



WEEKLY UPDATE



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Ted Koziel

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka

Week March 27, 2013

Board 2012 - 2013

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

Speaker: April 03, 2013 - Etobicoke Collegiate Institute Larry Thomas & Madeleine Arsenault WHITE PINES LEADERSHIP CAMP

**This Weeks Program Fundraiser
for Magoanine Project
Mozambique & Paul Harris
Presentation to Nigel Brown,
Ron Miller and Diane Irvine**



It was a wonderful evening at Bernadette & Nigel's residence, where they hosted the club and 75 guests of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke. They are wonderful hosts and, the event served the purpose of reaching our goal towards the \$85,000 needed for the Magoanine Water and Sanitary Project in Maputo, Mozambique.

Our gracious hosts - hosted what would be the final Rotary gathering at their residence before they move to Cape Town, South Africa in the summer.

Lynda Ryder that remarked Nigel and Bernadette came to our club very quietly, but over the past 4 years they have heart and soul of the Club during this time and the International Committee funding projects across the Globe and making the name of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke known throughout the Rotary World, from South Africa, to New Zealand and everything in between!!!

Nigel was a part of the Committee that rewrote the By-Laws for the Club, served as Secretary for an year and reported for the Bulletin if this bulletin did win an award it was due to his untiring efforts.

Mozambique has always been close to Nigel and Bernadette's heart when the Water & Sanitary Project was presented to International Services Committee, we knew at once it would be the one for a Global Grant and it would supervised and managed efficiently by the two of them. I will recap a few of the highlights of this project from an earlier presentation that Nigel made to our Club and any other Club in District 7070, 7080, 7090 and any district in Ontario that was willing to listen to him. Including a Rotary Club from North Yorkshire, UK.

Nigel said he was here today to tell everyone about the Magoanine "B" School Water & Sanitation Project, Maputo, Mozambique. Why help here? There are several reasons. Mozambique is currently 184th out of 187 countries on the UNDP poverty index - it is a very poor country. In 2003 figures: the

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population - 18.5 million; Increase in population - 2.1%/year; Life Expectancy - 46.3 years (may be down to near 42 years now); GDP per person - US\$262 (around US\$300 now); absolute poverty - 54.1%; HIV Aids (15-49 years) - 16.2%; Population with access to clean drinking water - 35.7%; Literacy rate men - 62.3%; literacy rate women - 31.44%. The statistics are pretty grim and have not changed much in the last 10 years. The problem is that the demand for funds far exceeds the ability of the government to provide for everything. Around half of the government's budget comes from foreign donors, mainly European and N American. The government is building roads & bridges and rebuilding railways wrecked in the civil war to help develop its natural resources, as well as financing a rudimentary public health system, and do not have sufficient funds to build schools and provide them with staff, power, water and books.

So this is where the Rotary Club of Maputo comes in. They built the Magoanine "B" school in the northern suburbs of Maputo, and now Nigel is raising \$121,000 with the support of this club to provide the children with water & sanitation, which is sorely needed.

The old and rather sad joke goes that when a large, shallow earthquake of magnitude 6.5 rocked the northwest of the country back in 2006, millions of \$'s worth of improvements were made! Not true, but no significant damage was done either - it is that undeveloped!

It is a lively city with a vibrant range of cultures, including tribal, Portuguese & South African. There are also some elements of the post-independence Marxist-era remaining. Its people are proud of being Mozambican - they rarely leave their country "for a better life abroad", unlike many other nationalities around the world.

Paul Harris Presentations



"Paul Harris Fellows" recognitions were presented to Nigel Brown, Diane Irvine and Ron Miller for their contributions to the Club. Lynda Ryder presented Nigel with his Paul Harris pin and spoke about Nigel saying even though he had been here for "a short time" that he and Bernadette have contributed "so very much" to our Club and that they will be "truly missed" when they leave in August to move to Cape Town, South Africa.



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Nigel replied by saying that he has thoroughly enjoyed being a part of our Club. He also said that “he was the muscle and Bernadette was the brains behind the operation” and that the Paul Harris recognition “would be shared by her”.



Michael Bell added that Nigel and Bernadette were not “getting off easy” by moving to Cape Town, as they can now be expected to be asked to open a “branch office of the Etobicoke Rotary Club there”. Nigel said “he would be glad to help us spend our money on projects there”.



Hugh Williams presented Ron Miller with his pin and thanked Ron for all the many things he does behind the scenes to “keep the Club running smoothly”. Ron thanked Hugh and the Club for this recognition saying that “this was his way of giving back to the Club”.



It was fitting that - Michael was introduced to our Club by Andy Irvine - Diane's Father. Michael Bell presented Diane Irvine with her pin and said that Diane personified the Rotary motto of “Service Above Self” with all of her contributions to the Club over the years. Diane was our first “re-cycled” President in the history of the Club. When Michael asked her to take over “security” at Ribfest, Diane willingly took on the job. Michael said that even when she was an AG some years ago, she was pregnant at the time with her son Austin. Diane thanked the Club for this recognition and noted that Michael will be our 2nd “re-cycled” President next year on his way to being District Governor in 3 years.

Birthdays This Week



Klaus Adensamer - March 31

Diane Irvine - April 01

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Visitors & Guests



We Thank All our Visiting Rotarians, and Guests who attended our fundraiser, the list is too long to be included in this Bulletin, but I must make special mention of **PDG Ron Denham** who heads the Rotary International Water Action Group.

Club members – we were **18** today
Total attendees **-75**

Secretary's Corner

By Ron Miller

Following announcements were made

Tuesday April 02 7.00 P.M. - International Services Committee Meeting & BBQ. Nigel & Bernadette's Residence.

Thursday April 04 7.00 P.M. - Membership Committee Meeting. Venue: Michael Bell's Residence.

Monday April 08, 2013 - 6.00 P.M. Board Meeting. Venue; Illumineer Office

Saturday, April 27th - Trump Aids Poker Walk (Toronto Beach waterfront) - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Contact: Michael Bell

May 02-04, 2013 - Camp Enterprise, University of Toronto, Erindale Campus, Mississauga. Contact: Greg Dobson dobsoq1@bell.net.

Saturday, May 4th - District Assembly - 8:45 AM - BMO Institute for Learning. This is an opportunity for all Rotarians (especially our newer members) to learn more about what

Rotary is "all about" and what we do. For information please contact Ron Miller.

Rotary Club of Toronto - Centennial Gala

The Rotary Club of Toronto Centennial Gala will be held Thursday, May 23rd at the Fairmont Royal York. Tickets are \$225/person and are available online at www.torontorotary.com

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

Reporting & Pictures Courtesy: Ron Miller