# ROTARY VOICE

**The Rotary Club of Toronto** 

Volume 103 | Issue 39 | June 10, 2016

# Today's Program

Dave Dryden

# Topic

Sleeping Children Around the world

# Host

Karen Scott, Karen is an IT professional working in the law community and joined our club in 2014.

## Location

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Upper Canada Room



Dave Dryden is director and Chairman of the Board of Sleeping Children Around the World, a charitable organization founded by his parents in 1970.

Actively involved as a volunteer since 1993, Dave has been a Sleeping Children team member distributing "bedkits" including bedding, mosquito nets, clothing and school supplies to needy children in India, Bangladesh, Honduras, the Philippines, Kenya, Uganda, Sri Lanka and Tanzania.

The cost of each bedkit is \$35.00

100% of all bedkit donations are used to purchase bedkit items. There are no deductions for administrative expenses. Sleeping Children believes in the concept of free will giving and as a result does not telemarket, mail solicitations or send reminders. Since its inception Sleeping Children has distributed over 1,500,000 bedkits.

Dave has had a varied professional career as an elementary school teacher and principal, a professional hockey player for 13 years with the Chicago Black Hawks, the Buffalo Sabres and the Edmonton Oilers, and a consultant to the NHL addressing issues related to equipment and injuries.

He is the son of Murray and Margaret Dryden, one of 3 children (Ken and Judy), husband of Sandra for 53 years, with 2 children, Greg and Debbie, and a proud grandparent of 6 wonderful grandchildren.

# New Rotarians shine at the Rotary Leadership Institute

## - by Don Bell

On Saturday, April 24th, new Rotarians Brent Thomas and Andrea Tirone attended the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) at Seneca Newnham, just north of the 401. Sessions of the day included learning about team building, ethics, communication and the Rotary Foundation to name a few. The day was well attended by District 7070 Rotarians and was a great opportunity

to learn more about Rotary both locally and internationally. Having now completed levels 1 and 2 respectively, Brent and Andrea are looking forward to attending the next round of RLI in the 2016-2017 year. For more information on the Institute, visit www.rotary7070. org. The District has once again committed to paying the cost of Level 1 for any new Rotarian who has been a member for 1 year or less for the upcoming Rotary year.



Brent Thomas and Andrea Tirone proudly show off their Level 2 Certificates.





The Rotary Club of Toronto is celebrating the 20th Anniversary of National Aboriginal Day. Please join Rotarians, guests and our special keynote presenter Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day on Friday June 24, 2016, at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Upper Canada Room from 12:00-1:30 PM.

Tickets are regular cost for club members, \$50.00 for non-members.

# Welcome New Member Maria Pipu!



Maria was born and raised in Romania until the age of 19. She traveled to study in Canada after receiving a scholarship in Math and Economics. Her career path led her to start and sell a renovation business that grossed over 1.5 million in sales within three years.

Maria's interest in Health Sciences inspired her to become a nurse. She joined a top hospital where she has worked as a postpartum nurse. She got involved and was a leader in a variety of projects, such as the Baby Friendly Initiative Program, where she has helped recreate the Policies and Procedures, Infant Hearing Program and Unit Base Council. Her business experience enabled her to save the hospital's Baby program over half a million dollars a year by redesigning the medical equipment supply methodology. This saved

many jobs as the program was over budget by almost one million dollars per annum.

Maria joined Arcadia Home Care as the Director of Care due to her expertise in community based care and a deep respect for the elderly. Maria has a passion for travel and languages, and is conversant in Spanish, French, Italian, German, and Romanian. When she isn't travelling, her love for cooking, physical fitness, cliff diving, documentaries, dancing, martial arts, learning how to ride a motorcycle and a wonderful 15 year old step son, Matias, fills her free time.

Joining Rotary was a natural progression from many years of volunteering on palliative care floors, soup kitchens, raising over \$25,000 to aid a co-worker during their sick leave, and personally making over 300 meals for the homeless each year for Christmas and Easter. Maria looks forward to giving back to the community by getting involved with committees focused on women at risk, young mothers, and children.

## Sweat Equity and Rotary

#### - by Maureen Bird



Rotarian Chris Snyder has been organizing groups of Rotarians and friends to go to third world countries to Make a Difference for many years. These have included trips to Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Malawi and Cambodia.

The Malawi trips started in 2009 after our Foundation donated \$50,000 through the Limbe Rotary Club to Emmanuel International for some 600 new and repaired wells, bringing clean water to thousands. At the same time we were making donations to Dignitas International, which has partnered with the Department of Health in Malawi in order to bring major medical improvements to those living with HIV/AIDS.

I travelled there in May with my granddaughter Meghan who is 18. She has been president of her school's Interact club, helped organize a work trip to Guatemala, supervised several fundraisers, was the youngest attendee at 7080's RYLA conference, has received a recognition award from the Oakville clubs and this year is an Oakville Rotary scholar. Definitely a future Rotarian!!

Grandmothers near Zomba were hard pressed raising grandchildren whose parents had died of AIDS. These Kachere ladies made 42,000 bricks and our teams funded and assisted with the building of a pre-school centre in 2009. There are now over 80 pre-schoolers being served. In order to help the women earn some money several sewing machines were also donated. This year the machines are now in a safe room attached to the pre-school where the group can work together.

We spent two weeks with the ladies and they completed 90 African print cloth bags, which are available for sale. This project is a business enterprise and they have been left with a plan for producing and selling more. We have several options for bringing the bags to Canada.

We are very much aware of donor-dependency in these countries. The teams have been involved in building 10 classrooms as education is a key to self-sustainability. We have helped girls stay in school by providing washable menstrual padkits, made by the ladies of Kachere. Malawi is a poor but safe country and I continue to be impressed by the resilience of the warm people.

Consider a trip in the future.



Maureen Bird working in the sewing room making bags with the Grandmothers.

# Connect With Korea – Touch The World

by Susan Hunter



The 107th Annual Rotary International Convention took place on May 29 to June 1 where 43,000 Rotarians from 160 countries

descended on Seoul, South Korea



The Opening Plenary session

to take part in festivities, inspirational talks, action planning and fellowship. The Opening Session began with a spectacular display of Korean culture of drummers, dancers and martial artists as well as Kpop and Taekwondo. United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon warmly welcomed convention delegates and thanked Rotary for its leadership and commitment to humanitarian causes highlighting Rotary's long standing campaign to eradicate polio. RI President K.R. Ravindran then surprised delegates with an animated hologram of Rotary's founder, Paul Harris where they talked about Rotary's growth from a small club in Chicago to an international organization that is changing the world.



Traditional music performed at the Opening Plenary session



Toronto Rotarians enjoying a Korean feast

Other special guests included Prime Ministers Hwang Kyo-ahn of South Korea, and Ranil Wickremesinghe of Ravindran's native Sri Lanka.

Our Club was represented by John Fortney, Michele Guy, Susan and Hedley Hunter, and joined by Michael Cooksey, Garren Anthony and Michele's friend John. We attended a wide range of breakout sessions while Michele and Michael were 'working' as they prepare for our 2018 convention. We also had the opportunity to sample traditional court cuisine at Korea House where we enjoyed a 14-course dinner that lasted for hours. Subsequent meals took place at an Irish pub in the Gangnam area, pasta at a delightful Italian restaurant, and the very famous Korean fried chicken with Cass beer!

# **Rotary Youth Day – Next Week**

by Binoy Luckoo

June 17th, Toronto Sheraton Centre... Let's celebrate Youth and their achievements at our annual Youth Day lunch. This year we will have a special treat as RI President-Elect, Mr. John Germ will be joining us. Our Youth Civic Leadership Award winners will be celebrated on this special day. During lunch you will be entertained by some of our good friends from Sketch! We take this opportunity to thank all Rotarians who have donated lunch tickets and for those of you who will not be making it to this great day and still have some lunch tickets which you will not use (they expire June 30th), we are still accepting lunch ticket donations! Looking forward to see you all on June 17th at the Toronto Sheraton Centre.

**RI President** Ravi Ravindran **District Governor** 



Michael Bell, Etobicoke

# The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

**Officers:** 

President: David Hetherington President-Elect: Susan Hunter Vice President: Pat Neuman Treasurer: James McAuley

**Executive Director:** Carol Hutchinson

**Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:** Peter Love, President

Editor of the Week: John Andras

Editor June 17, 2016: Karen Scott

What You Missed Reporter for June 17th: Heather Hetherington

#### The Four-way test of the things we think, say, or do

- 1. Is it the Truth?
- 2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
- 4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

# Upcoming **Speakers & Events**

#### June

- John Germ RI Pres. Elect...Youth Leadership Awards...Sheraton Hotel
- 24 Aboriginal Day, Ont. Regional Chief Isadore Day

#### July

No Meeting

- Changeover Day
- President Susan Hunter Throne Speech

#### Events

June 14 – President's Farewell Party. Duke of Westminster Pub

June 16 – Cdn Wine Night –National Club June 30-July 3 - Rotary Ribfest - Centennial Park-**Etobicoke** 

#### Propose a Speaker – Contact

Alex Brown, Chair jandabrown@rogers.com 416.799.5827



# What You Missed: Friday June 3rd

- by Bob Cartlidge



Around our table the talk was all about the fun and success of another weekend at Camp Scugog from the great weather to the planning and preparation of the 5-star menu for the 70 workers under the excellent leadership of Susan Howson. It was great to hear the

enthusiasm of new members who attended for the first time.

President David led our lunch with an eloquent and inspiring grace. It was good to see Robert O'Brien back with us after a difficult shoulder injury. He and our president welcomed 26 Rotarians and guests.

There were reminders of upcoming events:

Friday, June 10. A Night at the Opera with Brigitte Bogar at College St. United Church

Tues, June 14. Jeff Dobson highlighted the Farewell reception for President David at the Duke of Westminster Pub.

Thurs, June 16. Wine Tasting of Canadian Wine at the National Club

Thurs to Sun, June 30-July 3. RibFest Fundraiser at Centennial Park with Etobicoke Rotary. Volunteers are needed – contact Dawn-Marie King at kingdm@smh.ca, 416-766-4862.

#### Thurs, Aug 18. Club Golf Tournament

A red stripe ceremony took place for Brent Thomas who was relieved of his "new member" red stripe by President David. Brent has been an active new member in numerous club activities, including the Youth and Children's Service Committee for which he is incoming Vice-Chair. Congratulations Brent!



Rotary Club of Toronto Foundation President Peter Love presents a cheque for \$100,000 to Eva's Initiatives for Homeless Youth as President David and Alanna Scott look on.

Peter Love, President of the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation, presented a \$100,000 cheque to the Eva's Phoenix building project, a key component of Eva's Initiative for Homeless Youth. In expressing thanks, Adrian Ishak, President and Chair, Executive Committee, announced that soon tours will be available of the \$11.6 million building.

Harold Hetherington introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Robert Professor Inman, of Medicine and Immunology, University of Toronto, Director of the Spondylitis Program at Toronto Western Hospital and Deputy Physician in Chief, Research at University Health Network. The



Speaker Dr. Robert Inman enthralls the audience as he describes how genetics impacts the development of disease.

title of his presentation was "Genes and Germs: Clues to Immunity and Disease."

Dr. Inman is challenged to discover new medical breakthroughs, particularly in the area of interactions of infection with autoimmunity and on Spondyloarthriitis, the arthritis which attacks the spine, arms and legs.

He reflected on the time of the Black Death (1328) which killed 60% of the European population and the Influenza Pandemic of 1918-19 which had more casualties than World War I.

Before the use of antibiotics, it was the natural immune system which tried to fight off such infections. Over use of antibiotics dulled the human immune system and it became a delicate balancing act. Eventually genetics became involved. A live experiment took place in 1984 when at a papal visit in Midland, ON, 423 Ontario police officers became infected with salmonella poisoning from box lunches. 27% developed arthritis. In such a controlled environment, it became a challenge and an opportunity to investigate why others escaped this result and the role of genetics in this situation. Dr. Inman described medical research as "the thrill of the hunt" for cases, cures and treatments. There are a number of remaining puzzles to be solved by immunologists such as the advance identification of potential sufferers of arthritis and preventative treatment.

Not only can vaccinations limit suffering and death to millions of people, but the general economic savings are enormous. Even the time and immense cost to eradicate polio has beneficial savings as resources can soon be directed to other diseases. Sometimes major discoveries result from an offshoot of focused medical research.

New member Abdel Toukan took home the wine in the Ace of Clubs draw and left the cash to grow for another day.



The Rotary Club of Toronto The Fairmont Royal York 100 Front Street West, Level H, Toronto, ON M5J 1E3 Tel: 416-363-0604 Fax: 416-363-0686 office@rotarytoronto.on.ca www.rotarytoronto.com in The Rotary Club of Toronto



