



THE BULLETIN



Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: Valarie Wafer

RI President: Ron D. Burton

Week May 14, 2014

Board 2013-2014

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

May 21, 2014 – Big Ideas Forum: New Canadian Technologies Making a Difference, Crooked Cue, 7.00 PM

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek



RIBFEST Update

By: Liz Read

Ribfest Opens in 6 Weeks!

Our Motto: 100 + 1

We need 100% participation of the membership to make this event a financial success. Please check your calendar and sign up now. **We especially need volunteers for Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday - evening shift; especially.**

<http://torontoribfest.com/volunteer.asp>

We also challenge every member to recruit one other person to join them in volunteering at Ribfest. Talk to your friends and family and have them join you for a great shared community event.

**Set Up June 25/26 ** Toronto Ribfest
Friday June 27 through Tuesday July 1
** Tear Down July 2****

More details next week.

**Today's Speaker – Bev Hynek –
Maven on Queensway “Meeting
the needs of homeless in
Toronto”**



President Michael introduced Bev. He noted that our “Hands on Etobicoke” committee have been busy supporting homeless youth in Toronto through various efforts including distributing much needed socks and helping with the Out of the Cold programs. A few months ago they became aware of another organization right in our neighbourhood, the Haven on the Queensway that is helping the homeless in Toronto, and that we have been supporting. Bev is the Director of Haven on the Queensway which is a charitable organization that is meeting the needs of homeless in Toronto (especially the west end of the city).

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Bev began by saying how great it was to be invited to our luncheon at the Old Mill. She said that 36 years ago she got married in the Old Mill chapel and had her reception in the Brule (A & B) rooms. She now has 3 grown children and "4 ½" grandchildren.

She wanted to give some history of Haven on the Queensway. They are "a charitable organization meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of people in Toronto and surrounding communities". They offer "an atmosphere of respect, dignity and security" as they help people on their way to becoming more self-sufficient. They are located on the Queensway and are "the new face" the building formerly known as the Casino Gentlemen's Lounge. Renovations were quickly undertaken to create a "brand new safe welcoming atmosphere". Bev wanted to mention the mural that has been painted on their wall.



They had a brainstorming session with the staff and volunteers as to what the design would be and many ideas were generated from which Bev chose a few of them to work with. She said Haven should reflect "safe place" and the nest represents a safe place. The hands are "those that are at Haven to help serve". The eggs are "the community/clients in need". The

hands are also "willing and ready to let go". The painting was created by a local artist.

In May 2009 the Haven officially opened "bringing hope to people in our community who are struggling with poverty or are in a crisis situation". Bev added that at Haven "they can find food, clothing, resource support, a cup of coffee or soup, a smile, and an encouraging word".

Bev now wanted to talk about the various programs they have at Haven designed to help "people in need in the community".

Family Services:

- Food Bank – provides food and comfort to underprivileged in the community. They serve over 350 clients on a weekly basis and distribute over 96,000 lbs of food a year. They provide groceries, various household products, and personal hygiene items.
- Clothing Closet – various items of clothing provided free to those less fortunate in the community
- Children's Book Centre – New and gently read children's books available free to parents and children who visit Haven
- First Care – meeting the material and nutritional needs of pregnant women and parents of newborns. They also provide; maternity clothes, food aid, diapers, formula, and moral support; community referrals; and support groups for child loss

Recovery Services:

- Pathway to Peace – find peace through a 12-step support and recovery group
- Rahab – a program (in partnership with Youth Unlimited) which provides alternatives for individuals who are involved, or have been involved with the sex trade. Bev noted that there are 40+ massage parlours in Etobicoke

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and that they try to reach out to the girls working there.

- AA – Alcoholics Anonymous meet at Haven on Wednesday and Friday nights.

“Outside Our Walls”:

- Hope with Wheels – Their mobile outreach van (which was donated by Queensway Audi) responds to the needs of homeless in downtown Toronto and Etobicoke by providing water, hot food, blankets, toiletries, and words of hope.

- Inmate Rehabilitation – Each month they visit the Toronto South Detention Centre and Kinark Child and Family Services providing music, encouragement, and one-on-one mentorship to those who transition back into society from prison. Bev added that there are 2000 inmates housed at the Detention Centre of which 200 are released every week with generally “few options”. Many make their way to places like Haven.

- Lakeside Dinner – A free hot dinner is served to 100+ every 4th Saturday at the Polish Gospel Church on Long Branch Avenue. Special Services (Haven is involved in a number of special services):

- “Got Your Back” back to school program back pack/school supplies program

- “Out of the Cold” program

- Thanksgiving dinner at the Grille Restaurant

- “Pamper Day”

- “Health Mission Outreach” – A free dental and medical clinic once a year. Dentists and doctors volunteer their services.

There are 85 active volunteers at Haven with 25 at the food bank.

Bev wanted to mention some of their fundraising events. They have an annual Golf Tournament, a silent auction, and the “Coldest Night of the Year Walk” which some of our Club

members participated in this year. This was the first year for the walk which raised \$21,000. This was a little below their goal but they are looking to improve next year. She also wanted to mention that they are thankful for their partners in the community; Church on the Queensway; the Daily Food Bank; No Frills; Best Portuguese Chicken; Bishop Allen Catholic School; Boston Pizza Queensway; Jack Astor’s Queensway; Toronto Police Association; Michael Power/St. Joseph’s; Wendy’s; The Grille; Queensway Audi; Mercedes; Barque’s Smoke House; Canadian Tire Queensway; Kiji Japanese Restaurant; Windfall; Starbucks; and the Rotary Club of Etobicoke.

Bev closed by saying that Haven’s motto is “Hope starts here”. Homelessness is “not just bricks and mortar” it is also a “feeling of rejection”. This is why it is important for organizations like Haven on the Queensway to try and offer help to those who need it.

Theresa Sherwood thanked Bev for her great presentation. She added that when they visited Haven she was amazed at how much they do in the community considering how small their location was!

Birthdays This Week



George Babalis- May 13

Happy Birthday to on your happy day... ..

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Secretary's Announcements



A "Night at the Races":

Lynda Ryder is proposing the idea of a "Night at the Races" fellowship evening for the membership. It will require 20 members to make it possible and the cost will be approximately \$44.05/member (including buffet dinner, coffee/tea and a \$10 Casino coupon). This would be a Wednesday evening in June. If you are interested in attending please contact Lynda at Lynda.Ryder@silicates.com

22 Division CPLC's "Bowling for Bursaries" – Saturday, May 25th (11:30 AM – 3:00 PM): Judy Burnell wanted to remind everyone that bowlers are needed for the annual 22 Division CPLC's "Bowling for Bursaries" event on May 25th at Bowlerama, 5429 Dundas St. W. (parking located in the rear). We are looking to form a team of 6 from our Club to participate. If you are interested please contact Judy, Michael or Ron y:

Special Vote

At our last Board meeting on April 14th the Board proposed that the club proceed with an opportunity to rent an 1800 square foot office space for the next two years at a cost of \$1.00 per year. According to Article VIII of the club bylaws, section 4, all contracts proposed by the board for more than 1 year must be

approved by the club membership at a regular meeting with seven days notice having been given. This notice was announced at the May 7th luncheon meeting (as well as posted in the Weekly Bulletin) so that a vote on this issue could be held at today's regular meeting. Secretary Ron acknowledged that a quorum of members had been achieved (14 members present and 10 proxies received). President Michael presented the proposal to the members. The proposal was moved by Ralph Chiodo and seconded by Lynda Ryder. The members present and the members' proxies were unanimously in favour of the proposal, hence the proposal was approved.



50/50 Draw

Jay Douglas – 3 of Diamonds. So the pot grows...



Visitors & Guests

Visitors and Guests:

- **Bev Hynek** – Haven on the Queensway – speaker
- **Trevor Meraw** – Guest of Judy Burnell

Attendance:

Members 14
Visitors & Guests - 02
Total - 16

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HAPPY BUCKS

Ron Miller – Ron was happy to say that his daughter Kathleen attended Club Enterprise last weekend and had a “great time”. There were over 30 students from various schools in Etobicoke. She attended with another girl from Father John Redmond. She said she made some new friends and was “sorry to see things end”.

Kester Trim – Kester noted that this was a “delayed happy buck” as he was going to do this last week, but there were “too many other happy bucks that day”. So today he was happy “finally” to say that on April 26th he conducted the wedding ceremony for his son at the Etobicoke Salvation Army Temple. He was also happy to say that he attended the “kick-off” for John Campbell’s campaign for City Councillor which he says was a “great event”.

Theresa Sherwood – Theresa was happy to say that she had talked Gill Dugas into joining the Club’s team that will take part in the “Capital One Race for Kids” on May 31st. There will be 2 teams of 4 competing from our Club, “Rotary Etobicoke United” and Rotary Etobicoke United 2”. This event is put on by the BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS of CANADA and will occur nationwide at various locations. They will be participating in an Amazing Race style competition to raise money to provide less fortunate boys and girls with facilities, programs and support to enjoy their childhood. Theresa is asking members who would like to support the team to go to the race website www.raceforkids.ca. Click on Sponsor and follow the instructions. Theresa added that “we will be kids for a day to remember why this is important!!”

Ralph Chiedo – Ralph was happy to be back from “Bella Italia” where he attended a couple Rotary meetings while he was there. He received

recognition there for donating \$5000 to sponsor a “PolioPlus” sail for a sailboat that will compete on the Bay of Naples shortly and then throughout Europe this summer. He said he was “treated well” while he was there.

Toyin Dada – Toyin was happy to say that her nomination campaign to become a candidate in the next federal election in the North Etobicoke riding had a very successful “kick-off” with over 200 people attending. She was also happy to announce that in less than 2 weeks she will be travelling to Cambodia with a delegation of 6 others from MY Canada Association in partnership with XPMissions’ Operation Justice Cambodia. They will be serving women and children from 6 slum communities and 2 street dwelling communities. They will target the issues of Human Trafficking and Abortion Bullying, as well as laying the groundwork for starting a Pregnancy Care Centre there. Toyin has spent a great deal of time in the last 7 years counselling many women and having witnessed countless ways they have been, and are being, lied to, abused, and exploited. She has been inspired to be a voice and to act for justice. She has run Human Trafficking awareness workshops with hundreds and has met with Members of Parliament advocating on their behalf on these issues. Toyin needs to raise \$1740.00 within the next week and would be gratefully appreciative for any support in this endeavor. If you are interested in donating visit www.gofundme.com/971sio or contact Toyin directly at toyindada@hotmail.co
