



The Lakeshore

The Lakeshore

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTREAL-LAKESHORE

Chartered February 27, 1961

Vol. 2016-17
Issue No. 32
Tuesday
February 7
2017

This Week's Program...

[Evening meeting] **Kelly-Anne** will give her Rotary classification talk. [FYI, her classification is Information Technology, a broad field indeed. *Ed.*]

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...

Happy Birthday, Carol Horn.....Friday, February 10th!
Happy Anniversary, Bill & June, Monday, February 13th!

Future Programs...

- Feb 14: **Valentine's Day! Bring your sweetie.**
- Feb 21: **Ashley Bock**, Beaconsfield High School, will tell us about her Adventure in the Environment in Cornwall.
- Feb 28: **PDG Bill** will talk about Rotary International and our club, both of which will have celebrated birthdays in the preceding week—RI on the 23rd and RCML on the 27th.

Special Events...

June 2: (Friday) **Our Annual Auction**. In less than five months we will host our most important event of this Rotary year, that will provide the lion's share of the funding of our club's budget for 2017-2018.

Last Week's Meeting...

It was our Club Assembly and it was poorly attended, as most club assemblies have been ever since the Board decided to distribute reports from club officers and directors to club members, in advance of the meeting.

Present were **Helen, Lawrence, Rosie, Bill, Murray, JP, Sola, Knud, Brenda, Cameron** and **Deniz**. We were also happy that Honorary Member **Joe Maxwell** was present.

We were pleased to welcome **Daisy Kwan** and **Dana Jones**, whom **Brenda** had invited to give them a feel for what goes on at a Rotary meeting. We hope they will come again when we have a guest speaker—a club assembly is not a very interesting event for a newcomer.

As the following day, February 1st, would be his birthday, all present wished **Lawrence** a Happy Birthday in song.

Next, we got right into a discussion of the directors' reports. First up was **Brenda** to discuss her **Community Service** report and answer any questions. She told us the Welcome Hall Mission is looking for volunteers, for all sorts of activities, from sorting clothes to cutting carrots into bite-size pieces.

She said we also help Lakeshore General Hospital Foundation as well, with things such as gift wrapping at Fairview. Shoppers, grateful for having their gifts wrapped, often leave generous tips, which go to the LGHF.

Up next was **Murray**, to talk about his **Youth Service** report. He said he had been expecting that **Brenda's** report would generate more dialogue, and mused that his time to speak came sooner than he thought. "I guess my report was so complete," **Brenda** replied, "that there was no need for questions."

The first question for **Murray** was from **Bill** who asked about **Ashley Beck**, the student from Beaconsfield High School, who would be our speaker on February 21st, to tell us about her Adventure in the Environment experience. "How was that adventure paid for?" **Bill** asked. **Murray** replied that (a) the student's family name is **Bock**, not **Beck**, and (b) it was a cheque request made by **Emily Scott**, during the 2015-16 Rotary year. [**Bill** has since determined that a cheque payable to the Cornwall Sunrise club was made in June 2016. *Ed.*]

Lawrence had a question for **Murray**, too. It was also a question unrelated to his report. He wanted to know if **Murray** had established a date for our 2017 edition of the Alan Liddiard Memorial Public Speaking Contest, usually taking place in April. **Murray** said he had some info on that but had to review what has to be done before suggesting a date. **Bill** commented that it involves getting in touch with West Island high schools, giving them details about prizes and a choice of topics and asking them to propose suitable students to take part in the public speaking event.

Cameron commented that we also will need a date for the **Amcal** presentation, which he suggested should be in May, but not the evening meeting (May 2nd). **Murray** said the 9th of May "sounds good to me." **Lawrence** said he would add it to his schedule of future speakers.

Asked to briefly summarize what **Amcal** is all about, **Murray** said it was a community-based organization that deals with families in crisis, especially due to problems with their child. "They have a seven-week live-in program of counselling for the youth and the family. At the end of the seven weeks the youth moves on. They have had an excellent success rate."

Brenda asked if they were coming to speak. **Murray** replied, "No. Our Youth Committee has agreed to establish an **Amcal-Rotary Leadership Award** to a deserving student. We are in the process of establishing the criteria for that award. As **Amcal** has three cycles of family crisis counselling each year, we will make that award three times, the first one being in May 2017."

Bill asked **Murray** if he had any plans for a program with **Encounters With Canada**. **Murray** confessed he was not familiar with the program, to which **Bill** replied that it was a great program for Canadian youth, with several categories of topics to choose from and offered to talk to him about it.

Lawrence asked **Murray** if he had any news about the Rotaract club we established at Collège Brébeuf with help from **Paula Zalba** or about the new Rotaract club we wish to

establish at McGill's Macdonald campus, with help from **Josefina Zalba**. Lawrence said Josefina had offered to speak to us on February 28th but that date is already committed so he will see if she can speak to us in March. Murray said he will be meeting with Josefina in the next couple of weeks to discuss the progress she is making. "It has not been a cakewalk, I can assure you," he said.

Next in line was International Service, which **Knud** had agreed to answer questions about. **President JP** asked him for more info about meetings in Cornwall that we must attend in order to qualify our club for grants. Knud said it's a Grants Management Seminar and is intended to educate some of our Board members about Rotary Foundation grants so that we can qualify for community service or international service grants in 2017-18. The next one is Saturday, March 11 from 1-4 pm. Club presidents, presidents-elect, treasurers, plus either Foundation chair or international service chair must attend one of two remaining seminars. "The last one will take place Friday, April 7th," **Helen** added. Knud said that without all of the mandatory attendees going, we will not be able to proceed with our Guatemala project. JP asked if we are allowed to substitute other members for those who cannot attend. Knud did not know if that was possible. **Bill** said that he could not go to Cornwall for this seminar either but incoming treasurer **Semi Karacova** could attend either March 11 or April 7 in his place. If necessary for protocol, Semi could be named club treasurer in advance of the seminar she chooses to attend.

In **Maureen's** absence, there was no discussion of her **Membership** report.

Murray returned to the podium, so to speak, to bring us up to date on the progress of his **Auction** committee. He said that they had met that morning and that, "thanks to Lawrence's negotiating skills with the Holiday Inn, we had just about everything sorted out with regard to the facilities, including the room size (two of the three ballroom segments), the sound system and the use of two screens to project auction items or things that are happening or any announcements we might want to make throughout the evening.

"The key to the success of this important event will be ticket sales and an honest reflection of the number of people coming to the event, so we don't get ourselves cross-threaded between what we tell the hotel we're going to have and the numbers that actually show up. I had previously spoken with Stan, who had a good experience with drumming up ticket sales for our Oyster Party and he gave me some good suggestions for spreading the word and getting our members to call or text people on their call lists, thus reaching a greater number of people, who would have faith in the person who had contacted them.

"We have to remember that it's not just the \$300 that is generated by selling or gifting ten tickets, but it's the auction-savvy people who come out to help us raise money while maybe getting a good deal or two on items they bid on. In other words those who come need to come for the right reasons. It's not a three-course dinner; it's the opportunity to support our Rotary club and the charities we in turn support on the West Island.

"Knud has done a tremendous job of keeping tabs on what's being advertised, who are buying the ads, and what items are being brought in for our auctioneer to sell. Of the 49 items on Knud's list, 40 are confirmed and we keep adding more. We want to end up with a list of 40 or more very desirable items for auction.

"We're making progress on items for a silent auction as well and we have high hopes for its financial success as well.

"This Holiday Inn has generously donated two nights plus breakfast for a family of four. We thought we would use that as a door prize. It would increase the value of the admission ticket and it would also ensure the Holiday Inn that we as a club very much value their participation and the assistance they give us."

Bill had a question for Knud. "Regarding the ads for the brochure, what is the deadline for getting the artwork in?" Knud said he hoped to have that by the first or second week of March. Bill said Isotherm had a new product and he hopes to have time to get photos and a new write-up, and he promised to get it into Knud's hands as early in March as possible.

Lawrence commented on the decision to use the Holiday Inn's two-night stay as a door prize. "Remember, we also plan to have a lucky draw of about eight items, so I wouldn't want to commit the Holiday Inn's contribution as a door prize just yet. Let's wait till we see what prizes we get for that lucky draw, which raised \$1,200 last time."

"Unless you've got seven other prizes of equal value," Bill said, "this Holiday Inn stay could be too special to be just one of eight prizes to be drawn out of a hat."

"All I'm saying," Lawrence replied, "is let's wait and see, rather than committing this one as a door prize any sooner than we have to."

Bill said he was ready to answer questions on the financial health of our club. Both **Knud** and **Murray** said they did not receive those docs, which were sent to all club members on the weekend. There were no questions for Bill.

Cameron reported that **Paula** had volunteered to set up a presence of our club on a form of social media, and has used Facebook as an example of social media used by other Rotary clubs. "This is expected to be up and running in a month or two and as soon as it is, we will let you know so you can start using it. If you have any input regarding this social media matter or if you have any questions about it, contact Paula."

JP invited **Lawrence** to talk about his **Club Service** report.

Lawrence said his report didn't have anything controversial in it, so he didn't anticipate any questions. On the other hand, he said he did want to talk about something else that has to do with the schedule of Rotary club meetings that we adhere to. "I'm not used to belonging to a Rotary club that never takes a break from meeting every week. My previous Rotary clubs had a policy of not meeting any week that had a statutory holiday. The reasoning was, for example, to give the club's members the opportunity to spend time with family during those holiday periods. I put this suggestion to the Board a while ago, at which time I suggested six such holidays. But for now, let's just talk about two: Easter and Thanksgiving. The next one would be Easter, which falls on April 16th this year, so I suggest we don't meet on Tuesday, the 18th. As Thanksgiving is always the second Monday of October, I suggest we should not have a meeting the next day. This year Thanksgiving will be October 9th, so we will not have a Rotary meeting on October 10th, 2017. When families travel miles to get together, let's have the Tuesday off. Later we can deal with the other four statutory holidays, but for now do we have an agreement on these two, Easter week and the day after Thanksgiving?" All present were in accord.

JP announced that our next Club Assembly will be April 25th.