



# THE BULLETIN



## Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Valarie Wafer**

RI President: **Ron D. Burton**

Week January 22, 2014

Board 2013-2014

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

**January 29, 2014 Speakers: Ellen Sallam & Mohini Athia – COPA Anti-bullying Programs.**

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek

### Annual Robbie Burns Day Celebration – Jack Jackson

Piper Jack Jackson “piped” in the haggis to begin our “Robbie Burns Day” celebration and then performed the traditional Robbie Burns’ “Address to the Haggis”.



Address to a Haggis

Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face,  
Great chieftain o the puddin'-race!  
Aboon them a' ye tak your place,  
Painch, tripe, or thairm:  
Weel are ye worthy o' a grace  
As lang's my arm.

The groaning trencher there ye fill,  
Your hurdies like a distant hill,  
Your pin wad help to mend a mill  
In time o need,

While thro your pores the dew's distil  
Like amber bead.

His knife see rustic Labour dight,  
An cut you up wi ready slight,  
Trenching your gushing entrails bright,  
Like onie ditch;  
And then, O what a glorious sight,  
Warm-reekin, rich!

Then, horn for horn, they stretch an strive:  
Deil tak the hindmost, on they drive,  
Till a' their weel-swail'd kytes belyve  
Are bent like drums;  
The auld Guidman, maist like to rive,  
Bethankit hums.

Is there that owre his French ragout,  
Or olio that wad staw a sow,  
Or fricassee wad mak her spew  
Wi perfect scunner,  
Looks down wi sneering, scornfu view  
On sic a dinner?

Poor devil! see him owre his trash,  
As feckless as a wither'd rash,  
His spindle shank a guid whip-lash,  
His nieve a nit;  
Thro bloody flood or field to dash,  
O how unfit!

But mark the Rustic, haggis-fed,  
The trembling earth resounds his tread,  
Clap in his walie nieve a blade,

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He'll make it whistle;

An legs an arms, an heads will sned,

Like taps o thrissle.

Ye Pow'rs, wha mak mankind your care,

And dish them out their bill o fare,

Auld Scotland wants nae skinking ware

That jaups in luggies:

But, if ye wish her gratefu prayer,

Gie her a Haggis



Everyone present was offered a portion of the haggis along with the traditional "tatties and neeps" (mashed potatoes and turnips). President Michael also supplied a "wee dram" of scotch for everyone to either sample or pour on their haggis. It was "good" either way.



## Today's Speaker: Alice Otupiri – Classification Talk



President Michael introduced Alice and noted that she had been a member of the Nepean-Kanata Rotary Club and transferred to our Club back in November.

Alice began by saying she was born "many years ago" in Accra, Ghana (Northern Ghana). She went to high school there and was awarded a scholarship to come to Canada to study modern languages at Carlton University in Ottawa. She later went to the University of Western Ontario to get her education diploma. She was hired by the Ottawa-Carlton School Board to teach French Immersion courses. She went back to school and received a Masters Education Degree in Curriculum Planning which is her real passion. She has taught primary, junior and intermediate classes (grades 1 to 12) which had given her a "broader prospective". She retired in 2001 after 30 years of teaching.

During her career she used to come to Toronto in the summer to work. While there she met a University Engineering Student. After graduation he moved to Ottawa and Alice and he were married. They have a daughter who now lives in Etobicoke and is a Business team leader with Campbell's. Her

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husband retired 4 years ago, but soon after had “open heart” surgery. They have now moved to Etobicoke so that they could be closer to their daughter and their grandchildren.

Alice said that she always wanted to do charity work. Her mother was a “7th Day Adventist” whose philosophy was that you were “put on this earth to serve”. However, Alice didn’t know how to go about it until she met a new Vice Principal at the school she was teaching at. She shared Alice’s interest in Curriculum Planning and they became friends. She told her about wanting to do charity work. Her friend invited her to come to a Rotary Club meeting. Alice said she had never heard of Rotary at that time. However, when she “walked into the place” she knew that “this is where I belong”. There were members in the club that were involved in all sorts of projects in South and Central America and in Africa. One member who was involved in shipping books to Africa became her “mentor”. In her club’s District (D7040) the District’s “World” Committee met four times a year where the clubs shared information on the international projects they were involved in. Alice attended their meetings and found there were three clubs in their District with projects in Ghana. The Chair of her club’s committee had been to Northern Ghana. Alice noted that Northern Ghana had two seasons; one hot and dry; the other wet. During the dry season many people come down to the south and do not “fare well”. Her club was a “3H” club that supported projects that deal with “health, hunger and humanity”. They thought it would be a “good idea” to try for a “matching grant” project in Northern Ghana (the matching grant projects requires a Rotary Club at the other end to administer). They put a project together and RI approved the grant. Some things that were involved were sending 50 medical kits that were tailored to a tropical area; setting up microcredit; etc. Alice said she also organized collecting clothes for orphans. They filled a 20 foot container to be sent to Ghana. They also packed all sorts of books into the container as well. She went to Tamale every July to monitor the project. She also worked on behalf of the other three clubs with projects in Ghana. Alice said that the Rotary Clubs in Northern Ghana are not in the rural areas; hence it is hard for

them to visit the projects as much as possible. That is the reason she went there to personally observe what was going on.

Alice now wanted to talk on the project she is currently involved in, “Comfort Stars Athletic Club”. It began when her sister went back to Ghana to live. The rural area they had grown up in had now been “encroached” by the city and had become a ghetto. She wanted to try to take back her community. Her sister manages a Travel Agency there. She began working with 300 children there by giving them sporting equipment such as soccer balls, and basketball hoops. This led to the Comfort Stars Athletic Club, a boys’ and girls’ club for at-risk inner city children located at Labone, Accra, Ghana where they can participate in activities organized in conjunction with “Right to Play”. The program helps with the “self esteem” (feel better about themselves) “I am. I will. I am a star.” Alice came back and spoke to her club. Since this is not a “charitable” enterprise the money raised for the children went through the Rotary Club then sent to the children in Ghana. Alice wanted to do more. Some of the children went to school, some didn’t. She wanted to start literacy classes and wanted to find sponsorship. She went outside of Rotary to find donors and formed partnerships. All cheques from the donors went through the Rotary Club. Since this is not a “matching grant” scenario, there was no need for a Rotary Club there. Alice would monitor the program personally. The only condition was that Alice provides regular financial reports and all receipts to the Club. She also sends reports and newsletters to all donors. Alice would stay four weeks teaching and eventually added another 2 months. She currently has 35 kids in her sponsorship program. The literacy sponsorships are \$100.00 for primary schools and \$200.00 for high school/university.

President Michael Thanked Alice..

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## Secretary's Announcements



**St. James Food Basket:** St. James Food Basket runs a tax preparation program for the 400 families that are registered in their foodbank - essentially providing these at-risk families free tax filing services. Often people in this tax bracket will get a refund, so it can be very important money to them. If there are any members of the club who might be able to help by volunteering to do someone's taxes, please let President Michael or Hugh Williams know.

**Toronto West "Rotary Youth Impact Awards Gala":** Friday, January 31st, at the Old Mill. Tickets are \$150.00 each (contact Michael Bell).

**Have a Heart for the Rotary Foundation - Dinner & Show, Sunday February 2nd, 5:00 pm at Lulu Lounge, 1585 Dundas St. West.** Tickets are \$80.00 each (contact Michael Bell).

**Rotary Club of York's Annual Chinese New Year Celebration:** Friday, February 3rd, 6:00 pm at the Elegance Chinese Cuisine & Banquet Hall, 7130 Warden Ave., #106. Tickets are \$45.00 each (contact Michael Bell).

**"Rotary Day to End Polio Now" with the Toronto Marlies:** Sunday, February 9th, 3:00 pm at Exhibition Place (Rico Coliseum). Tickets \$35.00 each (\$10 to End Polio Now) (contact Michael Bell).

**Inaugural Jean Augustine Legacy Award Dinner:** Saturday, February 22nd, 6:30 pm

at Humber College, 3199 Lakeshore Blvd. West. Tickets are \$100.00 each (contact Michael Bell)

## Birthdays This Week



*Judy Burnell - January 20  
Happy Birthday to on your happy day... ..*



## Visitors & Guests

### Visiting Rotarians:

- **Bob Boyden** - Rotary Club of Canmore, AB.

### Visitors and Guests:

- **Linda Schneider** - Potential new member
- **Barry Friesen** - Potential new member
- **Annette Tremmel** - Potential new member
- **Jeff Vella** - Potential New member (Guest of Ingrid McGaughey)

### Attendance:

Members - 20  
Visitors & Guests - 5  
Total - 25



## 50/50 Draw

Kirk Entwisle - King of Spades. So the Pots grows!



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## HAPPY BUCKS

**Doug Hartry** – Doug was happy to say that he turned **88** last week. Happy Birthday Doug!! He also noted that he “may be changing his address soon but will let us know”.

**Frederik Martin** – Frederik was happy to say that last year at our Robbie Burns Day celebration that our member Kirsty Duncan mentioned to him that she knew some “Scottish Highland Dancers” who she might be able to get to perform at the celebration. Frederik said that it had “completely slipped his mind”. He said he will now put it on his calendar so that he can look into it for next year’s Robbie Burns Day.

**Gill Dugas** – Gill was happy to say that Hands on Etobicoke had some upcoming projects scheduled and is “looking for club members who wish to join in the following projects”;

St. Margaret’s – Monday February 10th: Cooking and serving dinner at St. Margaret’s New Toronto Church in Lakeshore to provide dinner for 30+ homeless men in the Out of the Cold Program on Monday, February 10 and the community (100+). Gil hopes to divide up the task of cooking 4 trays of chicken, 2 trays of potatoes and 2 trays of vegetables, plus dessert from our own home kitchens and take the trays to the Church on Monday afternoon around 3 p.m. The church provides soup and bread. They also have a great kitchen, a cook and many helpers. Gill adds that “some of us will stay to help serve the meal from 5:30 to 7 p.m. to over 120 folks in the church basement”.

St. Mathew’s Church – Sunday, March 2nd and Sunday, April 6th: Out of the Cold Program lunches for St. Matthew’s Church on Bloor, Sunday, March 2nd and Sunday, April 6th providing sandwiches, fruit, cookies and water in take away bags for 20 homeless men.

Youth without Shelter”: Tentative Date: Week of March 24th (Day in the week to be confirmed - maybe Thursday 27) at Youth without Shelter from 10:00 am until finished (i.e. 3:30 pm). Lunch will be with the youth in the kitchen. Gill is looking for volunteers from Rotary Etobicoke and the Rotaractors in teams to paint 4 bedrooms (3 to 4 Volunteers in each room). The painting material will be provided by YWS (4 paint colours only – green, blue, white & brown). There will also be a “fun” challenge to see which team comes up with the best design for the room they are painting (the judge will be Judy Leroux from YWS). The design can be “anything – just not scary” and suitable for guys and girls (Amir will help with designs).

Haven on the Queensway – “Coldest Night of the Year” Fundraising Walk – Saturday, February 22nd: Gill says “it would be great and a lot of fun if Rotary Etobicoke puts in a team to raise funds for Haven on the Queensway’s first - walk a few kilometers to raise funds in the “Coldest Night of the Year” event”. The walk has a 2, 5 and 10 kilometer walk departing from Haven on the Queensway on Saturday, February 22 at 4 p.m. and will include hot chocolate stops along the way at the Queensway Audit and RONA, both sponsoring the event along with Canadian Tire. Haven on the Queensway hopes to raise \$50,000 for its in house food bank, clothes closet, pregnancy care and Alcoholics Anonymous and 12 Step programming as well as outreach initiatives such as its monthly Lakeshore Dinner and its Hope with Wheels program which sends a team out to Etobicoke and the downtown core each Tuesday evening in a mobile humanitarian van to reach out to approximately 90 of the city’s homeless each week. Website: [www.coldestnightoftheyear.org](http://www.coldestnightoftheyear.org). It is on Saturday, February 22 at 4 p.m. for an hour or so. Hot chocolate en route and ends up at Haven for a

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celebratory chili (the same chili they serve on their humanitarian bus every Tuesday). Everyone participating gets an iconic gray toque with a multi-coloured pom-pom to wear during the walk. The location: Haven on the Queensway, 1533 The Queensway (Opposite the Queensway Cathedral – just down from IKEA). Next Monday, Rotary Etobicoke will deliver 6 boxes of our rice/soy food from our packing project and 10 thick hoodies, socks and other items for Haven's Hope With Wheels which visits homeless youth in Etobicoke and the downtown core every Tuesday.

Any members interested in volunteering for these events please contact Gill at 416-243-2151 – [tyndale746@hotmail.com](mailto:tyndale746@hotmail.com)

## More Pictures from Robbie Burns Celebration



## Rotarian Nigel Brown Visits the South African Capital



Nigel Brown visited the Pretoria Capital Rotary Club (D9400) on January 14th and presenting club banners from our Club and the Waterfront Club in Cape Town to President Riana Pretorius.