This Week's Program...

Brenda has invited **Marie Pier,** Women's Counsellor, External Services of the West Island Women's Shelter, to update us about her organization.

Birthdays and Anniversaries...

Happy Birthday, Brahm ....Thursday, January 25th!
Happy Birthday, Kelly-Anne ....Friday, January 26th!
Happy Birthday, Sade ....Monday, January 29th!

Future Programs...

Jan 30: **Deniz** has invited **Maricarmen Raudales**, Director, Programs of Health Partners International of Canada, to update us about her organization.

Feb 6: **[Evening meeting] Murray** has invited **Lucile Kircher**, *Présidente*, to tell us all about *le Club Rotaract de l'Île de Montréal*.

Feb 13: **Murray** has invited **Lorena Morante**, Coordinator with Encounter With Canada, a one-week adventure in Ottawa for youth who wish to explore exciting career possibilities in one of 14 different themes, including Law and Our Justice System, Medicine and Health, and Science and Technology, to name just a few.

Special Events...

Jan 25: **Board of Directors Meeting**. Food served at 6:30; meeting begins at 7.

Feb 10: **Valentine Dinner-Dance**, Montreal West Town Hall, 50 Westminster Ave S and Rue St-Jacques. 7 pm. $40 per person. This is a fundraiser of Montreal-Westward Rotary Club for the benefit of local and international charities.
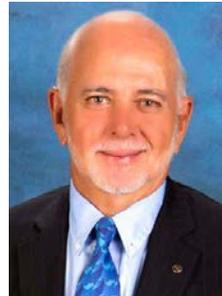
Last Week's Meeting...

There was no meeting on January 16th because the Holiday Inn Pointe-Claire did not have a room available for us, because of a major conference being held there.

However, this bulletin editor won't be stopped by such a minor inconvenience. We'll make stuff up if we have to!

Oh, wait...we don't have to make stuff up. Rotary International's *new* President-elect, **Barry Rassin**, laid out his vision for the future of Rotary as he addressed the International Assembly of incoming District Governors and their spouses and partners and presented our theme for the Rotary year 2018-19 that begins on July 1st.

In San Diego, on January 14th, he spoke to the Governors-elect of every district in the world, including our own DG-elect, **Martha Weaver** and her partner, Jim. But President-elect Barry was also talking to our President-elect **Murray** and Carol and, indeed, to every one of the 1.2 million Rotarians around the world, that is, to every one of us!

As some of you will remember, the RI President for 2018-19 was supposed to be **Sam Owari** of Kampala, Uganda. But Sam died unexpectedly on July 13, 2017 and Barry Rassin, member of the Rotary Club of East Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, became our new President-elect of Rotary International.

I watched the YouTube video of PE Rassin's theme speech to the incoming District Governors from around the world. I want you to watch it, too. It might be the best 20 minutes you spend in front of your computer screen all year! It is an inspiring speech, very fitting for introducing PE Rassin's theme for 2018-19,

BE THE INSPIRATION

To view the video of President-elect Rassin's theme speech, Click on the following, then scroll down to the bottom of the page:

https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-international-president-rassin-theme-2018

BE THE INSPIRATION

Thursday is Rabbie Burns Day...

In his honour we just had to print his poem, **To a Mouse**, composed, we're told, when Robert Burns accidentally turned over a mouse's nest while ploughing his field.

Wee, sleekit, cowran, tim'rous beastie,
O, what a panic's in thy breastie!
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,
Wi' bickering brattle!
I wad be laith to rin an' chase thee,
Wi' murd'ring pattle!

I'm truly sorry Man's dominion
Has broken Nature's social union,
An' justifies that ill opinion,
Which makes thee startle,
At me, thy poor, earth-born companion,
An' fellow-mortal!