



THE BULLETIN



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Michael Bell**

RI President : K.R "Ravi" Ravindran

Week July 08, 2015

Board 2014-2015

President: Jack Fleming Past President Mark Winson, President Elect: Gregg Dobson, Secretary: Ron Miller,

Treasurer: Don Edwards

Directors: Donna Cansfield, Andre Dugas, Gillian Dugas, Gerald Lue, Kester Trim, Lynda Ryder, Hugh Williams.

Next Meeting: July 15, 2015 – Club Social BIF – “Celebration – From One Great Year to Another. 6.30 PM The Biermarkt, On the Queensway

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek

Today's Speaker: President Jack's "Throne Speech" – His Overview of Plans for 2015-16



Thank you for the honour and the responsibility of being your President.

Before I go any further, I would like to acknowledge and thank Mark Winson for his leadership over the past year. He was the perfect example of an understated, but effective and active leader. He gave much to the Club, in his presence and in his measured style of handling issues and challenges. We should all be grateful!

I am excited about our outlook this year for many reasons:

- First, I think about the history and the tradition of this Club. It is truly an honour to

represent this Club, that serves as a leader in District 7070 and within Rotary International

- But, beyond that aspect, I look at what we are doing. I observe the work of so many people (that I will not try to mention) who demonstrate every day their commitment to our Club and to Rotary, but they do it because they really want to!!
- Since I have returned to the Toronto area, I have gained a new appreciation for Rotary ... for what our Club does on so many fronts ... & ... for the impact we are making on the lives of so many people
- Our community is so different from what it was when I joined this Club in the mid-80s.
- The sheer population growth, the economic growth, the changing demographics and the over all shift in the social landscape
- All of this has resulted in new pressures, greater needs and increased demands for our services

Today, I want to focus on all of the positives that exist today for the Club. I look forward to us leveraging all of our good work. But, as a leader, it is also my responsibility to address potential issues that might be confronting our Club. And, we will.

First, I want to speak about 'Parties'!! You have indicated you want more social events, so you are going to get them!!

July 15th: Our BIF will be held next Wednesday at Biermarkt; it will be a chance to mark the transition from 2014-15 to the new Club year!!

As you know, in late April, we circulated a Survey to all Club members. On *Wednesday, July 22nd*, Virginia

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O'Rielly will be our guest speaker and will walk us thru the findings from that survey and will help us interpret the feedback.

Looking ahead, here are some key dates and important events and activities:

- On *August 12th*, our newly installed District Governor will make his 'formal visit' to our Club and will bring us the 'message from District 7070'
- On *September 26th*, we will hold a 'Visioning Session' for the Club:
 - We hope that we will have a very strong turnout and that the experience will help us clarify a 'strategic vision' for the Club that will help guide us thru the next 3-5 years
 - The session requires 3 – 3 ½ hours; more details will be provided during the summer
 - It will be facilitated by an experienced and well-qualified team from our District
- We will all want to make plans to attend the 7070 District Conference:
 - It will be held on **Friday (October 23rd) thru Sunday (October 25th)** at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel
 - This will be Michael Bell's 'conference'; Paul Roeser is serving as Chair of the Planning Committee
 - The program will be very strong and we have Second City coming for our major evening event
 - I know Michael will appreciate your support and a strong attendance
- In December, we will have our Christmas Gathering:
 - I would like to get feedback from the Members
 - We want to have a fun evening for the Club, but we thought it might be interesting to consider another form of evening celebration
 - Please feel free to provide me with your thoughts
- District 7070 Training and Educational sessions are important:
 - They are well organized and facilitated by very capable and knowledgeable Rotarians
 - I hope the we will take advantage of these opportunities:

- Rotary Leadership Institute
- District Assembly Etc...
- We will be providing advance notice and information to all of you

OK, so much for the propaganda. I think you might want to hear about some of the ideas and initiatives that we will explore and undertake in the months ahead:

- In late August, the Ribfest Committee will be convened for a formal debrief on this year's event.
- Ribfest is a major undertaking and it is imperative that we conduct a thorough review, assess our progress after 16 years and examine our shortcomings, our vulnerabilities and new opportunities.
- In September, we anticipate conducting the 'Official Opening' of the MicroSkills / Rotary Youth Centre:
 - As you know, this 'Legacy Project' was launched in the Summer of 2013 in partnership with the Rotary Club of Toronto West
 - The Centre has been relocated to larger space
 - The interior work is just being completed
 - And, the final aspect will allow us to provide new technology
 - We will have a 'Press Day' and we will want a big turnout
 - And, we will invite MicroSkills to come and report on the experience and the impact this will make on their important work in the future
- I think you are all aware that, thru the significant efforts of Maati Lahroussi, we have established the base for a new Rotaract Club at Humber College:
 - We are excited about this new initiative that will strengthen even further our relationship with Humber
 - However, this development puts even more pressure on our Club
 - We already have a responsibility to the York Rotaract Club
 - We cannot take that responsibility lightly

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- So, we will be forming a 'Rotaract Sub-Committee' to liaise and support both Clubs
- We hope to have a team of 7 or 8 members
- By doing so, we will be able to 'share the load' and will be able to participate in Rotaract activities without having the assignment resting on the shoulders of one or two people
- Our 'Big Idea Forums' have been a terrific success and we believe that there is an opportunity to take these events to another level:
 - So, we are contemplating a strategy to 'take the BIFs on the road'
 - The idea here is to hold a BIF once per Quarter elsewhere in Etobicoke
 - By doing so, we would reach out to other 'communities' that we should get to know better and that we might be able to help
 - And, it would be a two-way street; we would have a chance to tell them more about Rotary and about our Club
 - Possibly, if these efforts are successful, it might even form the basis for a new Rotary Club in Etobicoke
- New Members:
 - We have been very fortunate over the past 3 years to have had significant grow in our numbers ... and ... more importantly, we have added some wonderful and very capable people to our roster
 - Our reputation in the community has been very important in bringing people to us; they search us out.
 - But we cannot rest on our laurels; we need to encourage others to join us and contribute to the important work that we do
 - And, we need to add 'younger' people to the roles
 - ? For me, that pretty much means anyone is 'younger', but you know what I mean
 - Diane Irvine has served as our Chair of Membership over the past year, but she has asked that she be relieved of that leadership role. She will remain on the Committee
- Fund-Raising Opportunities:
 - Obviously, Ribfest is the basis for the funds we raise every year
 - And, it has contributed significantly!!
 - But, maybe we have other opportunities that we have not explored
- Last month, I reported to the Club that our expenses, from Rotary International and from the District, are going up
 - What I did not report, was that there is a real possibility that the Old Mill will want to raise the cost of our lunches
 - We considered raising our Dues, but after considerable reflection we decided not to do so this year
 - Instead, we want to consider having some fun, social events that might serve as 'mini-fundraisers'; by doing so, we could strengthen the cash position of the Club and offset these increasing expenses
 - But, that is just one aspect; I think it may be possible to create some other fundraising efforts that would generate additional funds without the level of commitment needed to run the Ribfest event
- Fund-Raising Sub-Committee:
 - Our 'Budgets' are not set, but we anticipate more limited funds!!
 - We would like to form a Sub-Committee to address future opportunities
 - I believe that the Chairs of the Service Committees should sit on this Sub-Committee
 - If these Committees are going to be putting our funds to work in our community and abroad, they should have a role and a responsibility to help strategize new fund-raising initiatives
- Hands On Activities:
 - The work in this area has been so positive for our Club
 - The activities have covered a broad range of issues and opportunities
 - The efforts have raised the profile of our Club
 - I would encourage all members to become involved in these activities

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- The work is important and, indirectly, I believe these activities can further connect us in the community ... and ... will be a source of new members!!
 - Rotary Club of Toronto West:
- We have formed a very positive working relationship
- The MicroSkills project is a terrific example
- We have a good communication going with regard to 'Hands On' opportunities
- Preliminary steps have been taken to address the 'Youth Violence Issues' in our community

■ Club Leadership:

- In front of you is the Board of Directors roster and an indication of the roles and responsibilities they will take on
- Please reach out to them; let them know of your interests; tell them if you have any concerns
- I will be making an effort to reach out to every Club member and to ask for input
- We need your thoughts and your ideas
- Even more importantly, we need your involvement
- Real leadership in our Club does not come from a few people with titles who sit on a few committees
- It comes from the individual contributions and involvement of every Member; that is when real leadership takes place
- Please give that some serious thought!!

My fellow Rotarians, we are part of a very successful and respected Club. We have a great tradition ... and ... a responsibility to build on our history and make even greater contributions to our community going forward.

I look forward to working alongside you this year.
Best wishes for our continued success!!

The Official District Governor Hand-off

Past District Governor Brian Thompson was in attendance today to "officially" hand-off his DG title to our new District Governor Michael Bell. He first wanted to present Michael with the "heirloom" DG



pin that has been worn by each successive DG since Bill Patchett was Governor. Brian also wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone for "the support he had received during his year and wanted everyone to continue their support for Michael in this coming year" He said it is "a pleasure hand over to Michael and knows that he will do extremely well this year". Brian had "one more duty", to present the "Home Club of the District Governor" banner to Michael. This banner will be displayed at all of our Club meetings this year.

President and Past President Presentations

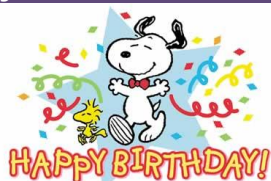


President Jack wanted to recognize Past President Mark Winson by presenting him with a "Rotary" watch as a memento of "all the great work he has done for the Club this year". Jack hopes that every time he looks at it he will "think about us and think

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about Ribfest". Mark, as the now Past President", was happy to present President Jack with his President's Pin. He said that he promised Jack that he would "bring the Club to him in one piece and thinks that he has succeeded doing that". He added that he feels that he is leaving the Club in "decent shape" and that he is "comfortable handing the mantle over to Jack who he thinks will do an admirable job this year". He offers his "thoughts and sympathies".

Birthdays



Drew CLAXTON - June 27
Justin DiCIANO - Jul 01
John CAMPBELL - July 06

Best wishes on your Happy Day ...

Club Administration

Club Social BIF - "Celebration - From One Great Year to Another!!

Wednesday, July 15th 2015

@

The Biermarkt

(On The Queensway across from Sherway Gardens)

6:30PM

Members and Guests Invited!!!

This will be a fun evening. A time to celebrate!

In Addition:

Judge Karen McMillan will be holding a Canadian Citizenship Re-affirmation Ceremony

The Menu will include:

Whole Roasted Suckling Pig

Vegetarian Spring Rolls

Crispy Asparagus & Aioli

Markt Frites

Cash Bar

Cost Per Person: \$15.00

We look forward to seeing you on the 15th!!!

Lynn Manwar

President Jack wanted our members to know that Lynn Manwar was undergoing chemo again and is suggesting that "it would be great if members could send a card or message to her to show that we care about her and to show our support".

50/50 Draw



A new year - a new deck of cards; and a new \$\$ pot: **Russ Morreale - 7 of Clubs.**

Visitors & Guests

Visiting Rotarians

- ✦ Past District Governor Brian Thompson - Whitby Sunrise
- ✦ George Corn - Bracebridge-Muskoka Lakes
- ✦ Neil Phillips - Toronto
- ✦ Pat Neuman - Toronto
- ✦ Susan Hunter - Toronto

Visitors & Guests

- ❖ Karen Thompson - Guest of Brian Thompson
- ❖ Rhena Fleming - Guest of Jack Fleming
- ❖ Jo-Ann Bell - Guest of Michael Bell

Attendance

Members 22

Visitors & Guests - 08

Total - 30

George Cobb - Rotary Club of Bracebridge-Muskoka Lakes:

President Jack wanted to introduce his friend George

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Corn from the Bracebridge-Muskoka Lakes Rotary Club. George was responsible for introducing Jack to Bruce Kruger, our Town Crier at the Ribfest Citizenship Ceremony (who is also a member of the Bracebridge-Kawartha Lakes Club). Jack presented George with a thank you letter for Bruce and a cheque to the B-ML Club.

HAPPY BUCKS



Mark Winson – Mark was happy that he didn't have to say anything.

Frederik Martin – Frederik was happy to be back at a meeting.

Russ Morreale – Russ was happy to wish Jack well as our new President. He added that he was "one of the idiots that proceeded Jack as President".

Peter Dusek – Peter was happy to be here for Jack's first meeting as President and thinks "we will have a great year under his leadership". He added that it was a "such a great pleasure" working with Past President Mark over the past year. Peter was also happy that Ribfest was over. And finally Peter was "extremely" happy to say that yesterday he found out that he was picked as one of the artists selected to display his photos in an art show that is "hard to get into". The show is put on by the Ontario Society of Art which helps to "energize artists".

Lynda Ryder – Lynda was happy to tell Jack that this should be a "memorable day" for both Jack and Michael. She said she remembers that on her first day as President she was "scarred". She was never as prepared as she thinks Jack is. She also remembers being "emotional" on her first day as District Governor but was thankful for all the help she received from Don, Bob, Frederik, Diane and others. She was also happy to say that everyone should go to Peter Dusek's website and look at "Tranquility". It "really is tranquil". And finally she wanted to sing Happy Birthday to Bob Maxwell.

Paul Roejer – Paul was happy to say "congratulations" to Mark and he can now "covet" being a Past President. He also was happy to congratulate President Jack who he thinks will have a "great year" as it seems as if he already has everything "well planned through the year".

Michael Bell – Michael was happy to thank the Club "for all the support" he has received so far as he become District Governor. He said he didn't really look for the job, "they came looking for me". He put his name in and it was selected. Michael is also happy to say that he thinks this will be an "exciting year" that may become a "critical, amazing, and wonderful" year in general for Rotary. At this year's International Convention they announced that "we are not years but months away from an announcement about the end of Polio". We are just several months away from declaring Nigeria Polio free. That leaves just Pakistan and Afghanistan, and cases there are "dwindling". When this comes the "focus" will be on Rotary. Michael said it is time to "get our Clubs in order; get our "house" in order". He thinks this is a "very exciting time to be a Rotarian". This may be especially true with the 2018 RI Convention to take place here in Toronto.

Jay Douglas – Jay was happy to begin by singing a few lines from "It's a Wonderful World". He said today "wonderful, great day". He remembers his first day being exposed to Rotary when came to one of our meetings and was greeted warmly by Ron, Hugh, Jack and Michael. He saw the "Four-way Test" banner and our "service above self" motto and was very impressed. He found a group that "led by example" and was "thankful" for having him here and "trusting" him to "pass on the word" and to demonstrate what "service about self" is really about!