



# WEEKLY UPDATE



## Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Ted Koziel

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka

Week July 25, 2012

Board 2011 - 2012

*President: Hugh Williams, Secretary: Ron Miller, Treasurer: Don Edwards*

***Speaker: August 01, 2012 - International Day Clubs International Projects***

### This Week's Surprise Speakers!

Hugh's remembrance of Dr. Stephen Covey and his book "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" was bumped from the agenda and the floor was given to two surprise visitors:

- Brock Buchanan (former club member now from Moshi Club in Tanzania); and,
- Bill Patchett (Foundation's bag man and member extraordinaire from Rotary Club of Cobourg).

Both gentlemen had a unique message to bring...

#### **Brock Buchanan:**

Brock is now working in Tanzania with an organization called "Amani" (<http://amanikids.org/>) as a corporate fundraiser. This organization works with street children and AIDS orphans. However, the update Brock brought the club was about two particular children and one school...

- a) Last year the club heard an appeal from Delphi (Brock's wife) to help a young, bright girl named Rahman who had extremely bowed legs which would break if an operation was not done. The girl's family could not afford this, and she was doomed. However, with the club's help and with help from others including Brock's family, Rahman has now had two successful operations - one for each leg - and she is going to recover excellently. Her problem now is boredom. Bored, bored, bored, because, being so bright but bed-ridden after the operations,

she has nothing to do and will miss her year of school. Probably the smartest child in her class, she is trying to keep up by reading whatever books are available (and Brock gift-wrapped about five for her), along with accessing whatever lesson plans are available.

- b) Just recently 12-year old Jackson who's foot was crushed by being run over by a truck, had it repaired at Sick Kids Hospital as part of a Herbie Fund donation. Brock will be taking Jackson and his 9 year old brother Ernie back to Tanzania when he goes back in a couple of weeks. Needless to say, Ernie is enjoying our kid-friendly city of Toronto! And, Jackson is doing great with the "new" foot.
- c) Last year Brock asked the club for some funding for a school outside Moshi which trains young men who would otherwise have no opportunities or skills to become mechanics. They were in desperate need of tools and materials for the training and our club provided them with funds in order to meet their immediate needs and be able to undertake training. Turns out that our support was so successful, when Brock asked before coming how things were going, the school told him that no more funds were required and that they were doing very well! Their students were being trained and finding jobs.

#### **Bill Patchett:**

Not to worry, everyone left the meeting with their shirt still on. Bill was actually not here to talk to us about Foundation. NO, instead, Bill's

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message was one of fun and frivolity - or at least the most fun and frivolity you can have at the Cobourg Best Western. Yes, it was a message of a birthday party and celebration for Dr. Bob Scott, Rotary's champion of polio eradication and a great Canadian, who will be turning 80 next year.

Although Bill told us lots of details - they are a secret(!), so this author chooses NOT to divulge them in our newsletter, which as everyone knows, is read far and wide throughout the Rotary world. So Bob, if you are reading this, ignore the rumours of jugglers and fire eaters following the Beatles reunion concert. Here's what details are allowed for print:

Date: May 31, 2013

Cost: \$200/ticket.

Tax Receipt: \$135 - donation to be made in Bob's name to Polio eradication.

Location: Cobourg Best Western

Capacity: 300 (!) So get your tickets NOW people. Not tomorrow. Now.

Accommodation: Bill's house is full, but he's arranging for great rates at local hotels.

Bill did brought an update re: Foundation and Polio. Our District 7070 was the highest giver to Foundation in Canada! Last year 7070 gave \$838,000. Our goal for this year (as people instinctively put their hands over their back pockets) is \$900,000. Our goal for next year \$1,000,000.

District is doing a lot already to raise this kind of money and awareness. For example, Garry Clement, who launched his 1000 Mile Run at Toronto Ribfest's "Rib Run" is well on his way to raising \$1,000,000 himself.

## The Flowers

Lynn Freeman dropped off the flowers and said a quick hello. However, because there was no official guest speaker today, the flowers went to our Birthday Boy - Bob Maxwell!

## Club Leadership:

There are open Board and Director Positions in the club:

- Director, Club Administration
- International Services Chair
- Vice President



**Nigel Brown** - Nigel was happy to be back after a holiday in Switzerland.



## Visiting Rotarians

**Brock Buchanan** - Rotary Club of Moshe, Tanzania

**Bill Patchett** - Rotary Club of Cobourg

## Rotary Makeup

**Ralph Chiodo** - Amantea, Italy.

## Secretary's Corner

*By Ron Miller*

*Following announcements were made*

- **August 07, 2012** - Board Meeting Venue - TBA.
- **August 16<sup>th</sup>** - the second "Third Thursday" meeting at the Kalamata Restaurant, 3473 Lake Shore Blvd. W. - 7 PM - "The Politics of Food" - How To Eradicate Child Hunger in Toronto.

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- **19 - 21 October - District Conference, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, Richmond Hill, check district website for more information**
- **Rotary Newsletters** If you want to subscribe to receive any of the really good and informative Rotary International newsletters, simply visit <http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/Newsletters/MoreNewsletters/Pages/ridefault.aspx> and "Sign Up".

**Please put all these dates in your diaries and let Ron know any make-ups/meetings you have attended - THANK YOU!**

## Rotarians carry the Olympic torch 2012

In 1958, Bob Izon ran the mile in world-record time in the under-16 age category, becoming the English schools champion.

But the most meaningful run of his life took place in May, when the founding member of the Rotary Club of Hereford Wye Valley, Herefordshire, England, carried the Olympic torch through his hometown.

Izon is one of several Rotarians who have carried the torch on its relay to the new Olympic Stadium in London for the opening ceremony of the 2012 Summer Olympics on 27 July.

"I consider myself very fortunate to have been chosen, as half the bearers are ages 15 to 25," he says. "It gave me a chance to pursue three objectives: inspire the younger generation, publicize Rotary's good works, and show that a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease does not always condemn one to a nonactive life."

### Parkinson's disease

Izon was diagnosed with the disease in 1992 but has remained active as a Rotarian, a justice of the peace, and a school board member at St.

Paul's Church of England Primary School in Hereford.

The school's students and their parents lined the road on 24 May for Izon's portion of the torch relay. Members of his club bore a huge banner publicizing Rotary and their upcoming charity duck race. During an all-school assembly the next day, students spent more than two hours taking turns holding the torch that had carried the flame and having their photographs taken.

"The atmosphere within the school hall was highly emotional, and quite a few of us were close to tears," recalls Izon. "This was truly the most remarkable week in the 144-year history of the school."

Izon's Parkinson's is now largely under control. In 2003, he participated in a trial procedure at the University of Birmingham Hospital, in which electrodes were placed in his brain, alleviating many of the symptoms.

He has continued to participate in Rotary service projects. Serving as a volunteer dentist on a medical mission to help Vietnamese refugees in Hong Kong years ago, he says, reminded him that millions lack access to health care. "Having Parkinson's, being a school governor, being a Rotarian, these have all combined to give me an effective message," he says. "I can say to the kids, don't give in, and they believe it."

### Other torchbearers

Ken Logan, a member of the Rotary Club of Braids, Lothian, Scotland, ran his segment of the relay in June. He was nominated in part for his role in an Edinburgh charity that delivers aid to Bosnia, for which he has raised over £10,000 through marathons and long-distance swimming.

"It's an opportunity to be part of history. It's priceless, and it doesn't get much better than this," says Thorn. "It's the nearest thing to running in the Olympics."

**Reported By: Hugh Williams**