



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](#)

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

	October 24	October 31	November 7
Meeting	Fellowship	No meeting	Business meeting
Greeters	Bert Charles	Charter dinner Saturday November 1	Digby Doddy
Prize	Bradley	Azmina	Davic

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



Birthdays in October

Bert Pierre - October 10

Leathon Khan - October 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
<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 - October 17, 2014



This was a guest speaker meeting

Meeting statistics

Attendance: 20 Rotarians 50%
1 Visiting Rotarian
5 Guests

Pres. Chester chaired the meeting
The weekly raffle prize was provided by
PP Azmina and won by PP Chris

The raffle earned the club \$ 110.00
Sergeant Tim raised \$ 100.00 for the club account



Today October 24. is World Polio Day

Save these dates

- Saturday November 1, 2014 Charter Night.
- Friday November 7 and Saturday November 8, 2014 Rotary Club of Gros Islet Golf Tournament
- Friday November 28, 2014 "The Calabashers at 10" charity concert
- Saturday February 7, 2015 13th. Annual Wine and Cheese Fiesta



Charter dinner update

On Saturday November 1, 2014 the Rotary Club of Saint Lucia will celebrate the 48th. Anniversary of its charter. By now all members should have advised Dir. Ginelle of their attendance. This is the only way to allow for proper planning by the restaurant and the club. In case you are not familiar with the venue, Jack's Waterfront Dining is in Rodney Bay Village on the water alongside the Rodney Bay Marina opposite the Gros Islet fish market



7.00 PM cocktails followed by 7.30 PM dinner

Cream of local spinach

or

Seafood salad on tamarind vinaigrette

Buffet style main course

Chicken fricassee in red wine, mushrooms and smoky bacon

or

Baked Dorado filet "al pomodoro"

Rice, seasonal vegetables, potatoes

A vegetarian dish

— xxx

Fresh fruit gateau on strawberry coulis and chocolate shaving



Visitor



VR Marguerite Peter
Pres. Rotary Club
of Saint Lucia South



Hon. Harold Dalson
guest of
the Rotary Club



Delizia Hinkson
guest of
Pres. Chester



Delta Benjamin
guest of
Rot. Paul



Lisa Dickson
guest of
Rot. Paul



"Shaggy" Isaac
guest of
Rot. Birgitta

and guests at the meeting

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Last Friday's featured guest speaker - The Hon. Harold Dalson was introduced by PP Malcolm

In recognition of the poverty reduction initiative of the club the Hon. Minister accepted our invitation. He holds various degrees in business and teacher education, including a Masters in Education from the University of Sheffield in the UK. As a former School Principal he was and is involved in the Soufriere area he has been involved in the Soufriere Regional Development Foundation, various community activities and currently serves as the MP of the area as Minister of Social Transformation, Local Government and Community Empowerment.



According to Min. Dalson anti-poverty programming of the Govt. of Saint Lucia are predicated on two fundamental beliefs:

- Firstly, that poverty-reduction is imperative to economic development. We are often told that economic development reduces poverty, and maybe that's true; but what is true also is that a country cannot realize its full economic potential if it is saddled with high rates of poverty among its people and indeed among its labor force;
- Secondly, that reducing poverty (and if possible eradicating it) is a moral imperative of any self-respecting government. To that end the Government of Saint Lucia is a signatory to several international conventions such as the UN's Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR), which states at Article 25:

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

There is a two-tier classification of the poor which Saint Lucia subscribes to:

The Indigent Poor (Also Known as the "Food Poor"): Households or individuals who cannot afford a minimum acceptable consumption of food as quantified by a measure called the extreme poverty line.

The Non-Indigent Poor: Households or individuals who cannot afford a minimum acceptable consumption level of food *and other basic needs* as quantified by a measure called the poverty line;

There is also a third group who are of interest to the Government in our anti-poverty efforts, namely the Vulnerable – Persons who are not among the poor but who because of their proximity to the poverty line are constantly at risk of becoming poor should there be a precipitating event. Accordingly, poverty reduction is not merely about taking poor people out of poverty but is also about keeping the non-poor from falling into poverty;

Yet another important classification of poverty: Chronic Poverty (or long-term poverty) versus Transient (or short-term Poverty).

The Government of Saint Lucia is particularly concerned about chronic poverty. Under the worst case scenario chronic poverty gets transmitted across generations - We take a poor person, for instance, and realize that not only were his parents poor but his children will be poor and so will his children's children; Such is the nature of chronic poverty;

The (statistical) Poverty Situation Of Saint Lucia:

Poverty Rates:	Overall Poverty	-	29 %
	Indigence	-	2 %

Using a cut-off point of 25% above the poverty line as the criterion of vulnerability, 40% of the population are either poor or vulnerable;

A higher proportion of those who live in rural communities are afflicted by poverty compared to the proportion of their urban counterparts who are so afflicted;

Although the incidence of poverty is highest in *Anse-la-Ray*/*Canaries* (45%), *Micoud* (44%), *Soufriere* (43%) and *Laborie* (42%) it is in the district of Castries that most of Saint Lucia's poor reside, approximately 29%, primarily because this is the district where most of the people of Saint Lucia reside. In terms of share of Saint Lucia's total poor *Micoud*, 17%, and *Gros-Islet*, 11%, follow Castries;

Indigence on the other hand is most prevalent in Castries City, Anse-La-Ray/Canaries, Vieux-Fort, and Micoud;

As in most countries around the world, children bear the brunt of poverty. According to the Country Poverty Assessment (CPA), over 50% of the poor are under the age of 20 and the incidence of poverty is higher among children than among adults;

The incidence of poverty is slightly higher among men than among women, 29% and 25% respectively;

The incidence of poverty among female-headed households (21.2%) is about the same as among male-headed households (22%);

Data from the CPA reveals the existence of chronic or *long-term* poverty in some multi-generational households, and particularly those headed by grandmothers. These households were generally poorly endowed in terms of capabilities that allowed them to function adequately in the labour, credit and financial markets;

Because of their educational, financial and social deficits, the chronic poor tend to be socially marginalized and disempowered. The many households made up of children and a sole mother are especially vulnerable as the mother bears the double burden of providing for the family economically and providing for the day-to-day care and upbringing of the children;

In terms of Saint Lucia's multidimensional poverty score, the United Nations Human Development Report of 2012 (The latest available for Saint Lucia) ranks Saint Lucia at 88 out of 186 countries, with a HDI value of 0.725, on a scale where 1.0 is the highest possible score.

What Is The Government of Saint Lucia doing

Formulation of a National Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan (NPRSAP) in 2011. By *Cabinet Conclusion No. 481 of 2013*, the NPRSAP was approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Saint Lucia as the authoritative programmatic platform for the poverty reduction efforts of the Government of Saint Lucia for the period April 2013 to March 2016.

Development and Piloting of the Saint Lucia National Eligibility, SL-NET for short. SL-NET is a Proxy Means Test for scientifically and objectively determining household eligibility for Government's Targeted Social Assistance. The instrument is now being reviewed and refined with assistance from the World Bank and UNICEF.

Completed an Assessment of Social Safety Nets in Saint Lucia, 2009. This was undertaken with the financial and technical backing of the World Bank.



Last Friday's featured guest speaker - the Hon. Harold Dalson cont...

Completion of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) for Children and Women in Saint Lucia. Developed by the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), MICS is a survey which provides high quality internationally-comparable social and human development data on children and women the world over. By *Cabinet Conclusion No. 139 of 2014*, the Cabinet of Ministers has approved the MICS Final Report as an official source for social and internationally comparable data on the situation of women and children in Saint Lucia.

With assistance from UNICEF and UN Women the Ministry this year completed A Social Protection Policy for Saint Lucia which is now before the Cabinet of Ministers awaiting Cabinet's review and subsequent approval for finalization by end of year (2014).

Economic measures of poverty as are currently used do not by themselves tell the full story of poverty. Consequently, the Ministry is integrally involved along with the Department of Statistics and the United Nations Development Program in formulating new multidimensional approaches to poverty measurement and analysis;

PROGRAMMING

The Public Assistance Program is a means-tested program which currently provides assistance to approximately 3,130 individuals or 2,411 households which have been deemed poor. The assistance provided includes a monthly cash transfer, assistance with the replacement of spectacles/glasses, burial help and waivers for medical care;

Community After-School Programs (CASPs) were initially established in thirteen (13) marginalized communities island-wide, targeting vulnerable youth for academic support, life skills and safe-keeping. Due to the country's prevailing fiscal squeeze the program has had to be rolled back a bit and is now present in 10 communities serving approximately 400 beneficiaries. We have been able to keep the program going in some communities because of the goodwill of some corporate entities to whom we are abundantly grateful. The deficits which these marginalized young people present with are some of the very risk factors for poverty. The Community After School Program is, therefore, very much an anti-poverty or social protection program;

Launch of the Juvenile Justice Reform Project (JJRP). The project came into effect in October 2011 and is expected to last until the end 2014. The JJRP seeks to strengthen juvenile justice systems through appropriate reform measures. Once again, although their anti-poverty character may not be readily apparent programs of this sort seek to address critical risk factors for poverty that if left unaddressed can result in the perpetuation of poverty;

Government through the Ministry of Social Transformation initiated A Child Disability Grant in August of this year (2014). Under this program, \$200 is made available monthly to the families of children with disabilities for each child in the household who has a disability and who meets the "age" and "severity of disability" criteria of the program. Currently 118 children with disabilities have been enrolled in the program;

The Ministry through one of its four agencies, namely the James Belgrave Fund for Microenterprise Development (Belfund) provides persons who would normally be unable to access funding from commercial banks due to their lack of collateral – typically the poor – with the opportunity to secure capital to start microenterprises or to bolster existing ones so as to create employment for themselves and others. Programs like these show the many facets of the Ministry's (and indeed the Government's) response to poverty;

Many of the Ministry's social safety net programs are implemented through another of the Ministry's four agencies, namely the Saint Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF). These programs include:

The Koudemain Ste Lisi program involves the development of a longstanding relationship with indigent households wherein they receive psychosocial support from a Social Protection Network over a two year period. The assistance given is in the areas of Personal Identification, Health, Family Dynamics, Education, Housing, Employment, and Income support. Since its inception in 2009 a total of 150 households have benefited or are benefiting from this program;

The SSDF also administers Housing Assistance to the indigent, as well as Education Assistance to poor households with children of school-going age;

Another anti-poverty program administered by the Ministry through the SSDF is the popular Short Term Employment Program (STEP), which although not commonly perceived as one is actually a social safety net program meant primarily to protect the basic consumption of the poor and indigent;

Finally, the Ministry has embarked on an ambitious program of Social Protection Reform which seeks initially to:

- Improve targeting of social assistance to ensure that it reaches those for whom it is intended;
- Establish a Management Information System (with a Central Beneficiary Registry) for social assistance programs under the Ministry of Social Transformation, and eventually for all such programs;
- Institutional strengthening of the Public Assistance Program;
- Introduce some measure of co-responsibility to Public Assistance Program that would help program beneficiaries to help themselves get out of poverty rather than merely giving them a hand-out; and
- The consolidation of the Public Assistance and the Koudemain Ste Lucie programs, and eventually other similar programs, so as to avoid duplication and increase efficiency;

What Can the Rotary Club Do? - according to Minister Dalson

More of what you are doing here - creating among your members and the public at large awareness of this vexing issue of poverty; You are encouraged to help the Ministry to put the issue of poverty reduction on the national agenda;

Moreover, organizations such as the Rotary Club must continue to engage Government on issues of poverty and social protection; extracting in the process greater levels of accountability from Government on social development issues;

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as the Rotary Club have over the years provided a range of social protection services to vulnerable citizens in Saint Lucia. CSOs are sometimes better able to reach particular vulnerable categories of people, and/or to offer appropriate interventions to them. You are therefore encouraged to use your comparative advantage and continue to join the Government of Saint Lucia in providing for the country's poor;

Sponsor a Community After-School Program;

Provide mentorship to troubled boys at the BTC because within these troubled boys are embodied the risk factors that can breed poverty for future generations;

An important part of social protection is what is called the *transformative* component, which basically entails the dismantling of obstacles faced by the poor to social services and social participation. Along those lines the Rotary Club is encouraged to continue your public campaigns to dismantle the physical as well as the psychosocial barriers that the poor continue to face here in their daily lives.



After a good questions and answers period led by Pres. Chester, Dir. Selma moved the vote of thanks.

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Rotary and World Polio Day



ROTARY SETS GUINNESS RECORD

Rotary finishes the 'World's Biggest Commercial' campaign with more than 115,000 supporters from 172 countries adding their photo to help end polio.

We are this close!



ROTARY AND POLIO BACKGROUND

When Rotary began the fight in 1985, polio affected 350,000 people, mostly children, in 125 countries every year. Since then, polio has been reduced by more than 99 percent.

To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$1 billion and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries.

After nearly 30 years, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative is on the brink of making history.

WHY POLIO ERADICATION MATTERS

We are closer than ever before to ending polio. The year 2012 ended with the fewest polio cases in the fewest places in history. We have a unique opportunity to end polio, making it only the second human disease to be wiped from the globe.

Investing in reaching the most vulnerable children with the polio vaccine leads the way to reaching them with other life-saving resources. The legacy of the polio eradication campaign is to provide a road map for tackling other diseases. A win against polio is a win for global health



- *We are at a "tipping point" for polio eradication. In 2012, polio cases were at their lowest levels ever. We have to finish the job or we risk losing our gains entirely.*
- *Since the global initiative began more than 25 years ago, Rotary and its partners have reduced polio cases by 99 percent worldwide.*
- *There are only three countries where the wild poliovirus has never been stopped: Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan.*
- *Rotary's chief role is fundraising, advocacy, and mobilizing volunteers. Other partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative are the World Health Organization, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, UN Foundation, and UNICEF, along with world governments.*
- *Every dollar Rotary raises (up to US\$35 million/year) will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for polio eradication efforts through 2018.*
- *Rotary and Northwestern University's Center for Global Health will host a live streamed global update on polio eradication on World Polio Day, 24 October.*
- *Join the World Polio Day: Making History live event by visiting www.endpolionow.org*

Do you want to help end a crippling disease?

You can help make history by wiping only the second disease ever off the earth and protect children from the devastating effects of polio. Here are five easy ways to get involved on World Polio Day on October 24. .

[Post this graphic](#) to your social channels to let your friends know you want to end polio. But they want to know why ending polio matters? This [infographic](#) should help.

[Watch this video](#) <http://vimeo.com/87795803> featuring Bill Gates, Jackie Chan, Jane Goodall, Jack Nicklaus, Archie Panjabi, Itzhak Perlman and Amanda Peet. They all want to end polio. If you like it, share it!

Take a "this close" photo and post it to our [World Polio Day gallery](#).

[Donate to the fight to end polio](#). It only costs 60 cents to protect a child from polio and every donation to Rotary for polio will be tripled by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Your \$5 donation becomes \$15, your \$50 donation becomes \$150 and your \$1,000 donation becomes \$3,000.

Tune in to a live streamed [World Polio Day global update](#) on October 24 at 6:30 CT featuring Jeffery Kluger of TIME Magazin; Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of the Centers of Disease Control; Polio survivor and athlete Minda Dentler; winner of NBC's The Voice Tessanne Chin; and Ziggy Marley.

[Join the fight to end polio on World Polio Day](#)

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Micoud Library Project update

Did you visit the club's library project in Micoud already?

The contractor is making slow progress and it is exciting to see the building taking shape. He is still awaiting the delivery of the metal siding. Meanwhile the floor has been repaired with pressure treated wood and no further live termites were observed. Also the donated suspended ceiling panels arrived and the needed additional framing boards have arrived on site. According to the Rotary project manager PP Brad, he is looking after the ordered siding and we are still expected to finish the building work by the end of November 2014



Rotary Club of Gros Islet guest speaker for Tuesday October 28, 2014

All members are invited to the Rotary Club of Gros Islet's meeting at 12:45pm this coming Tuesday, October 28, at the Chic Restaurant in the Royal St. Lucian.

There will be a guest speaker, Mrs. Mauricia Thomas-Francis, former Country Manager for CIBC First Caribbean. The topic of her presentation will be "Productivity: The Role of Management". In this still challenging economic environment, productivity certainly plays a key role in the success of businesses and institutions.

If you would like to attend, please send an email to Joel Croker at joelcrocker@candw.lc or call 484 5635 by midday on Monday October 27, 2014 to confirm your attendance. Let's make it a date and visit our sister club.



Cruise ship lunch coming soon

Tuesday November 11, 2014 is tentatively scheduled for a lunch meeting on the Saga cruise ship. Once there is sufficient interest from members, we have an opportunity to change the regular weekly meeting from a Friday to a Tuesday. The opportunity exists to hold our weekly lunch meeting on the Saga Sapphire.

See for yourself: [www.youtube.com watch?v=Dx6SvIJqTxY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dx6SvIJqTxY)



The vessel - a timeless ship with a modern twist

No more than 720 passengers with 415 officers and crew - Last refurbishment in 2012

- Ten passenger decks including promenade
- Lighter bites in The Grill
- Alfresco dining on the Veranda
- The Drawing Room
- Two pools
- Gymnasium
- Hair and beauty salon
- The Academy computer and learning centre
- The Club House games room
- Four passenger lifts
- The Beach Club which serves gourmet fish and chips, traditional sweets and ice cream
- Air conditioned and stabilized – reduced roll motion at sea
- Open and fixed seating in Pole to Pole restaurant
- Speciality East to West restaurant
- Three Bars
- View from the Top with hot tubs
- St Andrews crazy golf
- Aqua Spa
- Library
- Three shops
- Photo gallery
- 37,301-ton ship with 27.6-foot draft

If you are interested in attending and want to bring a (1 only) guest please advise PP Konrad in writing via e-mail to konradinstlucia@hotmail.com with your **name as stated in your passport, passport number and nationality by Monday November 3, 2014**. The charge will be confirmed shortly and is not expected to be above the regular weekly lunch charge.

Konrad is leaving the island on November 6. and would like to finalize all arrangements prior to his departure

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The new library is expected to contain app. three thousand "3000" new books and will also house the computer lab and a reading area. App 600 secondary school students will benefit together with app 60 teachers once the new facility is fully completed.

