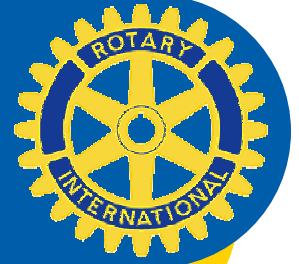


# Toronto East Rotary Club



Volume 45

## January 14th Notes

January 21, 2010



### Meeting notes from PP Jeff Harrison

We had moved our meeting downstairs at Whistler's due to renovations taking place upstairs. It was cozy, with 28 Rotarian's and guests in attendance. We even had a visiting Rotarian from Turkey, and Art was heard saying that we didn't have Turkey for lunch it was Pasta!

We had two speakers this week. As it was Rotary Awareness Month, Jeff Harrison was called upon to speak of an excellent water project completely financed by our District in Zimbabwe. My excellent speech notes can be found below. Our club has contributed to this project from funds raised from an individual who has requested his donation be used for this project.

Our second speaker of the day was Rotarian Brian Smith, who gave us a classification talk. Brian was inducted into Toronto East over 20 years ago (???) by then President Tom Andrews, and with fellow inductees Mike Phelan and Jeff Harrison. It was said to be a dark day for Toronto East, but actually I thought the sun shone.

Brian is the President of Woodgreen Community Centre:

### Roots

WoodGreen started off as an East-end neighbourhood centre in 1937 and while our mission has not changed, the breadth of our services and the way we deliver them has evolved dramatically. From one location at 835 Queen Street, we have grown to more than 15 locations throughout the East end of the city and hundreds of partners that we collaborate with to meet the growing needs of our clients.

### Mission

Our mission is to deliver services that promote wellness and self-sufficiency, reduce poverty and inequality, and build sustainable communities. We believe that the only way to achieve this mission is to work closely with our clients to understand the many barriers they face, and to help them access all the supports they need -- whether these include housing, child care, employment training, help with a child who has developmental challenges or care for seniors right in their home.

### Commitment

At WoodGreen we are committed to providing our clients with equal access to services that best reflect their individual needs. We value diversity and inclusiveness, and we believe everyone has the right to be treated with respect, fairness and compassion. We are dedicated to excellence, working together with many other partners across the city in order to bring our clients the best services possible.

Brian went on to describe some of the specific services Woodgreen provides including:

All the women  
get a kiss.  
Why not me?



## January 14th (cont.)

### Homeward Bound

WoodGreen's Homeward Bound is an innovative program designed to help women and their children transition from shelter life to economic self-sufficiency. In 2002 alone, more than 2,700 single mothers and their children were forced to live in Toronto's shelter system. Research clearly shows that families experiencing homelessness need a number of essential supports in order to maintain a stable home and achieve financial independence. The Homeward Bound program provides these supports through employment training, transitional housing, on-site child care, one-on-one counseling for the mothers and their children, and many other vital services. The program's primary goal is to support 32 women and their children to move into independent housing and to have employment with family sustaining incomes within 3 years.

### And Other services:

WoodGreen provides a range of essential services to seniors and their caregivers which include supportive housing, meal and nutrition programs, day programs, transportation, social work, personal care services and homemaking, and more. Every year, we help over 5,000 seniors to live independently in the community

Brian went on to tell us that Woodgreen is expanding its services across Toronto, and with interest from Mississauga, who knows how far Woodgreen could reach those in need.

Finally Brian told our club that he has been recently diagnosed with prostate cancer and is set for an operation at the end of the month. Brian reminded all the men in attendance to get your annual check for prostate cancer. We all wish Brian the best and a speedy recovery.

President Mike asked Jack Embrey to thank Brian, but all he had to give him was a handshake. What no kiss?



Aaron Harnett presented \$3,000 to the club for ShelterBox.  
OK, no lawyer jokes this month.

President Mike then thanked the club, and especially Aaron for raising over \$8,000 for the purchase of ShelterBoxes to be delivered to Haiti to help the victims of the devastatingly earthquake which occurred on Tuesday. Rotarian Ray White also spoke of an orphanage Canadian Feed the Children ran in Haiti. For two days CFC could not get word from the orphanage. However, during lunch Ray received an email saying all the caregivers and the children had been accounted for, however the orphanage had been destroyed.

Mike reminded us of the importance of donating fund to Shelterbox and CFC for the crisis in Haiti.



It is hard to believe that Matt chose printing as a career. Just think ... Frank Sinatra, Pery Como, Matt Matthews

We also sang in celebration of Bill Phelan's birthday and Art Belanger's anniversary.

Finally, the meeting came to a close with a boisterous rendition of Oh Canada.

## Jeff Harrison's Talk

Over 5,000 children die every day as a result of unsafe drinking water. Together we can reduce that terrible statistic.

Our project is a partnership between the Rotary Clubs of District 7070 and their supporters, the Hunyani Rotary Club (Zimbabwe) the Rotary Foundation, Pump Aid and Environment Africa.

The Kadoma district in Zimbabwe is a very poor area - famine, scarcity of water, disease outbreaks and rampant inflation are an every day reality. At present, children walk many kilometers each day to fetch water and the return trip is made through unsafe conditions, carrying heavy containers filled with water that is often barely potable. Working together, we are going to bring hope and permanent solutions to over 8,000 people in Zimbabwe.

This project will install 15 wells revolving around 13 school based communities. Each area will receive sanitation education and well sustainability education. The project will also include nutrition gardens at each site and in two situations, a small livestock installation.

The communities are as follows:

- Khandora School: 600 beneficiaries
- Dondishava School: 800 beneficiaries
- Manyewe School: 600 beneficiaries
- Benhura School: 1100 beneficiaries
- Musena School: 580 beneficiaries
- Bumbe School: 850 beneficiaries
- Donain School: 1200 beneficiaries
- Munyati School: 630 beneficiaries
- Tafara School: 1120 beneficiaries
- Jompani School: 1100 beneficiaries
- 3 locations to be named this week



To provide economic activity, the wells will be dug by local residents with the guidance and training of Pump Aid. Our partnership with Pump Aid dates back to 2006 and we have successfully completed a number of "elephant pumps" with them. More information on the elephant pump technology can be found at [www.enviroafrica.org](http://www.enviroafrica.org). The elephant well pump technology is simple and efficient and requires no special technical skills. Local residents are engaged in each step of the project and that knowledge combined with sanitation training, ensures sustainability.



Once the well is installed, Environment Africa will assist the community in the planting of nutrition gardens. The gardens will include fruits, vegetables, herbs, shrubs and trees that have been selected for their sustainability and potential to serve the community. For example, the Moringa tree has great potential in combating extreme poverty and hunger. The nutritious leaves grow quickly in the African environment, and can feed people as well as livestock and sanctuary animals. The leaves contain a well balanced profile of the essential amino acids, which is rare for a plant.

The Zimbabwe Ministry of Education is supportive of nutrition programs focused around the gardens, and the education programs for the community and the skills learned, frequently translate into home gardens. Environment Africa also has a full time presence in the area ensuring ongoing education and sustainability.

## Jeff Harrison's Talk

### Budget:

Well digging and installation of elephant pumps, training & sanitation instruction \$2500 x 15 wells = \$37,500

Provision of seedlings, installation of nutrition gardens & training of community members to create a nutrition program in 15 communities \$34,375

Start up of 2 livestock projects \$ 625

Project Total = \$72,500

### Time Line

We will begin this project as soon as the rainy season ends at the end of March 2010 and we expect to have the project completed by October 2010.

### Financing:

The project will be financed through the Rotary Clubs of District 7070 and their supporters. District 7070 has committed to a 100% match of all funds raised, up to the project total.

Together we can reduce child mortality and Make Dreams Real for the children of Zimbabwe.

---

## January 21st Program

Christine Phelan—Toronto Twilight Rotary Club

### Jane Craig

Since January 2005, New Circles Community Services has provided basic needs services to the priority neighbourhoods of Flemingdon Park , Thorncliffe Park , Victoria Village as well as the GTA. While the original purposes were to offer access to a clothing program and the Holiday Angel program, the agency has grown to include these and to respond to a wide range of community needs such as working with other area agencies in settlement services for all family members, volunteer employment, isolated seniors and teen support. New Circles provides residents living in poverty first to access new or gently used clothes at no cost and second to find assistance for every day living. In 2009, New Circles served 102,000 people with 12,000 items of clothing and household items. New Circles has grown to be "more than a clothing program".



Toronto East Rotary Club presents No Sweetheart Required, the Valentine season's alternative for those with or without sweethearts.

A combination of comedy, music and live theatre No Sweetheart Required is the answer to Valentines 2010. You don't need over-priced bouquets or cash depleting bling, just bring your partner, your friend, your neighbour or your mother along for an evening of fun and laughter.

Join us on Saturday, February 13, 2010  
Cocktails 6:30 pm Dinner 7:00 pm  
The McNeil Room 995 Broadview Ave.  
Ticket price \$60



All proceeds to PolioPlus - Rotary's promise to the children of the world

## *From DGE Ted Morrison*

The 2010-11 Rotary year will also be the first year of the Future Vision Plan Pilot. As you know District 7070 has been selected as one of the one hundred pilot districts in the Rotary world.

The Future Vision Plan is mainly a reorganization of the Humanitarian Grants Program of the TRF. This reorganization is supposed to make the grant application process simpler and shifts ownership of decisions to the District for District grants. We are required to train our clubs in the new procedures governing humanitarian grants. Rotary International feels so strongly that this training is essential for all clubs that it will NOT approve any grant applications from clubs who have not "qualified" by taking the training session. This session is called "The Rotary International Foundation Grant Management Seminar" There will be two them held in our District. A Rotary club must send two members to one of these sessions. I recommend that the President Elect be one of your club's representatives and the other be a member of your club that has a keen interest in service projects or in the grants process.

In District 7070 the TRF Grant Management Seminars will be held (choose one) You are not required to attend both.

**Saturday February 13 in Cobourg at the Best Western Inn in the Victoria Room OR  
Saturday February 27 in Toronto at the Radisson Hotel Toronto East at Victoria Park / the 401.**

Meetings will begin at 8:30 am and run to approx. 2:30 pm. A light soup and sandwich lunch will be provided as well as a mid-morning coffee break

I cannot emphasize enough that every club must attend one or the other of these seminars if they wish to have access to grant money in 2010-2011. There will be some challenges ahead for you as Club President, but together, we can make 2010-11 an exciting and rewarding year for you and for your Rotary Club.  
Ted Morrison, District Governor 2010-2011

Please advise District Secretary Gael Moore ([mgm@eagle.ca](mailto:mgm@eagle.ca)) the number of Rotarians who will attend from your club - to enable us to provide the correct quantity of food for lunch.

## *Toronto Twilight Rotary Club Charter Night*

Please join with the Twilight Rotarians in celebration as they officially become part of Rotary District 7070. We are excited to introduce our club and 22 enthusiastic young Rotarians to the District!

Cost \$35.00 per person

Thursday, February 18th, 2010

Royal Canadian Yacht Club - City Club House  
141 St George St, Toronto (North of Bloor)

7:00 pm - Mingling & Cash Bar

7:30 pm - Food Stations

8:15 pm - Induction of new Rotarians

### **Important Notice**

**Toronto East is the sponsor club for Toronto Twilight. As such, we have cancelled our luncheon on February 18th so we may attend the evening festivities. Hope you can all make it!**