



THE BULLETIN



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Valarie Wafer

RI President: Ron D. Burton

Week June 04, 2014

Board 2013-2014

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

June 11, 2014 – Speaker: Camp Enterprise Update – Greg Dobson & SHEA Student Recognition

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek



RIBFEST Update

By: Liz Read

Can you believe it? Toronto Ribfest opens in only 3 weeks!

Our Motto: 100 + 1

Our volunteer search continues to go well but we need Rotarians to handle cash and to help in the Beer tents as well as other key areas. We need as much time as you can give, especially the afternoon and evening shifts and especially Monday and Tuesday. Tuesday bonus: Fireworks!

I will be personally contacting members over the next few weeks to find out when you are available. Or, please register online through our website

torontoribfest.com

I look forward to working together!

Today's Speakers – David Lockett & Hon. Jean Augustine – Jean Augustine Center



President Michael asked David Lockett to give some background on the Jean Augustine Centre.

David began by first thanking the Rotary Club of Etobicoke for all of our “unwavering” support for PACT over the years. He says that our support has “made a big difference” and that he is “grateful from the bottom of his heart”. He said that our support of their Urban Garden program in schools in Etobicoke has helped make it a success. The PACT Grow to Learn (GTL) Schoolyard Gardening Program and Food Initiative is designed to teach schools and communities about food and gardening. The program creates safe, experiential and positive learning environments in low-income

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neighbourhoods, as well as acts as a catalyst in raising awareness of important issues related to healthy eating/nutrition, food security, environmental sustainability and hunger in our schools and local communities. David noted that the urban garden at the Elmbank Junior Middle Academy, which our Club sponsored, was featured in a recent article in the Etobicoke Guardian. With our support David says the program has gotten "better and better".

David wanted to mention a little about PACT. PACT mission is to "create urban peace in our communities by "helping youth reach their full potential in life" by "supporting and empowering underserved, marginalized and at-risk youth, as well as youth already in conflict with the law. PACT has designed programs such as the "LifePlan Coaching Program for high risk repeat offenders (14-18) as well as a number of innovative hands-on "Life & Job Skills Community Service Projects" for youths (14-21) to explore vocational opportunities and build resumes in practical real world environments. This is all in an effort to break "the cycle of poverty". The results have been remarkable and it has helped many in getting into "entry level" jobs.

The Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment is PACT's newest endeavour and David wanted to thank Jean to allow them to name the centre after her. He said it was a real honor to have her name attached to this project. The centre is scheduled to open later this month. David said that this project was the vision of PACT Board member John Zanin (and owner of Dunpar Homes), who 5 years ago saw a great, unaddressed need in South Etobicoke. Many young women seemingly grew up in the most negative environments, came from highly dysfunctional homes and were caught in the cycle of both teen pregnancy and poverty. It was John's vision to build the centre to provide an integrated group of programs and resources that would break the inner-generational cycle of poverty while empowering young women to unleash their potential.

The PACT LifePlan Coaching is an intensive program where young women work one-on-one with a certified personal life coach on a weekly basis for up to 1 ½ years. This builds trust; addresses identified needs; and gives youth the confidence and tools to

set positive goals in 4 key areas of life: Education/Training; Employment/Career; Health & Wellness; and Community Contribution & Connection. It helps break the "feeling of isolation" and strengthens their "sense of belonging". The mentorship and training in these "women's only" programs are designed to help them "move them up to ladder" to careers or to higher education.

David is hoping that our Club will be there for the opening. He says PACT's values reflect the values of Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self". He was now happy to have Jean Augustine say a few words.

Jean first wanted to thank the Club for her lunch today. She says that she is now "renewed for the rest of the day".

She is pleased to be associated with PACT and the new centre. "It is important that we take care of those in need in our community". She is pleased that this centre will help address the needs of young women in need that have "a lack of education" and have dropped out of school for a variety of reasons. Jean said she grew up in an environment where her grandmother always said the "you must always do something for others". She said she has carried that philosophy with her all her life. She is pleased to be associated with this project and is "honoured" for them to use her name for the centre. She says she will do "everything she can to make it a success". She is also pleased that Rotary has been involved and thanks us for our support.

Jean also wanted to mention what her current job as the Fairness Commissioner for Ontario entails. The Fairness Commissioner is helping people who come to Ontario from elsewhere in the world with a degree or profession get similar work here. In the past there were "so many hoops" to go through that you couldn't get back into that profession easily. Jean says "we have some of the best educated taxi drivers". The Commission is now helping to make sure that the rules for these licensing bodies in Ontario are now transparent, objective, impartial and fair and are getting more qualified people into the proper professions.

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Lynda Ryder thanked both David and Jean. Lynda asked David if he was aware that his picture is on the Rotary International website with our member Diane Irvine. She said they look like they were “busy discussing something important”. Lynda said that Jean is “everywhere”. She never refuses to do anything. Lynda says Jean is “special to each and every one of us”. Lynda said she was with Jean last night at the LAMP where Lynda was presented with a “Community Builder Award”. Lynda says it is an honour for us to have Jean here today as “what Rotary stands for is also what Jean stands for”.

President Michael noted that “what a difference a family environment makes”. With these programs they become part of a new family and get a sense of belonging from the mentoring and training. When you steer people in the right direction you make the community a better place. Michael wanted everyone to know that our Club has donated \$10,000 for computers at the new Jean Augustine Centre. This is a “hand-up, not a hand-out” to help young people attain their potential.”.

SHEA Spring Carnival

The SHEA Spring Carnival was the culmination of the Mentoring Activity that our Club members participated in. This was the second 'mentoring effort' at SHEA; the first took place in November / December 2013.

This second session started in April and ran thru May. It involved 2 classes of Grade 11 students; approximately 50 students. We had 6 Club members serving as mentors:

- ✦ Martina Ernst
- ✦ Theresa Sherwood
- ✦ Brock Buchanan
- ✦ Jay Carey
- ✦ Peter Dusek
- ✦ Keith Theodore

In our first session, I spoke to both classes and told them 'The Rotary Story'. The purpose was to provide them some background on our organization.

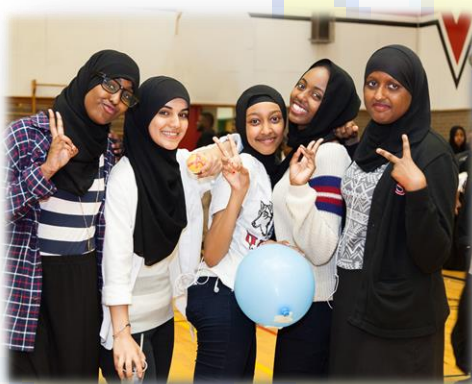


The second session was an 'Interview Opportunity' for the students. The mentors filled out a brief profile document that described their personal backgrounds. Then, the students had a chance to ask questions of the mentors. It provided an 'ice breaker' and it allowed a good connection between the mentors and the students.

From that point, the following five weeks allowed the students (in small teams) to decide on the 'business venture' they would like to create ... and then, ... to work thru a business plan over the ensuing 5 weeks.

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Overall, the feedback from the students, the teachers and the mentors has been positive. Especially, it has provided an opportunity for a number of high performing students to leverage their talents and gain a greater understanding of what it takes to develop a business strategy and execute that plan.



On Wednesday, June 11th, the top performers will come to our club meeting to be recognized. They will be joined by their two teachers, the school principal and the TDSB trustee for our area. Our Club will make a donation to the SHEA Scholarship Fund at that meeting.

Birthdays This Week



Amir Avra - June 02
Jay Carey - June 04
Earlene Brown - June 06

Happy Birthday to on your happy day...

Secretary's Announcements



Next Wednesday's Luncheon Meeting (Wednesday, June 11th) - "Camp Enterprise" - Greg Dobson give a summary of this year's Camp Enterprise. In addition students from the Scarlett Heights Entrepreneurial Academy (SHEA) have been invited to attend along with TDSB Coordinating Community Superintendent Jim Spyropoulos and TDSB Trustee Chris Glover. These are the students that participated in the recent mentoring session that was held with members of our Club. This should be a very interesting meeting and hopefully we can get as many members as possible to attend.

"A Night at the Races" - Wednesday, June 11, 2014:

All members are invited to attend a "Night at the Races" social and fellowship event at Woodbine Racetrack on Wednesday, June 11th. There will be a buffet dinner at 6 PM and the races begin at 7 PM. The cost will be \$45/member or guest which includes dinner and a \$10 casino coupon (we require at least 20 members/guests present to receive this price). Please let Michael or Ron know if you are planning to attend.

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50/50 Draw

Ron Miller – 3 of Diamonds ..., so the pot continues to grow.



Visitors & Guests

Visitors and Guests:

- **Hon. Jean Augustine** - Speaker
- **David Lockett** – Speaker
- **Markian Silecky**
- **John Moskalyk**

Attendance:

Members 15
Visitors & Guests - 04
Total - 169



HAPPY BUCKS

Jack Fleming – Jack was happy to say that they just wrapped up another “very successful” mentoring session for students at SHEA by members of our Club (Jack, Martina Ernst, Theresa Sherwood, Brock Buchanan, Jay Carey, Peter Dusek, and Keith Theodore). While they were there they “ate a lot of food, and had lots of fun”. He is looking forward to doing more of these sessions in future. He added that they are also continuing their “special mentoring” of Elizabeth Correia. Jack was also happy to say that he has just returned from

Scotland where he attended a meeting at the Esk Valley Rotary Club (D1020) just outside of Edinburgh. He said it was a interesting meeting as they were holding an “open forum” about what their Club “done right” in the past year and “where they wanted to go” next year. He said it gave him a “different perspective” on how other Clubs do things. He said he had a great time there. And finally, Jack was “extremely happy” that while they were in Scotland he and his wife Rhena “got to hold their granddaughter for the very first time”. He said they pushed the baby carriage “up and down more hills” but they weren’t complaining. He added that his son and family are expected to be coming to Toronto for Christmas.

Theresa Sherwood – Theresa was happy to say that on Saturday the Club had 2 teams of 4 participate in the “Race for Kids” plus there was a team of 4 of our Rotaractors that participated as well. The race benefited the Boys & Girls of Canada. Theresa, Peter Dusek (and his wife Victoria Fraser and her friend Michele Ryan), Gill Dugas, Stephen Mbonye, Drew Claxton (and his friend Tara) made up the teams. She said they worked hard over the 9.3 km course, but probably went a lot further since they missed a couple checkpoints and had to go back to do them. They had a “fantastic time” and she wanted to thank everyone who donated to the teams. Her teams had the 4th highest donation total. The event raised \$79,000 for the B&G Clubs in Toronto. – **See Pictures below**

Ron Miller – Ron was happy to say “time flies when you are having fun” as his daughter Kathleen turns 16 this Sunday.

Judy Burnell – Judy was happy to say that she had a tour of the Toronto Police Service’s Forensic Lab which she says “operates 24 hours a day”. She got to tour the entire facility and really enjoyed seeing it. She added that one they take someone’s finger prints they “never get rid of them”. They are on file “forever”.

Peter Dusek – Peter was also happy that he participated in the Race for Kids but was exhausted afterwards and “went to bed while it was still

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daylight" that evening. He thought he would lose weight on the race but actually put on ½ pound. He said his mother was right when she you can gain weight from exercise. He was also happy that he was part of the team who was mentoring the students at SHEA with Jack. He thinks the "kids had a great time". Finally, Peter was happy to say that he has started entering some of his pictures in art shows. He recently had a showing at the Alton Mills Art Centre (Hills of the Headwaters) in Caledon where he won 1st Prize. He said he didn't know what the plaque on his picture meant and had to ask. He was surprised when he found out he had won.

