



PRESIDENT'S REPORT – October 19, 2014

My last report to you was on August 28, 2014 at the end of August Membership Month. I had intended to give you another report at the end of September but this Club has been so very busy that I simply haven't been able to get to it. However, I feel that is really important that the members and prospective members be kept up-to-date on this Club's activities. So let's see if I can summarize it for you!

September – NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

The New Generations Team consists of Susan McCoy, and Bruce Gillies. Their task was to put together a month of meetings all related to New Generations. Well....what an amazing job they did!

As a reminder, **Rotaract** is a club for adults ages 18-30 and **Interact** is a club for young people ages 12-18.

Our first speaker on **September 4, 2014** was **ANDREA TIRONE**. Andrea is a member of the Rotoract Club of Toronto and was Co-Chair of Interota 2014. The Interota Conference was held in Toronto and Montreal from July 26, 2014 to August 1, 2014. Rotoractors from around the world flew into Toronto to attend this conference. Andrea gave us the schedule that was followed, together with an explanation about each of the sessions that the International Rotoractors attended. The highlight of the event was the boat cruise with the Rotary International President, Gary C.K. Huang. Andrea is a truly inspirational and compassionate young woman. With women like Andrea dedicated to Rotarian causes, the future looks very bright!



On Saturday **September 6th**, at the Taste of the Kingsway, we held our Club's **Rotary Day**. Information about this day is on our facebook site and I have already sent out a report on the event. In summary, we HAD FUN and we introduced a lot of people to **ROTARY**.

Between meetings, the unexpected happened. This Club was offered the opportunity to take an exchange student for the year. We immediately accepted with delight and our Past President Bruce Gillies stepped up to the plate, pushed the process forward and agreed to house the student. Then we waited.....

The **September 11th** meeting was one of the most exhilarating meetings I have ever attended. We were privileged to have 5 Rotoractors from the **York University Rotoract Club**. We now co-sponsor the Club. These students represent the next generation of Rotarians. They LOVE what they do and it is contagious. Their President Weiting Xu is a dynamo! I wish that I had one-third of her energy. The students made a presentation letting us know what they are up to and what wonderful projects they have in mind. We are so fortunate to be associated with them. District Governor Elect Michael Bell was also in attendance.



Weiting Xu and her fabulous team!



Michael Bell- District Governor Elect

September 18th was a very important meeting. Our guests were Gael Moore from Cobourg, Tom Sears from Northumberland Sunrise and John Leek from Whitby Sunrise. They came to speak to us about the **Rotary Student Exchange Program** and they were enormous help to us in our quest to get Gustav here from Sweden.



September 20th was the **Rotary Foundation Walk**. Although I couldn't attend, we had a strong group of walkers representing our Club. In addition, our members were very generous in their pledges and I believe that we raised about \$1200 for the fight against POLIO.

Our last New Generations meeting on **September 25th**. Our guest speaker was **ANMOL MIRPURI** from the York University Rotoractor Club. She has come up with a plan to connect her former Interact Club in St. Maartens to and an Interact Club here in Etobicoke. Her presentation was excellent and it was really good for us to see how much Interact had done for her.

We were fortunate to have the President of the Etobicoke Collegiate Institute's Student Council President Liam Hancock in attendance. We are working towards helping Etobicoke Collegiate set up an Interact Club. In addition, we were so pleased to have Robert D'Addario, Vice Principal of Sir Father John Redmond Secondary School join us at our meeting as well.



On **September 28th**, our student **GUSTAV FRYXAA** arrived in Canada. Bruce, with his family in tow and prepared with fabulous home-made posters (and very excited kids), John Leek and I waited at the airport for a tall young man to exit the baggage section. When he finally came through the doors, he was easy to pick out with a big smile on his face. He is a charming young man with a great year ahead of him. Help us to ensure that Gustav has a wonderful experience by taking him to the theatre, or sports events or any other events that you might be attending. Just let Bruce know! In addition, I would like to thank **Father John Redmond Catholic Secondary School and Regional Arts Centre**, for taking Gustav as a student.

I have enclosed some pictures for you to get a flavour of our inspirational month. I want to thank Susan and Bruce and ALL of those members who joined us at the meetings and applauded these wonderful young Rotarians for all of their efforts! Frankly, I was sad to see the month end!

If you couldn't make the September meetings, you missed a great time....now it is Vocational month under the helm of Willis Rudy and Lori Mitchell. I'll be reporting to you at the end of this month. So far, the meetings have been great SO be sure to join us...guests...members and non-members are always welcome!

In addition, we have the following planned events going forward:

- 1) **WORLD POLIO DAY** – **October 24, 2014** – We will be handing out “End Polio Now” brochures at our local subway stations ensuring that people know that Polio is still a problem and just simply raising awareness;
- 2) **DISTRICT 7070 ROTARY CONVENTION**- **October 24-26** – I think that we have about 5 members representing our Club at the Convention – There will be a lot of fun and a lot of learning;
- 3) **New Member Inauguration** – October 28, 2014 – We will welcome Leighton Reid as a new member of our Club (location to be finalized but likely at St. James Pub on Dundas);
- 4) **Scotch Nosing** – **November 6, 2014** – Lambton Golf Club – tickets are for sale – contact Mark Dawber or Dennis Good;
- 5) **Collection of Winter Coats**- likely **November 20, 2014** – We will be collecting slightly used Winter Coats to give to the homeless;
- 6) **Hands on Project** – **November 22, 2014** – we will be working with Etobicoke Rotary to boxes of food for Food Banks and Liberia;
- 7) **Christmas Party** - **December 11, 2014**– Details to follow; and
- 8) **Rotary Youth Impact awards Dinner** – January 30, 2015 – This is our biggest event and takes an enormous amount of planning – If you want to help, contact Bruce Gillies

Patti Wright - President of the Rotary Club of Toronto West