

THE ROTARY CLUB OF RICHMOND HILL

A History

Written by Neil Mann, updated by Bill Harris March, 2001.

The Club was chartered on April 3rd. 1952, having been sponsored and assisted by the Rotary Club of Toronto-Leaside, who also arranged the Charter Night Programme. The dinner was held at Graystone's Restaurant, Yonge St., Aurora and there were twenty charter members present. Bob Cross (Richmond Hill District High School) was the first President and served until the end of June, 1952.

For the **Rotary year 1952-3**, Ralph Butler (Charter member) (Butler & Baird, Lumber Merchants on Centre St. E.) was at the helm. There are no records for this year but in **1953-4** Bill Gilchrist (Charter member) (Gormley Block Co.) was President and \$97.50 was paid to a Dr. Howe for a tonsillectomy, presumably performed upon some impecunious and I hope, willing child. In addition York County Hospital was paid \$53.10. Obviously tonsillectomies were big business. (And not covered by OHIP! W.H!) There were also contributions to the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee for park benches, to a Clement Trust Fund and a boy's workshop. It is noted that the first deposits for Christmas Tree Sales were made on December 23rd., 1953 totalling \$329.50. This was the Club's main fund raising activity for at least 35 years. In February, 1954 a \$15 prize was put up for the winner of the Courtesy Contest for Store Clerks. Also noteworthy is a contribution to an Ottawa Student Seminar. The bank balance at year end was \$763.77.

Jack Rice (Charter member) (Rice Real Estate) was President for the **Rotary Year 1954-5**, when the sale of Christmas trees netted \$203.15. A sum of \$148.45 was raised at Cooking School. A sum of \$169.90 was donated to develop or improve the Arena dressing room and uniforms were financed for the school band at a cost of \$46.58. Again a student was sent to Ottawa for a cost of \$63.35. Of interest is a \$200 donation to the Hurricane Hazel Relief Fund occasioned by that terrible storm that wreaked havoc in parts of Toronto and York Region. The year end bank balance was \$602.85.

In 1955-56 Bill McDougall (Charter member) was President and it appears that the only fund raising project was the Cooking School which netted \$221.99. This year the Richmond Hill High School Track and Field Team was supported with a \$75 donation and the Arena Association with \$104.40. A student was sent to London (Ontario?) at a cost of \$37. Welfare donations totalled \$396.84 and \$675 was transferred from the Club Account to balance the books.

1956-7. Bill Burns (Charter member) (Public Health Inspector) was President. Christmas Tree sales netted \$139.96 but \$135.49 was lost on a new bench rental project. (This was probably because of the initial costs of purchasing and painting the new benches. W.H.) resulting in a net figure of \$4.47 only for the year. Not to worry, though, a total of \$898 was donated to the scouts, a hockey team, a Town day camp, a student to a U.N. Seminar, ball park lights, the Public Library and \$396.84 to welfare. It is not reported how they managed to balance the books this year. I am not sure they did balance as it is noted that the bank balance on June 30th., 1957 was \$303.51 and on July 1st. of that year was \$341.58. Figure that out!

The benches were rented out for \$40 and \$45 a year and the material costs were \$400.49. The benches were put together by the members and had an advertisement for the subscriber on the bench back. The day camp expenditure marked the beginning of the well-known Camp Richildaca, originally at Richmond Hill High School but now privately owned and situated at Kettleby.

1957-58, President Ron Ryland, showed a marked improvement in funds raised from bench advertising rentals, the raffle of a fishing kit, sale of Christmas trees and a raffle for a man's suit. A total of \$1296.41 net even after absorbing an \$86.85 loss on sponsorship of a Muskoka Holiday play. Regarding the suit raffle, one suit made by Gunnars Tailors was raffled during the months of April, May and June.

The Boy's Club, the Richmond Hill Recreation Committee, the Ottawa Seminar and the U.N.Seminar were all supported to the tune of \$295.20. \$400 was also paid to send M.Munroe and J.Passmore to the Edmonton B.E.Games. The end of year bank balance was \$996.88.

1958-59. President Bob Johnston was at the helm when fund raising totalled \$1,885.32 net. New this year were weekly raffles and a Rotary Radio Roundup and a draw for Yule Logs. I don't think they were the burning kind!

\$100 was donated to the Retarded Children's Building Fund and \$100 to the Victorian Order of Nurses. Along with this the Rotarians canvassed the townsfolk's to establish this valuable community service. A sum of \$783.14 was allocated to youth activities.

1959-60. President Don Beaumont led the club with fund raising projects including the sale of tulip bulbs, Yule logs, Christmas trees, (\$648.89) a commission on the sale of Curtain Club tickets, bench rentals and a fishing tackle draw netting \$1,994.07 for the Service Account.

\$633.25 was spent to send needy children to summer camp, \$110 for a U.N. Seminar, \$878.22 to furnish the first two rooms to be put in use at the Thornhaven School built by District 707 Rotary Clubs. This was a school for handicapped children on Yonge Street between York Mills and Hwy. 401 in Willowdale. A sum of \$250 was paid to the Hockey Assoc. and \$196.68 towards a V.O.N. car, totaling \$2068.15. In addition \$606.13 was contributed to Welfare Assistance. The end of year bank balance was \$124.26. It seems to have been an active year under Don's leadership.

1960-61. The President was Roy Chandler. Sale of Yule logs and Christmas Trees netted \$1,125.82 and of all things, a Borden's Elsie the Cow exhibit raised \$366.06.

The Thornhaven School received a further \$707.65 and the end of the year bank balance was a whopping \$1,256.74. Interestingly, Co-ordinated Welfare, which pooled donations from various service clubs, was started by Bill Burns (Rotary) and Dr. Cam Cowan (Lions).

1961-62. President Art Dixon saw the entire proceeds of the Klondike Nite donated to the Friendly Relations with Overseas Students Committee of the University of Toronto to be used to create an International House for university students. It opened in 1966 and cost about \$250,000. Other fund raisers were bench rentals, Yule log draw and

again Christmas trees raising \$1,175.53 in all.

A student was sent to Ottawa at a cost of \$65 and \$500 was donated to the Town winter works project providing ground work for that part of the Mill Pond Park south of Mill Street. (Interestingly enough, the Rotary Club and the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society are involved in a millennium project in the year 200-2001 to construct a Millennium Garden on the corner of Mill and Trench Streets, also on the South side. W.H.) The Police Boys Band received \$100 as did Thornhaven School. The balance at the end of the year was \$370.30.

1962-63 was a banner year with Don Plaxton (Charter member) as President. Total funds raised during the year was \$2,322.24 net. Christmas tree sales netted 1,090.85 and the Klondike Nite Raised \$611.75.

Donations from the Service Account supported co-ordinated welfare, Ottawa and U.N. student adventures, the Richmond Hill Symphony Orchestra and the York Central Hospital Fund.

1963-64. John Lunn was President during July and August and Doug Booth from September to June. Bench rentals could not have been seriously pursued as reported net was only \$13. It could be that more benches were repaired or replaced. The Yule Log Draw netted \$249.95 and the old standby, Christmas trees \$1,021.55. Klondike Nite was repeated and raised \$347.51 for a grand total of \$1,632.01.

Support was given to co-ordinated welfare, the Ottawa Seminar, the Hockey Assoc., the F.R.O.S.Fund? and to Camp Richildaca at Pottageville for underprivileged children at a combined cost of \$990.05. A big balance of \$880 was left in the service account at years end.

1964-65. The President was Keith Sully. Bench rentals increased to \$157.30 but Christmas tree profits dropped to \$912. Klondike Nite was re-named Fun Nite and netted \$615.47. \$2,000 was donated to the York Central Hospital Building Fund. At year end there was a balance of \$340.03 after donations of \$2,385.

1965-66 was another banner year under the Presidency of Chuck Taylor. It was so because the author (Neil Mann) joined the Richmond Hill Club sponsored as an additional active member under the lawyer classification by Don Plaxton. Previously he was a member of the Willowdale Club for some three years. \$2,212.31 was raised from bench rentals, Christmas trees were back up to \$1,096.68 and Fun Nite raised \$539.72.

Expenditures were wide spread including sending a student to Orillia to assist an archaeological dig at an Indian village site. There was an atlas and stand purchased for the Public Library at a cost of \$500, donations were made to the St. John's Ambulance, to the Sick Children's Hospital and \$450 to co-ordinated welfare. Final bank balance stood at \$895.40.

1966-67. President Archie Crosier. Fund raising rose to \$3,298.20 and donations were again widespread. A new project was the Ralph Windoes Travelogue series purchased from the U.S.. Tickets were sold and the package of 5 or 6 travelogues a year were brought to town by professional photographic artists. Rotarians would assist by selling tickets in advance and at the door, arranging the hall, (Bayview Secondary School) seating the audience, introducing the guest speakers etc.. They were very

enjoyable and were carried on for several years. Afterwards the presenter would be invited back to one of the Rotarians homes and the attending Rotarians and wives would gather and share refreshments and dialogue with the artist. Net profit was only \$223.72 but a good time was had by those participating. Fun Nite was big this year, raising 1,248.50. It was an evening dinner dance with casino and the Rotarians planned and operated the whole evening, scarcely seeing their wives who worked hard as well. After a few years there arose a groundswell of complaints relating to the inability of the Rotarians and wives to enjoy the evening themselves and it gave way to other fund raising activities. It must be said that in these years the support of the Rotary-Annes was quite strong and some enjoyable mutual events and fun parties took place.

On the expenditure side, the highlight was the purchase and installation of the Centennial Sculpture in front of the main Public Library on Wright Street. (Now on the third floor of the new Public Library on Major MacKenzie Drive West. W.H.) Another was a \$500 donation to the Bing Lew Pool at the Orange Home on Yonge St.. The home was then an orphanage and Bing Lew, owner of the Chinese Restaurant on Yonge St. between Centre St. and Arnold Crescent bit the bullet and led the campaign. Everyone thought it was a good project and supported the effort and the pool bore his name. We were still sending students to Ottawa and Scouts to a U.S. Jamboree. We had to donate a new movie screen to Bayview Secondary School to continue the Travelogue as their's was falling apart at a cost of \$355.95. Total of service expenditures was \$3,335.90 and the end of year balance was \$845.30.

Most of the foregoing history was gleaned from the little blue book produced for the club members, including their functions and pertinent information. Current members in this directory were Neil Mann (1966), Gordon McIntyre (1959), Cam Smith (1968), Dennis Stainer (1961), and (I almost forgot) Doug Allen (1964). Neil Mann.

(March 1st., 2001. Of the above Gordon McIntyre, Cam Smith and Dennis Stainer are still members of the club. W.H.)

1967-68. President Dr. Bill Bedford, a local dentist, led a club of 40 members. The weekly bulletin was replete with a pensive photo of our esteemed leader, The full membership list with names and addresses of their firms but no room for a list of the club officers and directors. In any event, Rotary activities continued with lively Christmas tree sales, a members Christmas party as well as one for the Rotarian families and a visit to the children's ward at the Hospital. A Fun Nite was organized for Friday the 19th. of April at the Lion's Hall, where again the Rotarians donated door prizes and worked the night away.

The April 1st. (April Fools Day) Bulletin is a chore to read, (A mass of spelling mistakes, etc.) our editor having a sense of Humour. It closes with "Did You miss your bulletin last week I missed delivery of mine must of forgot to mem somtt my smmote. You to Yey..... (Figure that one out! W.H.)

One gem though - " Net loss of members and poor attendance are indications that there is something wrong in your club. When members lose interest , they find reasons for not attending the regular meetings of committee meetings. Now is the time to take inventory and see what can be done to make a good club better. Try to turn the club over to the new executive better than you found it."

Neil Mann's fellowship committee reported on a November 15th. Fireside Meeting with 20 members attending, a farewell party at Doug Allen's home for Dave Dorwart with 39 people and a Christmas party at Don Beaumont's home on Richmond Street with 48 in attendance and the Inner Wheel organizing the hilarity's. The Children's Party was held at the Summit Restaurant with Joe Rabinowitch being an unusually competent Santa Claus and Dennis Stainer arranging for the excellent magician to entertain.

The Spokesman (As the Bulletin was called, at that time. W.H.) for June 24th, 1968 listed the speaker as Paul Sanderson, our "Adventures in Citizenship" candidate. The Aurora and Kleinburg Clubs were 400%'ers, having contributed \$40 per member to Rotary Foundation. We had 33 paid up members.

1968-69. President Dr. Arnie Arai (surgeon) had Doug Allen as vice-president with Ron Bell, Bev Cook, Gordon McIntyre, Emerson Smith, Joe Malboeuf and Joe Rabinowitch as officers. The first Bulletin listed some fourteen Committee Chairmen and went on to say " they will, of course, do the work, get the blame for what is not done well, shine very little in the limelight, but, like the poet Fitzgerald, ' take the cash and let the credit go.' " Fund raisers were bench rentals at \$372, the Travelogues at \$505 and Christmas Tree sales. Telephone Books were again distributed by the club.

The members and hospital staff decorated the Paediatrics Ward at York Central Hospital for Christmas. A children's Christmas Party was held on December 23rd. at a cost of \$2 a child!

This was the year in which 100 copies of a Roster Book and Club History were published at a cost of \$278.04. The club continued to support Co-ordinated Welfare to the tune of \$300 a year.

Meetings were still Monday at 6.30 at the Summitview Restaurant (since burned down) on Yonge Street across from the Jefferson Public School.

1969-70. President Doug Allen led a club of about 38 members. The Service Account opened with a balance of \$2,120.54 and \$5,130.57 was raised through the year through the usual sale of Christmas trees, bench rentals, Travelogues and, Telephone

Book deliveries and the Fun Night. \$1,500 were donated to the Big Brothers and a Jamaica Student and Family Planning Project received \$600. Sight Saver Books (large print? W.H.) were given to the Public Library and the York Central Assoc. for the Mentally Retarded , the Y.W.C.A., the Deaf, the Richmond Hill Youth Aid Centre, Co-ordinated Welfare, Winter Carnival and the Science Fair were all supported.

The Park Shelter (in the upper Mill Pond Park) was built with \$1,995.10 worth of materials. The building of the shelter was a fellowship highlight of the year as so many members gave of their time and energy. (Note: this shelter was torn down by the Town in 2000 as it was considered unsafe. The Town says it will be re-built. The

commemorative plaque was rescued by a concerned citizen and is in the safe keeping of the Club, to be re-attached? W.H.)

The Service Account balance at the end of the year was \$678.04. Our Liberal M.P. Barney Danson spoke to the club on November 10th.. Our District Governor came on November 17th. and our sponsored hockey team won again under the expert coaching of our own Joe Horvat. Fireside meetings at members homes were popular and helpful to the club's success. We were cutting and hauling our own Christmas trees for sale. The delivery locally of Telephone Directories through John Hissink and Ronald's Printing (now Quebecor, W.H.) was a short lived but excellent fund raiser. Fun Nite was still operating and strategically located benches were still rented out to local business's for advertising. Committees met on the first, second or third Monday's of the month after the meeting in an effort to secure better participation.

Fun Nite 1970 was held at the Lion's Hall on Friday, April 10th. and Dennis Stainer and Neil Mann were among those delegated to the bar, food and table service and Gordon McIntyre to the ticket and funny money sales and Cam Smith to the Games of Chance.

1970-71. The President was Joe Malbouef (Tree Surgeon) with Emerson Smith as vice-president (Mutual Life Insurance Manager.) Neil Mann was Secretary, Ed Nokes was Treasurer and Joe Horvat, Bruce Lloyd, Bev Cook and Dennis Stainer were the Service Directors. There is very little material on file for this year but the one Bulletin of July 20th., 1970 that we do have congratulates Ian MacLean on his election the chair of the Richmond Hill and District Social Planning Committee. It also features a full report to the club by Barry Buchanan of his Adventures in Citizenship trip to Ottawa. It also announces the official handing over to the Town of the Park Shelter, erected by the members in the Upper Mill Pond Park, was to be held on July 29th., 1970 at 7.30pm..

This year the meetings were being held at the Summit Golf and Country Club on Mondays at 6.30pm..

1971-72. The President was Emerson Smith with Ed Nokes as Vice and Dennis Stainer as Secretary. Gordon McIntyre was on the Christmas Tree Committee with Joe Malboeuf. Travelogue, benches, Christmas trees and a dinner dance still held sway as fund raisers but no records of the funds actually raised are on file. Meetings were still held at the Summit Golf and Country Club which had an old world ambience of fireplace and walnut paneling until we were relegated to the lounge.

1972-73. The President was Ed Nokes with Dennis Stainer as vice-president, Cam Smith was Treasurer. Fund raisers were bench rentals. Christmas tree sales, Travelogues netting \$2,934.77 in total. September was social month usually including a barbecue at Dave Hay's farm or some members home and, of course, the fishing weekend.

This is the end of the notes made by Neil Mann.

The History of the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill

continued by Bill Harris in October, 2001.

1973-74. The President was Dennis Stainer, Vice President Neil Mann, Secretary Don Halliday, Treasurer John Hissink and Directors Bev Cook, Chris Hart, Colin Robertson and Cam Smith. The meeting night was changed to Tuesday night at the Honey Pot Ski Lodge for a short while and then to The Black Hawk Motor Inn. Major fund raising projects were the Travelogues, net proceeds were \$853, Christmas Tree sales at \$2,135 and a Dance at the Summit Golf and Country Club that raised \$769. Support was given to one child through the Foster Parents Plan, Big Brothers of York received \$500, the York Centre for the Mentally Retarded \$300 and for some strange reason the Townsman Drum Corps of Leamington received \$700. It must have seemed a good idea at the time!

1974-75. The President was Neil Mann, Vice-President Joe Horvat, Secretary Ken Rintoul, Treasurer Bev Cook and Directors Len Jones, Bruce Lloyd, Dale Kenzie and Dave Hay. Meetings were still held on Tuesdays at 6.30pm at The Black Hawk Motor Inn. Travelogues were still a major fund raiser. There were six programmes over the winter months, held in the auditorium of Bayview Secondary School and the price was \$6 per person for the season, a pretty good deal, even in 1974. The programmes were illustrated with slides and some of the multi projector shows with sound track were quite spectacular and very professional. Ticket selling was a chore that consumed a lot of members time. The profit for the 1974-75 season was \$1,122 and Christmas Tree sales brought in \$2,135. The Club donated \$300 to Co-ordinated Welfare, a plan that combined all the various service clubs in the town at that time. \$1,500 was donated to York Central Hospital and various other organizations received smaller amounts.

1975-76. The President was Joe Horvat, Vice-President Bruce Lloyd, Secretary Ken Rintoul, Treasurer Bev Cook and the Directors were Dave Dyson, Len Jones, Don Halliday and Buster Vermeulen. Christmas Trees were still the major fund raiser at \$1,660 although trees were getting expensive at a cost of \$6 and it was a concern whether people would pay \$8 for a tree! The club continued to support co-ordinated welfare, the Foster Parents Plan and the York Central Hospital. (\$1,500)

1976-77. The President was Bruce Lloyd, Vice-President Len Jones, Secretary Gerry Crack, Treasurer Bev Cook and Directors Bill Harris, Dave Dyson, Bill Cook and Don Halliday. The first Tuesday Meeting of each month was devoted to club business only, a good way to keep members informed with what was going on behind the scenes. This was a busy year with the 25th. anniversary of the club celebrated with a Dinner Dance at the Thornhill Golf and Country Club on Saturday, February 26th.. Mayor David Schiller, Alf Stong, M.P.P. and many other prominent members of the community joined District Governor Norman Guild, PDG. Geoff King and Rotarians from surrounding clubs joined us in celebrating 25 years of "Service above Self". The main fund raising projects were the Travelogues \$1,714, Christmas Tree sales \$2,048, Christmas Nuts \$625 and bench rentals \$340. The latter were wooden benches with concrete supports, emblazoned with the Rotary emblem, that were rented to businesses for advertising

purposes. The name of the business was painted on to the back rest and the benches were placed at strategic places round the town. They weighed a ton and required a lot of maintenance, re-painting etc. and collecting the rental was sometimes time consuming.

1977-78. The President was Len Jones with Vice-President Buster Vermeulen. No Secretary is listed but the Treasurer was Bev Cook with Directors Bill Cook, Ian MacLean, Ron Voiles and Bill Harris. The club initiated what they hoped would be an annual District 707 Softball Tournament. Oshawa defeated Willowdale in the final to win the series and a wind up party was held at the Halliday's. The fishing weekend at Don Plaxton's cottage was held on Sept. 30th.. I am not sure when this started but it was a regular annual event for many years, even after Don resigned from the club. Liz Casey, a Rotary Foundation Scholar from Perth, Western Australia was counselled by Bill and Shelagh Harris, and became a regular and popular visitor of club events, including the aforementioned Softball Tournament. A Cribbage Tournament held after the regular meeting once a month at a member's home was popular. The club continued to support the Schools Science Fair. Fund raising was again through the sale of Christmas Trees \$1001, Travelogue ticket profits fell to \$305 but it was decided to continue for another year as we felt it was good community project. Christmas Nuts brought in \$350 and expenditures on new benches led to a deficit of \$125.

1978-79. President Buster Vermeulen had First Vice-President Gordon McIntyre and Second Vice-President Harry Gerber to assist him in his year. Bill Cook was Secretary and Bev Cook was Treasurer again. The Directors were Bill Law, Jim Abraham, Dinker Joshi and Dave Hay. President Buster's strategy was to cut down on the number of projects undertaken by the club but to concentrate the effort on successful projects. It was decided that the club could no longer afford to support two Foster Parents plan children but the members decided they would support them with the fines levied by the Sergeant-at-Arms. So the support continued. The club also continued to support the Science Fair and the York Region winner, Vernon Stringer went on to win the International title in Europe. He later became a Rotary Foundation Scholar, sponsored by the club. One of Buster's projects was to encourage the Town to build a concert hall in the projected Civic Complex at the corner of Major Mac. and Yonge. To help promote the idea the club organized a concert at The Minkler Auditorium featuring many of the town's musical groups and sold \$1,392 worth of tickets at \$4 each, but the rental of the hall had to be subtracted. Travelogues raised around \$700.

1979-80. President Gordon McIntyre, 1st. Vice President Harry Gerber, 2nd. Vice-President Jim Abraham, Secretary Bill Cook, Treasurer Peter Nye and Directors Dinker Joshi, Doug Davies, Bill Harris, Harry Elkins. This is the first year that we see mention of a TV Auction committee, the members being Jim Abraham, Buster Vermeulen, Doug Allen, Dave Hay, Doug Hinchcliffe and Dennis Stainer. Jim Abraham had seen the successful TV Auctions put on by some of the other clubs and suggested that the Richmond Hill Club try it on our local cable company, Classicomm. There was considerable debate as to whether a club of our size could handle such a big project. However by August it had been given the green light and here are some of the rules laid out in the August 21st., 1979 Bulletin. "The club is committed to provide a minimum of \$6,000 worth of articles. This represents a minimum of 300 articles worth a minimum of \$20 each for a ten hour programme. This means each member has to obtain a minimum

of ten items of \$20 or more“. It was also noted that this project fulfils our obligation to do something special for Rotary’s 75th. Anniversary Year and the recipient of the profits (the York Centre for Learning Disabilities) had been chosen specifically to commemorate the Year of the Child. I don t have a final figure for the TV Auction but the club continued to support the Travelogues and to sell Christmas Trees.

The club was recognized by the Town at the Sixteenth Annual Awards and Volunteer Recognition Banquet. I have no financial details for the year so cannot comment on amounts raised or monies spent.

1980-81. The President was Harry Gerber, 1st. Vice-President Jim Abraham and 2nd. Vice-President Dinker Joshi. The Secretary was Bill Law, Treasurer Peter Nye and the Directors were Bruce Humphreys, Doug Davies, Joe Malboeuf and Greg Price. The second TV Auction was held on December 4th. &.5th., 1980 and at a special TV Auction Night held on December 16th. a cheque for \$10,000 was presented to Alice Frye of the York Centre for Learning Disabilities for their Phoenix Programme. The club held weekly raffles of gifts donated by members to support the two Foster Children in South America. The Rotarians braved the bitter cold to sell Winter Carnival buttons at the Mill Pond and the Cribbage Tournament continued. A decision was made to change the meeting night to Monday, still at the Black Hawk. The club continued its strong support of the York Science Fair to the tune of \$800. The Travelogues were continued despite losing money as they were considered an asset to the community. Christmas Trees raised about \$2,000 and benches \$525.

1981-82. Jim Abraham was President, Dinker Joshi was Vice-President, Bill Law was Secretary and Cam Smith Treasurer. The Directors were Bruce Humphreys, Doug Davies, Peter Nye and Bill Harris. One of President Jim’s aims was to increase membership and publicity for the club. In both areas he was successful having five new members inducted on one record setting night. Membership increased from 29 to 38 in the course of the year. We also had a special insert published in the Liberal, including mug shots of all the members. The Travelogues were continued but lost money as in the previous year. TV Auction raised about \$14,000 providing a profit of \$9,573. A cheque for \$9,000 was given to the York Centre for Learning Disabilities. Christmas Tree sales netted \$2225 and bench rentals brought in \$750.

1982-83. President Dinker Joshi had Bruce Humphreys as Vice-President, Ed Inouye as Secretary, Cam Smith was Treasurer and his Directors were Ken Van Vliet, Dave Hay, Don Halliday and Bill Harris. A lot of fun and good publicity was generated by the kidnapping of the club ball team’s mascot at the District Soft Ball Tournament. The mascot, a stuffed turkey, was kidnapped and ransom notes were received demanding large payments to be made to Rotary Foundation. The TV Auction netted \$16,622. Christmas Trees netted \$2,709, which represents a lot of trees and cold evenings and weekends on the lot. The Travelogues cost the club \$823. We also had a Concert Hall Account of \$1,768!

1983-84. President Bruce Humphreys, Vice-President Graham Jones, Secretaries Bill Cook and Ed Inouye, Treasurer Cam Smith and Directors Neil Mann, Bill Law, Bob Saunders, Wayne Leafloor and Bill Harris. Having no copies of Bulletins for the year I have to reconstruct the activities from the club accounts for June 30th., 1984. One of the

important events of the year was the club's sponsorship of the new Rotary Club of Newmarket. Not only did we provide the club banner, Rotary visitor cards, underwrite the charter night and souvenir programme but we also supplied the new club President. Past President Jim Abraham of the Richmond Hill Club became the first President of the Rotary Club of Newmarket. The club also considered adding regular Bingo Nights at the newly opened Diamond Lil's to its fund raising activities but this was finally voted down, mainly because members felt it was competing too directly with the Lions Club regular Bingo Nights. Travelogues continued to cost us money (\$1,166) whilst Christmas Tree profits fell to \$480 from sales amounting to \$4,705 and benches brought in \$100. The TV Auction raised \$17,329 and the main recipient was \$6,000 to the Jaws of Life for the Fire Dept..

1984-85. President Graham Jones, Vice-President Bill Harris, Secretary David Jones, Treasurer Pat Morrell and Directors Bob Saunders, Bill Redelmeier, Joe Horvat and Glen Waugh. Only one copy of the Club Bulletin in the archives for this year, but what a professional job it is. The Bulletin Editor was artist Jeff Wakefield and his newly designed front cover in colour made for a prize winning Bulletin. The content is livened up with photos too and his racy style makes for a most professional publication. The Travelogues were finally dropped but Christmas Trees were still sold and raised \$1, 658. The club supported a Street Proofing scheme for children at Hillcrest Mall. For a dollar parents could have a child photographed and fingerprinted. We continued to support the Science Fair to the tune of \$1,550, 3 Foster Children and the Student Adventure in Citizenship. President Humphreys, V-P Bill Harris and Rotarian Doug Davies attended the International Conference held in Birmingham , England. The 1984 TV Auction raised over \$16,000 of which \$5,000 was donated to the Hospital, \$1,237 to Helpmate etc.. \$2,500 was donated to the Rotary Club of Barrie Tornado Relief Fund. The club also participated in selling tickets for a Greek Night organized by two of the members. This was not a club organized event but did start the series of annual Club International Nights.

1985-86. President Bill Harris, Vice-President Bill Redelmeier, Secretary Brian Searles, Treasurer Pat Morrell, Directors Jeff Wakefield, David Jones, Bryon Wilfert, and Dinker Joshi. We had the first of the club organized International Nights. India Night was organized by Dinker Joshi with Indian food and entertainment and was held at the Richmond Hill Country Club. The Consul General of India was the guest of honour and a sell out crowd enjoyed a most enjoyable evening. \$4,000 was raised for international projects which included a joint project with the Rotary Club of Madras Central. A matching grant from R. I. doubled the club's contribution of \$8,000 to be paid over two years to purchase equipment for the Margaret Sidney Hospital in Nanganallur, India.

Another fund raising effort was the sale of a cook book, the "Mother Kitchen Cookbook" by the Ponte Vecchio Ristorante manager, Americo Di Rezze. This collection of old Italian Recipes raised \$873 for the Service Account. A unique stainless steel trophy was donated to the club as the Junior Engineering Award for the York Science Fair and was named the Stu Harwood Trophy in memory of Rotarian Stu Harwood who died this year. (I wonder where this trophy is now?) The club also instituted the Yonge Street flower barrels in the spring of 86. We purchased and planted the barrels in the old part of town from Major MacKenzie to Leventdale. Eventually, the

Town adopted this initiative, which has been expanded and continued to this day. Christmas Tree sales raised \$4,258.

The TV Auction sales were \$28,632 and amongst other donations, \$10,000 went to York Central Hospital, qualifying us for a Gold category ceramic tile in the Rose of York Programme. You will see our tiles on the donors wall at the hospital.

President Bill was suitably embarrassed on Turnover Night by having to dance with a Belly Dancer, thoughtfully invited by Rotarian. Rick Sulker!

1986-87. President Bill Redelmeier, Vice-President Bryon Wilfert, Secretary Brian Searles, Treasurer Pat Morrell with Directors Jeff Wakefield, Paul Hood, Dave Barrow and Rick Sulker. The main event of the year was the second International Night Italian Night, with the Italian Consul General as guest of honour. A well attended event which raised \$2,800 for the club's international projects, which included another \$3,635 for the Madras project. This two year commitment was not appreciated by the incoming Board! This year also saw the club's involvement in the formation of a new club in Stouffville, Bill Harris being the District Governor's representative. We raised \$400 from Child Fingerprinting, Gold Book Sales raised \$500 and Christmas Tress made \$3,541, plus other smaller items giving the Service Account a total of \$12,790 in receipts. Disbursements included donations to Richmond Hill Soccer, Ringette, Foster Children, the Science Fair and \$642 for shelter repairs. This would be for the Polish Park Shelter. There was also a drive for used or discarded toys to be collected and shipped to underprivileged children in Brazil.

The TV Auction made \$20,586 and donations were made to Richmond Hill Hockey, CNIB, Daybreak, Yellow Brick House, Helpmate, Meals on Wheels and the Rotary Club of Stouffville, who had been invited to participate, as one of their first club activities.

1987-88. President Bryon Wilfert, Vice-President Jeff Wakefield, Secretary Paul Hood, Treasurer Glenn Taylor and Directors Paul Thomas, Bob Correll, Mohamed Abdulla and Rick Sulker. The big event of the year was the fourth international night, British Night. held at the Sheraton-Parkway on October 23rd., 1987. All of the 400 tickets available were sold, with the British Consul-General Bryan Sparrow as guest of honour. The programme for the evening included a Pearly King and Queen, a Scottish Piper, British comedian Billy Meeks and music for dancing by the Front Page Dance Band. The room was beautifully decorated with flags and the whole evening was a great success and reflected a lot of hard work by the organizing committee. This was the year of the start of the first ever Rotary International fund raising campaign, Polio Plus and the British Night saw \$6,299 in profits paid into the Polio Plus Account. The accounts for March, 1988 show a total of \$12,835 paid into this account, including a \$3,500 club donation. Other fund raising activities included \$3,867 from a Barn Sale and \$1,262 from Christmas Tree Sales. The 1987 TV Auction raised over \$25,000 of which \$7,000 was donated to the hospital, Yellowbrick House made over \$4,000 and the CNIB, Helpmate and Meals on Wheels were supported.

1988-89. President Jeff Wakefield, Vice-President Paul Thomas who was also Club Service Director, Treasurer Glenn Taylor, Secretary Neil Mann and Directors Ron Evans, Mohamed Abdulla and Ray Laxton. Another year of excellent coverage of Rotary

events in the Liberal, arranged by President Jeff. The Richmond Hill Terry Fox R was again organized by the club with 60 to 70 participants raising \$3,000. Christmas Trees were again sold, despite a rather poor result in the previous year and the TV Auction was held on December 4th..We also had our second Exchange Student, Gabrielle Kannegieter from Groningen, Holland. Caribbean Night was held at Richmond Green on April 21st., 1989 but no account statements are on file for the year so I can't give you figures. The annual fishing weekend at Don Plaxton's cottage was also held in September and carols were sung at York Central on Christmas Eve by Rotarians and members of the St.Mary's Church Choir.

1989-90. President Paul Thomas, Vice-President Rick Sulker, Treasurer Pat Morrell, Secretary Neil Mann Directors Dinker Joshi, Dick Northorp, Cam Smith and Larry Mirkopoulus. An Active year with the departure of Exchange Student Gabrielle and the arrival of inbound student Mari Tuunainen from Finland. We also sent a student, Nicole Zinn to Finland. Some of the events during the year were a Boat Cruise on Lake Ontario, a Golf Challenge with the Aurora Club, a Corn Roast at Southbrook Farms, the Terry Fox Run, the TV Auction and an Irish Night on April 20th., 1990. The President Paul was also coach for the club sponsored Soccer Team who were all invited, with parents to the Sept. 11th. meeting with a soccer expert as speaker. Internationally the club was involved in a wheelchair project with the Rotary Club of Jalingo, Nigeria.

1990-91. President Rick Sulker, Vice-President Cam Smith, Treasurer Pat Morrell, Secretary David Jones and Directors Dinker Joshi, Dick Northorp, Eric Nejat and Dennis Egan. The club continued to take an active role in the Student Exchange Programme and our Exchange Student for the year was Mano Pedrazzoli from Catanduva, Brazil. Nicole Zinn returned from her year in Finland, speaking Finnish and Swedish in addition to the English, German and French she had mastered before her Exchange year. She is quite a linguist. The District 707 Conference was held at the Sheraton-Parkway Hotel with John Denver as the main speaker and a number of Exchange Students and Foundation Scholars were hosted on the Saturday night by club members so that they could attend the youth events on the Sunday morning. A Blue Spruce was planted at the hotel to commemorate the conference theme "Preserve Planet Earth", which subsequently died and was replaced sometime around 1996 or 7 with a Maple donated by Shelagh Harris and planted by Bill Harris and John Rumble in the pouring rain. Unfortunately, this tree also died and has now been replaced by an Evergreen, presumably provided by the hotel. The plaque is still there on the rock but maybe this says something about the state of the environment in Richmond Hill! The International Night took the form of a Canada Night this year on February 22nd., 1991. In the fund raising activities this is the first year that I see Christmas Ham sales mentioned, making a profit of \$540. Another fund raising effort was made in co-operation with the new Super Centre. Each Saturday morning from June to Labour Day the Rotary volunteers cooked and sold hamburgers and hotdogs and drinks from 10.30 to 3.30pm.. This was a good fellowship event and I remember being surprised at how early the demand began each Saturday morning. The club made \$1,976 this year, but the demand slowed in subsequent years. The TV Auction raised over \$35,000 of which \$22,587 was distributed to various charities and \$7,500 given to the Hospital Foundation.

1991-92. President Cam Smith, Vice-President Paul Vyrostopko, Treasurer Bob

Correll, Secretary David Jones and Directors Deen Farouk, Alvin Rice, Eric Nejat and Ray Butcher. Another active year in the Exchange Student programme with the departure of Mano Pedrazolli and the arrival of Berenice Jimenez from Mexico. Debbie Jones was our outbound student who went to Brazil and stayed with Mano's family in Catanduva. This is an unusual occurrence. During the course of the year a two Paul Harris Fellowship Awards were given to outstanding members of the community. Bryan Buchan was given the award for his adoption of seven Vietnamese children, Gloria Crotin received hers for her work as CEO of the York Central Hospital. Carmen Salerno, News Room Director for Classicom Cable was presented with a plaque for his work with the TV Auction. The first of the 12 Club Rotary Meetings was organized by the Aurora Club on June 1st., 1992. Vice-Admiral Robert George was the guest speaker. These have continued to this date(2001). The club also sponsored a Rotary Foundation Scholar, Dina Minutillo, who studied strategies for teaching deaf students. One of the items on the March 31st., 92 statement lists \$500 donated for the new Town Crier's uniform. The TV Auction raised \$36,000 with \$23,302 distributed to charities. There was no International Night as they had become less profitable and it was decided to concentrate on the TV Auction as our main fund raising activity. A shame, as they were a lot of fun! Turnover Night at the Sulker's was notable for the appearance of Mae West to give President Cam a "gin and sofa".

1992-93. President Paul Vyrosto, Vice-President Deen Farouk, Treasurer Bob Correll, Secretary David Tate and Directors Cyril Volney, Alvin Rice, Steve Rice and Glen Waugh. Exchange Student Berenice returned home to Mexico in a flood of tears in July, to be replaced by Christophe Guinand from France in August. Berenice was a great favourite of the club members and was given a grand farewell meeting at the club and a farewell barbecue for all the host families at Rick Sulker's. Nicole Zinn, former outbound exchange student was back to receive an Environmental Award from the club for some initiatives she had started at Bayview Secondary School. The club had a successful Corn Roast with 63 participants and the Terry Fox run was up to 124 participants, collecting \$10,500 in cash and pledges. The TV Auction was held on the 28th. and 29th of November, 1992 but I have no record of the results on file or of the club finances for the year.

1993-94. President Deen Farouk, Vice-President Eric Nejat, Treasurer Bob Correll, Secretary David Tate and Directors Cyril Volney, Ron Evans, Cam Smith and Mohamed Abdulla. Rotary Exchange Student Christophe returned to Lyon, France in August. He was visited by his grandparents, Nicole and Robert Ginand, in the summer and stayed a few days with his host family at that time, Shelagh and Bill Harris. Very pleasant people and the courtesy was repaid when they spent some time with them in their beautiful home in the outskirts of Lyon. Another Twelve Club Meeting was held on June 6th., 94 at the Atrium in Aurora with Dave Broadfoot as the keynote speaker. He was his usual side splitting self and a large group of Rotarians enjoyed a great evening.

The 1993 TV Auction was held on November 26th to the 28th. and grossed over \$50,000. At the meeting of March 21st a cheque for over \$11,000 was given to Robert Murcar of Family Credit Counselling Services, the United Way of York Region received over \$10,000, CNIB York Region received over \$6,000, Yellow Brick House over \$2,000 and the York Region Abuse Programme \$500. At this very special meeting a Paul

Harris Fellowship was given to Nancy Evans, wife of Rotarian Ron Evans, in recognition of the time and energy that she had put in during the course of many TV Auctions.

1994-95. President Eric Nejat, Vice-President Mike Tindale, Treasurer Alvin Rice, Secretary David Tate and Directors David Jones, Paul Thomas, Cam Smith and Bill Harris. The first year we see women on the membership list. Ann Bardoel, a Royal Bank Manager, was the first women member of the club. We had an Exchange Student from Australia, Brooke Parry and an outbound student in waiting., Vanessa Khan. Vanessa eventually went to the same area of Victoria, Australia that Brooke was from and her father, Ray became a valued member of the club and her mother, Indra a stalwart of the TV Auction. The 1994 TV Auction held on December 2nd., 3rd. and 4th. and raised \$54,460 from a total retail value of \$83,000. Almost \$39,000 was given to the participating charities and the club raised \$8,692 for its own coffers. The big event of the year was the 90th. Anniversary of Rotary International Party held on February 18th, at the Sheraton Parkway Hotel. The proceedings were commenced with a stirring introduction by Richmond Hill Town Crier Tom Jones and the Mayor Bill Bell brought greetings from the Town and the District 7070 Governor John Hemmant was the main speaker. The TV Auction cheques were also presented to the participating charities during the night.

An international project was the raising of funds for an Indian Earthquake Relief Fund which paid for the erection of a new house in the stricken area. A photo of the marble plaque mounted on the wall of this house is in the archives.

1995-6. President David Tate(Mike Tindale left club), Vice-President Israel Reinberg, Treasurer Ann Bardoel, Secretary Robert Segarra and Directors David Jones, Paul Thomas, Dennis Stainer and Bill Harris. David Tate stepped into the breach when Mike Tindale was unable to fulfill his commitment to be President. Vanessa Khan left for her year in Australia. The club continued to organize the Terry Fox Run and support Foster Children. One innovative meeting was a "Get Acquainted " evening with the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce. This was a Wine and Cheese and Hors D'oeuvre affair with a minimum of programme and the maximum of socializing. This was a pleasant evening but did not result in new members, as was hoped. The TV Auction was held on December 1st., 2nd. and 3rd. but I have no figures for this year. This was the year that the club recognised the hard work and support of. Classicomm's Carmen Salerno by making him a Paul Harris Fellow.

1996-7. President Israel Reinberg, Vice-President Robert Segarra, Treasurer David Jones, Secretary Ann Bardoel, and Directors John Rumble, Savi Shamseer, Geln Waugh and Ola Kassim. The club set up a relief fund for the victims of the serious flooding in Quebec in the summer of 1996. A considerable amount of money was collected and sent "in trust" to the Rotary Club of Jonquiere to be distributed to those in need. It was also thought to be a positive gesture showing our regard for the people of Quebec and our desire to keep them in Canada. The club continued to support the Terry , Fox Run and the Corn Roast to raise money. This year the TV Auction was run under the Shaw Cable banner, Classicomm having been sold. The immediate difference was that Shaw insisted on having their name prominently displayed but the studio team stayed much the same. Net revenue was \$65,550.

1997-8. President Robert Segarra, Vice President John Rumble, Treasurer Cam Smith, Secretary Mark Lathem and Directors Paul Thomas, Lia Mortellaro, Eric Nejat and Urs Maire. Another year with regular events such as the Corn Roast at Southbrook Farms in September, the President's Walk for Foundation in Alliston this year and the club organized the Terry Fox Run once more. John Rumble organized a horse and buggy advertising the TV Auction for the Santa Claus Parade and club members helped in the food tent at the Winter Carnival in February. We had a Rotary Exchange Student, Matije Dreze from Belgium who was close to 7ft. tall and had to have two beds in the form of a T, otherwise his feet stuck out at the end. We sent a student, Rahki Bhavnani to Annecy in France. The TV Auction Raised over \$77,000 with Rotarians bringing in the top amount of \$18,024, Family Services were next with almost \$16,000, then United Way with over \$12,000 followed by seven other charities with lesser amounts..

1998-99. President John Rumble, Vice-President Urs Maire, Treasurer Cam Smith, Secretary Mark Lathem and Directors Paul Vyrotsky, Ray Khan, Ann Bardoel and Ray Coombs. The members rallied round to help Bill Harris who had volunteered to be counsellor for Lyn Talbot, a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from Australia who arrived in August with her sixteen year old daughter, Elizabeth. Because of her daughter she could not be accommodated in the Graduate Residence and had to rent an unfurnished college flat. The members hunted through their basements and found enough furniture and transported it downtown and helped her set up her home for the year.

Rahki returned from her Exchange year in France, where, to everyone's amazement, including her French teachers, she achieved a Baccalaureate. The club took part in the President's Walk in style, President John having taken his horse and carriage to Brighton for the event. We had quite a group of Rotarians and Ambassadorial Scholars and a good time was had by all despite the damp weather. The 1998 TV Auction broke the record again with a total of \$87,000 of which \$51,000 was distributed to various charities. The club raised \$21,000 for its own community projects.

1999-2000. Urs Maire who was to have been President this year left for a new job in the United States so Glen Waugh was asked to step into the breach, which he did very effectively. The Executive for 99-2000 was President Glen Waugh, Vice-President Savi Shamseer, Treasurer Cam Smith, Secretary Mark Lathem and Directors Ray Kahn, Eric Nejat, Tom Lalonde and Nick Kovak. The club sponsored an Exchange Student, Suzanne Hirtenfeld who went to Belgium in August, 1999 for her year and Josh Stuart from Australia arrived in January of 2000. The TV Auction was still our main fund raiser but the club needed an International fund raiser. The Christmas Hams money brought in between \$2,000 and \$1,500 each year but we were involved in a well boring project in Kenya and needed more money. It was decided to try the International Nights again and a repeat of the Caribbean Night (Paul Thomas, from Antigua was running the show so had the choice) was held on April 29th, 2000 at the Bayview Hill Community Centre in Richmond Hill and raised about \$2,600 for the project. The TV Auction was held on November 19th., 20th. and 21st..

2000-01. Our first female President, Savi Shamseer took the helm, with Vice-President Lisa Chang, Treasurer Viktor Tikhanovski, for a short while to be superseded by old timer Cam Smith, Secretary Mark Lathem and Directors Tom Lalonde, Chris Guillard, Brenda Cairns and Ola Kassim. There were not enough host family volunteers

so it was decided not to have an Exchange Student this year. The usual Corn Roast was held and we ran a very successful Terry Fox Run. The club also decided to join forces with the Richmond Hill Garden and Horticultural Society to design and plant a Millennium Garden on Town land at the Mill Pond Park in the centre of town. Graham Jones and Bill Harris sat on the committee which approved the landscaping design, the planting and the selection of a suitable marker stone. It was intended that the members would help in the planting but in fact, only Graham and Bill participated.

The Year 2000 TV Auction saw another change of management from Shaw to Rogers Cable. It was highly successful, cracking the \$100,000 mark for the first time. Receipts of \$109,420 meant that we actually distributed \$100,000 to Rotary and the various charities. The clubs portion was over \$15,000, being the highest individual cheque. The club's annual donation to the hospital took the form of a purchase of grand piano for the foyer of the new wing. It is a fine instrument costing \$9,964.75 and bears a plaque advertising the fact that it is a gift of the Rotary Club and has been put to good use for a number of musical events for the benefit of patients and staff.

2001-02. President Lisa Chang, Vice-President Brenda Cairns, Treasurer Jag Awatramani, Secretary Mark Lathem and Directors Tom Lalonde, Chris Guillard, Robert Segarra and Ola Kassim. One thing I have not mentioned previously is the problem the club has had in finding a regular meeting place since the failure of the Ponte Vecchio, our meeting place for many years. We started this year at Pop's Tavern, the Fickle Pickle, the restaurant that took the place of the Ponte Vecchio, having closed and then Pop's closed on us too. It was found to be very difficult to find a restaurant with a separate room and we finally had to compromise and move to The Rhapsody Restaurant on Yonge Street which opened just for us on Monday nights. However, it is not an ideal location for speakers. In August of 2001 a number of members joined members of the Horticultural Society at the Millennium Garden for the official unveiling of the marker stone by the Mayor of Richmond Hill, Bill Bell and the two visiting judges for the Communities in Bloom competition. The stone is suitably inscribed with the names of the Club, the Society and the Town, who all contributed to the completion of this project. At the opening it already had a nice display of flowers, but the perennials should improve with time. The September Terry Fox Run had a record 300 participants bringing in a record \$27,000 in cash and pledges.

2002-03. President Brenda Cairns, Vice-President Chris Guillard, Treasurer Jag Awatramani, Secretary Mark Lathem and Directors Tom Lalonde, Robert Segarra, Peter Fisk and Paul Thomas. The Club continued to meet on Monday evenings but moved the meeting place in 2003 to the Sheraton-Parkway Hotel. The club in August, 2002 agreed to a long term commitment to the support of York Central Hospital and its expansion plans. It was agreed to give a total of \$50,000, spread over the next six years. The \$8,500 a year should be easily covered by the Club's funds raised at the annual TV Auctions. The 2002 TV Auction raised \$93,802 for charities, \$14,844 being the amount raised by the Club. The Terry Fox Run was another record year bringing in better than \$40,000 for cancer research. Rtn Eric Nejat was counsellor for an Ambassadorial Scholar, Maki Ojima, studying at OISE University of Toronto.

The big event for the year was the African Safari Night, held on May 24th., 2003. This was a ambitious event, organized with the help of the following, to raise funds for the

Rotary Polio Plus Campaign and for Sickle Cell research: The Alajobi Inner Circle Assoc. of Canada, The Sickle Cell Association of Canada, and Camp Jumoke, a summer camp for children suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia. The evening featured African cuisine and entertainment and was held at the Sheraton Parkway. A total of \$14,267 was raised, of which \$7,707 went to Polio Plus.

2003-04. President Dinker Joshi, Vice-President Mark Lathem, Secretary Glen Waugh, Treasurer Jag Awatramani and Directors David Obadia, Tom Lalonde, Peter Fisk and Paul Thomas. Due to health reasons, Vice-President Chris Guillard was not able to assume the Presidency and Past President Dinker Joshi was invited to transfer from the Willowdale Club, back to his original Richmond Hill Club and take on a second term as President. He was willing to help the Club out by doing this, but unfortunately, after a short time he was struck down with health problems and was forced to resign. Mark Lathem then became President and Chris Guillard, having recovered from his surgery, became Vice-President again.

At a meeting on August 11th. 2003 it was agreed that the \$8,333 that we had agreed to give to York Central Hospital over the next six years was to be used for the furnishing of five patient rooms. Our incoming Exchange Student, Charlotte Gasiglia, arrived from France. The club again hosted the Incoming Rotary Exchange Students weekend, hosting the students on Saturday Night and bringing them to help in the Terry Fox Run on Sunday morning.

The Terry Fox Run (Sept. 2003) raised over \$40,000, another record. The participation of the Exchange Students was a great success as they cheered and encouraged the participants round the course. The TV Auction was held on Saturday, December 6th. and Sunday, December 7th. on Rogers Cable. A total of \$103,068.80 was distributed to 16 charitable organizations, the Club raising \$10,669.92 for its Service Account.

On March 29th., 2004 the club organized a Joint Club Meeting for twelve local clubs with the author of the book, Paris 1919, Dr. Margaret Macmillan the featured speaker. An excellent meeting, attended by over 200 Rotarians at Dinardo's in Aurora, heard Dr. Macmillan speak on the subject of the issues of making peace.

On May 15th., 2004 the club organized another great International Night. This time it was 'South Asia Night' and was held at the Premiere Ballroom in Richmond Hill and featured food and entertainment from the various countries in the area.

In June, our outbound Exchange Student Mara Baltais returned from her year in Argentina and spoke to the club on her experiences.

2004-05. To everyone's distinct pleasure, Chris Guillard was sufficiently recovered from his surgery to assume the Presidency, all be it a year late. His V.P. was David Obadia, Secretary Joan Hunjan, Treasurer Anthony Warner and the Directors were Ted Koziel, Club; Israel Reinberg, Community; Hira Joshi, Vocational; Andy Merchant, International.

In September the club hosted a Group Study Exchange group from Zimbabwe. An excellent program of tours and entertainment was organized by Israel Reinberg. Israel also ran a very successful campaign to encourage the members to support his bid to win

the 2005 Foundation Walk by raising the highest amount per capita in 2004. As a result, the 2005 Foundation Walk will be held in Richmond Hill.

Charlotte Gasiglia returned to France in August and our outbound student, Jessica Rose, left for Argentina. Inbound student Emil Jacobsen arrived from Denmark.