



WEEKLY UPDATE



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Ted Koziel

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka

Week June 12, 2013

Board 2012 - 2013

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

June 19, 2013 - Big Ideas Forum - New Members Social 7.00 PM Crooked Cue

Today's Speaker - Alessio Di Lisciandro - Ambassadorial Scholar



Today was also President Hugh's last Official Club Meeting Good job this year Hugh.

Ron Miller introduced Alessio.

He was born in Genoa, Italy, on 27 January 1982, in a close family, with wonderful parents and a sister who, a couple of years ago gave him the joy of becoming uncle. Before arriving in Toronto and starting his specialization in Criminology (He is currently attending an MA program at University of Toronto in that subject) He has a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Law, curriculum Analytical philosophy and general theory of Law at University of Milan, Faculty of Law, with a project of study about philosophy of criminal law. His list of other degrees and

achievements in the Legal and Jurisprudence field are numerous and most impressive, but too long to list here.

Alessio said "it is a joy" to be here today and that he had already met some of our members (Lynda, Nigel, Michael, Hugh and Ron) at events such as the District Conference in Richmond Hill and the Peace Conference.

He said he wanted to talk today about his experiences here as a Rotary International Ambassadorial Student. He says it is a "great opportunity" for a student or researcher to spend a "year abroad" at an "institute of higher learning" for 1 year. He added that it is "long process" to be selected as an Ambassadorial Scholar. The Ambassadorial Scholarships program promotes international understanding and friendly relations among people of different parts of the world. The scholarships sponsor undergraduate and graduate students, as well as qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. While abroad, scholars serve as goodwill ambassadors to the country where they study and give presentations about their own culture to Rotary clubs and other groups. Back home, scholars share with Rotarians and others the experiences that deepened their understanding of another culture. One of the qualifications is that the applicant has never been to the country he plans to study in. This allows the student to have a "fresh and unbiased" view of that country's culture. Since 1947, Rotary Foundation has awarded \$US532 million to 41,000 men and women worldwide. However, The Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship program will end this year. Beginning in 2013-14, the Foundation will offer scholarship opportunities through [district and global grants](#). This new grant structure gives

WEEKLY UPDATE

Rotarians greater flexibility in sponsoring the next generation of leaders.

In Alessio's case, he remembers how it all began. He was studying at the end of his Ph.D and was going to meet friends at a restaurant. He decided to go for a swim at the school pool first. Afterward he headed to meet his friends but stopped when he saw a person he knew. It was his former English teacher. She asked what he was doing and when she found out she asked him if he might be interested in the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship Program. She was a Rotarian herself. She and her Club helped him apply, then after many exams and interviews, he was chosen.

Alessio said that he was happy to come to Toronto. He said our city is somewhat "European" with our great diversity in cultures, but "less crowded" than most European "big cities". There is "more room and a quieter environment" which he feels is quite "unique". One thing we share with many European cities is our "social integration and our multiculturalism". He says studying at the University of Toronto was an "incredible opportunity" with its "more practiced way of studying". He has been able to learn "new expertise" that will greatly complement his other studies. He has found the experience very enriching. His fields of research at U of T were: sociology, philosophy and general theory of criminal law, and the protection of constitutional rights. During last winter's term (January -April) he worked as Teaching Assistant at the University's, Woodsworth College. He is currently writing his thesis paper that he will finish by the end of the summer.

He is thankful to Rotary for letting him have this "amazing experience" and also wants to thank his host Scarborough Rotary Club. While he has been here he has met many, many other Rotarians at conferences and other events. One of the experiences that stand out was the "Halloween Food Collection" with the Rotaractors. They went around the High Park area collecting non-perishable food stuffs and ended up with 4 truckloads. It was great fun. Alessio wanted to mention his home town of Genoa. Genoa is a sea-side city on the

Northwest coast of Italy. Its harbour has been "famous" since at least the 15th Century and is now the largest seaport in Italy. Christopher Columbus is reportedly originally from Genoa. Genoa is one of Italy's major economic centres though Alessio says the city is now more dedicated to tourism than industry. He says the city has a "great landscape" with the sea on one side and the Apennine Mountains on the other. Genoa's historic centre is articulated in a maze of squares and narrow "curuggi" (typical Genoese alleys and very narrow streets) which are unique in Europe. Popular foods in Genoa include "Pasta (usually "trofie") al Pesto" or pasta dressed with pesto.

Alessio entertained a few questions.

President Hugh asked "what he planned to do after his studies here were finished?" Alessio says he would like to continue research into the legal fields connected with his studies. He has a job opportunity in Italy at the University of Genoa doing a project where he will research legal data bases. Since January 2009 he has collaborated with Professors Realino Marra and Isabel Fanlo Co'rtés of the University of Genoa regarding academic examinations in the following subjects: Philosophy of Criminal Law and Punishment; Sociology of Law and Norm Deviance; Sociology of Law and Legal Professions; Social Control and Human rights; and Sociology. His research project will focus on these areas.

However, Alessio said he would like to stay in Toronto "a little longer" as he has "met someone here".

Lynda Ryder noted that the process of being selected an Ambassadorial Scholar is "not easy" and the fact the Alessio "is here" makes him a "very special person". She added that our Club sponsored a student that has been selected as an Ambassadorial Scholar from our District. Jonathan Millard will be attending Oxford in England this fall. He will be doing a Master's Program in African Studies.

Theresa Sherwood thanked Alessio and noted as a "new member" she said always likes to learn more about all of the things Rotary does.

WEEKLY UPDATE

Meeting Cancellations

The regular scheduled luncheon meeting on Wednesday, June 19th is cancelled due to the Member/New Member Social at 7 PM that evening at the Crooked Cue. The luncheons on Wednesday, June 26th (Ribfest set-up) and Wednesday, July 3rd (Ribfest tear-down) have also been cancelled. Our next luncheon meeting will be Wednesday, July 10th and will be the "hand-over" from President Hugh to incoming President Michael.

CHEQUE PRESENTATION TO THE SALVATION ARMY



Visitors & Guests

Visitors

- ➔ **Alessio Di Lisciandro** - Ambassadorial Scholar from Italy - Speaker

- ➔ **Lynn Manwar** - Potential New Member
- ➔ **Liz Reid** - Potential New Member



Birthdays This Week

Jay Carey - June 4th

Erlene Brown - June 6th

Secretary's Corner

By Ron Miller

The following announcements were made:

The Rotary Club of Newmarket will be hosting its 18th Annual Golf Fundraiser at RedCrest Golf

Club (www.cardinalgolfclub.com/golf/redcrest) on Thursday, June 20, 2013. The cost is \$180 per player or \$720.00 for a foursome and includes the following: 18 holes at Red Crest; Power cart with GPS; Lunch and Dinner at the Bistro at RedCrest; Silent & Live Auction; and all tournament contests and drive up service for unloading clubs. Rotary has exclusive use of the RedCrest clubhouse for that day. Online registration is available at; www.golfemsreg.com/events/18th_annual_newmarket_rotary_golf_tournament

Registration is 10:30 am; 11:30 am BBQ Lunch; 1:30 pm Shotgun Start; 6:00 pm Hip of Beef Buffet Dinner, Silent & Live Auction, Prizes. For further information contact; Anitra Basant Sisavang at mailservice@clubrunner.ca,

WEEKLY UPDATE

Toronto-Forest Hill Lakeside Garden Party

James Setoyama and his wife Chako (Toronto-Forest Hill Rotary Club) are once again hosting a fabulous fundraising party at their new lakeside home. Funds raised will be used to support a trip by several children, who lost their parents during the tsunami, to a summer camp in Ontario. The party will take place at their beautiful new lakeside home and will feature authentic Japanese food, served by top Japanese restaurants in Toronto, as well as Japanese music and entertainment. Tax receipts will be issued. The party is on June 23 and starts at 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$100.00 per person. The address is 20 Meadowcliffe Drive, Toronto, M1M 2X9. Please contact Kathy Verduyn to reserve your tickets at kathy.verduyn@ontario.ca or 416-305-9844. *This event will sell out very quickly so please reserve your tickets very soon!*

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



50/50 Draw

Jim Woodside, this week's lucky ticket holder - **9 of Clubs.**

Reporting and Pictures - Ron Miller

HAPPY BUCKS



Ron Miller – Ron wanted to thank the Club, on behalf of his wife Sandy and her family, on the “beautiful” flowers that the Club sent to her sister’s funeral last Wednesday. Ron also wanted to acknowledge “all of the kind condolences that were received from members of the Club”. They were really appreciated by the family and friends.

Jim Woodside – Jim was happy to say that Marico Tanaka, a young lady “friend” from Japan was here in Toronto and staying at President Hugh’s. Jim and his wife June have known Marico for some time and she has become “like a daughter to them”. She was staying at Jim’s but there was very little room in their small home. He wanted to thank Hugh for letting her come to his place and in fact it works out quite well. Marico wants to learn English and Hugh’s daughter Allison wants to learn Japanese.

Florian Hammerbacher – Florian was “not as happy” to say that his wife had just returned a business trip and announced that she may be getting a new posting which means they may be leaving Toronto. They don’t know when and where they may be going, but Sonia has a meeting in Berlin shortly and they may find out at that time. Florian says he is “bummed out” by the news. However, Florian was happy to say that tomorrow is the start of “Luminato” in Toronto which he says is the “one of the most impressive summer festivals in the world”. It has music, free concerts, etc. Where they live is right next to David Pecault Square which is one of the venues for the event. He recommends that “if you get the chance you should check it out”.

Erlene Brown – Erlene was happy to say the Theresa Sherwood and her were at the 6th Street Youth Shelter which is sponsored by St. Margaret’s Church. They joined a “cooking group” there and helped out. They also participated in what Erlene said was like “an Iron Chef competition”. They were given the ingredients and then everyone had to prepare a dish in a “cook-off”. They didn’t win (much to Theresa’s dismay). Erlene was also happy to say that she still had tickets left for our members

WEEKLY UPDATE

to sell for the SOS Concert. If you need 10 or more tickets please let Erlene know. President Hugh added that there are posters available for the concert that can be put up at neighbourhood businesses, etc to advertise the concert.

Jack Fleming – Jack was happy to be back so that he could give his \$120 to Erlene for the concert tickets. He was also happy to say that he had just finished “a month of partying” in connection with his son’s wedding. They went first to Edinburgh, Scotland for his son’s birthday then to Mondovi, Italy for the Wedding. After Italy they went to Tarnobrzeg, Poland where his son’s wife is from. There they had a “Blessing Service” and a Family Party. After returning here they had a BBQ for them at the Mississauga Golf & Country Club. Jack said that he has to “dry out” from all the red wine he had drank in the past month. He said it was a “fabulous trip” that his son put together. He added that the “weather co-operated when needed”.

Hugh Williams – President Hugh was happy (proud) to say that he was a “grandfather” again. His daughter Sarah had a given birth last week to a girl, “Berlin Cherry”. Everyone was doing well. Congratulations Sarah and “Grandpa”.

Guatemala Rotarians use global grants to help school children receive a better education

At Próximos Pasos school for girls in Santa María de Jesus, Guatemala, the students look happy, healthy, and energetic.

Unlike their counterparts at some schools in the country, the girls have access to clean water and proper nutrition, and the results are apparent. The girls are able to focus on their studies, and they express an enthusiasm for their education.

“We saw many changes in the kids, in the teachers, and in the community,” says Jorge Aufranc, past governor of District 4250 and a member of the Rotary Club of Guatemala Sur. “They appreciate the work that Rotary has done.”

A Rotary Foundation global grant implemented by the Guatemala Sur club provided the school with computers and a machine called a mechanical cow, which produces soy milk. The device is made of stainless steel and does not look much like a cow. Soybeans are put into a funnel at the top, and about 45 minutes later, they have been turned into soy milk and a pulp called okara, which is used in

the school’s cooking classes. On one recent day, the girls were using the okara to make cookies.

Aufranc’s district has used the [Rotary Foundation’s new grants](#) to help many schools in the area. It took part in the three-year pilot of the new grant system, during which 43 global grants have been undertaken in the district, including five by the Guatemala Sur club. The pilot ends 1 July, and the new grants then become available to all districts. The Guatemala Sur club began with projects that address needs they deemed critical. For example, one global grant is providing nine rural schools in Sumpango with washing stations, latrines, kitchen equipment, and furniture.

“Everything begins with water,” Aufranc says. “If there is no water, we cannot have peace. Where there is a lack of water, there is conflict.”

Partnerships are essential

For the grant used at Próximos Pasos, the Guatemala Sur club partnered with clubs from districts 6420 and 6440 (Illinois, USA), as well as Mission Impact and the World Soy Foundation. Aufranc says working with these other organizations is part of what made the grant successful.

“You have to involve as many Rotarians as you can, locally and internationally,” Aufranc says. “With Future Vision, there has been resistance because people think, ‘oh we have to think bigger and bigger.’ But that’s how you make an impact in a community. You have to think big.”

His district’s extensive experience with global grants has made Aufranc an advocate of the new grants. He believes community involvement is essential to any Rotary project. Several of Guatemala Sur’s global grants were made possible by the volunteer labor of community members and input from local leaders.

“To have a good project, a sustainable project, you have to involve the community. If the community participates from the beginning, they feel they have ownership of the project, and this helps guarantee sustainability,” he explains. “We have to think of it as their project, not ours. It is a project of the community, not a Rotary project.” Mirna Pérez, the principal of Próximos Pasos, also believes involving her community made the project possible. She says keys to success included the sharing of responsibility by Rotarians and community members, good communication, and flexibility. “We are thankful to Rotary for helping us and bringing change to the lives of our students and the community,” Pérez says.

- Courtesy Rotary International -