# ROTARY VOICE



The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 102 | Issue 15 | October 31, 2014

## **Today's Program**

Lynn Posluns, Founder and President, Women's Brain Health Initiative

### **Topic**

Understanding Alzheimers: Why 70% of New Cases Are Women

#### Location

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Ballroom



Lynn Posluns is Founder and President of the Women's Brain Health Initiative, the global charitable foundation raising money for research and education to combat brain-aging diseases that affect women. While serving as Founder and Chair of Women of Baycrest, Lynn recognized the need to raise awareness and funds

beyond Toronto to help women stay brain healthy longer. Lynn's passion and commitment for the cause now continues on a worldwide basis supporting worthy institutions that want to combat this impending crisis. Since graduating from the University of Toronto with an undergraduate degree in Commerce & Finance, and a Masters degree in Business Administration, Lynn has held a number of positions within the Retail and Fashion industries, including President of Fairweather and Managing Partner of Canadian clothing designer Joeffer Caoc. Lynn is currently Managing Director of Cedarpoint Investment Inc., a private equity and alternative investments firm based in Toronto. Throughout her career, Lynn has raised millions of dollars for many philanthropic causes, focused primarily in the healthcare industry. In 2010 Lynn won the Baycrest Award for Foundation Leadership and in 2012 received an ICRF Women of Action award for Philanthropy. Lynn also received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for outstanding leadership at Baycrest and her vision for launching the Women's Brain Health Initiative. And in December 2012, Lynn was the recipient of WXN's prestigious "Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women" Award, which celebrates the professional achievements of women across the country in the private, public and notfor-profit sector.

## Come On Out for R2R!

New Club members, as well as old-timers, are heartily invited to attend the next R2R meeting. This is a really great forum for networking with other Rotarians, and possibly helping each other too! We'll be convening on November 6, at 6 pm, at the National Club. Members of the Sunrise and Rotaractor clubs will join us as well. Let Jay Littlejohn (jay.littlejohn@ca.cushwake.com) know if you plan to attend so that plenty of food can be arranged. Bring five dollars for the victuals. There will be a cash bar. And we have a good time, too! See you there.

#### **Clean Water!**

For millions of people around the world, getting clean water is a daily struggle. In fact, more than 80% of all sickness in the world is attributed to unsafe water. Nearly one billion people are without access to improved water sources and every 8 seconds a child dies because of this

crisis. In the struggle to get clean water, some girls carry loads like the one John Andras demonstrates here. for miles. (Looks as if John could use some help). Even so, this water is often heavily contaminated. Clean accessible water = a future. Providing clean water is a "Rotary Area of Focus."





# **Rotaractors Light Up Rotary at International Convention**

- by Graham Shular



Rotaract is a thriving organization. You can find a Rotaract Club pretty much anywhere in the world where there is also a Rotary Club. Rotaractors have also been able to organize themselves incredibly well. "Rotaract Round Trips" exist in most parts of the world, and give young people many different opportunities to travel, visit,

and get to know Rotaractors from different countries. Interota is the apex of these global oportunities. Interota Toronto-Montreal invited over 200 delegates from dozens of countries to gather here in Canada for a weeklong conference. The conference highlighted service projects, professionalism and club management. Interota 2014 was a spectacular event, and successfully showcased the best of our local Rotaract talent to the world.

The international conference began in Ontario's capital city, Toronto, at the University of Toronto's Victoria College. After a splendid barbeque, country presentations, and welcomes from Interota co-chairs Sean (RI 7040) and Andrea (RI 7080), we found comfortable lodgings in the dormitory-styled residence at the University. My two favourite highlights at the Toronto portion were getting to hear Rotaractors from different regions of the world explain how they conduct service in their communities. I also really enjoyed getting to know many of our visitors better while on the Toronto Harbour Boat Cruise. The food was great, as was the music, and I think I saw RI President Gary dancing!

Our second leg of the trip was to one of Canada's most impressive natural wonders, Niagara Falls. After that we boarded early morning VIA Rail cars and travelled to Montreal. While in Montreal we had the wonderful opportunity to help clean the city up during an outing to Parc Jeanne-Mance. We had many important presentations in Montreal, including the bidding presentation and voting for Interota 2017 (congratulations, Taiwan!), professional development seminars (including conflict resolution and communication), and time to explore the historic old-town of Montreal. A highlight of the Montreal leg of Interota was the opportunity to listen to Dr. Bob Scott, the Chair of the Rotary International PolioPlus Committee.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Andrea Tirone, Sean Yaphe and the entire Interota 2014 team for organizing a spectacular conference. A final thank you goes to RI President Gary Huang. It was truly inspirational to have our RI President give us all the inspiration we need to "Light Up Rotary" every day. I look forward to seeing you all before Interota 2017 – when 'InteroTaipei' will be held in Taipei, Taiwan.



What did you put on your burger?



Maureen Bird pins an End Polio Now crocus on President Steve Smith's lapel.

# **Santa Needs Help**

Our Disabled Children's Christmas party, on November 29, is fast approaching! We are looking for toys and other items to fill the children's goody bags. If any Club member has contacts with companies who could help, or friends who might be able to donate these items, please get in touch with Don Bell ASAP at 416-968-0835. All donations are welcome.

# Nominating Committee for 2015-2016

The Nominating Committee to Select Directors and Vice President for the Year 2015-2016 consist of:

Richard White (Chair)

Past President

Steve Smith President

David Hetherington President Elect

Dina Rashid
Director selected by President

Brian Westlake
Past President Selection

Al Crawford

Errol Paulicpulle

Suzanne Seaquist

Knud Westergaard

James MacDonald

## **District Conference – A Successful Mission**

- by Maureen Bird



With Bond James theme, Shaken & Stirred, DG Brian Thompson led several hundred "Agents" of Change" from District

7070 through a weekend of learning, celebration and friendship. His club, Whitby Sunrise, did a great job on organization under chair Mark Chipman. Nothing says James Bond more than Goldfinger and Friday we had our Golden Girl and our Aston Martin on display. Wow!

Inspirational speakers included Paul Henderson "the goal that changed us all!" who spoke about his life in hockey and social causes. The next was Gabrielle Schrimshaw, a young Dene from Saskatchewan who rose above the average, completed university, travelled to all continents and after joining a major corporate finance program, founded a national organization for Aboriginal Professionals.

Brad Howard from RI headquarters was a repeat guest speaker, having wowed us last year. His outreach on Polio moved him and certainly moved us. It makes us proud to be Rotarians. Rotary is a unique world organization. To say no to the world is an insult to our past and an affront to our future.

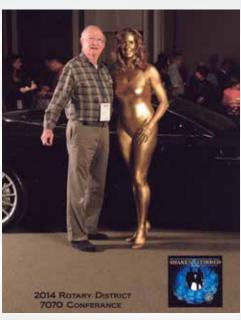
The breakout sessions covered many topics but the the Kids Against Hunger project, where Rotarians packed over 18,000 meals for hungry families in Toronto, received the most participation.

Saturday night we presented the Wilf Wilkinson Peace Award to War Child, led by Drs. Samantha Nutt and Eric Hoskins. In Wilf's absence it was presented by his son, our "perpetual visitor" Steve. The Zone (most of Canada) Alumni Service to Humanity Award went to our past DG and District Foundation Chair,

Lars Henrikkson who so capably handles all the global grants in our district.

Saturday night was "Casino Royale." No cash was required and the big winner was the Rotary Club of Whitby Sunrise who pooled their chips and won the motorized scooter - which they will auction off at their next fundraiser.

RotaryInternationalwasrepresented by Andy Smallwood from Texas who gave a great summary of The Rotary Foundation's finances: "We had a lot of money at the beginning of the year, we financed hundreds of projects worldwide, and at the end of the year we had more money." Bob Scott, past chair of PolioPlus was in attendance - with a purple pinkie for polio. Bill Patchett is ill and missed the conference – his first miss ever. Our thoughts and good wishes go out to Bill and his wife Delphine. District Governor for 2015-16 is Michael Bell of Etobicoke. His club will be organizing the conference for October 23-25, 2015 so mark your calendars now!



Maureen Bird's husband Gerry ... as close as he'll ever get to "gold."

Photo credit - David Robinet

# The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 - 1912

#### Officers:

President: Steven Smith President-Elect: David Hetherington Vice President: Susan Hunter Treasurer: James McAuley

**Executive Director:** Carol Hutchinson

**Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:** Robert Smith. President

**Editor of the Week:** Don Bell

Editor November 7th, 2014: Maureen Bird

What You Missed Reporter for October 31st: Richard White

## 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@rotarytoronto.on.ca

# **Upcoming Speakers & Events**

- November 2014

  Brigadier-General Julian Chapman,
  Remembrance Day Speaker at the National Club
- - The Paris Game: The Seventieth Anniversary of the Liberation of Paris
- John Parker Deputy Speaker, City Council
- R.H. Thompson, The World Remembers

December 2014
5 Patrick O'Driscoll, President & CEO Corby's Distilleries

#### **Events**

- November 2014

  12 QUE SYRAH SHIRAZ wine tasting
  29 Rotary Toronto Annual Children's Christmas Party

## December 2014

- Club Christmas Party

Propose a Speaker - Contact Alex Brown, Chair

**Program Committee** alexbrown@integratedappliances.ca

# What You Missed October 24th, 2014

by John Suk



Friday, October 24, came at the end of the week that saw the tragic killings of Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent and Corporal Nathan Cirillo. In keeping with the example of our own parliament, we understood

the importance of getting back to business, rather than letting terrorism set our agenda. At the same time, both in Club President Steven Smith's opening prayer and in many comments heard round the table, Rotary Club of Toronto members took time to honor Vincent and Cirillo and express sympathy and support for their families.

At the same time, it was World Polio Day. Bert Steenburgh was selling End Polio Now crocuses in the foyer and most members and guests were wearing one. Before the speaker was introduced, the Club presented Roger Ashby a Paul Harris Fellowship award for fellow citizens. Roger, a polio survivor, was honored for his life-long focus on giving back through his volunteer activities and leadership. He told the Club that early in his career, John Sprague, a RCT member and CHUM AM radio personality was his inspiration.

Neil Phillips introduced our speaker. Many in the Club wondered how it was that Neil managed—not for the first time—to be the only Club member present with a glass of wine. He didn't enlighten us on that but did say he wouldn't have much of an introduction because he had been too busy

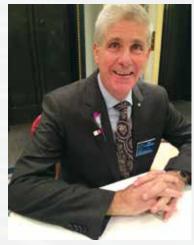
with the Rotary flag raising to write anything up. Still, he did a credible job of introducing Christopher Rutty as an old friend and as someone worth listening too.

And Chris was. He told the very fascinating story of how polio became a middle class disease. In brief, it turns out that as sanitation improved throughout the twentieth century, many fewer children



Roger Ashby thanks the Club for honoring him with a Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

were infected with the poliovirus at a very young age, when it very rarely does damage. Instead, the age of onset for catching the virus rose, and this made the virus more deadly to its hosts. Several very intense outbreaks were described, as well as the invention of the iron lung. One interesting feature of the talk was the comparison, by Chris, of the US's mostly voluntary sector response versus Canada's governmental sector



Bert mans the End Polio Now Crocus box at our Oct. 24 meeting.

response. Chris believes that one reason that so much of the progress made against polio had roots in Canada is a result of this coordinated response by government.

Of course, that leads to the story of Connaught Labs (now known as Sanofi Pasteur) and their development of means to both produce the virus, and later mass produce the polio serum. The bottom line, according to Chris, was that the end of polio began in Toronto. All in all an inspiring message as we get closer and closer to eradicating polio worldwide. In conclusion, President Steve read a letter from Prime Minister Harper, to Rotary, thanking us all for Rotary's "extraordinary contribution" in bringing this scourge to an end.

There was more. Peter Simmie urged us to attend the Club Assembly. A long list of visiting Rotarians and guests was read. The furthest came from Kelowna, BC. A nominating committee was chosen for the election of new club executive. And then there was the Alex Brown incident. He snatched the Ace of Clubs right out of Steve's hand, and won more than 1400 dollars. Congratulations Alex.

But I can't help wonder . . . what ever happened to the bottle of wine?

# Rafael on Tap

Love music? Would you like to hear Club member Rafael Mondalvo play the sax? Why not turn out for a Columbus Concert Band performance at St. Roch's Church (2889 Islington Ave.) on November 16 at 3 pm. For details, send a note to rafaello@ca.ibm.com.

Please remember to tweet next week's meeting with Brigadier-General Julian Chapman. Post the good news to Facebook and LinkedIn too!

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