



May 9, 2014 Edition

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 2014 Sydney June 1- 4 , 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 concerned?

Weekly Duties

	May 9, 2014	May16, 2014	May 23, 2014
Meeting	Business	Speaker	Fellowship
Greeters	Frank Gloria	Joanna Joe	Konrad Leathon
Prize	Ian	Keith	Leevie

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



Birthdays in May

Joana Charles - May 27
Mary Anna Lewis - May 27
David Shimeld - May 29

Board 2013-2014

<i>President</i>	<i>Rudolph "Doddy" Francis</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>PP Carole Jn Marie PHF</i>
<i>President Elect</i>	<i>Gloria Williams PHF</i>
<i>Immediate PP</i>	<i>Konrad Wagner PHF</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Gloria Williams PHF</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Lorne Charles</i>
<i>Sergeant at Arms</i>	<i>PP Robert "Bobby" Frederick PHF</i>
<i>Public Relations Officer</i>	<i>Sabia Cherebin</i>

Directors:

Club Administration:	André Cherebin PHF
Service Projects:	David Shimeld
Membership:	Chester Hinkson
Rotary Foundation:	PP Albert Daniels, PHF
Youth Service:	Selma St.Prix

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Club Meeting - Friday May 2, 2014

This was a fellowship meeting



Meeting statistics

Attendance: 25 Rotarians 64%
1 Visiting Rotaractor
4 Guests

VP Carle chaired the meeting.
The raffle prize was donated by PP Digby
and won by Rot. Peter K. It earned \$ 130.00
Sergeant Bobby raised \$ 100.00 for the club account



With some extra time on hand Serge Bobby shared some thoughts and wisdom on employment and the development of employees. The times of taking a cavalier approach to this issue should sure be in the past. He could not resist sharing a joke about 4 Catholics and god and another on body parts and backing up!

Save these dates

- Club Fellowship b b q at the home of Rot. Mary, Sunday May 18, 2014 from 12.00 noon
- Joint Community Project at the BTC in Gros Islet June 14 or 21, 2014
- First meeting of PE Gloria's Rotary board for 2014/15 on Tuesday May 20, 2014
- Handover function tentative for Friday July 1, 2014

At this meeting we had a vocational talk

New Rot. Mickey told us about his Accounting profession. From the early days looking "after his Dad's and then his money. His development as a Jr. Accountant to Supervisor. How he was early in his professional life exposed to inventory control, credit, debit and presenting of accounts for filing. He touched on how everybody practices accounting in his/her daily life by balancing cheque books—or not.

Michael became self employed in the year 1997 providing accounting services to small and medium enterprises.

Michael Edwin Ferdinand was born at La Clery Castries St. Lucia on 6th July, 1964 of Linda Martha Mathurin and Edwin Ferdinand of La Clery. Castries. Linda died on 4th January, 1970 at the age of twenty two, leaving behind three sisters. His grandparents (Linda's parents) died before he was born. He grew up with his father and his grandmother (Lillian Ferdinand) who also lost her husband Oliver Ferdinand and her last son, Lester Ferdinand in 1969 within six months of each other prior to his mother's passing. His aunts, Christina, Monica, Joan and uncle, Anthony became his sisters and brother. Being the youngest in the house, these family members helped to mould him into being the person that he says he is today. Mickey has one sister Latoya Ferdinand born in 1979.



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Rotaractor Vernel visited the club



In her brief comments she thanked the Rotary Club o Saint Lucia for its support of the Rotaract Clubs 20 th. Charter Dinner Celebrations. She expresser her club's appreciation to IPP Konrad for circulating the invitations, Rot. Steve for all his logistical support as driver and PP Carole, Rot Ginelle and Rot. Leevie for attending the event.

A very special thank you went to Rot. David foe providing the venue and dinner at a concessionary rate.

During dinner Rot. David also made a \$ 1,000 donation to the Rotaract Club of Saint Lucia. Thank you Dave and congratulations on becoming a Great Grand Father. Enjoy your family visit to the UK, we miss you.

AG Tim gave a brief report on the District Conference

According to ADG Tim, the District Conference for him always had a personal and a professional Rotary side. To him the camaraderie, bonding and fellowship are always most amazing and he would not want to miss it. Maybe the reason why he chartered a plane to fly to Martinique!

From a Rotary perspective he always appreciate the professional presentations. This year's conference focus was on Autism and other none communicable illnesses. The DGE's focus for 2014-15 will be on Autism. Affecting children and families this could have been the reason why there were more partners in service at this year's District Conference than usually is the case. With several Doctors there the conference had a packed agenda at the same time leaving sufficient space for good fellowship. Some of the stories are not suitable for The Spoke.

Many Rotarians and guests particularly enjoyed Cassave performing at the Gala dinner. DG Tim made a point of reminding all that more effort is required in order for more of us to attend next years District Conference in Suriname. DGE Elwin is full of energy and ready to start a very active and productive Rotary year 2014/15



Rotarians worldwide give generously

2014 was the Paul Harris Society charter year

A huge thank you to the more than 9,000 Rotary Foundation donors who became charter members of the Paul Harris Society this Rotary year. Your generous commitment to give \$1,000 each year to the Annual Fund, Polio Plus, or an approved Foundation grant will ensure a lasting impact on communities around the world.

You do the math!

- Joint Community Project at the BTC in Gros

Islet June 14 or 21, 2014

R. I. P. E. Gary C. K. Huang, Rotary Club of Taipei said when asked...



The Rotarian: What do you tell people about Rotary to encourage them to join?

HUANG: I tell them that Rotary is special. It's people helping people, and they are having fun, like good friends. Some qualified people say they are too busy to attend weekly meetings. We should tell them that they don't have to attend all the meetings, that they can participate in service whenever they can. And they have to eat anyway, and it is only one meal. I tell them that, when they travel abroad, they can eat well and cheaply at Rotary make-up meetings and be among friendly people who know the local language and customs.

The Rotarian: Tell us about what attracted you to Rotary.

HUANG: When I was in high school, I won a prize from Rotary and thought, "Wow, so many important people belong to this organization, it must be good." I was rejected for membership three times because I was too young, but that was good for me, because I learned that being a Rotarian is a special opportunity.



Visitors and guests of Rotarians at the meeting



Vernel Flavien
Visiting Rotaractor



Micaiah Felix
Rot. Lorne



Michelle John
Rot. Chester



Denis Ishmael
Rot. Chester



Erwin Ishmael
Rot. Chester

New challenges in the fight to eradicate Polio

The spread of polio to countries previously considered free of the crippling disease is a global health emergency, the World Health Organization said, as the virus once driven to the brink of extinction mounts a comeback. Pakistan, Cameroon and Syria pose the greatest risk of exporting the virus to other countries, and should ensure that residents have been vaccinated before they travel, the Geneva based WHO said in a statement today after a meeting of its emergency committee. It's only the second time the United Nations agency has declared a public health emergency of international concern, after the 2009 influenza pandemic. Polio has resurged as military conflicts from Sudan to Pakistan disrupt vaccination campaigns, giving the virus a toehold. The number of cases reached a record low of 223 globally in 2012 and jumped to 417 last year, according to the WHO. There have been 74 cases this year, including 59 in Pakistan, during what is usually polio's 'low season,' the WHO said. "



Why is polio a public health emergency?

Several target dates for eradicating polio worldwide have been missed.

At first glance it might seem odd for the spread of polio to be declared an international public health emergency. There have been 68 recorded cases of wild poliovirus so far in 2014. Last year there were 417 cases. Contrast that with the one million children under five who die from pneumonia each year or the 750,000 who die from diarrhoeal disease. Like polio, most of those deaths are vaccine-preventable.

The only previous threat to have been accorded the same status by the WHO was the H1N1 swine flu pandemic in 2009. The reason for the WHO declaration is the risk that the goal of polio eradication may be not be achieved.

Milestone

Billions of dollars are spent each year on polio immunisation and the number of cases has plummeted since the late 1980s. There have been important milestones: it is more than three years since the last polio case in India.

While the wild poliovirus continues to circulate, mass immunisations must continue in every country in the world. If the disease was wiped out - like smallpox in the 1970s - then the money spent on polio immunisation could eventually be targeted elsewhere. The declaration of a "public health emergency of international concern" is a measure of the potential threat to the eradication efforts. The WHO wants all residents and long-term visitors to Pakistan, Cameroon and Syria to have been recently immunised and carry a certificate of vaccination.

Virus

All three countries have spread the virus across their borders this year during what is usually a low transmission season. The virus has a higher risk of transmission during May and June.

There are several other countries infected with wild poliovirus which have not exported the disease - Nigeria, Afghanistan, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Iraq and Somalia. The virus - which is shed in faeces - can spread rapidly from just one infected individual. Most people who carry the virus show no symptoms, making it a very difficult disease to wipe out. That is why it is so important that polio immunisation levels are maintained while the virus continues to circulate. Polio eradication would be a huge achievement. A target date of 2018 has been set - but previous deadlines have come and gone.

The next six months may show whether that goal really is a realistic target.