



WEEKLY UPDATE



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Ted Koziel

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka

Week May 15-22, 2013

Board 2012 - 2013

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

Speaker: May 29, 2013 - Liberia School Project - Cy Garland

May 15, 2013 - Difference Makers Forum



When Ingrid and I decided it would be fun to invite local Queen's Jubilee Award recipients to a club forum, we had no idea. What a terrific group of people. Thank you all so much for coming. We called this a **Difference Maker's Forum** - because that's who you are. Each and every one of you making a difference in the lives of so many people.

While the Internet is a marvelous thing, please forgive any errors in the short blurbs in the program, which do not do you justice anyway. But in putting together tonight's printed program, it really became apparent the variety of ways that everyone here has made a difference.

So welcome from all of us in the Rotary Club of Etobicoke. Please allow me a minute to tell you a little bit about Rotary and our club. Rotary Etobicoke has been part of the community since 1930.

We are a "100%" organization. By that I mean, every dollar we raise is given back to charitable efforts here and abroad. All our costs - like tonight's event, are paid for by members through our dues.



We are a growing club.

It's not about *numbers*, but I am proud to say that we have added almost 20 new members to the club since last summer. These are special and spectacular men and women - many of whom are here tonight. So, that said, I hope you too "Consider Rotary", and all that it can offer you, and you it.

We're also a busy club!

Our "Hands-On Etobicoke" team takes a personal action approach. Directly helping and volunteering with key community organizations like Youth Without Shelter and, Cheryl's Basketeers.

Our International Committee has put the plans in place and raised the tens of thousands needed to equip a school in Mozambique with clean water and sanitation. A school with over 200 kids that currently has no toilets, but soon will.

For three years, our theme at Toronto Ribfest has been about child hunger. We don't believe that the best city in the best country in the

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world should have a child hunger and nutrition problem. Yet poor nutrition and hunger are a very real problem to tens of thousands. On June 27, our club in partnership with the Toronto District School Board, Second Harvest, The Angel Foundation for Learning, North York Harvest Food Bank, St James Food Basket, the local Community Health Centres, PACT, and the Toronto Foundation for Student Success are having a benefit concert - the Toronto Sounds of Summer (SOS) Child Hunger Relief Concert to help raise awareness and money for this issue. And never missing an opportunity to shill, I would love to sell you some tickets!



June 27 is also the night before our **Toronto Ribfest Food and Music Festival**. It's a massive family festival, and one of Canada's largest charity events and Canada Day weekend celebrations. We've been a Top 100 Festival and Event in Ontario the past two years and we've been doing this for 14 years. Some of the highlights:

- a) Two professional stages with music all day for four days. 900 4-hour volunteer shifts need to be filled. A midway, a Kidz Zone with free magic shows and face-painting, food vendors of all kinds, including a halal vendor this year, and of course, the best ribbers on the planet.
- b) Opening Day Friday, we invite local companies to have their company BBQ at Ribfest.
- c) Sunday, June 30 is "Heroes Day" at Ribfest - where we pay special tribute to the men and women who serve this country and this community.

- d) Monday, July 1 is Canada Day, and we kick it off with a Citizenship Ceremony at which about 40 people take their oath and become Canadian citizens. Then we drink beer. And at the end of the night - fireworks.

So, take out your calendars!

Introduce the videos

Before we hear some brief remarks from a couple of Jubilee Award Winners, I'd like to show a couple of videos. The first is about Rotary. It's a big organization with a big story to tell. And this does a pretty good job in about four and a half minutes.

The second video is a "commercial" for Rotary's flagship program - the eradication of polio.



Introduce Speakers

I know there are at least three Rotarians here who are also recipients.

Chris Snyder, a member of the Rotary Club of Toronto, just returned from ... Chris organizes sweat equity trips to developing countries and helps make a difference in the lives of the people there. It also changes the lives of the people who go!

Donna Cansfield is a member of our Rotary Club of Etobicoke. Welcome Donna.

And the third Rotarian is **Ralph Chiodo**, also a member of our club, and I'd like to invite Michael Bell, our club's incoming President in a couple of months to introduce Ralph.

Ralph attributed his successes to a supportive and loving wife, children, and grandchildren. He also spoke fondly of his Rotary "family", both in the form of his

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membership at Rotary Etobicoke, and his two honorary memberships at Rotary clubs in his native Italy.

Inspector Scott Baptist talked about community as well, and how his being awarded a Queens Diamond Jubilee medal was really the reward to many people and their service behind the scenes. He considers himself just the face of the award, but many people contributed and are "recipients in spirit".



As well, Lynda Ryder surprised President Hugh with the Paul Harris award for his exemplary service to the club, the community, and Rotary worldwide.

Finally, we concluded the program with having each Queens Jubilee award recipient say a few words about their experience and what brought them here. Although there was a very diverse range of people, each with a very different focus for their work, the theme throughout was one of simply wanting to make a difference in our community and in our world. It was truly inspiring.



The event was made even more enjoyable due to a live piano performance by local musician Bryan Pickell, who played a number of his original piano pieces throughout the evening.

As usual, a great time was had by all!

Hands-on Etobicoke - Light Patrol Food Project



We are just back from Light Patrol. They were very grateful to us for everything. Thanked us especially for the huge trays of pasta (the homeless youth will really enjoy the treat) and the large amount of sandwiches and cookies. They have an extremely small kitchen - more like a cupboard. So good move to make the pasta at YWS and the sandwiches at our place. Dave at Light Patrol said he would send us photos of the distribution.

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Here is the photo of our club's contribution just before we loaded this morning.



Visitors & Guests

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- **Lynn Manwar** – Potential New Member
- **Bryn Perras & Ethan Robert Perras (6 months Old)** – Hugh's daughter and grandson

Club members – we were **12** today

Total attendees – **23**

Members Birthdays

- **Joe Falcone** – May 19th
- **John Valvano** – May 22nd
- **Mario Girardo** – May 25th
- **Doug Jarrett** – May 26th

Secretary's Corner

By Ron Miller

The following announcements were made:

Monday, June 3rd - Board of Directors Meeting
- 6 PM - Venue TBA - This will be a "Joint" meeting of the "outgoing" and "incoming" Boards.

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



50/50 Draw

Lynda Ryder, this week's lucky ticket holder - King of Clubs.



Today's speaker John Campbell was unable to be here today to give his "Classification Talk" so instead we had an "extended" Happy Bucks



Florian Hammerbacher – Florian says he was "plenty happy" with how the "bag packing" event went on Saturday. He said it was "very much fun". He said he counted the proceeds 3 times to get a

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correct count and said the final total was \$437.74 (\$Canadian), \$2.33 (\$US), and 2 Indian "Rupees". Florian presented the proceeds to Treasurer Don Edwards. On Saturday Florian was joined by his wife Sonia, Carol Weber, Nigel & Bernadette, and Ron. Florian said not only was it fun but he learned a lot. Sonia and him have been talking over the past few days about how different "shopping patterns" here were very different than those in Germany. In Germany people would have been buying more "sweets" and said people here looked to be buying "more healthy stuff". He said he saw many people with melons, bags of onions, etc. He was also surprised how generous people were. He saw people putting \$5 and \$10 bills in. He said he figured out that with the 6 of us there on Saturday we were collecting an averaging of \$25/hour/person which he found "simply amazing". Another thing he noticed that he found amusing was people buying "a ton" of groceries then calling a taxi to take them home. He and Sonia truly enjoyed themselves. He wanted to thank everyone who helped out, especially Carol who was there even though she is still recovering from some recent surgery. Florian was also happy to say that their visas finally came this week. He was worried they wouldn't arrive since they were planning to leave for New York City tomorrow for a visit. On the subject of trips, Florian said they had a "beautiful vacation" on Pelee Island a couple weeks ago. They were at a dinner with Margaret Atwood and got her to sign a couple books for them. He said it was "so much fun". He would have liked to have gone over to Sandusky, Ohio while they were on the island, but couldn't because they hadn't received their new visas yet. Florian recommends visiting Pelee Island and calls it a "magical place". He also wanted to mention that last evening he attended the 73rd Oxford/Cambridge Alumni Association gala which honours the famous "Boat Race". It was a "ton of laughs". He says one of the things he has noticed about the "English" is that they like to "make fun of themselves" and that there were a lot of "brilliant" speeches made last night. Finally Florian was happy to mention the 2 "Jane's Walks" (in honour of Jane Jacobs) that he helped organized and guide on May 3 & 4th. He said it was a big success with 25 people attending on the 3rd and 65 on the 4th. It was the first Jane's Walk held in Toronto in a language other than English. It was held in German. It was designed to show how German cultural had an influence on Toronto and Canada over the years. One example is the caribou on the reverse side of the Canadian Quarter was designed

by Emmanuel Hann, a German. Hann also helped design the "Bluenose" on the back side of our dime.

Brock Buchanan – Brock wanted those present today that do not know him well that he has spent the last 4 to 5 years in Tanzania in East Africa. He has a good friend there, Cocaya, who has been quite sick. Brock describes her as a "young, smart lady who takes good care of herself". She teaches the deaf for what Brock calls "very little money". Recently she contracted typhoid fever. She first ignored it and just stayed home until friends told her she had to go to hospital. She was running a fever of 38 degrees. She went to hospital in Moshi at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro. Brock said she was "some sick" and was in hospital for over 10 weeks. Brock googled Typhoid and found that it was a "grizzly" disease of which 20% die from. Brock said she was lucky and has been released from hospital and is resting at home. He talked to her yesterday and she was still feeling quite weak. He called to try and get her "spirits up". Brock said that Cocaya is "born again" and when she talked with Brock she told him to "pray for her". He says that is "how low she was". He intends to book the first flight he can afford and go to visit her. He says he will fly Swissair that goes through Zurich then on to Tanzania.

Nigel Brown – Nigel first wanted to make a comment on what Florian had said earlier. As far as Nigel knows there are no Swiss that have designed stamps or coins. He also noted that Brock was flying Swissair on his way to Tanzania, which Nigel says isn't even Swiss as it is owned by Lufthansa from Germany. He was happy to say the "he thinks he had a good time" on their recent vacation "but can't be sure as it was all a blur". He said preparations are moving along for their move to Cape Town, South Africa in a few months. He said that Brock talking about Typhoid reminded him that there is a series of vaccinations they will have to get before going for such things as yellow fever. He also thinks he should get his rabies vaccine updated. Nigel was also happy to say that Bernadette and he are leaving on Saturday for the Maritimes. The 5 week trip they were supposed to take last year has now turned into a 2 week "whirlwind" trip through Nova Scotia and as much of Newfoundland as they can see. He wanted to thank Jim Woodside for bringing more can "ring pulls". He will pass them on to Milos at the Forest Hill RC. Nigel says he will continue to collect them up until they leave. After that we can give them to Jim.

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Lynn Manwar – Lynn was happy to say that one year ago she ended her “chemo treatment”. She is sharing information on her cancer treatments with family, friends and the community through “social media” to make them aware that chemotherapy can effect “fertility” in young women. She also wanted to comment on what Florian had said. She recently met a relative of her father who is from Germany. Her dad was ½ German and she says she is 1/4 German.

Gill Dugas via Florian Hammerbacher –

Florian reported that Gill Dugas had just texted him and that she was happy that “Hands On Etobicoke” team was at Youth Without Shelter preparing lunch and that some of the lunches they were preparing were to be given to the “Light Patrol” which travels around the city bringing food and supplies to many of the homeless on the streets.

Hugh Williams – Hugh was happy that his daughter Bryn and his grandson Ethan were here today. He says he doesn't get to see them as much as he would like. As well, Hugh was happy to say Lilian, the exchange student from Brazil, was back with him this weekend and they flew to Quebec City for a few days. Lilian and Hugh's daughter Alison had a room together and they had a good time “checking out the nightlife” in Quebec City. Hugh was also happy to mention the 5th Annual “Unbreakable Father's Day 5K Walk/Run” that “Cameron Helps” will hold on Sunday June 16th in Port Credit. Cameron Helps deals with “helping to prevent teen suicides” and is a charity the Hugh has been involved with for some time. Cameron Helps will also be sponsoring our “Ribfest Run” on “Heroes Day” Sunday, June 30th at this year's Ribfest.



Inauguration of our Nutrition Program in Sri Lanka



Here is the first initial report, photos and you-tube link of our Nutrition Pilot Project in Trincomalee in Sri Lanka. By chance, during last summer, Tharanga was at one of our lunch meetings en route to New York to visit family. I sent her my proposal and requested her club's consideration to a partnership in this nutrition program. She took my idea of providing 8 nutri biscuits a day (UNICEF recipe) to 190 malnourished children, under 5 years of age, for 90 days and with her Club and colleagues, both in Colombo and the local Rotary Club of Trincomalee, has set up the pilot program.

Our Rotary Club of Etobicoke's International Services Committee recommended \$C3,000 and my proposal received board approval. Tharanga's Rotary Club of Colombo Regency contributed \$100 and

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their District Grant was approximately \$800.



The number of children participating has risen to 220 (the number of children increased with identified needs) and the pilot project started on May 3.

Please view the youtube which is very lovely with the participating mothers and children - some children trying the nutri biscuit for the first time.



The children will be weighed during their monthly hospital check-up and records will be kept of their progress.

A small portion of the funding is going towards education for mothers in maintaining their children's wellbeing. A training program by the local midwives group and supporting

literature will also be provided.



Trincomalee is about 7 hours drive into the countryside from Colombo. Trincomalee has the second highest number of malnourished children in Sri Lanka. Tharanga will visit in June and send us more photos and an updated progress report. She is already following the medical condition of a few of the most malnourished children and will give additional treatment as necessary.

I hope there is a way to share this good news with all our membership and maybe a mention at Ribfest - perhaps in the Rotary Pavilion.

Reporting & Pictures Courtesy: Ron Miller/Gillian Dugas/Ingrid Bjel-McGaughey