



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

Rotary



The Lakeshorian

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This Week's Program...

Today is **World Polio Day** and **President Helen** will lead us in a special program, to collect money that members are invited to donate to Rotary's long-standing and very successful campaign to finally bring an end to this stubborn disease.

Rotary International established World Polio Day as October 24th, to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a polio vaccine.

Helen also plans to discuss other ways our club could contribute to the End Polio campaign.

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...

...none that we know of.

Future Programs...

Oct 31: **David Leduc**, Old Brewery Mission's *Executive Director of Development*, will talk to us about OBM's major gifts fundraising program.

Nov 7: **Murray** is in charge but we don't know if his topic will be youth related or about our 2018 auction or Remembrance Day. When we know, you'll know.

Nov 14: LGBTQ Centres, speaker's name unknown.

Special Events...

Nov 3: (Friday, starting at 7 pm) Our annual **Oyster Party**, at the home of the Baie d'Urfé Rescue Squad, 300 Surrey Drive, Baie d'Urfé. **This is the best Oyster Party on the West Island!** It will also be our biggest fundraising event of the fall. We're counting on **YOU** to sell lots of tickets this year, as we aim to match or exceed last year's amazing success.

Last Week's Meeting...

We learned from **Stella Papadopoulos**, Hygiene Kit Co-ordinator for Clean the World Canada, how that non-profit enterprise partners with the hotel industry to collect, recycle and repurpose soaps and amenities on a global scale.

Twenty-three members and guests were on hand for Stella's presentation, thanks in part to the fact that October 17th was also **Stan Frost's** 80th birthday, were **Wayne**, President **Helen**, **Lawrence**, **Maureen**, **Rosie**, **Sacit**, Birthday Boy **Stan**, **PDG Bill**, **Murray**, **Semi**, **Glorefe**, **Knud**, **Brenda**, **Emily**, **Cameron** and **Joe Zemanovich**, plus Honorary members **Andy** and **Joe Maxwell**. We were also pleased to welcome **Anita**, guest of Stan, **Sandy** (Wayne), **June** (PDG Bill), **Carol** (Murray) and **Kathleen** (Andy).

Among the announcements...

- **Stan** told us he now has tickets for the Oyster Party. They are \$65 each and include our famous all-you-can-eat oyster bar, Andy's renowned oyster chowder, cold cuts and salads,

beer, wine and soft drinks, door prizes, games of chance and much more. All proceeds go to local West Island charities.

He urged all members to take tickets, reminding us that only tickets used to admit a person will be charged.

Tickets will also be sold on-line and at the door. We hope to achieve the maximum number of participants, which is 300.

- **Maureen** told us a 6-foot Christmas tree has been donated to our club for the Oyster Party. Members and their friends are invited to bring decorations to brighten the tree.
- **Helen** commented that **Kelly-Anne** has done an outstanding job of addressing the Oyster Party on our club's Facebook page. To view it and add your "Likes" Ctrl-Click on: <https://www.facebook.com/rotarymontreallakeshore/?pnref=story>
- **Helen** also said she had received a thank-you note from the Passport e-club for our donation. She and **Cameron** had attended their Charter Night on August 15th. "They used the money to buy pins and name badges," she added.
- Finally, **Helen** urged everyone who does not yet have a username and password for My Rotary (my.rotary.org) to go to www.rotary.org, click on 'For Members' and sign up. "A whole new world of Rotary will open up to you," she added.

Brenda reminded us that, "our sock drive for the seniors of the Denis-Benjamin-Viger Residence is ongoing. We are also looking for non-perishable food and toiletries for our twelve holiday gift baskets. Gift wrapping at Fairview will begin in December and I am setting up a few 4-hour shifts for our members and volunteers. We do have fun. **Maureen** is knitting woolen caps and scarfs for the Old Brewery Mission. If you have any extra wool, bring it along and she will be happy to put it to this good purpose just in time for the winter season."

Emily said she is still collecting books for the school children of St. Vincent. "The Friends of the Pointe-Claire Library have an ongoing book sale, just past the entrance to the library at Saint Jean and Douglas-Shand. Children's books are just 50 cents so if you have a few dollars to spare, you can buy five or ten books that I would accept very gratefully."

Helen told us that **Murray** has once again agreed to chair our 2018 auction organizing committee. "The date of our next auction will be Friday, June 1st, so please mark your calendars. I'll be leaning on various people to do various tasks. **Lawrence** has already very kindly arranged for the venue here at the Holiday Inn, and **Maureen** has agreed to organize the Lucky Draw.

Knud won the right to Chase the Ace for our 50/50 draw but he found the six of hearts instead.

Maureen told us a joke involving Queen Elizabeth, Donald Trump, Theresa May, Mike Pence and Hillary Clinton. It was a good one but too long to be repeated here.

Murray's Moment of Mirth was very entertaining, as usual.

We all sang Happy Birthday to Stan and shared a beautiful birthday cake that **Sandy** had baked, with icing featuring a photo of Stan as a very young man.



Brenda introduced our speaker. “Stella Papadopoulos is no stranger to Rotary. Her former husband was a Past President of the Montreal Club and she also designed the banner that the Rotary Club of Montreal is using.

“Stella has worked in the Business Development Bank of Canada in financing. She has worked with Nesbitt Burns as an investment advisor, and as international business development executive in a Montreal-based import/export high fashion manufacturing business.

“In between she was part of the Canadian children’s literature landscape for 15 years as an illustrator and as an author volunteering in elementary schools.

“She is also a water colour artist and has her own original art website, www.inspirationsbystella.com.

Stella began by thanking us, not just for inviting her to speak to us but for our longstanding commitment and devotion to our community.

Her powerful PowerPoint presentation began with a photo of a sad little boy, “but he doesn’t stay sad,” Stella assured us.

She told us Clean the World Canada is a non-profit organization that combines humanitarian help to the Canadian community with corporate social responsibility. Their mission is to collect and recycle soap and shampoo products that are discarded by hotels every day. They give a second life to those recycled products by donating them to local food banks with hygiene needs.

She passed around a couple of hygiene kits containing soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste, razor, washcloth and a blank card that the giver of the kit can fill in with a personalized inspirational message.

She told us that hygiene kit building events can be used by corporations as an ice-breaker at the beginning of a meeting. It improves teamwork among the attendees and creates a renewed focus on community. “Some companies also use kit building sessions to help new employees get to know their new colleagues and vice versa,” she said. “Kit building also boosts

employee morale, letting them know they work for a socially responsible employer.

Collectively, Canada’s more than 8,000 hotels and motels have over 440,000 rooms. Without Clean the World, over 545,000 soaps per day would end up in landfills. That’s 200 million soaps—twelve tons of waste—per year! Imagine the impact of such waste on the environment!

Instead, Clean the World, working with organizations like Moisson Montréal, recycles those soaps and shampoo products among Canada’s food banks and other food aid organizations, helping to fill an essential need of hygiene for over 3 million Canadians living in poverty who can’t afford it. That also helps those organizations focus on other priorities, such as food.

On a global scale Clean the World has an awesome impact! They have already

- diverted more than 4,000 tons of waste from landfills,
- distributed more than 40 million soap bars,
- distributed over 1,400,000 hygiene kits in North America.

They have over 5,000 hospitality partners worldwide, recycling products from more than 1,00,000 hotel rooms daily, to those in need in the 115 countries they serve. In many countries, a simple lack of soap leads to tragic consequences from illness resulting from hygiene-related tropical diseases such as Guinea Worm Disease and Trachoma, which is the world’s leading cause of preventable blindness and results from poor hygiene and sanitation.

Clean the World partners with local charities that educate the people about the need to keep using soap. “It changes the communities and the impact is huge for little girls,” Stella said, “who, without this education, would probably not even get to go to school.”

She showed us a slide of their hospitality partner list, which includes Holiday Inn, IHG, Hilton, Marriott, Four Seasons, Crown Plaza, Hyatt, Westin, Sheraton, and many others.

During the recent hurricanes Clean-the-World’s recycling plant in Las Vegas supplied thousands of hygiene kits to victims of the hurricane in the eastern US and the Caribbean.

Stella described the recycling process: “Soap is collected, its surface sanitized by hand, machine –ground into ‘noodles,’ then lab tested and cut into 3.5 ounce bars, boxed and delivered.”

“Your Rotary club could hold a hygiene kit team-building event. All of the components needed to build the kits are delivered to your event and the event itself has a social impact.

Stella was thanked by **Murray**. “Your talk was interesting, thought-provoking and idea-generating. Your kit-building idea will make great youth activities for high school and elementary school students. Thank you, Stella, for sharing with us today.”

