



# WEEKLY UPDATE



## Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Ted Koziel

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka

Week May 08, 2013

Board 2012 - 2013

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

***Speaker: May 15, Difference Makers Forum, 7.00 P.M.***

### Today's Speaker: Japanese VTT Présentation

### Welcome Back Bob Maxwell

Prior to the start of the meeting President Hugh wanted to make a special greeting to Bob Maxwell who was attending his first meeting in some time. Hugh noted that Bob also attended the Board of Directors meeting on Monday evening. Hugh said it was great to see Bob back and that he was looking great.



President Hugh asked Ian Lancaster, the District 7070 VTT team coordinator to introduce the Japanese VTT team. Ian first explained what the VTT team was all about. The program that began back in 1965 was known as GSE or Group Study Exchange. When our District became part of the New

Vision Pilot District, a new program, the VTT (Vocational training Team) was created. The old GSE team could consist of members from various vocations, while members of the new VTT teams are "all in the same fields". In this case all of the VTT members from Japan are all in the medical field and involved in Palliative care.

The Team Leader is Dr. Kosho Yosikawa, the CEO of the Social Medical Corporation in Nagoya, Japan. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Nagoya-Minami (Nagoya South) in District 2760. The team consists of; Satofumi Shimoyama, Director of Palliative Care at Aichi Cancer Center Hospital; Yosuke Kubota, Psychiatrist from Nagoya City University Hospital; Chie Kondo, a Palliative Care Nurse at the Fujita Health University Hospital; and Yukiko Kakumae, a Palliative Care Pharmacist at the Fujita Health University Hospital. Ian says that the team has been here two and a half weeks and will be returning to Japan this Saturday. While here the team has observed Palliative care at several hospitals and other facilities in and around the Toronto area in an effort to learn our methods and procedures. In return Ian, who is himself a Clinical Nurse specializing in Palliative Care, will be leading a Canadian VTT team to Japan to do the same. Joining Ian's team will be 4 others involved in Palliative Care including; a Doctor from Princess Margaret Hospital; a Chaplain from Toronto Western Hospital; a Palliative care Specialist from CCAC; and director of a Long Term Care facility. They will be in Japan for 3 weeks observing Japan's approach to Palliative Care.

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Dr. Yosikawa made a brief presentation on their home city of Nagoya, Japan. Nagoya is located in Central Japan and is the capital of Aichi Prefecture. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest incorporated city and 4<sup>th</sup> most populous urban area in Japan, and one of Japan's major ports. The greater Nagoya area has a population of close to 9 million people with nearly 3 million in the city of Nagoya alone.

Nagoya is the home of Toyota Motors and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to name a few. The new Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ) is being built there. Dr. Yosikawa noted that Nagoya has "4 seasons" just like here in Toronto.

In spring the cherry blossoms are in bloom; in summer there are many festivals with "fireworks", in the fall the mountains around Nagoya are beautiful as the trees change colours; and in the winter they enjoy many winter sports such as skiing and snowboarding. There are also hot springs in the Nagoya area that are "world Famous" and many people relax in them even in the winter. The Japanese Macaque monkeys are also fond of the hot springs in the winter.

There are festivals each year for both girls and boys. A "Doll Festival" or "Girl's Day" is a special day in Japan. Platforms covered with red carpet are used to display a set of ornamental dolls which represent the Emperor, Empress, attendants and musicians in traditional court dress from the "Heian" period (794-1185), the last division of classical Japanese history. "Children's Day" was originally called "Boy's Day" (also known as the "Feast of Banners") was changed in 1948 to encompass all children. It is a national holiday to celebrate the "happiness of children and to express gratitude towards mothers".



Dr. Yosikawa thanked our Club for our hospitality.

President Hugh asked Michael Bell to thank the VTT team. Michael noted that the "longer he is in Rotary, the more he is amazed at the work we do around the world in such areas as peace, health, education, our work in 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries, etc. The VTT teams are another step in this process and that it has been a pleasure to partner with Japan on this venture".

Michael wanted Ian to mention something that VTT team witnessed yesterday while they were visiting the Dorothy Ley Hospice. Since the team specialized in Palliative Care, it was ironic that while they were visiting the DLH facility, one of the patients there passed away. The team got to see a "special ceremony" that the staff at Dorothy Lea do for every patient there. It is a rule at the hospice that you "arrive through the front door and you leave through the front door". The funeral home van drives up to the front door. The deceased, on a gurney covered in a blanket from the funeral home and a "family" blanket, is brought into the lobby. The family and the staff of the hospice all are assembled in the lobby and a short ceremony is held where the nursing staff and the family get an opportunity to talk about the person. The VTT team was quite impressed and said they had never seen anything like this done before. This is something they will take back with them to Japan and will think of implementing it there.

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President Hugh and Dr. Yosikawa then exchanged Club banners. In addition to the banner from Dr. Yosikawa's Nagoya South Rotary Club, banners from Nagoya East and Nagoya Wago Clubs were exchanged.



President Hugh then presented our traditional flowers in our Rotary Etobicoke glass to Dr. Yosikawa's wife, Tomoko.

## Hands-on Etobicoke - Cupcakes for Nekenaan



The Hands-on Etobicoke's team made and decorated 48 Mother's Day cupcakes to present to mothers and children in Nekenaan Second Stage Housing in Etobicoke. They had a lot of fun and it was "a small project to bring some early celebration of Mother's Day on Sunday".

## Next Bag Packing - Rotary Foundation & International Projects

The next Bag Packing will be held on **Saturday May 18, 2013** at Joes No Frills. If you would like to participate at this event please contact **Florian Hammerbacher Tel (416) 979-1626**

## Visitors & Guests



### Japanese VTT Team

- **Dr. Kosko Yoshikawa** – Team leader – Member of the Rotary Club of Nagoya-Minima (Nagoya South) – District 2760
- **Dr. Satofumi Shimoyama**
- **Dr. Ysuke Kubota**
- **Chie Kondo**
- **Yukiko Kakumae**
- **Tomoko Yoshikawa** – wife of Dr. Yoshikawa
- **Kengo Miyata** – Translator

### Visiting Rotarians

- **Ian Lancaster** – Rotary Club of Cobourg – District 7070 VTT Team Coordinator
- **Paul Vyrostko** – Rotary Club of Richmond Hill

### Visitors & Guests

- **Lynn Manwar** – Potential New Member
- **Allison Williams** – Guest of Hugh Williams

Club members – we were **12** today  
Total attendees **-23**



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## Secretary's Corner

*By Ron Miller*

The following announcements were made:

### Members Birthdays

#### ➤ George Babilis - May 13th

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

### GTA Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians

The Greater Toronto Area Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians is announcing the opportunity for Rotarians to play "exceptional" golf courses in a series of Tournaments, starting in May. The 1<sup>st</sup> event will be at Piper's Heath Golf Club (5501 Trafalgar Road in Milton on Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>). The tournaments will use "full handicaps on the Stableford scoring system" with individual gross and net prizes awarded for each tournament and for the season. Plans are for 3 events this year. For Piper's Heath, tee time is 1:00 PM. The event will cost \$150/person (which includes golf plus shared cart, steak dinner and prizes. For more information and to register please contact Ken Lewis (lewis4972@rogers.com).

### The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill "60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration"

The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill is holding its "60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration" on Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at Le Parc Dining and Banquet Hall, 8432 Leslie Street in Thornhill. This is a dinner/dance with a cocktail reception (cash bar with \$5 drinks) beginning at 5:30 PM and dinner at 6:30 PM. Dinner will be a three course meal with choice of entrees (beef,

halal chicken, fish, or vegetarian), desert and two bottles of wine per table. There will be a few brief speeches, door prizes, and then an evening of dancing to music provided by a DJ. Tickets are \$50/person and are available at [pfvyrostko@rogers.com](mailto:pfvyrostko@rogers.com) or [sulker@rogers.com](mailto:sulker@rogers.com)

### Rotary Club of Toronto - Centennial Gala

The Rotary Club of Toronto Centennial Gala will be held Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Fairmont Royal York. Tickets are \$225/person and are available online at [www.torontorotary.com](http://www.torontorotary.com)

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



**50/50 Draw**

Paul Roeser, this week's lucky ticket holder got the 2<sup>nd</sup> draw - 4 of Clubs.

**HAPPY BUCKS**



**Greg Dobson** – Greg was happy to say that the Club held another "very successful" Camp Enterprise on the weekend. There was a record 60 students who signed up and 48 attended. Greg said they eliminated the Grade 9 and 12 students. He said Lynda Ryder was there and Brock Buchanan spoke to the group Saturday morning. The winning group were from Richview Collegiate and they will be

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preparing a campaign for their chosen charity in September.

**Lynda Ryder** – Lynda was happy to thank all of the members who attended last weekend's District Training Assembly (as it is now known). She was also happy to say that they had a "wonderful" time with the Japanese VTT team last evening at the Famous People Players. While there one of the young servers fell and 3 of the men from the team quickly jumped up to help her. She was impressed on "how quickly they jumped into action to help out".

**Doug Hartry (on behalf of Bob Maxwell)** – Doug noted that Bob was happy to say "how much he enjoys Rotary and how he has been thinking about us a lot". Doug added that Bob was "glad to be back".

**Ian Lancaster** – Ian was happy to thank our Club for helping out with VTT team. He wanted to thank Lynda Ryder and Michael Bell for hosting the team last evening at Famous People Players. He has heard that everyone enjoyed themselves. He added that this was a District 7070 VTT project that has been supported right across the District.

**Michael Bell** – Michael was happy to echo Lynda's comments and said that he had a great time with the VTT team at Famous People Players. He was happy to mention to Paul Vyrosko, who has been chauffeuring the team around today, that the team may be interested in taking a side trip to High Park to see the cherry blossoms in bloom. These are Japanese cherry trees that were donated to the city in 1959 by the City of Tokyo. They donated more cherry trees to the city in 2001. Michael thought that it would be a "nice touch" to have the team view the trees that were donated by their country in full bloom here. Paul said that he will drive them through the park on the way downtown where they will do some shopping this afternoon.

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## Difference Makers Forum - May 15, 2013

Along with the local MPs Ted Opitz and Bernard Trottier and over two dozen other medal recipients, Hon. Jean Augustine has just confirmed her attendance at our May 15 Difference Makers forum.

Registration for the May 15, 2015 Forum. Please use link below to register

<http://differencemakersforum.eventbrite.com>)

Sponsorships from club members of \$200 to help pay for the program.

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Reporting & Pictures Courtesy: Ron Miller