



# 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

Rotary District 7030 PETS, Barbados April 20-23, 2016

The 107th Convention of Rotary International - Seoul 29 May - 1 June 2016

## Weekly Duties

### 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 concerned?

	September 18	September 25	October 2
<b>Meeting</b>	Guest speaker meeting	Rotary speaks Pres. Tim	Rotary Educational talk
<b>Greeters</b>	Steve	Ginelle Timothy James.	Ginelle
<b>Prize</b>	Selma	Timothy Moffat	Soraya
If you can't make it as above, please tell Dir. Joanna ASAP!			



### Birthdays in September

Timothy Moffat	September	8
Ian Mitchell	September	15
Digby Ambris	September	15
Albert Daniels	September	20

### Board 2015-16

<i>President</i>	Timothy James
<i>Vice President</i>	PP Albert Daniel PHF
<i>President Elect</i>	Selma St. Prix
<i>Immediate PP</i>	PP Chester Hinkson
<i>Secretary</i>	Selma St. Prix
<i>Treasurer</i>	PP Robert "Bobby" Frederick PHF
<i>Public Relations</i>	PP Rudolph "Doddy" Francis PHF
<i>Sergeant at Arms:</i>	PP Carole Jn Marie PHF

### Directors

Club Administration:	Joanna Charles
Community Service	Steve Johnny PHF
Vocational Service	Andre Cherebin PHF
International Service	PP Leathon Khan PHF
Membership Service	PP Tim Moffat PHF
Youth Service:	Ginelle Nelson
Rotary Foundation:	PP Malcolm Charles, PHF

### District responsibilities

Assistant Governor	PP Konrad F Wagner PHF
District Advisor (TRF) Major Gifts	PAG Malcolm Charles PHF
Vice Chair IFRM D7020 & D7030	PAG Malcolm Charles PHF



## Club Meeting - September 11, 2015

This was a fellowship meeting

### Meeting statistics

Attendance:

23 Rotarians 58 %

1 Guest

Pres. Timothy J. chaired the meeting

Acting Serge Leevie raised \$ 105.00

The raffle was donated by Rot. Peter K.

It yielded \$ 130.00 and was won by PP Charles



### Save the date

#### September is New Generation Month

- Saturday September 19, 2015 10.00 am—2.00 pm Rotaract "Job Prep 101" at the Castries City Hall
- September 19-20 Rotary Presidents conference and Leadership training in Antigua
- September 23, 2015 Vocational visit to the new Hospital. Meet at the hospital at 12 noon
- Rotary Calabashers Concert, Saturday November 28, 2015, National Cultural Centre
- Visit of DG Milton December 14-16, 2015
- 14th. Annual Wine & Cheese Fiesta Saturday February 6, 2016

### October 23 is World Polio Day

Nigeria and the continent of Africa have gone a year without a polio case caused by the wild poliovirus. But as significant as these accomplishments are, we have not yet reached our goal of a polio-free world. To mark World Polio Day, Rotary will host a streamed global status update on 23 October, sharing information about these recent milestones and focusing on the work that remains to be done.



Please visit [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org) and

- Learn how you can participate
- Add the streamed event to your calendar
- Download the World Polio Day tool kit

### Rotary Mean it



PP Albert hesitated a moment at the beginning of his brief presentation reflecting on how difficult it was to talk after all the stories he had just heard about home invasions and violation of personal space. Today he was wearing his Paul Harris Fellow pin, in his view a fitting gesture to celebrate this great man. He started talking about the early days of Rotary. Establishing the everybody knew the name of the founder of Rotary he surprised members by asking who the 2. President of Rotary International (at the time called National Association of Rotary Clubs) was. Needless to say the room remained quiet.

The gentleman's name was Glen Clayton Mead. He had grown up in rural Pennsylvania before graduating from Harvard with a law degree. At the time of founding the Rotary club of Philadelphia in 2013 he had his own law practice. When elected in 2011m he was a great successor to Paul Harris. A Republican and considered a reformer he was in many ways credited for shaping the future of Rotary for year to come. Through his discipline and establishing of processes he cemented the foundation to what became the greatest service club in the world.

In closing PP Albert emphasized that Rotarians are special people. A true Rotarian should be different from a regular business person and continue to uphold the ideals of great men like Paul Harris and Glen Clayton Mead.



For his bio see [www.rotaryfirst100.org/presidents/1912mead/bio.htm#.Vfh\\_0xFVhBc](http://www.rotaryfirst100.org/presidents/1912mead/bio.htm#.Vfh_0xFVhBc)

[WWW.ROTARY.LC](http://WWW.ROTARY.LC)



## Rotary fellowship meeting



Once lunch was consumed Pres. Tim J. thanked Rot. Steve for all his excellent work at the "CCSS" Castries Comprehensive Secondary School where last weekend the bathrooms were handed over.

This was followed by PP Tim M. talking briefly about classifications. He had circulated a list of classifications and encouraged members to have a good look at it and hopefully suggest a few more vocations that could be added to this list.

PP Konrad's guest for this lunch meeting was Ray Thackeray of the Sir Martin II, the ship that had taken relief supplies to Dominica. He was invited by Pres. Tim to say a few words.

His charity International Rescue Group "IRG" is based in California and enjoys official none for profit status allowing it to accept donations from US companies that are then tax deductible for these enterprises. Captain Ray indicated that he had 12 tons of cargo for his passage to Dominica rendering the yacht considerably overloaded. On the way to Dominica they had poor weather and were motoring all the way. Catching some of the outskirts of Tropical Storm Grace they were exposed to rough seas and at times torrential rainfall. This was particularly unpleasant for the passengers he took to Dominica. In addition to his crew he had several soldiers, a few volunteers and 2 people from the Prime Ministers office on board. All these extra passengers had remained in Dominica.

Just prior to lifting anchor he was asked to take 179 water purifiers, tanks with filters and purification tablets along. These purifiers were part of a Canadian disaster relief donation and according to Cap. Ray urgently needed in Dominica where the distribution of pipe born water was still severely hindered.

In the Nature Isle he had only about 30 minutes to unload his cargo because a large load of gas tanks was due to arrive into Roseau. The local disaster office was very helpful and with everybody lending a helping hand the cargo was shifted very fast before he turned around and returned to Saint Lucia. On the return leg he had calm seas. The boat is now in the Rodney Bay Marina undergoing some minor repairs.

It will set sail for Roseau Dominica again on Monday September 21, 2015 and then continue his voyage to Portsmouth and then on to Florida, where a shipment of supplies is waiting to be taken to Haiti.

Taking questions PP Tim asked about the situation in Dominica.

Capt. Ray stated that he did not have time to go on land due to the instructions to vacate the pier right away. According to him the situation in the port was somewhat hectic. There were however no delays with insistence on paperwork and all supplies were received and handled by volunteers affiliated with the Dominica Disaster Office.

### Open floor discussion on news item

Pres. Tim J. opened a discussion on the recent beating of a burglar by residents of Carilee Gardens who had captured the villain and were administering punishment by beating him with sticks before the Police arrived, while filming it for social media, where it was circulated shortly after the incident. This initiated an island wide debate on "justice" and the lack thereof.

The contributions from members were lively with one PP (jokingly?) suggesting that next time the residents should not only use twigs and small sticks.

Another PP quoted local media icon Rick Wayne who thought it was wrong to beat the fellow. Because naturally the enforcers of the local justice also broke the law. After all we should abide by the law and at the same time enforce it. According to him all citizens should insist that the Government does something with all the (new) tax money.

A PP with personal experiences felt it was not easy to say what he was about to say. He recounted an incident when he was visited twice in the same night. Being alert and unable to sleep he caught the intruder on his 2. attempt to gain access to his home when he had stuck his hand through the burglar bars. He could have chopped the man's hand and did not do it. After all he could not push himself to do it and would not have wanted to live with the memory of the such an ordeal.

When the Police finally showed the next morning, and he told them the story, they could not understand why he had not chopped the intruders hand off and asked him why he had not done it. His answer was, he was living in this house for the rest of his life and did not want it to be associated with such a gruesome experience.

One Rotarian spoke of a personal experience where his mothers Preschool had been broken into on 7 occasions. In his case the Police even admittedly did nothing to search out and apprehend the intruder. He felt the population was frustrated with the reaction of the Police force and small crimes are simply not taken serious. At times the police is even asking the public to do something about small incidents.

Also the filming of the week's incident was questioned and some felt it was maybe done to identify the culprit and possibly also protect the family from wrong accusations.



## .....open floor discussion on news item continued



Another PP agreed and disagreed with what had been voiced so far.

According to him, a local business man, he never asked the Police to find and catch a criminal. He always did that himself and handed the culprits to the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force. Very much to his dismay, in every case they were released within a short time span. He recalled how on one occasion the apprehended thief was sentenced to community service to be served at his place of business. Needless to say the man stole another basket of goods and he just let him go. This business man certainly understands the frustration in the general population.

Not to miss the discussion, on member referred to a ticklish situation while growing up on the Morne. According to her, burglaries there were a way of life. Their home was every week broken into. On most occasions food items were stolen. The Police had agreed to take finger prints and eventually even got to know the burglar. She referred to him as Squashy. The member raised the question:

While waiting for justice to take its course, who do we teach a lesson?

The Police or the culprit?

She offered to leave that question open.

One member recounted a very recent experience from just last Sunday.

Her sister had called her to tell her that her home had been burglarized. In this case the thief or thieves had taken everything that was small and loose. All food items and most distressing all the newly purchased school supplies. Prior to this incident she would have said "do not administer your own justice" and would have said let the burglar go, referring to the incident sparking the day's discussion. Now her view is, NO WAY, this guy deserved his "licks". It was in her opinion a good thing the guy was shamed and many people now know who he is. She felt the young man will, now that his face is known stop stealing.

A different Rotarian reflected on a story tying back to an experience in the UK.

He reflected on how he was shopping in a Supermarket and paid for his groceries via "self checkout". He was struck by the fact that there was no Security Guard present. Even though he knew there must have been Security measures in place. When mentioning his thoughts to a friend he was told "but you live in Paradise" referring to Saint Lucia. At the same time he was wondering why there were not more burglaries in the UK. (Note some Brits may disagree with this observations).

The member feels we may well have lost our garden of Eden and live no longer in Paradise.

This led him to talk about several court cases that were just very recently adjourned for a year. Imagine 1 full year He took the time to elaborate on several specific court matters and concluded with ow he appreciated several of the other members' points raised while recounting a story involving his parents home and a burglary. In this case the culprit was also known to him and his parents.

In closing he stated: There will be times when we will be tempted to take justice in our own hands. We must check ourselves and WITHOUT EXCEPTION uphold the rule of law.

This open discussion revealed in a very disarming way how close the changes in our society affect pretty much every one of us in one way or the other. In light of the challenges the Royal Saint Lucia Police Force is encountering on a national as well as an international level it does not appear, as if there was any change of how the Police is able to operate is going to come about in the immediate future. This of course offers the question.

Will incidents like the one documented this weekend and discussed a this meeting remain an exception?

Or will they become more common in the weeks and months ahead?

Will the number of private security firms continue to grow?

Will the struggle to earn a living continue to divide the have nots and the haves?

Will it be truly worth to have?

And most importantly are we going to loose Paradise—if we have indeed not lost it already

Pres Tim J. concluded the meting with announcing several Birthdays and all sang Happy Birthday to PP Tim M.

### There was one guests at the meeting



PP Konrad had invited Captain Ray Thackeray to the club's lunch meeting.

Following lunch Capt. Ray was asked to say a few words about the Dominica relief efforts. He gladly did so after making a joke that he had just been told he was "off the hook" and had thought he did not have to 'sing for his lunch.

As advised above, the Sir Martin II will leave the Helen of the West indies in the morning of Monday September 21, 2015

Captain Ray and the Sir Martin II will be back in Saint Lucia next year, when they will be on stand by again, in case there was a storm in the area and rescue missions are needed. Until then we wish you Godspeed.

