



# MAY 15, 2011 District 7070 Newsletter



**Rotary International District 7070 Southern Ontario Canada**



## From: District Governor Ted Morrison

It is hard to believe this Rotary year is almost over! It is the time of year for Rotary Club Presidents and Boards to reflect back on what they have done this year to meet their goals. Have you met your club goals for Foundation and membership? Has the club had ample opportunities for fun and fellowship activities? Have your projects been a success and were you able to raise enough funds for your projects? Did you publicize the activities of your club in the local media and thus raise awareness about Rotary with the community?

Much has been written about membership recruitment. We had an excellent presentation by Mike Cooksey at the District Assembly about membership retention. This year the number of Rotarians in the District increased by 55 which was the goal set by the District Membership Committee. The question is still asked "How do you Increase Membership?"

Remember that DYNAMIC CLUBS attract new members, invigorate existing members, and motivate up-and-coming leaders. Rotary must change its culture from one of attendance to one of engagement.

Rotary's visibility increases as clubs become more innovative, for it is through the ideas and energy of club leaders that Rotary can and meet the needs of a changing world.

I want to congratulate the organizers and participants of the Trump Aids Poker Walk both in Belleville and Toronto. Together they have raised over \$150,000 for AIDS education and treatment in their local communities and in Africa.

I also want to congratulate the Alice Maliakkal, Christine Phelan, Holly Weber (club President) and Mary Catherine Lill, four young Rotarians from the Toronto Twilight club for their climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in Kenya to raise money for

polio. They raised about \$10,000 for Polio Eradication.

The Rotary International Convention is only a few days away. Sharron and I and DGE Bob Wallace and Cathy have been invited to a special reception in New Orleans by RI President Ray Klinginsmith. At this reception District 7070 will be presented with an award—The District Leadership Award—for have the highest percentage number of registrants of any District in the Zone (all of Canada) at the New Orleans Convention. This is a great honour and we thank all the Rotarians and their spouses who have registered to go to New Orleans.

Sharron and I would like to thank all of the Rotarians in the District for your hospitality and generosity when we visited your clubs and for your passion shown for Rotary. This has been a memorable year that we will remember forever...

## **Trump AIDS Walk: Saturday April 16 in Belleville and April 30 in Toronto**

From : Ken Dickson, Past President RC Belleville; Chair District 7070 Rotary Trump AIDS Poker Walk 2011

### **District AIDS Walks Raise \$150,000 in Toronto and Belleville**

Icy, drenching rain couldn't quench the enthusiasm of some 200 walkers, including Governor Ted Morrison, gathered for the final party of the Rotary Trump AIDS Poker Walk FUN-draiser in Belleville on April 16. Most teams drew their cards under shelter, though one determined group hiked five kilometers through driving rain along downtown Belleville streets.

Two weeks later, thankfully, the weather finally broke. On April 30th, walkers strolling Toronto's Harbourfront were bathed in warm sunshine, in this parallel GTA event to raise awareness and funds for the war on HIV/AIDS. Rain or shine, Rotarians came through!

### **Empowering Clubs**

500 walkers, from 27 Rotary clubs, plus Rotaractors, plus 9 participating local NGOs, took part in these annual events: the 2nd in Toronto and 5th for Belleville. These Walks, blessed by Honorary Chair, Past RI President Wilf Wilkinson, raise 90% from non-Rotarians (new money!) They also serve to raise Rotary's profile, bring in new members, and strengthen inter-club relationships.

75% of donations come back to participating clubs for their own AIDS projects. This year, the balance after expenses will go to Dignitas International, which was co-founded by Rotary. [www.dignitasinternational.org](http://www.dignitasinternational.org)

"A wonderful event – we had a great time. Finally, a reliable way to actually do something about this terrible pandemic," said one participant.

The fun and fabulous prizes – including tickets to Blue Jay home games, the Stratford Festival, trips for two to the sunny south, and more – helped offset the grim facts at the core of this movement.

### **Myths taking a terrible toll**

HIV/AIDS is a tremendously misunderstood disease. Cloaked by taboo, denial and misinformation, it has already spread to 60 Million people worldwide (half now already dead). One person is still dying every 14 seconds. New infections are spreading 250% faster than the supply of ARV medication. Women, including countless faithful mothers, comprise more than half of the 3 million annual new cases worldwide. 16 million children have already been orphaned by AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa alone. In Canada, 75,000 people – from every community, age and walk of life - are living with AIDS, kept alive by a rigorous regimen of ARV cocktails.

Ironically, though AIDS is not spread by normal contact, in addition to the burden of the disease, people with AIDS and their families are still cruelly ostracized, suffering job loss and shunning.

### **Trump = verb: to overcome**

No connection to "the Donald." These successful awareness and fund-raising walks were born out of the District 7070 RADAR Committee (Rotary Action for the Development of AIDS Responses), formed in 2004 by Joanne Ashley, Rotary Club of Whitby. This poker-themed, fun event - no gambling - was devised by the Rotary Club of Belleville, and chaired there this year by Doug Peterson. The GTA walk was led by Ken Dickson (Belleville) and Maureen Bird (Toronto), with the vital assistance of many dedicated Rotarians, friends of Rotary, and sponsors.

All welcome to participate next year for even more fun and benefits to your club. For more information, please visit [www.trumpaids.ca](http://www.trumpaids.ca). See the photos on the next page. Are you walking to raise funds for AIDS?



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## **Salute to the Rotary Club of Wellington: Supporting Young People in Their Community**

From Sharon Campbell, Rotary Club of Wellington – Supporting the Fifth Avenue of Service – New Generations

In the small, rural area of Eastern Ontario, the Rotary Club of Wellington is an enthusiastic supporter of the creative, adventuresome, community-minded spirits of their young citizens. During the past few months, financial assistance has been provided to a diversity of requests from individuals and organizations: resurfacing a track at the local elementary school; contributing to new playground equipment at the school; two scholarships at grade eight graduation; a monetary donation and a Book Drive during Literacy Month for the elementary library; sponsoring the Nobody program for primary students; fees for a secondary student to attend the local RYLA program; supporting the local championship Wellington Dukes hockey team; providing staff for the arena canteen during hockey tournaments; a member of Team Ontario to participate in the National Lacrosse Championships; a participant in the Me to We program to take part in a building project in Kenya; a home wheelchair ramp; the 4H Club to refurbish their milkshake truck; major donation to the new Community Centre; ongoing support of the local food bank; partnering with the neighbouring Quinte Sunrise Rotary Club with both financial support and a day of sweat equity for Camp Trillium on Garratt's Island, a camp for children with cancer and their families.

By recognizing the value of these pursuits, providing support and encouragement, the Rotary Club of Wellington is building their community and nurturing future Rotarians.

Photo - A Barrow and a Box of Books: Principal Vic Roy and Club President Michael Lattner



## **Just the Facts: Teens Talking to Teens about HIV/AIDS Transmission (video)**

From: Ken Dickson, Rotary Club of Belleville, [ken@snapdesign.ca](mailto:ken@snapdesign.ca)

Did you know HIV/AIDS lives right here in our city - not just in far-away places?

Motivated by the lack of knowledge, among youth in particular, the Rotary Club of Belleville initiated and co-sponsored this 2 ½ minute video.

Delivered by teenagers for teenagers - and their community, this no-holds-barred video was created by international videographer Darko Zeljkovic (Pro Pictures of NOMAD Photos Inc.), under the direction of Dr. Ruth Mathieson, Rotary Club of Belleville.

It's online. Check it out – the life you save could be your own – or your child's: [www.rotary-belleville.org](http://www.rotary-belleville.org)

## **ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE: BUILDING COMMUNITIES – BRIDGING CONTINENTS**

From District 7070 Chair Tom Sears at 905-797-2307 or email at [tsears@sympatico.ca](mailto:tsears@sympatico.ca)

AS you read this we have 13 ambassadors in 13 different countries that are representing Canada and District 7070. They are presenting the best of Canadian youth and Canadian values. They are learning cultural differences and learning to appreciate the opportunities they have here at home, while at the same time respecting the differences in traditions and values. From past experience these young people come home with a changed outlook on themselves and on others in our very multi-cultural community here in Canada. WHAT BETTER WAY TO BUILD PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING.

At the same time we have 13 young people from those same countries that are learning about Canada, travelling our beautiful country and meeting wonderful Rotarians along the way. These

students are learning a little bit about SERVICE ABOVE SELF as they help out with club projects and attend district functions such as the Foundation Walk, District Conference and the Trump Aids Walk. Last year our students initiated a project to assist in the Chile earthquake and with their host club support raised over \$5000 to help Youth Exchange students and Rotaractors build houses for the victims of the quake.

In the orientation programs which all the students (inbound and outbound) participate, we stress a commitment to the Rotary Motto to help them gain the personal satisfaction of helping others. All of the inbound students take part in the amazing Rotary Club of Toronto Christmas Party for disabled children. To say that their eyes are opened by this event is an understatement. Several of the students have participated in a school trip sponsored by Rotarians to Tanzania where they worked with children in schools and in an AIDS orphanage. Most returned with an infection of commitment to others as they realize how fortunate we are in Canada

Unfortunately only 15 of the 55 clubs in our District 7070 are currently involved. Some clubs may not feel they have the resources to support involvement in the program. BUT DID YOU KNOW that – 2 clubs can go together to sponsor a student and host a student.. Arrangements can be made to have students attend a club meeting and speak to the club about their experience and the program. In order for the international arrangements and orientation to occur about 10 months lead time is required . If you are interested you are urged to discuss this with your club, your directors and your incoming President **as soon as possible**. For more information contact Tom Sears at 905-797-2307 or email at [tsears@sympatico.ca](mailto:tsears@sympatico.ca)

## **Dr. Bob Scott receives Sitara-I-Khidmat:**

At a recent ceremony in Pakistan, our very own Past District Governor Dr. Bob Scott, the Chairman of Rotary International's Polio Plus Committee (seen in the photo on the right) recently received the Star of Pakistan (Sitara-I-Khidmat) from President Asif Ali Zardari for his service to Pakistan with the Polio Plus Campaign to eradicate Polio from the world with the Polio Immunization program in Pakistan.

On Bob's left is Aziz Memon, Chairman, of the Pakistan National Polio Plus Committee, Rotary International , who was conferred the prestigious Pride of Performance award by President Asif Ali Zardari in a graceful ceremony at the Aiwan-e-Sadr on Pakistan Day in recognition of his monumental contribution in the field of public service for a number of years.

The Star of Pakistan is the prestigious honor and civilian award given by Pakistan for services to the country and nation of Pakistan. This award was created on March 19, 1957 following the proclamation of Pakistan as an independent Republic on March 23, 1956. This award stands third in hierarchy of civilian awards in Pakistan and is a highly restricted and most prestigious award and is only conferred for the merit and distinguished services to the country, international community, and foreign relations.

"We are determined to end polio now," said Dr. Scott after his meeting with Pakistani President.. Polio eradication has been Rotary's top priority since 1985, with more than \$1.2 billion contributed to the effort. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation recently awarded US\$355 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio. Bill Gates praised Rotary for providing the volunteers, advocates, and donors who have helped bring about a 99 percent decline in the number of polio cases.




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## Literacy Matters

From: Joan Hayward, District 7070 Literacy Chair

This column is devoted to two programs being funded by Canadian Rotary Clubs, The Rotary Foundation, and the Canadian Rotary Collaboration for International Development (CRCID). If your club is looking for an international program, these two provide an excellent opportunity to get involved in one that is already up and running.

### **TAKING ROTARY ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES & CHILDREN**

The TRACC Program focuses on assisting AIDS orphans living in child-headed homes. Striving to provide opportunities for families to sustain themselves, the program offers children education on health, particularly about HIV/AIDS as their parents succumbed to this illness. Community members are all encouraged to visit health clinics to get tested for HIV/AIDS. Emergency health services are provided when needed. Group counseling helps the children deal with life's issues the grief they experience. For each child-headed home a trained guardian is found in the local community. This volunteer goes into the home every day to see how the children are faring.

Orphans are given assistance in caring for chickens, piglets and larger animals in some cases. They are also trained in how to care for their property, and to grow fruits and vegetables. Seeds are provided along with a number of other basic needs such as cooking utensils and school materials.

In the future, TRACC Program hopes to be involved in setting up a special fund for University Scholarships for orphan high school graduates.

This program is being carried out by three local Ugandan Rotary Clubs: Kyotera, Kalisizo and Masaka assisted by two local NGOs, Rural Development Services (RUDESER) and Rakai Aids Information Network (RAIN). More than 550 orphans are currently in the program.

For more information on this program, please contact Program Coordinator Garth Toombs at [garthtoombs@shaw.ca](mailto:garthtoombs@shaw.ca)

<b>Involve Your Club!</b>	
Sponsor a primary student	\$100 CAD
Sponsor a secondary student	\$200 CAD
Sponsor a vocational student	\$250 CAD
Sponsor a university student	\$300 CAD

## HELP Honduras

The HELP Honduras program strives to ensure that all children in Honduras can both enrol and succeed in school. Public education in Honduras is free, but families must provide the uniforms, books, shoes and school supplies which mean that many children still cannot afford to go to school. The HELP Honduras program provides these school essentials and also offers counselling, monitoring and tutoring to children and families to increase the continued enrolment and success rate of the students. In addition, the program has provided hundreds of desks to Honduran schools and in the past have funded the establishment of community mobile libraries.

HELP Honduras has introduced a new component to the program this year. The “Programa de Madres” (“Mother’s Program”) is designed to add sustainability to the program. There are approximately 600 mothers who have children and youth already in the children’s education program. Of these, 120 were selected to attend business courses that included marketing, sales, book keeping etc. Then 30 of these will move on to a Micro-Finance Program run by Uniendo America, thus establishing better businesses and increase their income - so that they may help pay for their children’s education. Another 10 women will begin in a sewing program so that they will eventually establish contract sewing businesses. These women will produce some of the school uniforms and book bags required by the children in the program. This is a Pilot Project which will hopefully be expanded next year.

This program improves the quality of life of children and families in Honduras. For more information on how your club or district can be involved with the HELP Honduras program, please contact

Program Coordinator Ron Ross at [rossempac.ca](http://rossempac.ca)



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## Rotary International Convention

Join thousands of Rotarians in New Orleans!

The 2011 RI Convention is here.

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, May 21-25, 2011

### Are you going to New Orleans?

Please take lots of photos and send them to me with your stories .

**If you are unable to attend, be sure to log on to [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) and see all of the proceedings.**

Let the Good Times Roll ... Again!

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## Happy Birthday to the Toronto Twilight Rotary Club

## **Start with Rotary and good things happen**

**From: Sarah Zomer**

The Toronto Twilight Rotary Club is turning 1 year old and we want to showcase to the district what we have done in the first year. Would any of you be interested in buying a ticket to the event? It is \$25 and will be catered by Splendido Restaurant. The birthday party is on May 28th at a studio space on Dupont close to Roncesvalles.

The club is welcoming ideas for future collaborations and is hoping to get some ideas from more experienced Rotarians. They will gladly put out some RADAR information of upcoming projects. Not to compare with the Ajax 60th, but there will be birthday cake (it is a first birthday after all). We (obviously) won't make a ton of money off this event but are more looking to network with other members and showcase our club a bit. So if you are interested in knowing who we are and maybe want to pair with us on future projects, this would be a great opportunity to meet us and bring those ideas. You are welcome to spread the word at your club as well if anyone is interested.

In our first year we:

- Helped 3 families during the holidays by buying sheets, coats, boots, toys, decorations and Christmas dinner
- Raised over \$8,000 for the End Polio Now campaign
- Ongoing vocational service projects with Woodgreen Community Centre
- Participated in the Trump AIDS Poker Walk and,
- Volunteered for many other clubs in the District

We have big plans for next year so come celebrate with us and find out more...

Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>: 7:00pm: \$25.00

Nikki's Photography Studio

1655 Dupont St.

Toronto. M6P 3S8

For more information and tickets:

Email: [ttrcca@gmail.com](mailto:ttrcca@gmail.com)

Phone: 416- 530-2482

<http://www.twilightrotary.com>

## **UPDATE: Climbing Kilimanjaro to End Polio Now**

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Alice Maliakkal, Christine Phelan, Holly Weber, and Mary-Catherine Lill of the Toronto Twilight Rotary Club (Toronto, Ontario, Canada, District 7070) began a 5-day climb of Mt. Kilimanjaro as a fundraiser for End Polio Now—Rotary's \$200 million challenge to eradicate polio. They successfully reached the summit on March 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:40 a.m. The photos show the climbing team at the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro (Uhuru Peak at 5895 metres AMSL). On the same day that the climbing team reached the summit, the Toronto Twilight Rotary Club walked a route in Toronto, Ontario to complete 105km as a club.

The Toronto Twilight Rotary Club's team raised over \$8,500 in donations to date that will help Rotary raise \$200 million to match the \$355 million in challenge grants received from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Has your Rotary Club made their Donation to The End Polio Now Campaign yet? Donations for this fundraiser can still be made through the team's blog site (<http://rotaryclimbskili.blogspot.com>) or through the Toronto Twilight Rotary Club's website ([www.twilightr Rotary.com](http://www.twilightr Rotary.com)).

All proceeds from the fundraiser will go to Rotary's End Polio Now campaign. Tax receipts will be issued from The Rotary Foundation (Canada) for all donations over \$20.

To make a donation by cheque, please make cheques payable to "The Rotary Foundation (Canada) and mail to: 28 Bonacres Ave., Toronto ON M1C 1P7.

The Toronto Twilight Rotary Club thanks all those who supported the Climbing Kilimanjaro to End Polio Now fundraiser!

The Photo left to right: Rotarians Christine Phelan, Holly Weber, and Alice Maliakkal.

