

# The Rotary Club of Saint Lucia

## "The Spoke"

Please visit us at [WWW.ROTARY.LC](http://WWW.ROTARY.LC) for the online version of The Spoke

**Caribbean Partnership Conference, Puerto Rico August 8-10, 2014**

### The 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all

### Weekly Duties

	July 11, 2014	July 18, 2014	July 25, 2014
<b>Meeting</b>	Business	Speaker	Fellowship
<b>Greeters</b>	Andre Anthony	Azmina Birgitta	Bradley Charles
<b>Prize</b>	Azmina	Bert	Carole

If you can't make it as above, please tell Dir. Andre ASAP!



### Birthdays in July

Michael Ferdinand	July 6
Chester Hinkson	July 9
Pedro Barnard	July 23
Sabia Cherebin	July 24

### Board 2014-2015

<i>President</i>	Chester Hinkson
<i>Vice President</i>	PP Leathon Khan PHF
<i>President Elect</i>	
<i>Immediate PP</i>	Rudolph "Doddy" Francis
<i>Secretary</i>	Timothy James
<i>Treasurer</i>	PP Robert "Bobby" Frederick PHF
<i>Sergeant at Arms:</i>	PP Timothy Moffat PHF
<i>Public Relations:</i>	PP Carole Jn Marie PHF

### Directors:

Club Administration:	Ginelle Nelson
Service Projects:	PP Konrad Wagner PHF
Membership:	Joanna Charles
Rotary Foundation:	PP Albert Daniels, PHF
Youth Service:	Selma St.Prix



## Club Meeting - July 4, 2014

This was the clubs official handover meeting

### Meeting statistics

Attendance: 26 Rotarians 66%  
1 Visiting Rotarian  
2 Guests

Pres. Doddy started the last regular meeting under his Presidency before handing over to Pres. Chester

The raffle donated by PP Albert was won by Visitor "Shaggy". It earned \$ 135.00 and Sergeant Bobby raised \$ 155.00 for the club



### Save these dates

- Tuesday August 5, 2014 Rotary Board Meeting
- July 27—August 9, 2014 Two Rotary / RSLP Anti Drug Camps
- August will be Membership and Extension Month
- Saturday November 29, 2014 "The Calabashers at 10" charity concert

### Rotaract Club of Saint Lucia Handover



In a formal club meeting on Thursday July 3, 2014 at the Castries Library, President Nickey Desriviere took over from outgoing Pres. Ever JnMarie. The Rotary Club of Saint Lucia was represented by former Rotaract Pres. and now Rotary Club of Saint Lucia Secretary Timothy James.

In the annual tradition outgoing Pres. Ever thanked his board and talked about some of the projects undertaken in 2013-14. Once the President of the Rotaract Club of Saint Lucia insignias we handed over new President Nickey introduced and pinned his new board before they all took the oath of office.



Pres. Nickey Desriviere and his new board of directors



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## Rotary Club of Saint Lucia Handover



As one Rotary year drew to an end and new era started and a new President took over. In most of the years gone by this was celebrated with a formal handing over dinner. Due to the well documented tragedies and the necessitated short notice changes at the helm of the club the outgoing and the incoming President too the decision to execute the handing over during our regular Friday lunch meeting. There is still the possibility of a Presidents dinner later in the year should the circumstances allow for it. This change in tradition should and did not take anything away from the festive nature of the occasion.

Outgoing President Rudolph “Doddy” Francis commented on some of the challenges surrounding service clubs and noted that Rotary was no exception during these economically very difficult times. The competitive business environment together with the increased demands made on our time continue to take its toll on participation in Rotary activities.

He thanked his board members for their work and support and expanded on the importance of our continuing commitment to Rotary, to our projects, to our members and to those in our communities that often times depended on us and our initiatives for assistance.

We all must remember why we are Rotarians and not mere members of a Rotary Club. All members are encouraged to strengthen the club by becoming more involved in projects and fundraising activities. It will not get easier to attract and maintain good members and it is therefore essential that we also strengthen the club from within. Please always keep in mind Rotary is voluntary until you volunteer, at that moment it becomes a responsibility.

IPP Doddy pledged his full support to Pres. Chester and his new board.

Let us all remember how we felt when we joined Rotary and light up Rotary together.

Pres. Chester and IPP Doddy all smiles



Here are Pres. Chester and members of his board reciting the oath of office



.....while the Engineer, the Attorney and the Doctor enjoyed the fellowship and a good laugh





## President Chester's first words to members



His brief address did strike a chord with some members.

Here it is for all that missed the handover.

Chester started his comments with the 4 Way test:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



**Our Motto and Mantra: Service above Self.**

Let us all in here be true to ourselves- are we all living up to these traits and attributes that Rotary demands of us?

Are we making our fair contribution to ensure we engage Rotary and change lives?

Are we contented to come to luncheon meetings every Friday, or criticize the efforts of those who really embrace the principles of Rotary and make it part of their DNA?

Fellow Rotarians it is incumbent on us to make the Saint Lucians and by extension the world know that we are proud to be Rotarians, wear the badge with pride, when our National Anthem is sung, we belch out the words with gusto, respect our flag by really standing at attention. If we can start by addressing what appear to be little things, the big things will take care of themselves.

As we move into the new Rotary year, I count on each and every one of us to commit to making a difference. My success has nothing to do with me being the president of this club, as that is just a title; however, it carries enormous responsibilities which I take very seriously. I need us to support each other. I need involvement and action, not talk. We are not in politics; we are in service to a people and nation.

Once a month when we host our fellowship meeting we will incorporate what we will refer to as a thank you huddle, where two or three Rotarians voluntarily come up and say thanks to another Rotarian for some good deed he or she may have done. With the number of committees we have, if we cannot find something complimentary to say about another member then that translates into a lack of engagement.

Fellow Rotarians, I do not intend to change any of the proposed initiatives proposed by intended President Gloria to who I think we owe a world of gratitude for her sterling and unselfish contribution, but rather to augment what she has started. Please let us truly show our appreciation to Rotarian Gloria in absentia.

Every New Year we make it a commitment to feed the poor and I salute all those who participated in this good gesture this year. However, the next day all these same people go hungry and must wait until the following New Year for a decent meal - there is enough money in the account for us to take up this challenge twice a year or quarterly if feasible. Call it Rotary Thanks - Giving- Day. I see too many people in Saint Lucia eating out of garbage bins daily. Our responsibility is not only to feed them, but to have our voices heard as caring citizens determined to make a difference -- to have these people off the streets. While we are not a political organization, there is nothing in our constitution or by-laws that say we cannot enter into dialogue with the Minister of Social Transformation to provide moral, empathetic and monetary support to our marginalized Saint Lucian brothers and sisters.

I pledge today to live by example and by committing to a donation EC \$1000.00 to jump start some project and ask that the club and each member consider assisting in whatever way you can to support this initiative. I am also prepared to forego the handover dinner which should have taken place in lieu of this abridged version to which I have no objection whatsoever. We must intensify our Public Relations to sensitize the Saint Lucian public to what Rotary wants to accomplish by letting them know that they too must play a role. Following that, we then engage government. Start by inviting the Minister of Social Transformation to be a guest speaker at one of our luncheon meetings. At every opportunity we must celebrate-celebrate our successes. Every good deed we perform must be made public. It is time we remove the stigma of Rotary being a bourgeois club where we assemble to have lobsters and Johnny Walker at every meeting. This image must be dispelled once and for all. I therefore expect our Public Relations Director with the support of other committee members to keep the public informed of what we do at all times.

Fellow Rotarians sitting back and doing nothing is not the answer. Poverty in my view is like slavery. There is enough in this country, Saint Lucia, the most beautiful in the world for all of our needs, but not enough for all our greed. So please take heed my friends-- if we do not bring our wealth whatever measure that is, to the poor, they will bring their poverty to our door steps. I appreciate that some of these affected people are mentally challenged; some are indigent, some homeless, some unemployed, some unemployable and some darn right lazy. We must begin to differentiate their needs. I will continue to say however, that while all of us cannot do everything each one of us can do something.

In closing let me again thank you for your confidence in me and to reiterate that my success as your new president cannot and will not be accomplished unless we are connected.

**"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."** - Arthur Ashe, American professional tennis player





## Chess was in the air on Thursday July 3, 2014



Students from Rotary 1st. Move chess participate in this year's EC Global Chess Tournament

For the last nearly 10 years the Secondary School Chess Tournament is held annually. This initiative started with PP Leathon, when he was with ECFH and EC Global. This year the tournament was expanded to include also students from primary schools and P.R.I.D.E. Saint Lucia.

It required the usual good organization coordinated by the National Community Foundation "NCF" and Rotary 1st. Move Chess Coordinators Daniel and Ashford.

A total of 48 primary and secondary school students entered the tournament



After over 3 hours of intense competition it came down to these final 4 participants in the competition for primary school students.  
A handshake conclude the game.



Before the winners were recognized and awarded their prizes all results very verified and confirmed accordingly



For more pictures please visit [WWW.ROTARY.LC](http://WWW.ROTARY.LC) or go to

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/Journals/JournalDetails.aspx?accountid=7155&jid=60393>

### Update on Rotary 1st. Move Chess

It was reported previously that several of the primary schools in district 1, 4 and 5 are struggling with the implementation of the chess program while other schools have it exceptionally well organised and integrated into the curriculum. Several Rotary board discussions have taken place and it was considered stopping the school program altogether. Program Coordinators Daniel and Ashford and PP Konrad feel very strongly about the benefit of chess in primary schools and really want it to continue.

It was therefore decided that one last concerted effort will be made to save the program.

PP Konrad had therefore conversations with Daniel and American Foundation for Chess Coordinator Kathi seeking guidance. Kathi assured Konrad these challenges were not unique to Saint Lucia. It was therefore concluded that Daniel and Ashford will contact each school in district 1, 4 and 5 to determine their individual interest and commitment. Once that list is completed we will offer the chess program to every primary school in Saint Lucia that shows a genuine interest in it. Requests had been received previously. Kathi will visit Saint Lucia again in September to train all committed school representatives. It will however not be mandatory for every primary school in any one district. A decision will be made if and how many new chess set we will need.

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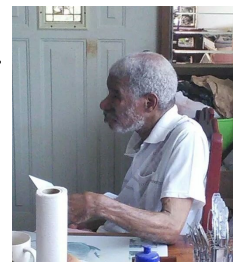
## Interact Update



Towards the end of the school year the Interact club at Saint Mary's College "SMC" completed 2 community projects Both activities were very successful and the Interactors and their Club Coordinators Shurna and Christelle must be congratulated.



The first activity was held on July 3rd. An Interact delegation visited a past principal of Saint Mary's College, Mr. Mondesir. The objectives for this activity was to acknowledge Mr. Mondesir for his service as principal of the school and to show that the students have not forgotten him. The Interactors also wanted to rekindle the relationship between the school's past and its presence and to strengthen that relationship.

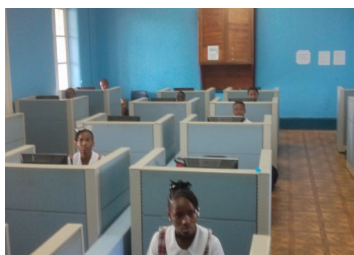


During this visit they also presented him with a small token of their appreciation.

The second activity was as a result of a government initiative to expose students from grade six having completed the common entrance examination to secondary school life. The students assigned to the SMC were from the Carmen Renee and Methodist primary schools. During their visit to SMC Interactors shared useful information and tips with the students which would help with their successful transition from primary to secondary school. They decided to do this to assist these students in being better prepared for their new schools, so that they would quickly adjust to their new environment and feel more comfortable in their first academic year. The Interactors taught them about secondary school in general and not necessarily just SMC. Their main topics were on making friends, balancing between academics and extra curricular activities, respecting rules and regulations and bullying and peer pressure. The activity was a great success and helped the students a lot.



The presentations were followed with a tour of the school and the facilities that every secondary school has.



Both these activities were supervised by club coordinators Ms. Lee and Ms. Ephraim who both contributed to the clubs overall success for the year. The Interact Club continues to have weekly bake sales and fund raisers to keep the club alive. They look forward to having more activities in the next academic year 2014-15. We as Rotarians must do everything in our power to support these young role models.

### Visitors and guests at the meeting



PP. Cass Elias  
RC Saint Lucia South



"Shaggy" Isaac  
g. o. Rot. Birgitta



Phillip Cross  
g. o. Pres. Chester

### Rotary Club of Gros Islet honours PP Matt



PP Matt and Sec. Astrid

During the lunch meeting on Tuesday July 8, 2014 the club bestowed a PHF on PP Matt. He had in 2012-13 served a 2. term as Club President. This is PP Matt's 3. PHF Congratulations Matt















