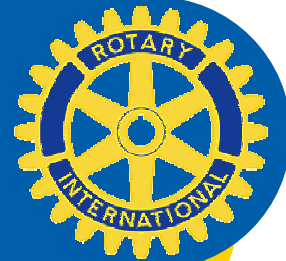


Toronto East Rotary Club



Volume 45

November 12, 2009

Remembrance Day

Our Remembrance Day ceremony will take place this year on Thursday November 12th. Of course we have two World War II veterans in our club, **Jack Embrey & Bill Phelan** and we expect that those gentlemen will be present. It would be an honor and a privilege for the club to host other veterans of military conflict. Please feel free to invite those you may know to attend as a guest of the club.



Meeting Notes from November 5, 2009

From Karen Somerville



Mike Phelan called the meeting to order.

Attendance: 20 members present - 61%. Regrets were received from **Jeff Rayman** who sends regards to everyone. Jeff will be absent for 2 weeks due to travels

Sgt - at -arms **Matt Matthews** introduced visiting Rotarian **Peter Hermant** from the Barbados and **PP Brian Smith** introduced his two guests, **Lori Mitchell and Colleen Peacock**, from WoodGreen Community Services.

Announcements

There were a number of announcements:

Bill Phelan was called on to bring birthday greetings to **Brian Smith** and anniversary greetings to **Karen Somerville and Alan Munn**.

The **Toronto Twilight Rotary Club** is holding its first fundraiser this Saturday, the 7th, at Central Restaurant, on Markham Street, behind Honest Ed's. The funds raised are going to be used to purchase ShelterBoxes. Tickets will be \$15 at the door and everyone is encouraged to attend. The Toronto Twilight Club has helped Toronto East at both the Ribfest and with the selling of 50-50 tickets at the Argos Game.

Ed. Thank you to Karen & Al, Steve, Craig, Jeff & Rita and Virginia for their support of this initial TTRC fundraiser. The group had a wonderfully successful event, raising enough money to purchase 4 ShelterBoxes. A very special thank you to Jeff and Rita Raymond for their very generous contribution of a box.

At the November 12th meeting next week, there will be a Remembrance Day ceremony and everyone is invited to attend and to invite any veterans that they know to attend as guests.

At the November 19th meeting, Wilf Wilkinson, the former president of Rotary International, will be speaking in his role as President of the Canadian Land Mines Foundation. All are encouraged to attend on the 19th and to bring interested guests.

Mike gave a short, but informative PowerPoint presentation on the Rotary Foundation. November is Rotary

Program Notes

Foundation month and in his presentation, Mike outlined the history of the foundation and some of the projects with which the Foundation has been involved. One of the most prominent projects is PolioPlus.

The District 7070 Microfinance Committee is hosting the 2009 Toronto Microfinance Conference on Saturday, November 14th at the Appel Salon, at the Toronto Reference Library. There are a large number of prominent speakers who will be in attendance. Everyone is encouraged to attend to learn how microfinance gives people a hand up rather than a hand out. The rate of return on microfinance loans to women is around the 98% mark.

Brian Smith indicated that there would be a meeting of the **Club Service Projects Committee** next week at 11:00 am – before the regular Club meeting – to review all the feedback that has been collected about possible club projects. Anyone who is interested in attending and participating in the committee is welcome.

Brian also commented on the success of the casserole preparation last Saturday at Timothy Eaton Church. Over forty casseroles were prepared for the homeless and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Ray White thanked the Club for purchasing a table (10 tickets) to the fundraising gala for Canadian Feed the Children, being held on November 13th at Whistler's. There are 4 tickets still available for anyone who is interested.

As Remembrance Day is next week, **Ray White** wanted to comment on the Highway of Heroes and about how moving it is to attend and participate in the paying of respect to our fallen soldiers who are coming home from Afghanistan.

Virginia O'Reilly announced that the Reading Circle would be held tonight from 6 to 7 for anyone who was interested. It is held at the corner of Cosburn and Donlands. All are welcome to come and listen to the children read.

Program Notes

Virginia O'Reilly introduced our Speaker, **Tabassum Rahim**. Tabassum is a graduate of Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute and is one of the Club's Community Service Scholarship recipients. She is now attending University of Toronto, in the Life Sciences program.

Tabassum Rahim started by introducing herself. She had just completed one of her midterms the day before and although, she said she was not fully prepared, she gave a very inspiring talk on how volunteering had given "blessing and encouragement" to her life.

She started her volunteer involvement at a doctors' clinic while she was attending high school, in an attempt to fulfill her 40 mandatory volunteer hours for graduation from high school. She soon realized the value of volunteering in terms of blessing, encouragement and giving direction to her future. Since starting, she has volunteered over 800 hours. Each volunteer commitment she has undertaken has given her more direction in her life and as a result, it is her hope that she will be able to enter medical school and some day, become a surgeon. Tabassum was well spoken and inspired everyone in attendance with her determination and enthusiasm for volunteering.

Mike Phelan thanked Tabassum for speaking to the Club and presented her with a plaque stating that she was a Community Service Scholarship recipient. Mike said that we usually only hear about the negative side of our youth today but that Tabassum represented the very positive side of what our youth are doing.

Nov 5 Meeting Vote

Proposed by the Administration Committee, moved by Bill Phelan and seconded by Jeff Harrison, that the club donate \$1000 to the Sunnybrook Hospital Veterans Comfort Fund in recognition of Remembrance Day.

Approved unanimously by the 60% of our members in attendance.

The Rotary Foundation

Worldwide, Rotary Foundation Matching Grants are saving and changing lives. Since the first Matching Grant was awarded in 1965, more than US\$335 million has been distributed through more than 30,000 grants.

This is a tremendous achievement for Rotarians, who have made these grants possible through their generous donations to the Annual Programs Fund, and dedicated their time and talent to help carry out projects that put Service Above Self.

By giving \$100 a year -- less than \$2 a week -- to the Annual Programs Fund through the Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY) initiative, Rotarians become part of the Foundation's mission to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

Member Celebrations

November 10, 1988

21 years ago **Brian Smith, Jeff Harrison & Mike Phelan** were inducted into Toronto East Rotary. (Tom Andrews was president at the time - so you know who to blame.)

November 11

Jim Hawtin celebrates a birthday



Club Calendar

- Nov 12** Club Projects Committee Meeting 11 am at Whistlers
- Nov 12** Remembrance Day Program 12:30 luncheon
- Nov 19** PRIP Wilf Wilkinson The Canadian Landmines Foundation 12:30 luncheon
- Dec 4** Seniors Luncheon 12 pm @ Variety Village

RI & D7070 Calendar

- Nov 14** Rotary Leadership Institute - Loyalist College Belleville
<http://www.rli-shiningwaters.org/Welcome.html>
- Nov 14** Microfinance Conference
<http://www.microfinanceconference.ca/>

