health services to children and their families in Etobicoke. The Centre is named after George Hull, an educator and Principle in Etobicoke, who had a "compassion" to help "struggling kids to become as successful as he had become".

The Centre is an accredited children's mental health centre serving children 0-18 and their families. These children and families present a wide range of challenges. Susan noted that children's mental health is the "reason they are there". George Hull offers a continuum of services with a "multidisciplinary approach". They have 3 main areas of focus; Prevention and Early Intervention; Community Clinic; and Residential and Day Treatment programs. The Early Years Program offers programs to children 0-6 and their parents and caregivers. The Preschool speech and language services helps children who can't communicate the "way a child of that age should". This may include referral to a psychiatrist. The Highfield Community Enrichment Program in North Etobicoke is a "valuable service" which helps promote healthy child development and family wellness in disadvantaged areas (as well as new to Canada understand their new surroundings). The Etobicoke Brighter Futures Coalition is a collaborative group of community partners that "work together to plan, develop and deliver services and programs that will improve the health and well-being of young children within the context of their families and their communities" through family group counselling. The Community Clinic services include specialized assessment; family, individual and group treatment; and psychological and psychiatric consultation. The Residential and Day Treatment Programs are the "most intense". The George Hull Centre has 2 residential treatment programs, Libby's Place and the Boys House, for youth who are experiencing complex and long standing difficulties. The Day

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programs at Dixon Grove School and Western Tech are for students who can't deal with regular school or high school. The value George Hull puts on the families is the belief that for a child to have success in treatment, the whole family must be involved. The family has an impact on who they are. The family has to be present. Susan turned the presentation over to Seana.

Seana began by first saying that she was impressed by how "lovely, fascinating, and dynamic" our Club members were and that Gill Dugas is well known at George Hull.

She noted that Susan spoke about "what we do at GHC – the programs and services". She wanted to tell about the "WHY they do it".

1 in 5 children in Ontario struggles with their mental health

70-80% of all mental illnesses appear before the age of 18

When children do not get the help they need, problems can escalate and become more difficult to treat, making them more vulnerable and less reliant as they approach adulthood. When left untreated, children in distress can drop out of school, become violent, withdraw into silence and isolation, become suicidal, or turn to drugs, alcohol, prostitution and gangs.

In 2010, the economic cost attributable to untreated mental health disorders was over \$22 billion, with the need for service and cost of treatment constantly on the rise.

The children of today will be the future leaders and workforce of tomorrow and in order to succeed they will need to be confident, self-supporting and adaptable. GHC is here to help children be all they can be.

Seana joined GHC 3 years ago as Director of Development and is "inspired everyday by the degree to which children's lives are being impacted, the profound care and dedication of the staff, the outstanding quality of the Centre's programs, and the overall sense that this is a very special place". That in turn inspires her fundraising for the Centre. One of the greatest challenges the Centre faces is the "discrepancy between the increasing demand for

service, the increasing cost of service, and the level of government funding".

Their fundraisers include an annual "Laugh Out Loud" comedy night attended by over 300 guests. For the Past 11 years RBC Capital Markets have "generously hosted the "Blue Chip" Poker Tournament. Philanthropic individuals, corporations, and foundations also support their programs. They just completed a "capital campaign" that raised \$1 million to support the leasehold improvement costs of an unexpected move to a new building. Seana wanted to take this opportunity to thank our Club for our donation of \$5,000 to purchase a "new and much bigger and brighter aquarium" for their Reception Centre. Nothing makes her happier than to see "children's faces squished up against the glass and talking to the fish while they are waiting for their appointments". It has a "real calming" influence on the children. She says she will be turning her fundraising efforts towards a new "pilot project" to help reduce the Centre's waitlist. With the ever increasing demand for service, they are not able to treat all the children and families who need their services. They are looking at creating "Brief Therapy Services" in the form of a walk-in type clinic to provide a place for a child to receive help to address a troubling and painful mental health issue, without waiting for an appointment.



The vision of GHC is for all children, youth and families to receive the mental health treatment they need, when they need it. They are there to help children and families "rediscover their competence

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and realize their full potential, helping them to have the fulfilling lives each one of us deserves”.

President Mark thanked Susan and Seana for their informative presentation.



50/50 Draw

Hugh WILLIAMS – Jack of Hearts. The pot \$600+ continues to grow.

Birthdays This Week



Ingrid MCGAUGHEY – Feb 23rd

Best wishes on your Happy Day ...

Hands on Etobicoke – St Joseph's Health Center for Children's Treasure Toy Chest



Gill and Andre Dugas delivered toys to St' Joseph's Health Centre for the Children's Treasure Toy Chest. The toys are given to children after they undergo medical procedures at the hospital. The also delivered flowers and note cards that were distributed to seniors at SJHC.

Visitors & Guests



Visitors and Guests:

- ✚ Susan Chamberlain – George Hull Centre - Speaker
- ✚ Seana Massey - George Hull Centre - Speaker

Attendance:

Members 12
Visitors & Guests - 03
Total – 15

Dinner with Rotary International President Gary Huang – Tuesday, March 24, 2015

President Mark wanted to remind everyone that all members are invited to attend a dinner with Rotary International President Gary Huang on Tuesday, March 24th at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, 600 Hwy 7 East in Richmond Hill (6:00 PM – cocktails; 7:00 PM – dinner). This is an opportunity to meet the RI President and other Rotarians from across District 7070. Coincidentally it will coincide with the **85th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke** of which President Huang will make recognition of at the dinner. Tickets are \$55 (\$65 at the door if there is room). To get tickets go to the District 7070 website www.Rotary7070.org and click on the link. Also, if you are planning to attend could you please let President Mark or Ron Miller know.

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Secretary's Announcements



*Monday, March 9th – Board meeting – 6:00 pm
(food) 6:30 pm (meeting start) – Rotary Clubhouse*

HAPPY BUCKS



Michael Bell – Michael was happy to ask what the significance was of the numbers “110 and 30”. Last Monday (February 23rd) was the 110th Anniversary of the founding of Rotary. As well, this week marks the 30th Anniversary of Rotary’s End Polio campaign. Since the beginning of the program when over 900 cases a day were reported worldwide, it has now been reduced to less than 1 per day. From over 130 countries with endemic Polio when the program began, it has now been reduced to 3 countries; Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. However, Nigeria has not reported a new case of Polio in the past 6 months. If this continues in Nigeria, all of Africa could be declared Polio Free in the near future.

Lynda Ryder – Lynda was happy for several reasons. On Saturday she was at York University with Past RI President Wilf Wilkinson for the “End Polio Now” judging. There were 30 students participating in case studies on “how to end Polio in Pakistan”. Some of the suggestions made were “innovative”. One student suggested “putting the vaccine in candy” and giving it to the children. The winning student, who was from Pakistan suggested the “3 Cups of Tea” method. The 1st cup...you are a friend; the 2nd cup...you are and honoured guest; the 3rd cup...you are family. Lynda was also happy to say that she was in Ottawa on Sunday, again with Wilf Wilkinson, to help celebrate the 110th Anniversary of Rotary, along with MP Brad Butt at the Rotary Club of Ottawa. Brad Butt also made an announcement in Parliament about Rotary and its anniversary. Lynda also attended a meeting at the Northumberland Sunrise Rotary Club to celebrate their 25 years in Rotary. They talked about “what has changed in Rotary over those 25 years. One of the main things is the inclusion women members. They also spoke about fellowship; more “kindness” to each other; and great community involvement. And finally Lynda was happy to say that she met Mayor John Tory yesterday.

Hugh Williams – Hugh was happy to say that over the past few years we have been celebrating “Heroes Day” at Ribfest on June 30th, the day ahead of Canada Day. Every year has been a little different as we have honoured the military one year, then EMS, then community “heroes”. Hugh said we will be continuing to do this hopefully every year. Hugh added that our Club member, MP Kirsty Duncan is taking the idea to Parliament in the

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hopes of having a recognized “Heroes Day” across Canada.

Gill Dugas – Gill was happy to say that 8 of our members participated in the “Coldest Night of the Year” walk last Saturday. While it wasn’t necessarily the coldest night, the significant snowfall during the day made the walking “challenging”. The Club sponsored the walk with a \$1,000 donation that covered some of the costs for the “wonderful food and advertising”. The Club also paid the \$25 entry fee for each of the members who participated. The members also raised \$600 in personal donations for the walk. The majority did the 2 km walk with a couple “hearty” members completing the 5 km walk. Everyone had a “great time”. While our portion of the walk was to aid “Haven on the Queensway”, the walk is a Canada-wide fundraiser to help the homeless in many communities. Their goal across Canada was to raise \$3 million. Gill said that at last count they were up to \$2.9 million. Gill added that there were many other Rotary Clubs across the country involved in the walk.



Government Services Fair at Cloverdale Mall. Our Club had a booth there where we displayed banners for the Club and for Ribfest. Mark noted that after 16 years of Ribfest he is surprised that so many people still don’t relate Ribfest with Rotary. This was a good opportunity to try and reinforce the fact that our Club is responsible for Ribfest. This is a “great community event” put on by MPP’s Yvan Baker and Peter Milczyn that bring together a number of the community and government service organizations that serve Etobicoke. Mark went around visiting the many community service organizations in attendance and noted that there were many of them that our Club had contributed to. Many of them came to our booth as well thanking the Club for things we have done for them. There is also a “huge” Gill and Andre Dugas fan club among many of these organizations.



Mark Winson – Mark was happy to say that also last Saturday was the Community and