



THE BULLETIN



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Valarie Wafer**

RI President: **Ron D. Burton**

Week November 13, 2013

Board 2013-2014

President: Michael Bell, Secretary: Ron Miller, Treasurer: Don Edwards

November 20, 2013 – Big Ideas Forum, Cooked Cue 7.00 P.M.

Reporting: Ron Miller Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek

Today's Speakers Norma Davies – Rotary Club Toronto Eglinton – Rift Valley (Kenya) Water & Sanitation Project



Gill Dugas introduced Norma saying that it was a "pleasure" having her speak to us today and that the Rift Valley Project is a "great project" that is building water tanks and latrines at elementary schools in the Kenya.

Norma began by saying that most people here know Ron Denham, who is a member of the Toronto Eglinton Club. He is also the Chair Emeritus of WASRAG (Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group). In October, Ron was inducted into the "World Toilet Association Hall of Fame" for his work

in "water and sanitation" around the world. She also wanted to mention "World Toilet Day". World Toilet Day was created by the World Toilet Association (WTO) in 2001 and is now recognized by the UN. It is celebrated every year on November 19th. Most Rotarians would not be aware that of the "6000 worldwide deaths per day" of children less than 5 years old is caused by diarrhea brought about by the lack of basic sanitation facilities and basic health and hygiene. Water does very little to help reduce these deaths. In fact WHO estimates the provision of water itself will only reduce deaths by 5% compared to over 70% if people are given soap and water along with a toilet. The UN and Rotary International have established "Goals and Areas of Focus" which include reducing those without basic sanitation by 50% by the year 2015. While the same water goal was reached in 2010, the global expanding population has blown the sanitation target out to 2026.

Norma explained that the Rift Valley Water & Sanitation Project began in 2002 in the Rift Valley in Kenya and in 2010 the Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton became the lead international partner with the Rotary Club of Nakuru, Kenya. The project is managed by the Kenyan Rotarians, however it is local women's groups that have come together to do get the work done. Norma stressed that this is a "hand-up, not hand-out" project. This is a total "water and wash" program with not only the water tanks being built, but proper latrines and wash facilities as well.

The Rift Valley Water & Sanitation Project is aimed at the rural communities where there is no electricity or running water. Women and children were forced to walk great distances to collect water from contaminated streams and ponds for their daily water needs. The ground water was high in fluoride

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so shallow wells were not an option. This “unsafe” water and poor sanitation due to the lack of proper latrines and personal hygiene lead to illness, etc. Two years ago the Toronto Eglinton Club in conjunction with several other Rotary Club, including our Etobicoke Club (along with RI Global and District grants) provided funding to build 50 (10,000 litre) rainwater harvesting tanks per month. The grant ends at the end of January. They are now looking to partner again with the Nakuru Club to build another 40 tanks per month. To be eligible the families must contribute \$US50, provide the manual labour to build the tank, have a functioning latrine, install eaves troughs and drain pipes, and plant 100 trees on their property. Some of the newer tanks will have 30,000 litre capacities. The project provides the materials and the training for families to build the tanks. Common interest groups called Rotary Community Corps have also been established whose members provide a range of training programs focusing on sanitation, health, hygiene, hand washing, and HIV/AIDS awareness. It has also encouraged the formation of Women’s groups in each community whose members are trained in the construction and maintenance of the tanks and conflict resolution. This makes this project very “sustainable” which meets Rotary guidelines. “If it breaks down, they can fix it”.

One other aside to this project is this project is transforming the life and livelihood of thousands of poverty-stricken people in Kenya. Freed from the drudgery of hauling water, women now have the time to engage in income generating projects such as; growing produce; sewing garments; breeding farm animals; and managing fish farms. Norma mentioned one lady who now spends the time previously spent collecting water to run a small tailoring business. With the help of a micro-finance loan, she started with one sewing machine. Business has been so good she has now hired two employees to help with the sewing.

One shift in focus is now the local schools where lack of sanitation is still a major problem. Norma showed some pictures and talked about several schools in the Rift Valley. Most have many students but no running water and few unsanitary latrines or none at

all. The girl’s latrines had little or no privacy. Ron Denham recently remarked that one of the major humanitarian challenges is “sanitation and reduction of open defecation. He also added that “until sanitation is improved, and girls assured of privacy at schools, there will be no breakthrough in education and literacy, nor will we see the improvement in health and disease prevention”.

Norma closed by saying that with the help of other Rotary Clubs they are looking to raise \$150,000 to build complete “water and wash” facilities with 30,000 litre water tanks, VIP latrines and wash stations.



President Michael thanked Norma for her Rift valley presentation and added that our Club was happy to contribute to the project and presented her with a cheque for \$2,000. Norma thanked Michael and added that when she goes to talk at another Club she first wants to find out a little about that club. She said she checked our website and was “incredibly” impressed with what our Club is doing. If she hadn’t been “so committed” to the Toronto Eglinton club she said that “this is the club she would go to”.

Musgrave Harbour Newfoundland & Labrador

Anthony Doukas advises that our members have been invited to the opening of the Musgrave

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Harbour (Newfoundland) Youth Centre official opening on December 4th. Anthony will be attending. This is a project that the Club funded a few years ago and it is now completed.

Birthdays This Week



Brock Buchanan - November 17

Happy Birthday to on your happy day...

Secretary's Announcements



Monday, November 18th - International Service meeting - 7 PM - Gill & Andre's (7 Crestridge Heights Road)

Saturday, November 30th - Kids against Hunger food packing project - Salvation Army Temple - Kipling Ave - 12:30 - 4 PM

Wednesday, December 4th - Annual General Meeting - 12:15 PM - The Old Mill

Saturday, December 7th - Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade - Lynda needs 4 people to carry banner however all members are still welcome to participate - 10 AM - Dwight Ave.

Wednesday, December 11th - Christmas Party - Lambton G&CC - \$60 - Contact Lynda Ryder or Ron Miller if you are planning to attend.

Etobicoke General's Circle of Champions



What an honour it was to see and celebrate with you at our recent Circle of Champions donor recognition event for Etobicoke General Hospital.

Thank you for taking the time to share this special evening with us and with other community leaders who, like you, have chosen to support health care. I hope you enjoyed hearing about how your generosity is helping to build stronger, healthier communities in Etobicoke and beyond. It is important to us that you know the tremendous impact of your gift. Lives are being changed - saved - because of you.

Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated and will continue to inspire others to give - thank you again.

With warm regards,

Anna Bernardi
Campaign Manager
Etobicoke General Hospital
William Olser Health System Foundation"

William Olser Health System Foundation Gala:

The club has purchased 10 tickets to support the William Olser Health System Foundation gala reception and concert featuring Burton Cummings

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and Jann Arden. It is November 30 at the Rose Theater in Brampton.

As a club member, you can buy one of these tickets for only \$135. This represents the actual cost associated with the entertainment and reception. The club is covering the other cost portion of your ticket.

By attending, you will be representing Rotary. We hope to be able to use this opportunity to meet key people in the community, show support for the Osler health system, and have fun together!

Hugh Williams needs to know by next week if you are interested and how many tickets you need.

Here are the details:

<http://oslerfoundation.akaraisin.com/galaforosler>

Rotary Club of Etobicoke - Philippines Typhoon Update

Through the quick action of President Michael Bell and our Board of Directors, the Rotary Club of Etobicoke has provided funding to two organizations who are urgently working to assist victims of the disaster in the Philippines.

The Government of Canada will match our donations for Typhoon Haiyan relief efforts. An important opportunity to double the impact of our donations.

\$1,000 to ShelterBox Canada. Our donation will fund a typical ShelterBox containing a 10-12 person tent, blankets, water purification, cooking utensils, a stove, a tool kit, a children's activity pack and other vital items.

\$1,500 to GlobalMedic - an Etobicoke Relief Organization. Our donation will fund a water purification unit to purify clean drinking water for 1,000 people daily. GlobalMedic has a team in Tacloban directing operations and a team in Iloilo. Teams include paramedics, firefighters, nurses and experienced shelter specialists.

Visitors & Guests



Visiting Rotarian

- **Norma Davies** – Speaker Rotary club of Toronto Eglinton

Guests

- **Alice Otupiri** – will officially become a member of our Club on November 19th
- **Kirk Entwisle** – will officially become a member of our Club on November 19th
- **Tony Vella** - will officially become a member of our Club on November 19th
- **Irene Chen** – Guest of Michael Bell - Potential new member
- **Steve Black** – Potential new member
- **Exilus Previlon** – Potential new member

Attendance:

Members –18
Guests –07
Total - 25



50/50 Draw

Lynn Manwar - 10 of Spades The Pot starts its slow growth

Waterfront Rotary Club - Cape Town, South Africa:

President Michael was happy to say that on arrival at today's meeting he found a "mysterious" looking envelope. On opening it he found that in it was a

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“club flag” from the Waterfront Rotary Club in Cape Town, South Africa (District 9350) that Nigel had sent to our Club. The Club was chartered in 1992 and is likely the club that Nigel and Bernadette will be joining.



they have a Christmas tree or wreath, some artificial candles to light up their darkness. The Club was also signing Christmas cards that will be included in the packages for the seniors so that they know that people are thinking about them. Gill thinks this is such a “wonderful idea”, that we can try to bring some joy to these “orphaned” seniors.

Jack Fleming – Jack was happy to say that he had a meeting this morning with the Toronto West Club to “finalize a strategy” on the recently approved Legacy Project with Microskills. There will be 2 members from both our club and theirs on the “steering committee” then a “working group” will be organized a little later.



HAPPY BUCKS

Hugh Williams – Hugh was happy to say that he was taking with Judy Leroux from Youth Without Shelter about their “special breakfast” being next Wednesday (November 20th) at the Queensway Odeon Cineplex (7:30 AM to 9 AM). The Club has agreed to purchase 10 tickets at \$15 each. If you are interested in attending, these tickets are on a “first come, first served basis”. Contact Hugh.

Gill Dugas – Gill was happy to display a “Christmas” bag that will be a part of the “Lights on for Seniors” program that one of our newer members Michael Lu has initiated. The Board approved \$2,000 to go towards this program. This program will provide some help and comfort to 50 “isolated” seniors who do not have family or friends to get through the “Christmas” season which may be their most depressing time of the year. Gill said that

Dates to Remember

International Committee Meeting – November 18, 2013. 7.00 P.M. Venue – Andre & Gill Dugas Residence. Contact Gill Dugas

Club Annual General Meeting – December 04, 2013 – 12.15 p.m. Venue: Old Mill Inn & Spa. Contact Ron Miller.

Annual Christmas Party – November 11, 2013. 7.00 P.M. Venue: Lambton Golf & Country Club. Cost \$60.00. Contact Ron Miller or Lynda Ryder.