



# The Lakeshorian

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTREAL-LAKESHORE

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

**President-elect Helen Cane** will discuss what she learned at the President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS), and how she plans to apply what she learned next year.

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

*...none that we know of.*

## *Future Programs...*

Apr 4: [Evening Meeting] T.B.D.

Apr 11: **Kim Nguyen**, Director, Annual Giving and Administration for the **Old Brewery Mission**, will tell us how we, as individuals, can make planned gifts to the OBM part of our estate planning management.

Apr 18: **NO MEETING** (Easter break).

## *Special Events...*

Mar 30: **Board Meeting**, Holiday Inn, 6 for 6:30 pm.

June 2: (Friday) **Our Annual Auction**. In just over nine weeks we will host our most important fundraising event of this Rotary year. This year's auction will provide the lion's share of the funding for our club's projects in 2017-2018.

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

Twelve members including Honorary Member **Joe Maxwell** were on hand to hear **Barbara Engels**, District Rotaract Co-Representative and member of the Rotaract Club of Downtown Montreal, talk about Rotaract Roundtrip 2017, organized by Rotaractors from Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Niagara, to welcome Rotaractors from around the world to Canada.

Other members present were **Wayne, Helen, Maureen, Rosie, Sacit, Stan, Murray, Knud, Emily, Cameron and Deniz**.

In the absence of JP, **President-elect Helen** chaired the meeting.

**Murray** assured us everything is on track for the auction. "We are still looking for items to auction and for advertising," he said, adding, "artwork for the ads must be in our hands by Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, so the program brochure can be printed. Our next tasks will be advertising the event and selling tickets."

The Ace of Spades continued to elude us as **Cameron**, who won the right to "chase the Ace," found the Queen of Hearts instead, so the 50/50 pot will continue to grow.

**Murray** introduced our speaker. "**Barbara Engels** is Co-chair of Rotaract for our district. Any job to do with Rotaract seems to be a tough job, and I'm sure hers is no exception. Our most recent experience with Rotaract trying to create a new club at McGill's Macdonald Campus, has not been easy. We

stated last September and it has been an uphill labour but we're determined to soldier on and make it happen.

"Barbara comes to Canada from Costa Rica and is a graduate of an environmental health program at McGill. She is a member of the Downtown Rotaract club and works at the Meraki Health centre, which provides developmental health programs for children and adolescents at risk.

"Her goal as co-chair for Rotaract in our district is to strengthen the relationship between Rotaract and Rotary."

**Barbara** began by expressing the hope that she can work with our club toward that objective. She also said to Murray, "If you want some help to get that Rotaract club started at the Macdonald Campus, I can help. It's part of my job."

She said she would be talking about a specific and current Rotaract program called "Roundtrips." She said Rotaractors in our district are working with Rotaractors in District 7070, which includes Toronto, and 7090, which includes the Niagara area. "The Toronto Rotaractors started the project last year, inviting Rotaractors from all over the world to visit Toronto, get to know the city, talk to each other about how their Rotaract clubs work, with a view to building relationships. This year they're expanding the project into our district.

"The purpose of the project is to build relationships between Rotaractors in other countries, to be able to work on projects together in the future, which will really help our international sector.

"This year we will have Rotaractors from Toronto, Niagara, Ottawa and Montreal involved."

Barbara explained that Rotaract Roundtrips are cultural exchange visits organized by Rotaractors in a specific geographic area to which they invite Rotaractors from one or more other areas or even from all over the world.

She listed 14 such Roundtrips that have taken place recently in Europe, Asia and the Americas. "One of the Rotaractors from Toronto went on a Roundtrip to Siberia two years ago, which inspired her to start the project in Toronto last year," she said.

Barbara's PowerPoint presentation included photos showing what Rotaractors typically do on these visits—exploring the Siberian wilderness, curling in Russia, urban activities, inducting new Rotaractors and making Russian dumplings called Pelmeni.

She then went on to give us more detail about the Roundtrip to Canada, which they're calling "The Canadian Corridor Roundtrip 2017." Check it out at :

<https://www.facebook.com/CanadianCorridorTrip/?fref=hovercard>

"Applications have actually just finished. We've had people fill out an application form including a short video about themselves and then we rated them based on their Rotaract involvement, not just the length of time they have been in Rotaract, but also the scope and quality of their involvement.

"The trippers pay \$400 which includes accommodations, food, activities, everything but flight and personal expenses."

Barbara was asked about housing accommodations for the visiting Rotaractors. "We haven't completed all those arrangements yet," she replied. "We're hoping they can stay in the homes of Rotarians or Rotaractors in the cities they visit. If we can't make that kind of arrangement for all of them we may have to put the rest up in, say, a hostel."

"The present status is that we have chosen the lucky six from all the applications and they are now in the process of acquiring their visas. They are from six different countries, Zimbabwe, Mexico, the Philippines, the Netherlands and two for whom I don't remember their homelands.

"We have local Rotaractors working on plans for the various cities they will visit, such as Ryan Fedurco from the Ottawa Rotaract club, and Rotaractors in Toronto and the Niagara area.

"The 2017 Rotaract Roundtrip will start in Toronto (June 23 to June 27), then move on to Niagara (June 28), Ottawa (June 29 to July 1) and Montreal (July 2 to July 4). In Ottawa on Canada Day they will join in the celebrations of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, and in Montreal they will see some of the ways we are celebrating our city's 375<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Barbara showed us some slides from the Rotaract global visit to Canada in 2016.

"There were six Rotaractors, one from each of the following countries: Italy, Mexico, Poland, Taiwan, Turkey and USA.

"Their tour itinerary was as follows:

"Day 1, Toronto: Tour Queen Street West  
(17h00-23h00) Dinner at Poutini's  
Drake Hotel Rooftop  
Hostel

"Day 2, Toronto: City Tour  
(10h30-22h00) Rotaract Lunch Meeting  
St. Lawrence Market  
Hostel  
Changeover

"Day 3, Toronto: Fort York Food Bank  
(08h30-00h00) Chinatown, Kensington, U of Toronto  
Royal Ontario Museum  
Free Time  
Burrito Boyz / Patio  
Rotaractor's House  
Party

"Day 4, Toronto: Tim Horton's Breakfast  
(09h00-00h00) CN Tower  
Lunch  
Ripley's Aquarium  
Hostel / Free Time  
Ethiopian House  
Tour Yorkville  
Annex / Karaoke

"Day 6, Niagara: Breakfast in Toronto  
Drive to Niagara Falls  
Tour Niagara  
Hornblower  
Lunch  
Drive to Hamilton, Hike  
Drive back to Toronto  
Farewell Party

"That was the end of the 2016 tour.

"For this year's Roundtrip, we are adding 3 days in Ottawa and 3 days in Montreal. The itinerary is not finalized yet but the preliminary plan for those 6 extra days is as follows:

Days 7, 8 and 9 (July 1<sup>st</sup>): Ottawa, Canada Day

Day 10 (July 2<sup>nd</sup>), Montreal: Arrive at airport, go to hostel\*.

(11h00-22h30) Volunteering at Burrito Project\*\*  
Break at Hostel  
Dinner  
Tour Old Port and Fireworks

Day 11, Montreal: Breakfast

(09h00-23:30) Walk on Mount Royal  
Lunch  
Montreal 365 Festival Activities  
Rest / Free Time  
Dinner  
Montreal Jazz Festival

Day 12, Montreal: Breakfast

To Trudeau Airport for flights home, or  
Via Rail for transport to Toronto airport

Rotary Sponsors: Rotary District 7070  
Rotary Club of Toronto  
Rotary Club of Toronto West  
Rotary Club of Old Montreal

\*Barbara said a hostel will hopefully not be necessary if our six visitors can be billeted in the homes of Rotarians.

\*\*She explained that every Sunday volunteers working out of the Concordia building make about 500 burritos, deliver half of them by bicycle and on foot to shelters and food banks and sell the other 250 to people and businesses in the area. That way they make enough money to cover the cost of those they give away. The visiting Rotaractors will get to know the city and see how local volunteers feed the hungry and homeless.

"This is my last slide," Barbara said. "It's where I ask you for money or other, in-kind donations, to host a Rotaractor or help finance the cost of providing lodging in a hostel. We also need financial help to cover the cost of city tours, gift certificates at places like Tim Horton's or Starbucks, and pay for Via Rail travel for Rotaractors who have to fly home out of Toronto's Pearson Airport."

**Maureen** thanked Barbara for taking the time to explain how these six Rotaractors are going to see so much of eastern Canada. "And Rotaractors are future Rotarians, so we need you when you're ready to join a Rotary club."

