



# The Lakeshore

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Rotary



WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTREAL-LAKESHORE

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## *This Week's Program...*

**Nikita Moriarity**, Director, LGBTQ, will tell us about the services they offer on the West Island, as well as future programs, and initiatives.

## *Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...*

*Happy Anniversary, Bob and Magda...*

*... tomorrow, November 15<sup>th</sup>!*

*Happy Birthday, Anita ..... Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>!*

## *Future Programs...*

Nov 21: **Brenda** has invited **Kathryn Stephens**, Director, Development and Public Relations at **Welcome Hall Mission**, to bring us up to date on her organization's activities and role in the Montreal community.

Nov 28: **The Rotary Foundation** celebrates its centennial in 2017 and November is Rotary Foundation Month. Our speaker, **Past District Governor Bonnie Black**, will bring us up to date on the programs offered by The Rotary Foundation.

Dec 5: **Emily** has invited **Kemba Mitchell**, Chair of the West Island Black Community Association, to tell about its goals and activities.

## *Special Events...*

**Nov 16:** Our Board Meeting. Food served at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7.

**Dec 8:** Our annual **Christmas Party** will be hosted by **Andy and Kathleen**, at their home in Baie d'Urfé

## *Last Week's Meeting...*

**Murray** had met with area high school teachers and counsellors prior to our regular meeting. He would give us a verbal summary of that meeting.

We were sixteen members, including Honorary Member **Fran Hepworth**, and five guests. Active members present were **Wayne, Helen, Rosie, Kelly-Anne, Stan, PDG Bill, Carol, Murray, Semi, Anne, Knud, Brenda, Emily, Deniz** and **Joe Z.**

Also present were **Ricky Held**, President of the Lakeshore Civitan club, guest of **Stan**; **Anita**, also a guest of **Stan**; **Sandy**, guest of **Wayne**; **Esin Ergun**, guest of **Deniz**; and **Tian Tian**.

**Wayne** read this article about **Harold Schlumberg**, adding that it is addressed to seniors: "As we get older we sometimes begin to doubt our ability to make a difference in the world. It is at these times that our hopes are boosted by the remarkable achievements of other seniors who have found the courage to take on challenges that would make many of us wither. Harold

Schlumberg is such a person. Harold says, 'I've often been asked, 'What do you do now that you're retired?' Well, I'm fortunate to have a chemical engineering background and one of the things I enjoy most is converting beer, wine and whisky into urine. It is remarkably uplifting, satisfying and fulfilling. I do it every day and I really enjoy it.' Harold is an inspiration to all seniors."

**Brenda** said, "There's not much really new beyond what is already listed in the bulletin. I went on Friday to Ottawa and I picked up Dictionaries 4 Life so, along with the Youth Committee, we'll be delivering them to schools in the next two weeks. The Welcome Hall Mission made a request for help on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and/or 30<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 to 4 pm. We are three going so far. Others are welcome to join us.

"Gift wrapping at Fairview—we still need one more volunteer to boost our group from 7 to 8 for December 7<sup>th</sup>. There are other dates available for anyone who wants to go on their own. Just let me know because I have the link where you can see what's available and sign up.

"I'm not sure if Ste-Anne's Hospital still needs people to help bring residents in their wheelchairs from their rooms for their annual Christmas party, then take them back about two hours later. That's on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. So far Rosie, Glorefe and Kelly have accepted.

"Moisson Montréal has several dates available in November and December, either full-day or half-a-day shifts. If anybody's interested we can arrange a suitable date."

**Helen** reminded Board members our next Board meeting is on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, adding that any member is also welcome to attend, "but please let myself or JP know ahead of time so we can have the right number of meals available.

**Murray** said, "Wayne has reminded me of a conversation he and I had at the Oyster Party. I asked him, 'What would you rather have, Parkinson's or Alzheimer's?' 'Parkinson's. Better to spill half an ounce of whisky than forget where the bottle is.' "

Everyone got their exercise as Murray did his "two heads, two tails or a head and a tail" game with two coins." The winner won a bottle of lovely wine.

While he had the floor, Murray was reminded by **Helen** that he was also our speaker, to tell us about our Youth programs.

Murray said, "I had extended an invitation to a lot of the West Island high schools to send their community animation and community action staffers to attend a meeting about youth activities. Unfortunately, we had only two of the eight who were invited but, in spite of that, we had a great meeting. Our own Youth Committee members, **Emily, Deniz, Rosie** and **Cameron** were in place. We were joined by **Joe** and **Helen**. We had a great discussion. Both of the high school representatives who were here are anxious to get information about Rotary, Interact and other activities we offer that may be of interest to their schools.

"Cameron told them about the Alan Liddiard Speaking Competition and there was some interesting discussion around that. I think we're going to get some real change and additional participation on the part of some high schools and we're quite pleased about that. Cameron made a couple of suggestions that grew out of a meeting we had, not unlike this, following last year's public speaking contest. The biggest change was in the prizes for the winners—less money to the student but the student also gets to make a donation in his or her name to the charity of his or her choice. This, we feel, speaks to community action, community involvement and community participation. The two individuals who were with us really liked that idea, and one wants to take that back to her school. The other one works at the Board level.

"The other area they were interested in was the Adventure programs—Adventures in the Environment, Adventures in Technology and Adventures in Citizenship. We agreed to make sure they get information on all so they can formulate ways to involve students in the selection process. That was also very well received.

"Interestingly enough, one of the schools is an inner-city school and Diane (from the Lester B Pearson board) spoke very eloquently about the need for activities for students in the inner-city school to develop focus and leadership.



That will generate interesting activities for us in the future.

Besides talking about the public speaking contest, Cameron gave a brief summary of what Rotary is, what Rotarians do and who we are.

They were fascinated by all that Rotary does to defeat polio. Those two ladies were no different that many people who, once that information is made know to them, come to realize that Rotary plays such an integral role in the eradication of polio.

"We agreed that we would pass on the minutes of that meeting, the info on the Adventure programs and on the Alan Liddiard speaking contest. The guidance counsellor from Westwood agreed to pass that info along to her colleagues in all the other schools and Diane from the Lester B Pearson board said she will pass that along to all her colleagues at the Board level.

"The other thing we mentioned that came as a surprise to both ladies was our involvement with Amcal. They were delighted to learn that we were involved and of our work there."

**Stan** expressed some concern that we might have too many students participating in our public speaking contest. **Murray** explained that there would be internal competitions at each school and we would end up with a maximum of six students who reach the level of participating in our contest here.

**Cameron** reminded Murray that he had forgotten to say that we talked about exchange students. "We're not going to have one this year but next year we could possibly have an exchange student, if our club is prepared to put together a program for an exchange student.

"Short-term or long-term?" Bill asked. "That's something the Youth Committee will look at and will get input from the rest of the club." "We will make a recommendation to the club about youth exchange," Murray added.

**Murray** then spoke about what he had put forward to the high schools about **Interact**, Rotary's program for high school students to learn leadership skills. "That resonated with the guidance counsellor.

"The West Island College Interact Club is very busy this year. They have been doing eight projects this year. They have raised a ton of money over the years. Their advisor said, "We have no leadership structure. We just raise funds and give the money away." That being said, it strikes me that she, as the staff person, tends to run whatever is going on, and the club members do the work, but they raise money and give it away.

"We, the Youth Committee, plan to meet with them and have someone from WIC Interact come to one of our club meetings, either at lunchtime or an evening meeting, to get an idea of our appreciation of their efforts on behalf of Rotary."

Asked what they do with the money they raise, Murray said, "They raise money for Smile, for polio, and other causes and they send the money in the name of the West Island College Interact Club. I think we should acknowledge that somehow.

**Emily** asked Murray to explain what his plans are for the **National Model United Nations**. "I hope to have a speaker on that in January," Murray replied, "if a date can be found in our schedule that is also convenient for a speaker on that topic. Last year we committed \$500 for that and it's in our budget this year as well. They're looking for more because they have a larger contingent going this year; we will look at that when we know more about where our budget dollars are going. If we have to we will go the Board and ask for a bit more money.

**President Helen** thanked Murray on behalf of the club. "It's always good to have one of our committee chairs as our speaker. I know all the work you have put into Youth, Murray, and I thank you for that, and for taking the time to tell us all about it."

"Oh my," Murray exclaimed, "that reminds me that I forgot a very, very important announcement. Our own **President Helen** has accepted the three-year challenge of being our **Area Governor!** She will be responsible for liaison between our district and four clubs—Montreal-Westward, Westmount, Montreal-Lakeshore and Hudson/St-Lazare and all the problems we can create for her."

Asked what that entails, Helen replied, "Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, I will be liaising between those four clubs and the district. If there is any help in particular the clubs need, if there is anything they need explained, setting up visits to those clubs by our District Governor. One of the things they want me to do next year is to push the Presidential Citation. Some clubs do it; some don't. And it is a little bit tricky to enter all the computer stuff into the district's system, so I plan to hold some workshops. We should also be holding a Presidents' Council once a quarter, so I will coordinate that with the four club's I'm going to be involved with.

"I might not have all the answers but if you ask a question I can find the answer."