



# THE BULLETIN



## Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Valarie Wafer**

RI President: **Ron D. Burton**

Week April 02, 2014

Board 2013-2014

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

**April 09, 2014 – Special General Meeting Club Business – “Ribfest Update”**

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek

### Today's Speaker – Albane Gaudissart – Director TATU Project, Tanzania

**In the Absence of the vacationing President Michael Bell – President Elect Mark Winson presided over today's luncheon.**



Mark Winson introduced Albane by saying that she is originally from the Bordeaux region of France but did her post-secondary education in Montreal. She currently is living in Tanzania where she is a member of the Rotary Club of Moshi (District 9211) which is also the club that Brock Buchanan was a member for some time. Albane is the Project Manager and Founding Director of TATU. The TATU Project in Moshi is initiating programs for rural community development in Tanzania.

Albane began by saying that since March 2013 the TATU project started acting for rural community development in Tanzania. Since TATU means 3 in Swahili, the project guidelines aim at the individual and collective development of the community using their “3 Pillars: Empowerment; Education; Environment.

- **Empowerment** – every person has the potential to grow and improve their own conditions and then even reach out to others. Once given the tools or the skills to undertake an activity, they can benefit themselves and the community
- **Education** – teaching to give the skills, knowledge and will to extend one's possibilities. From there one can take their own initiatives, think for themselves and hopefully their surroundings
- **Environment** – one's environment influences immensely the possibilities and ways of life. It is important to consider the environment and live according to sustainable principles where the environment and the people's needs are served by each other.

Through different projects, they approach varied “target” groups of the community. They try to understand their way of life through a continuous social research and from there build a project with the targeted group that will serve oneself. They always look at the possibility of

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stimulating the leadership within the individuals that are ready to bring positive changes around them. In order to be as sustainable as possible they try to involve the community members from the project designing stages. Along with the project they do much training, seminars, discussions to make sure everyone is on the “same page”, understanding the situation and given the tools to fully take part in the project. Each project is set up to bring positive changes to the individual and collective level.

The current focus is on one rural community in Northern Tanzania, Msitu Wa Tembo in the Manyara Region, Simanjaro Area of Northern Tanzania. It is a very dry and isolated area that relies primarily on agriculture with 90% of the approximately 6,000 inhabitants working in agriculture. There is a mix of tribes and cultures. Many families are struggling to come out of extreme poverty.

Their mission is to contribute to an equitable and sustainable development of the rural community of Msitu Wa Tembo. They go about this using a “participatory approach” which includes;

- Initiating a collaborative agreement with the village office
- Getting to know the community
- Listening, questioning; and involving

The main problems are identified;

- Water: About 0% of the population have local access to clean and safe water.
- Marginalization:
  - Extreme poverty – living on less than \$1.25/day
  - Women have little access to decision making levels at home or in society; little freedom or independence

- Health: Lack of reliable health services and little awareness (high rates of malaria, TB and HIV)
- Education: A small percentage of the population accesses secondary schools
- Degradation of the Environment: Destructive agricultural practices and bad daily habits.

Ongoing Projects:

## **Women Empowerment Group:**

- The women there are repressed by the social rules of a strongly patriarchal society and many were eager to join a women empowerment group to finally have their own independent space supported by the TATU Project, but led by the women themselves.
- The group is divided into groups of 10 (currently 8 groups). Each has their own President and Treasurer, their own ideas and have built enough trust and knowledge to start their own activities as a team.
- As a group of 80 women there are disparate economic levels and very unstable revenues.
- They received basic business training and 90% of the women started small, simple business activities with their team. It was observed that basic trainings, small capital and their strong will led women to organize themselves and start using resources wisely within the group structure. They are ready to make changes in their own lives. They are eager to learn and eager to act.
- Albane mentioned one of their successes, a bike rental business. 30 bikes were donated and all are easily rented.
- Other activities are classes teaching English, Health, and sewing.

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## Social Empowerment:

- Kilipads: In collaboration with another non-profit organization, this project aims to create a social enterprise run by TATU Project's women's group members to produce and sell reusable sanitary pads from local materials (cotton, kitenge). This would not only offer economic empowerment to the women themselves, but would also benefit those in the community who suffer from inadequate protection. The women have come with a prototype, and have continued to receive seminars on feminine hygiene, business management, and sewing.

## Future Projects:

Nina Jali (I Care in Swahili): A locally lead health awareness campaign:

- The problem:
  - A low level of health and hygiene awareness in the community
  - A high rate of transmitted diseases and no access to local solutions.
    - The objective:
      - Train 10 women from the group in health and teaching methodology to become local references
      - The women deliver seminars within the group
      - The women lead health awareness campaign in the community
      - TATU establishes partnerships with other organizations to make sure solutions are available.
- Expected Impact:
  - 10 women trained to become references
  - 80 women receiving seminars
  - At least 230 villagers being sensitized over common health issues in the community and how to avoid them

- Offering local solutions to concretely prevention and treatment – a long term solution

## Project Phases:

- Phase 1: The development of a health curriculum; the curriculum divided into 5 themes (women's health, HIV, Malaria, TB, and general home hygiene) – estimated duration 5 months
- Phase 2: Transfer of health material and teaching methods to 10 women; initial seminars given to 80 women – estimated duration 5 months
- Phase 3: Women to visit 5 different areas of the village to raise health awareness and offer access solutions to health problems in the community – estimated duration 2 months.

Albane closed by saying the key to the project is being able listen; observe; connect; unite; and change.



Brock Buchanan thanked Albane for her presentation and wanted to mention that he had first met Albane at the Moshi Rotary Club when he was in Tanzania recently. He met her again at another Rotary meeting there a week or so later. Coincidentally our own District 7070 Governor Valarie Wafer was also visiting that

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club the same day. Brock said he is very enthusiastic about Albane's project.

## Secretary's Announcements



**Saturday April 19, 2014. Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) – Levels 1, 2, & 3 – Seneca College, 1750 Finch Ave E, Toronto. Contact Ron for details and Registration.**

**Saturday May 03, 2014 – BMO Institute for Learning, 3550 Pharmacy Ave, Toronto. 7.30 AM – 2.00 PM. Contact Ron for details and Registration.**

## Bowmanville Rotary – 90 years of Service:

Bowmanville Rotary is celebrating 90 years of service on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> (6 PM) at the Newcastle Community Hall. This will be "a spectacular celebration with music provided by the Clarington Big Band. The Guest Speaker will be actor, writer, comedian Neil Crone. Our Club members are cordially invited to "an evening of shared fellowship" with other members from clubs across the district. Tickets are \$50/person. Please contact Pauline Calvert at 905-419-1148 or [treviac@rogers.com](mailto:treviac@rogers.com).

## Superior Court Justice Cory Gilmore - Scarborough Rotary Club – Tuesday, April 15th:

The Scarborough Rotary Club has invited our members to attend their meeting on Tuesday, April 15th at the Scarborough Golf Club (12:30 PM) when the speaker will be Superior Court Justice Cory Gilmore. She is the daughter of Judge Stan Long, a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke. She is one of our Bilingual Judges who practiced law in Alliston specializing in Criminal and Family law. They are hoping to have as many members as possible from our Club attend.



## 50/50 Draw

Mark Winson – 5 of Hearts. Card picked by Albane Gaudissart. So the pot grows...



## Visitors & Guests

### Visiting Rotarians:

- **Albane Gaudissart** – Rotary Club of Moshi, Tanzania (District 9211) – speaker

### Visitors and Guests:

- **Holly Buchanan** – Guest of Brock Buchanan

### Attendance:

Members – 11  
Visitors & Guests – 02  
Total – 13



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## HAPPY BUCKS

**Ralph Chiedo** – Ralph was happy to say that yesterday (April Fool's Day) he played a couple "dirty tricks" on some of his Rotarian friends in Calabria (Italy). He told them that he had made reservations at local restaurant and to let him know when they got there. He didn't tell them that he wasn't going to be there. Ralph was also happy to say that last week he attended a breakfast downtown for Pier 21. The speaker was Gord Nixon from RBG who talked about immigration and Pier 21 and about "how important it was to keep the museum alive". At the end of his talk he presented a donation of \$500,000 to Pier 21. An addition, Ralph was happy that he attended the Community Living Mississauga fundraiser where they honoured "some junior" Mayor Hazel McCallion which raised over \$200,000. A few years back they honoured Ralph at this event. CLM helps people who are intellectually challenged.

**Mark Winson** – Mark was happy to say that he had the opportunity two weekends ago to go to Evanston, Illinois to visit the Rotary International Headquarters. He went with 27 other President Elects from District 7070. He said that it was a "fascinating trip". He didn't know what to expect as all he knew was that RI was a "big organization with its headquarters somewhere near Chicago". He said he was amazed seeing the "impressive" building that RI located in the city of Evanston, which he thinks is much like Oakville. They got to meet a lot of people there and got a better insight into what goes on at RI. The day they were there he saw lots of containers and boxes that were being packed with everything needed for the RI Convention in Sydney, Australia in June. It was also great to get to know people from the other Clubs.

He said that "one thing he learned" was that "we have a club to be proud of". Other clubs in our District are very envious of what we do. Some of the clubs are having declines in enrolment and have had fundraisers that have not been a success. They look at us with our success with Ribfest, our activity in the community, and our 33 new members over the past 2 years with envy. It sets us apart from the rest.

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## Invitation to attend MicroSkills Open House:

The following invitation has been received from MicroSkills;

"Community MicroSkills Development Centre is very pleased to invite you to join us in celebrating 30 years of serving our community! We will be commemorating this significant milestone with an official Open House to be held:

**Monday, April 7, 2014 at 12:30PM**  
**Youth Welcoming Centre**  
**235 Dixon Road, Unit 12**  
**Toronto, ON**

Over three decades MicroSkills has helped thousands of individuals – including women, newcomers, youth and the unemployed – build better futures, and we look forward to your sharing this momentous occasion with us and bringing greetings on behalf of the community.

Our celebratory Open House will feature a formal presentation that highlights the important role of corporate and community partnerships during these 30 years, in strengthening our clients' participation in, and contribution to, our communities and our economy.

Please let us know if you will participate in our 30th anniversary event, or if you require further information."

RSVP to Eunice at: [ekimani@microskills.ca](mailto:ekimani@microskills.ca)

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