

Dear Readers,

In celebration of our Club's Centennial Year beginning July 1, 2012, the Centennial Beat has been published regularly to recount themes and achievements. This thirteenth issue of the Centennial Beat is a joint publication with a Rotary Voice Special Edition.

During our Centennial Year the Club is awarding in excess of \$1,000,000 to local and international agencies. In this Centennial Beat-Voice Special Edition, we highlight the visit of Rotary International President 2012-2013 Sakuji Tanaka and the Rotary International themes – vigorously supported by our Club – of polio eradication, peace and youth. Rotary International's EndPolioNow program was selected by our Club's Centennial Committee for this Centennial Award.

We have included photos and articles to inform you about Rotary's contribution to polio eradication, our Club's other work in international humanitarian relief, and our commitment to the themes of peace and youth.

Enjoy,
Sylvia Geist

The Rotary Club of Toronto is donating in excess of \$1,000,000 to local and international agencies during our Centennial Year

Centennial Luncheon Program

The Concert Hall, The Fairmont Royal York

Guest Speaker

Sakuji Tanaka of Yashio, Saitama, Japan

President, Rotary International, 2012-2013



A Time for Celebration and Challenge: The Rotary Club of Toronto's Centennial and Nearing the World Eradication of Polio

Sakuji Tanaka was chair of the Daika Company and president of the National Household Papers Distribution Association of Japan. He also has been vice president of the Yashio City Chamber of Commerce.

A member of the Rotary Club of Yashio since its charter in 1975, Sakuji has served Rotary International (RI) as a director; Rotary Foundation trustee; committee member and chair, including chair of the 2009 Birmingham Convention Committee; regional Rotary Foundation coordinator; District Governor; and training leader. Working with his district, he has helped to construct a school building in Bangladesh. Sakuji has received the RI Service Above Self Award and the Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award. He and his wife, Kyoko, are Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors of the Permanent Fund, Major Donors, and members of the Arch C. Klumph Society. In addition, Sakuji has established an endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship.

Sakuji and Kyoko have been married since 1963. They live in Yashio and have three children and seven grandchildren.



President Tanaka receives a goat as a gift during his visit to Kenya



Brian Thompson, District 7070 governor-nominee, right, and his wife, Karen, with RI President Sakuji Tanaka in Vancouver

Rotary International Campaign, "End Polio Now" \$100,000 Centennial Award Recipient

In anticipation of The Rotary Club of Toronto's (RCT) Centennial Year, the Boards of both The Rotary Club of Toronto ("The Club") and The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation ("The Foundation") agreed that a sum of \$1,000,000 would be a fitting charitable gift to commemorate the Club's Centennial. A Centennial Committee was formed with the task of formulating a plan to give \$1,000,000 to charity from the Foundation to celebrate the Club's first 100 years.

In the beginning it was anticipated that this would be a single gift of \$1,000,000. However, it soon was discovered that there were very few suitable projects that could be funded completely for this amount. It also became clear that a single substantial award might be too narrow in scope, not representing the various pursuits of the Club. In response to these revelations the Centennial Committee

formulated a plan to award smaller and more numerous charitable gifts; the result was a proposal to fund 10 projects of \$100,000 each.

Since the Club had 6 philanthropic committees (the Aboriginal Services Committee had yet to be formed) it was decided that each of them would be asked to propose a \$100,000 project. Other ideas were put forward for the remainder, which resulted in a Student Scholarship award, a Rotaract project, a Past Presidents' project and \$50,000 being given to the Research and Appeals Committee.

A further discussion developed around the idea of awarding a substantial gift to the End Polio Now program. Support for End Polio Now was so strong that it was agreed by the Centennial Committee members that the Club and the (RCT) Foundation would support End Polio Now with a full \$100,000 award. This

Centennial Award will be presented on March 1st Centennial Luncheon Program to our special guest, Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka.



President Tanaka before the start of the Rose Bowl parade

Polio Eradication

TODAY'S PROGRAM

12:05 pm

Entrance of the Head Table with
Rotary International President Tanaka
and The Honourable Lieutenant-Governor
David Onley

12:10 pm

Welcome from President Neil Phillips

12:15 pm

Luncheon

12:20 pm

Kiyata Nagata Drummers and
Dancers

1:00 pm

The Honourable
Lieutenant-Governor David Onley

1:05 pm

Address by President Tanaka

1:35 pm

Presentation of Centennial Award for End
Polio Now

1:40 pm

Closing remarks
Departure of The Honourable
Lieutenant-Governor David Onley and
President Tanaka

HONOURED GUESTS



**The Honourable
David Onley,**
Lieutenant-Governor
of Ontario



Mr. Wilfred Wilkinson,
Past Rotary International
President (2007-2008)



Dr. Bob Scott, Chair,
Rotary International's
PolioPlus Committee



End Polio Now: After 25 Years We Are This Close!

— by Dr. Bob Scott, Chair, Rotary International's PolioPlus Committee

Twenty five years ago Rotary conducted its first of three to-date financial campaigns to raise funds to purchase polio vaccine for the estimated 100 million children born each year in developing countries. This was the culmination of an idea that began in September 1979 when in the Philippines, the first anywhere in the world, Sub National Immunisation Day was organised and carried out by Rotarians of that country. Much of the vaccine came from the Connaught Laboratories Toronto, now Sanofi Pasteur. More than six million children were vaccinated and the event proved that mass immunisation in as short a period of one day was possible. Since then Rotarians have been supporting an eradication program, originally called PolioPlus, and the World Health Assembly unanimously resolved in May 1988 to eradicate polio.

Rotary joined as a spearheading organisation with WHO, UNICEF and CDC Atlanta. Many groups have supported the effort over the years and in the last seven years the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has become a major player in what has become the End Polio Now campaign. It should be noted that the decision to commit to this initiative was made by the governments of the world and it is they who are ultimately responsible for the eradication of polio. It is the first and most successful private-public health program ever and starting with 1000 cases per day in 125 countries in 1985, dropping to 220 cases in all of 2012 in five countries, three of which -- Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria -- continue to be endemic and Chad and Niger are re-infected with five and one case respectively. After the launch of the global initiative in 1988, more than seven million people, mainly in the developing world, who would otherwise have been paralyzed, are walking because they have been immunized against polio. More than 650,000 cases of polio are now prevented each year.

Since 1985 when Rotary implemented the PolioPlus program, more than two billion children have received oral polio vaccine. In 2011, more than 400 million children were vaccinated in 40 countries using more than 2.2 billion doses of oral polio vaccine. In 1988, 10% of the world's children lived in polio-free countries; as of 1 January 2013, over 90 % are living in polio-free countries. An estimated US\$1 billion per year from all sources is needed in donor contributions. Rotary will have contributed over US\$1.2 billion to a program that is expected to total approximately US\$11 billion by the time that transmission is interrupted in all countries. The number of cases of polio has declined by 99% since Rotary launched the PolioPlus program. It is estimated at this time that the last case should be in 2014. What a great day that will be for all the world to celebrate and, in particular, all Rotarians!

END POLIO NOW as WE ARE THIS CLOSE

to eradicating polio are the current slogans for Rotary
International's and The Rotary Foundation's program
PolioPlus. For more facts and figures and to donate, go to

www.endpolionow.org

Why the Focus on the Crocus?

— by Bill Patchett, District 7070
Foundation Chair, Past District Governor



The focus on the purple crocus as a symbol for Rotary's EndPolioNow program was created by one of Rotary's Peace Scholars from England. These purple flowers represent the colour of ink dabbed on a child's little finger to indicate they have been immunized against polio. In our District 7070, we have capitalized on his idea. We have promoted it throughout the district with each club taking either one box of 50 or one box of 100, with each crocus valued at \$5.00. This initiative has allowed clubs to present a fresh look for polio eradication. Clubs have given crocuses to guest speakers and new Rotarians, as well as selling them to increase awareness about polio eradication and promotion of Rotary's EndPolioNow program.



Purple Pinkies

— by Sandy Boucher, Past President of
The Rotary Club of Toronto

On World Polio Day 2012, The Rotary Club of Toronto held a "Purple Pinkie" awareness event at its regular Friday luncheon. Members and guests were asked to have their little finger painted purple - symbolic of the fingers of children who have received the polio vaccine. The event was designed to raise awareness of the international campaign to End Polio NOW, in which Rotary continues to play a major role.



Peace Has Long Been A Part Of Rotary's Focus

— by Brian Westlake



Rotary International (RI) President Tanaka's theme of "Peace through Service" continues a long-standing role that Rotary has played in promoting peace through international understanding and sustainable development. As an example, scholarships are offered by The Rotary Foundation and The Rotary Foundation (Canada) in peace and conflict resolution at Rotary Peace Centres at seven international universities. Closer to home, our Club has supported peace and environmental efforts for many years. The conflicts that have given rise to the need for the promotion of peace have varied over the years, but the elusive goal of peace remains.

Most of our members will not be aware of the Seventh Rotary Peace Forum that our Club hosted in September, 1989. We drew more than 300 participants from across North America, Europe, Australia and the Caribbean to a three-day forum, with keynote speakers such as Stephen Lewis, then Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations. David Suzuki, world renowned environmentalist, spoke to over 500 Rotarians and friends at the Friday night dinner. Although I was President of the Club that year and got to participate first hand, the credit for this major undertaking goes to Past President Bill Dale and his hard working committee. The preservation of an environmentally safe world, to feed and sustain our growing global population, was identified as an essential avenue to peace and was a focus of the Forum. To get a full appreciation of our concern for peace, you have to put yourself in the times in which we lived and the very

realistic threat of nuclear annihilation. After the Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1982, the world lived in the shadow of the Cold War as the Western World lined up against the Soviet Bloc in a tense showdown. Our Club's Peace Committee worked hard during this period to do our part in bringing attention to the goal of peace. We had a number of Friday luncheon speakers on this theme, as well as hosting the Seventh Rotary Peace Forum. In 1987, U.S. President Reagan had challenged Mikhail Gorbachev, then the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to tear down the Berlin Wall. The Wall finally fell in November 1989, shortly after our Forum. It may be an exaggeration to say that we played a part in this world defining event, but it was a reflection of the broadly based concerns at the time and the very real part that the nuclear threat played in our lives.

Another lasting example of a peace initiative in Toronto from the 1980s is the Peace Garden in Nathan Phillips Square in front of our City Hall. As part of the City's 150th anniversary celebrations in 1984, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau turned the first sod for the Peace Garden's construction. In September of the same year, His Holiness Pope John Paul II lit the eternal flame with an ember from the Memorial for Peace in Hiroshima, Japan and poured a vial of water into the pool from the rivers that flow through Nagasaki. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II formally dedicated the Peace Garden in October, 1984. These were the times in which we were living in the 1980's and it is easy to see why we devoted so much of our Club's attention to peace. The theatres of war have changed, but regrettably the need for peace has not diminished.

Peace Through Service

Sakuji Tanaka
Rotary International President
2012-2013

Every year the President of Rotary International (RI) creates a slogan to represent their year as President. RI President Sakuji Tanaka has chosen "Peace Through Service." In a letter to Rotarians, he "ask[s] all Rotarians to actively work for Peace Through Service." Growing up in Japan after WWII, he and his generation have come to see peace as an important priority. He attributes Japan's prosperity to its capacity to embrace and foster peace, both as a nation state and as a people. President Tanaka talks about how traditional Japanese society supports the needs of the group over the needs of the individual; he points to the March 2011 earthquake and its aftermath, showing how this principle has helped Japan to survive and rebuild; when one recognizes the needs of others over one's own needs and then focuses with others on a common outcome that speaks to everyone's benefit, the results are inspiring. "It changes how we relate to the world. It changes our priorities. And it changes how we understand the idea of peace," says President Tanaka. "Belief in the power of service lies at the very heart of Rotary."

Rotary International Foundation

— by Richard White



In 1917, RI President Arch C. Klumph proposed an endowment be set up "for the purpose of doing good in the world" and the first donation in the amount of \$26.50 was made. By 1928 the endowment fund had grown to more than \$5,000 and it was renamed The Rotary Foundation. Two years later the Foundation made its first grant of \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. Since the start of the Rotary Foundation, contributions of over \$1 billion have been received (\$70 million was contributed in 2003-04 alone). More than

1 million individuals have been recognized as Paul Harris Fellows (each individual has given \$1,000 or more to the Annual Fund or had such a donation made in their name). The current goal of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to achieve an average donation of US\$100 per Rotary member worldwide each year.

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International has assets of \$813,706,000 as of June 30, 2012. During the 2011- 2012 year, The Rotary Foundation donated over \$204 million to various programs and grants including \$22

million for Educational programs, \$55 million for Humanitarian programs, \$105 million for the End Polio Now program, \$14 million for Global Grants and \$5 million for district grants. The Foundation donations support the efforts of Rotary International in the achievement of world understanding and peace through local, national and international humanitarian, educational and cultural programs. These include Ambassadorial Scholars, Group Study Exchange Teams and Rotary Peace Fellowships at one of the six Rotary Peace Centres.

International Humanitarian Relief

The Rotary Club Of Toronto Charitable Foundation

— by Richard White

The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation was established by the Board of Directors of the Club in 1951 and the first \$1,000 contribution was made by member, Bill Coutts, chairman of Coutts Hallmark. Over the years, the Foundation has received donations from many far-sighted members, some very substantial. Most recently, it received a total of \$3.2 million resulting from the sale of the Rotary Laughlen Centre for seniors which at the time it was built was the largest project undertaken by a Rotary Club anywhere in the world. The growth in our Foundation is also due in no small measure to the Investment Committee which has provided exceptional investment returns over the past 60 years.

Today, the Foundation stands at just over \$14.5 Million. Since 1951, the Foundation has donated in excess of \$11 million to hundreds of worthy projects and charitable agencies. During the past 20 years,

notable projects include \$420,000 towards the construction of 10 Habitat for Humanity Homes on Rotary Drive (to celebrate the Rotary International Centennial in 2005), \$500,000 as the seed donation to launch the YWCA Elm Centre, over \$200,000 to Shelterbox Canada for international disaster relief (our Foundation is the largest contributor to Shelterbox of any Rotary Club in the world) and over \$500,000 to St. Michael's Hospital Foundation for Seaton House and the Rotary Transition Centre. During our 2012-2013 centennial year, the Foundation has funded the Club's centennial projects with donations totalling \$1 million.

Over the years, the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation and The Rotary Club of Toronto Club have donated in excess of \$1 million to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International including substantial contributions to the End Polio Now campaign.

The Rotary Club of Toronto's International Humanitarian Work

— by Sandy Boucher, Past President of The Rotary Club of Toronto



Landmines

The Rotary Club of Toronto has long been known for its international humanitarian work. One of the many examples of this is on the issue of mine action. Landmines continue to afflict dozens of countries in the world, and in many cases their presence prevents any other kind of project which we would normally undertake. We have a proud history of leadership and action on this issue, beginning in 2000 when the Chairman of the Canadian Landmine Foundation (CLMF) asked for our help.

Our Club's first project in 2000 raised \$52,000 with matching funds from the CLMF to clear a minefield in Bosnia. Our lobbying and raising awareness attracted more District 7070 Rotary clubs which raised funds to clear three other minefields in the same area. We expanded and spearheaded Rotary involvement in the global Night of 1000 Dinners program. In the first year, led by members of our Club, District 7070 raised over \$55,000, the third largest fundraiser in the world. Through our leadership efforts, Rotary worldwide has become heavily involved in the landmine issue and members of our Club were instrumental in the creation of the Rotarian Action Group, "Rotarians for Mine Action." We have continued to undertake landmine projects

over the past 12 years including prosthetic limbs for landmine victims, mine risk education and mine clearance around the world. One successful limb camp in Kabul Afghanistan, run with other Rotary clubs from three continents provided "Jaipur Foot" prosthetic limbs to approximately 640 amputees, primarily victims of landmines. Our most recent mine action project was to pay for the purchase and training of a mine detection dog who was named Sapper by Club members and is deployed in Afghanistan.

Shelter Boxes

Another perennial international relief effort is funding disaster aid. Rotary had not been well equipped to deal with the high intensity, short-term demands of such work and our Club had felt that local fundraising was not enough. When we learned of a new Rotary club-based project called ShelterBox we immediately knew that this was a very special idea. Each affordable box provides shelter and equipment for one family and has now become a regular feature of disaster aid programs. Our Club has been an active supporter of ShelterBox and has raised more funds for their projects than any other Rotary club in the world, providing boxes for many disasters over the past ten years.



Sapper, the mine detection dog purchased and trained by our Club



ShelterBox aided 2010 earthquake survivors in Haiti

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: Neil Phillips
President-Elect: Richard White
Vice President: Steven Smith
Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director:

Carol Bieser

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:

Robert Smith, President

Editor of the Week:

Sylvia Geist

Editor for March 8, 2013:

Alexander Austin

What You Missed Reporter for March 1, 2013:

Robert O'Brien

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?

Submit an Article to the Voice Newsletter:

voice@AbacusConsultingServices.ca

Upcoming Speakers & Events

March 2013

- 2 Rotarians for Peace Symposium, Rotary District 7070 and Surrounding Districts
- 8 Carol Radford-Grant, City Archivist, "Toronto 100 Years Ago"
- 15 Howard Wetston, CEO, Ontario Securities Commission
- 21 Club Annual Fundraiser at Steamwhistle Brewery
- 29 Good Friday, no meeting

April 2013

- 12 Centennial Award Lunch, George Roter, CEO, Engineers Without Borders, International Service Committee Centennial Project, Bakong Technical College

Propose a Speaker

Peter Simmie, Chair

Program Committee

peter.simmie@bristolgate.com

The Rotary Club of Toronto Youth Activities

— by Pat Neuman



We are proud to have a large number of Youth activities supported by our Club. We sponsor two Rotaract clubs – the Rotaract Club of Toronto and the Rotaract Club of University of Toronto. One of our Board members acts as liaison to the clubs and thereby they are quite involved with each others activities.

Each year our Youth and Children's committee are proud to send one or more deserving students to RYLA which is held at Loyalist College in Belleville. Students who have attended have praised the college and facilitators, and are so thankful for the opportunity. This year we will be sending two students; one of our RCT members is a facilitator at the course.

For several years we have participated in the District Youth Exchange Program. We have hosted incoming students from Germany, Japan, Belgium and Brazil. Our outgoing students have gone to Chile, Japan, Germany, Sweden and France. We are taking applicants now to prepare to go out in 2014. The District YEP students always help host the Kids Christmas Party by dressing up as clowns. Each spring our Club hosts a special Youth Day luncheon for where four very deserving city youth receive Youth Day Awards, for leadership and community involvement along with excellent marks. This year we will also host a special Youth Expo for up to 1000 high school students. And as part of our Club's Centennial activities, we partnered with the Argo Football Club to award one student a Toronto university: Souleik Kheyre attends U

of T where her tuition will be paid in full for her to gain a University degree. Each year for three years, we will choose a student for such an award.



Nancy Schaefer, Souleik Kheyre, Neil Phillips, Argos Team president and CEO Chris Rudge and Argo cheerleaders

Rotary Global Peace Forum, Honolulu, Hawaii, January 25-27, 2013

— by Andrea Tirone, Rotaract Club of Toronto, Co-Chair of Interota 2014

At the Rotary Global Peace Forum in Hawaii not only did I learn a lot from the speakers and from informative workshops, but even more beneficial were the bonds I built with other delegates. I gained a better understanding of the friends I met and the cultures they come from, which in turn builds on my understanding of why people behave in different ways. This is a key step in building peace.

All this was captured in the very first workshop, which sought to teach participants how to understand different cultures. It is rare that a conference will begin its first sessions with workshops instead of a plenary. In Honolulu, the schedule did just that – and it worked!

The workshop was led by students, faculty, and alumni from the Brigham Young University of Hawaii and was designed to be interactive. Engaging topics invited us to consider our relationships at work and in our personal lives and how the interactions we have with others are either responsive or resistant. We learned that the patterns formed when we react to others can trap us into cycles of collusion rather than cooperation and understanding. "If no one thinks they need to change, no one will."

It was such a powerful start to the forum where subsequent plenaries focused on peace through communication, service, collaboration, and action. A trip to the Battleship Missouri

Memorial in Pearl Harbor was moving, and served as a reminder that the road to peace is not always easy, but it is necessary.



Andrea Tirone with RI President Elect Ron Burton. Andrea was sponsored for the Peace Forum by District 7070

Rotaract - Rotary International's Youth Program

— by Sean Yaphe, Montreal Rotaractor, Co-Chair of Interota 2014



Did you know that since 1968 Rotary International has supported youth aged 18-30 through the Rotaract program? In a week from now Rotaract will celebrate its 45th anniversary! For the past 30 of those years, Rotaractors have been organizing a triennial conference called Interota (International Rotaract), which gathers hundreds of youth from around the world into one host city. In 2014, Interota will make its debut in Canada and will be hosted in not just one, but two of our most famous cities: Toronto and Montreal!

The main goal of Interota is to provide a forum for Rotaractors to learn from one another,

to share ideas and to grow as leaders in the Rotary family. We are your future Rotarians. The support from Rotarians in Districts 7040 and 7070 has been invaluable, thanks to their extensive experiences in planning large-scale events. The Rotary Club of Toronto provided the opportunity to present Interota at the Large Clubs Conference in Texas this past January, where delegates from the largest clubs in North America were in attendance. We hope to be able to reach out to all the clubs in North America so they can show their support for Rotary's youth and for a conference that will truly be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. We hope that you'll consider being a part of this historic event for Rotaract in Canada!

For more information and to support the Interota Conference, please visit

www.interota2014.com

Email the committee at interota2014@gmail.com

or

CLICK HERE
to sponsor a delegate.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

All You Have To Do Is Ask

— by Bill Morari



How fortunate we are to have Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka address members and guests of The Rotary Club of Toronto in our Centennial Year. As Chair of our Club's Membership Committee, I was pleased to read President Tanaka's article in the January 2013 issue of "The Rotarian" magazine. Being a proud Rotarian, he credits Rotary with showing him a different path to follow through life. With permission of the Office of the International President, we are reprinting this article below. Let's work together to raise awareness of the great achievements of The Rotary Club of Toronto; and invite our friends, family and colleagues to join us, to be part of something very special as our Club enters its second century!

"Dear Fellow Rotarians"

— by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka

I am a Japanese businessman, and I wear a suit almost every day. The Rotary pin is always on my lapel. It is there because I am proud to be a Rotarian. Anywhere I go, people will see the pin and know who I am. Other Rotarians will see it and know that I am a friend, and people who are not Rotarians will see it as well. I want to be sure that all of them also understand the meaning of this pin. This is why I am asking all of you to wear your Rotary pin and to raise awareness of what the pin means. I believe having that pin on your lapel changes you. It makes you think more before you speak and before you act. It makes you remember, all the time, that you are a Rotarian - and that as Rotarians, we are here to help.

All of us should be ready to talk about Rotary. When someone asks you about that pin, you should be ready to answer. What is Rotary? What does Rotary do? These are questions that each of us should always be prepared to answer. We cannot go to prospective members and ask them to join Rotary only because we want more members. We have to show them that Rotary is a wonderful organization, and that they will be happier because they belong to a Rotary club.

When we ask people to join Rotary, we are doing this to help them as well. I think all of us are grateful to the person who asked us to join. I know that my life is much happier, and has been much more productive, because of

Rotary. It is clear to me that the day I joined the Rotary Club of Yashio was a day when I took my first step down a different path in life--a path of greater connection, greater satisfaction, and a deeper sense of fulfillment and peace. This is a feeling that I want to share with others. And I know that one way to do that is through bringing in new members. But we must also do it by raising awareness of Rotary and Rotary's work, by focusing on our public image and wearing our Rotary pins every day."

JOIN ROTARY NOW!

www.rotarytoronto.com

What You Missed, February 22nd, 2013

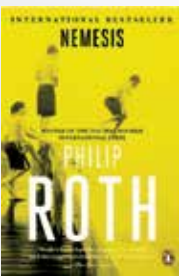
— by Johanne Larouche



President Neil welcomed Rotarians and guests, introduced the Head Table and announced that next Monday, February 25th at City Hall there will be a flag-raising ceremony for Rotary Week in Toronto. The newest member of Rotary, Mr. Mohamed Saleh, Managing Director of Smayks Inc., was introduced, pinned and welcomed to our Club. Chris Snyder introduced speaker Mr. James FitzGerald, author of "What Disturbs Our Blood: A Son's Quest to Redeem the

Past." As always with our luncheon program, I learn something important and become a better-informed person about what is going on in our community and in the world. And new members be forewarned that there may be laughter and a tear-or-two shed as well! I admire the desire to identify and inform us about issues facing us today; it is the first step towards inspiring us to find better solutions. Mr. FitzGerald described his discovery of his family's experience of mental illness and its treatment; and the silence that surrounded the

experiences of his grandfather and father. Like any great author, he did not disclose the ending of his book, but the point of his speech was clear: that he managed to cure his own depression through "talk therapy" with a psychologist, not with psychiatrists and traditional medical drug and shock therapies. He helped us understand the possible damage that traditional psychiatry treatments of this nature can do. President Neil thanked Mr. FitzGerald with a donation in his honour of one book a month for one year to an Aboriginal child.



Book Review: Nemesis by Philip Roth. Penguin Books, 2011

— Recommended by President Neil Phillips

For those who wonder about the relevance of eradicating polio, and as a reminder of the fear and panic it caused here in North America in the 20th century, I highly recommend this novel. Philip Roth's Nemesis is a piece of fiction that explores what happens in the summer of 1944 in America, as yet another seasonal polio epidemic breaks out. At the time, polio's causes were a mystery, and it was a feared seasonal occurrence. This well-written book brings to life the heartache, fear, and emotional paralysis caused by this deadly disease. If ever you wondered how crucial it is for us to continue our efforts as we are "this close" to eradicating polio in the world, this book will prove illuminating.

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 [f](#) Toronto Rotary [t](#) @TorontoRotary

