

The Rotary Club of Saint Lucia

"The Spoke"

Please visit us at WWW.ROTARY.LC for the online version of The Spoke

[Rotary International Convention Sao Paulo, Brazil, June 6-9, 2015](#)

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		December 19	January 9	January 16
	Meeting	Christmas lunch	Business meeting	Guest Speaker
	Greeters	Selma Steve	Timothy M Ginelle	Michael Soraya
	Prize	Timothy J		Ginelle
	If you can't make it as above, please tell Dir. Ginelle ASAP!			



Birthdays in November

Rudolph "Doddy" Francis - December 11
Brad Paul - December 14
Birgitta Hermansson - December 26

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 PHF
<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 Digby Ambris, PHF
Youth Service:	Selma St.Prix

District responsibilities

Asst. District Governor	PP Timothy Moffat PHF
District Advisor (TRF) Major Gifts	PAG Malcolm Charles PHF
Vice Chair IFRM D7020 & D7030	PAG Malcolm Charles PHF



Club Meeting - December 12, 2014



This was a meeting with guest speaker

Meeting statistics

Attendance:

24 Rotarians 60%
1 Visiting Rotarian
10 guests

Pres. Chester chaired the meeting

Acting Serge Charles raised \$ 213.35
an the raffle earned \$ 155.00

The raffle was won by Rot. Phillip



Save these dates

- Friday January 2, 2015 Lunch for the homeless at the Castries city hall
- Tuesday January 6, 2015 Board meeting
- Saturday February 7, 2015 13th. Annual Wine and Cheese Fiesta
- Rotary Calabashers concert, new date to be announced



H.E. Louis Manuel Lopez Moreno, Ambassador of the United States of Mexico addresses Rotary



This month's guest speaker was introduced by Rot. Phillip

Ambassador Moreno is a career diplomat with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and a diploma in diplomatic studies from the Matias Romero Institute.

In December 29, 2013 he was appointed ambassador to the OECS countries with residence in Saint Lucia. Previous postings included Haiti, Belize, USA and Canada.



The vote of thanks was delivered by PP Albert

His Excellency gave an overview of some of Mexico's economy mentioning that Mexico is the 14th. largest economy in the world. Who know that Mexico was the largest manufacturer of cars?

It's economy's stability is derived from a low rate of inflation, below 4%, low levels of public debt at 35% of GDP, low interest rates at 3.2 % for a 28 days treasury bill, a highly capitalized financial system with a new banking reform aimed at increasing lending, and one of the OECD's lowest unemployment rates at 5%.

In sum, Mexico has healthy public finances, an autonomous monetary policy, a flexible exchange rate and a robust financial system.

The Government Mexico is involved in the execution of projects throughout the OECS totaling an amount of US\$ 67,000 000.00

Projects include amongst others a new drinking water system in the south of Saint Lucia.

The presentation was supported by Ms. Maite Narvaez.



Mexico measures 1,972,550 km² or 761,606 mi²
With a population of 118, 395 054
and a GDP of US\$ 1.296 trillion





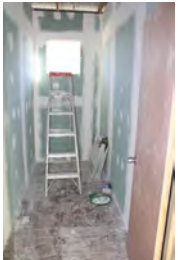
Micoud library workday and project update



Construction work on the library is nearing completion. Here is what the project looked like on December 13, 2014



All drywall work was completed, the bathrooms only needed windows to be installed, the office had the window in place together with all other windows and the new doors were installed that the building can now be locked. The contractor has also started the electrical wiring for lights and air conditioning with the light fixtures already in place.



Bathrooms

Office

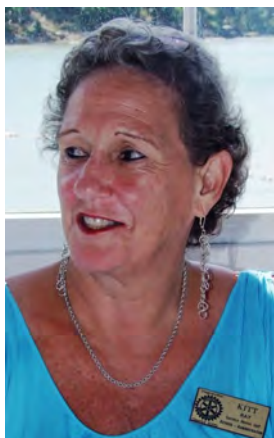
New entrance doors

Project Manager PP Brad is in the process of reviewing the budget versus actual expenditure. Once this is established the team will determine what application will be used for the floor and one of the remaining outside walls still without metal cladding. With Christmas approaching it is unlikely that Rotarians can undertake another workday and the remaining painting will also have to be contracted out. More updates to come.

Some interesting excerpts from the December 2014 Rotarian on not being a Scrooge

- To build passion one has to get out of his comfort zone.
- When wealthy people live in more economically diverse zip codes, their charitable giving rises from an average of 2.8% to 4.2%.
- The people who are the most satisfied with their lives are the ones who are embedded in their communities and who have engaged in acts of kindness and philanthropy.
- And some advise: Get out of your comfort zone.
Have more contact with other people.
The people who are the most satisfied with their lives are the ones who are the most embedded in their communities and who have engaged in acts of kindness and philanthropy.
There is a lot you can get out of being kind to others that money cannot buy you.

Visitor



VR. Kitt Ray
RC of Vegreville, Canada



Ambassador Moreno
Club guest



Maite Narvaez
Club guest



Sharon Zaiens
g.o. Rot. Selma



Dr. Elphege Brown
g.o. Rot. Leevie

and guests at the meeting



Lydia Ambris
g.o. PP Digby



Colin Mallalieu
g.o. PP Digby



Mora Mallalieu
g.o. PP Digby



Isaias "Shaggy" Isaac
g.o. Rot. Birgitta



Dr. McCabe Walcott
g.o. PP Albert



Mark Williamson
g.o. PP Brad



3rd. Annual Rotary, Rotaract, Interact, ARC tree planting



The reforestation exercise in the Bellevue, Vieux fort valley continued on Saturday December 13, 2014. A large contingent of members from the Rotaract Club of Saint Lucia, the almost reestablished Rotaract Club of Gros Islet, The Interact Club at St. Joseph's Convent and the Interact Club at St. Mary's College and volunteers from the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers "ARC" joined Rot. Ginelle, PP Konrad and Rotarian at heart "Shaggy" for a day spent with purpose. In 3 busses the volunteers were taken to Bellevue where the Forestry Department had already delivered app. 1000 native trees to be planted.



Like in previous years Forestry Officer Hazel Elliot was in charge of the actual planting. He gave a brief orientation outlining the reasons for the planting as well as mentioning The long term goal for the area. The plants were local species with most of them being "Lasent" - Incense trees and Cinnamon trees.



It was nice to see that trees planted last year were flourishing and the survival rate was according to Hazel Elliot around 80% of all planted trees.

Here are PP Konrad and ARC MD Andrew Bishop comparing a tree from last year with a seedling planted this December



In previous years the Forestry Officers had prepared holes and the volunteers only had to drop them into these. It was felt that this was not in the spirit of the activity and this year only locations were identified with sticks and the volunteers had to dig all the holes themselves.



ARC MD Andrew



Pres. Nickey



PP Samara



Rot. Ginelle

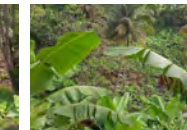


Shaggy



and teacher Jessima

did not have to be asked twice and led the charge from beginning to completion.



In very good spirit app. 970 trees were planted before most people succumbed to fatigue and headed for the temporarily set up lunch canteen and barbecue. There seems to be nothing better than a well deserved grilled drum stick and a float after a few hours of hard work.

While the Interact Club members headed home to reach Castries before nightfall the Rotaractors and the ARC volunteers visited the Dennery Fish Fry for some cold drinks grilled and steamed fish, welcks and more floats and enjoyed some good old fellowship. The support from the Rotaract Club was exceptional and they displayed once again what a little community work and very nice fellowship is all about. For more pictures please go to: www.clubrunner.ca/portal/Journals/JournalDetails.aspx?accountid=7155&jid=61730

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Rotary Club of Saint Lucia brings cheers to the Roseau Valley



Saturday December 18, 2014 was the date set for this years children Christmas party at a school identified by PP Carole and the Rotary Club of Saint Lucia. This year the Roseau Combined School was selected.

It was arguably the most organized and disciplined school Christmas party the Spoke Editor ever attended. At the start PP Carole talked briefly about Rotary and what it is followed by brief remarks by Pres. Chester.



With PP Malcolm's assistance Pres. Chester started off the proceedings with dancing while Rotarians looked on. The guest of honour was of course Santa Claus, who promptly continued the dancing.



A big hit were of course the first candies dished out by Santa Claus.



This was followed by more singing of Christmas and other songs



.....and then while Rotarians and friends went to work preparing the food Santa kept the children busy



Lunch was served in the most organized manner. If anything PP Konrad drumstick were deemed too large by some. Nonetheless everybody had space for dessert consisting of cup cakes and ice cream.



Santa Claus could of course not depart without presenting every child with a present



At the farewell the students and teachers surprised the Rotarians with a very touching surprise



An 8 years old student delivered a flawless vote of thanks and presented Pres. Chester with a beautiful oversized Merry Christmas card.

Thank you to the 10 Rotarians that helped out at the function and thank you to the others that contributed with food or cash. For more pictures visit:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/Journals/JournalDetails.aspx?accountid=7155&jid=61756>





Rotary Christmas Hamper preparation



On Thursday December 18, 2014 the packing of the Christmas hampers started.

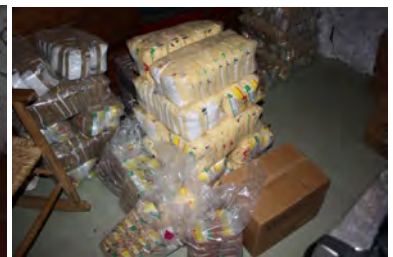
After popular support the project was in a last minute effort organized with the assistance of former Rotarian Dr. Marcus Day. As a reminder of Rotary activities from years gone by Dr. Day once again turned his La Clery home into a storage facility. He had in a joint effort with PP Konrad and approved by the board solicited, purchases and collected food items from Renwick and Co, Peter and Company, Central Sales, where former Rotarian John Douglas assisted the Rotary Club, the Ministry of Trade, Ramco Plastics, S and S and others. These largely wholesale food items are then repackaged into smaller bags for distribution to single parent homes, the Aids foundation and homes like the St. Lucy's home and others.

This year, in accordance with the Rotary International emphasis on Public Relations we are also donating and distributing 20 hampers in cooperation with the new WVENT radio station. Pres. Chester is expected to represent the Rotary Club of Saint Lucia life on the air next week.

The packing of hampers started on Thursday December 18, 2014



There are still significant amounts of purchased and gifted food items that now need to be re-packaged and placed in the for the purpose purchased hamper.



Packing of hampers is expected to be continued on Friday December 19, 2014. It is very likely that the packing will not be completed on Friday evening.

For that eventuality Rotarians are invited to come to La Clery on Saturday morning any time after 10.00 am and finish the work to have the hampers ready for distribution from Monday December 22, 2014.

Please remember this is one of the club's longest running community service project and Rotarians are encouraged to assist with the work and enjoy the fellowship. Your assistance is needed, please show up and be counted.



This poster made by the students of the Roseau Combined School and on display during the Christmas party says it all
On behalf of President Chester the Spoke Editor PP Konrad wishes all Rotarians and their families near and far
Happy Holidays and a successful 2015.

A busy second half of the Rotary year awaits us in 2015. Please use this opportunity to reflect your blessings and remember the people less fortunate and all too often depending on our helping hand.

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