



The Lakeshore

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTREAL-LAKESHORE

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This Week's Program...

Today's evening meeting will begin at 7 pm sharp.

Our new club president **Helen** will tell us all about her plans for the Rotary year ahead. Last Tuesday she told us that it might be a joint meeting with the Hudson-and-St-Lazare club.

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...

...none that we know of.

Future Programs...

July 11: **Catherine Sharouty**, Program Manager for Health Partners International of Canada, will bring us up to date on this important organization that consolidates and provides donated medicine, supplies and vaccines to the developing world.

July 18: **Award-winning photographer Tony Hadley**, presented by **Emily** for our visual pleasure.

July 25: (tentative) **Albane Gaudissart**, Co-Founder and Director of the TATU Project, a non-profit organization that facilitates sustainable development for rural communities in Northern Tanzania.

It's a New Rotary Year...

As of July 1st we have a new Rotary International President, a new District Governor and a new Club President.



The President of RI for 2017-2018 is **Ian Riseley**, from the Sandringham club in the state of Victoria, Australia.

A chartered accountant by profession, his firm specializes in income tax and management advice for individuals and small businesses.

A Rotarian since 1978, he and his wife, **Juliet**, a Past District Governor, are Major Donors and Bequest Society members of The Rotary Foundation.

Our new District Governor is **Susan Bellor** from the Rotary Club of Massena, NY.

Unfortunately, I couldn't find a bio for Sue. In her first post on the district web page, she says, "Club presidents are encouraged to work with their officers and directors to plan for earning The Rotary Citation (containing 3 prioritized areas with goals); it is actually more flexible and attainable and I (urge you) to earn this R. I. Presidential Award."



We also do not have a bio for our new club president.

But we probably don't need one.

Helen ran so many of our club meetings during the year just ended, she hardly needs to be introduced to anyone in or club.

It would have been nice, however, to include a summary of her qualifications, for the district leaders and other important people who receive this bulletin.

Perhaps next week, Helen?

Special Events...

July 8: (Saturday) Changeover Party, Baie-D'Urfé Curling Club, 3-8 pm, \$30/person. Cash bar available.

Last Week's Meeting...

Our speaker last Tuesday was our outgoing president, **JP**, to summarize what our club accomplished in the past 12 months.

We were pleased to welcome 13 Active Members: **Wayne, Helen, Lawrence, Maureen, Rosie, Sacit, Stan, Bill, JP, Knud, Brenda, Emily** and Cameron plus Honorary Members **Fran Hepworth** and **Joe Maxwell**.

We were also pleased to welcome visiting Rotarian **Sati Khanna** from the Nagpur club in the state of Maharashtra, India and three guests: Brenda's Dad, **Victor, Glorefe Kozma** and **Elif Belgen**, guest of Sacit and Rosie.

With JP as our speaker, incoming president Helen chaired the meeting.

Among the announcements...

Brenda said that she, her niece, **Felicia**, friend **Victoria** and **Glorefe Kozma** visited the Welcome Hall Mission on Thursday, the 22nd "and it was a lot of fun. I hope next time we'll be a bigger group. The Mission permits clients to come twice a week to choose food like they would at a grocery store. The amount they can take depends on their family size and situation. After they have their bread, yogurt and whatever else they need they come to a scanner desk and check out their groceries against their profile in the Mission's computer. If they are over their limit, they have to put some items back on the shelf.

"The Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation sent me an invitation to their ball in November. The tickets are \$600, if anyone is interested.

"We have to congratulate our **Joe Maxwell**, who has already sold 100 LGHF Duck Race tickets at \$10 each. We invited members to help them sell these tickets and Joe took that ball and ran with it. He's the *seller extraordinaire*. And **Glorefe** is going to volunteer there as well, so we are getting



out in the community to help and it's giving our club a lot of great publicity at the same time.

"I'm planning to arrange another visit to the Old Brewery Mission in September."

JP took the podium and said his plan for the program would be to be able to give **Helen** advice for her year, based on results of discussion with members at this meeting. "I want to hear from you, what we did right, what went wrong, what we could do to improve upon what happened in the past year.

"As for me I'd just like to say a couple of things in general. The high point of the year was the auction. The disappointing profit of under \$4,000 last year, was more than quadrupled this year, assuring our committees will have ample funds to do what they want for the charities we support.

"To everybody who was involved in that success, especially the auction organizing committee, my hearty congratulations!

"Kudos also go to all who participated in our other two fundraisers, the ham sales and the oyster party. I'm happy that they went well and hope we can continue in that same vein.

"Our charitable activities are the backbone of the club. I have been especially impressed by **Brenda** and her community service committee. With the other members she recruited to help, we were there in person, not just making impersonal donations." Brenda acknowledged the applause following **JP's** comment and thanked all who helped her this past year.



"Regarding our international committee, what great things they managed to accomplish! They got the short end of the stick this year, the smallest budget, only \$3,000, yet between **Knud** and **Helen**, who brought me so many papers to sign, you had lots of enthusiasm and we managed to get a lot more things done than I thought we would.

"With **Maureen** heading up the membership committee, I find that we are very dynamic, continuing to attract new people and our retention rate is close to the best if not the best ever. She is so vivacious and involved with all the members.

"I also want to extend my personal thanks to **Cameron**, without whom I could not have managed the president's job. He answered all my questions and gave me so much advice and help.

"Thanks also to **Lawrence** for the great job he did with our program planning, signing up speakers, et cetera. And also to **Bill** for all the good work he did as both club treasurer and newsletter editor.

"So, there are lots of good things that happened this year. I could go on but now I want to give the floor over to you, the members. One of the later Seinfeld episodes introduced the concept of Festivus, featuring the Airing of Grievances. I'm not looking for grievances but if someone has a comment on something they didn't like that happened in the past year, feel free to air it. But I also want positive comments aired as well.

"So, let's start with things that could be improved."

The meeting evolved into a broad-based discussion. Here's a summary of that discussion:

- Write to *The Rotarian* (Canadian edition) about the success of our auction.
- Ditto, to the District PR person (Dārini Vedarattiname).
- Put our upcoming events (e.g. our Oyster Party) on the District Calendar.
- Invite local media to attend our Oyster Party: Rhonda Massad, editor of West Island Blog, for example. Perhaps we could even have a live broadcast from the party.
- Do a "Save the Date" mailing as we did last year. We had a good Oyster Party attendance as a result. (Careful, though, our limited space puts the maximum number of people at 250, and it's a shared event with the Baie D'Urfé Rescue Squad.)
- We should reduce the number of meetings we hold in the summer and during weeks involving or following statutory holidays.
- Why not have two evening meetings per month? Some older members said the evening was family time, but younger members were in favour and said others like them would be more likely to attend evening meetings that do not interfere with their jobs.
- Scrap the club assemblies. Members by and large do not attend them anyway. Instead, committee chairs should send out copies of their reports following a board meeting and be available to answer questions either by email or from the floor at the meeting after the reports went out.
- What about member with poor attendance (or worse)? The response was that, so long as they pay their dues and support the club in other ways, we shouldn't make waves.
- Will we have a Blood Donor Clinic this year? Answer: Yes, on the last Monday in August (i.e., August 28th). Bill has been organizing it with Héma Québec and it's all set up. He will send out a notice next week.
- Re Youth: Now that we have the budget for it, we should return to the former level of activities for youth, such as Adventures in the Environment, in Citizenship, in High Technology and in History, as well as Encounters With Canada, etc.
- We should also increase our level of involvement with Rotaract and Interact.
- A suggestion was made that we should also do more for the children in poor families, including sending several to summer camp.
- Regarding international service projects **Knud** explained that the reason we were so involved this year is that such projects often take a long time to come to fruition, simply because of the delays involved in working with clubs in other countries and the time it takes to get a request for RI and district grants approved and funded. "It's now time to get back into the international service business," he suggested, "and get the cycle going for new projects. That means giving international service a good-sized budget "

JP wrapped up the program by profusely thanking all those who got involved in the activities of the club, whether as an officer, director or member of a committee.