



The Ambassador

The official weekly publication of the Rotary Club of Hamilton, March 22, 2007 edition

Weekly Message to Club Members From President Robert P. Beres

The regular Luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Hamilton will be held at 12:00 noon in the Pavilion Room at the Art Gallery of Hamilton.

The Chair is President Robert Beres and the Sergeant-at-Arms is Paul Gordon.

Duty Roster duties are as follows:
Monthly Greeter: Bill Filer
Badge Board: Oksana Fisher
Guests and Visitors: John Frid
Attendance: Joan Bell
Draw Ticket Sales : Linda Daylor
Grace: Mike Farrell
Lunch Ticket Sales: Guido DiCesare
Lunch Ticket Collector: Tom Gallagher
Draw Prize: Irene Hubar

Guest Speaker:
**Carolyn Milne, Hamilton
Foundation, "The Golden Age of Philanthropy."**

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John Clinton
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Alex Moroz
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Vocational Services
Madelaine Steller

Tammy Martin on behalf of Robert Beres
Club Administrator
Rotary Club of Hamilton
tammymartinmail@gmail.com

Group Study Exchange

As the GSE Committee prepares to host the GSE team from East Africa in May, we've learned that one of the team members has an interest in connecting with an airline. Does anyone in the club have a connection to an airline? A pilot, an administrative person, maintenance, etc? We are planning a day in Toronto, so a connection at Pearson would be perfect. Give us all your thoughts and we'll chase them down. Thank you.

Michael H. Howes
Chair, Group Study Exchange Committee
The Rotary Club of Hamilton

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Message from President Robert Beres

Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Dear Fellow Members:

I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to “Spring” and for you Snow Birds, welcome back, we missed you.

There have been some happenings over the last months that I wanted to personally bring to every members attention.

Strategic Plan: The Board and 2Wa have completed the “Draft” Strategic Plan and on Thursday, March 29th, 2007, both Anne Bermingham (2Wa Consulting) and I will present the plan and strategy for moving ahead.

Fundraising Director: With regrets, and sincere thanks for his efforts, the board accepted the resignation of our Fundraising Director Michael Howes. Michael will continue to remain an active and valuable Rotarian in our club.

The board feels that in order to maintain and advance our fundraising requirements, Alex Moroz, Vice President (President elect 2008-09) will act as the interim Fundraising Director.

Alex has been mandated to form a Fundraising Committee that will have the following outcomes:

- Support, and implement the current fundraising plan and proposed strategy for our club.
- Maintain fundraising activities for the 06/07 Rotary Year
- Create a committee who will identify, support and assist the new Director of Fundraising (to be named and appointed by the 2007-06 Board)

As time is of the essence, the committee will create an action plan and strategy within the month that can be presented to our club.

I would ask all members to help support this committee and ask that all Rotarians consider being part of this new committee.

Golf Tournament: This year will be exciting as you will see the introduction of **two** tournaments.

The annual Rotary Club’s (**Fundraising**) golf tournament will be held in September. The annual fundraising tournament is designed around a ladies golfer only event. This concept is exciting. There are so many tournaments today which we end up competing with year after year. And our effort to compete every year seems to increase dramatically and the result shows that the dollars raised are decreasing as this competition continues. So, we get smarter and take a new approach.

The “Ladies Only” concept allows us to tap into a whole new market, sponsors, participants, and most importantly a new revenue stream.

At the same time it is equally important to reintroduce the **Fellowship Tournament**. A Fellowship tournament that is open to everyone. This tournament will emphasize fun, fellowship, and networking. Funds will be raised at this tournament, but raising funds will not be the sole focus of holding the tournament. Exciting details will be presented with in the next few weeks as we expect to hold this tournament by the end of June 2006.

Spring Uncorked: Joe Urban, Phil Winer and their committee have worked very hard this year as we celebrate the 5th annual event. Wow 5 years have already gone by, it seems like yesterday when we started this event. If you haven’t purchased a ticket as of yet, Peter Rice and Sarah Murphy will be at Rotary to help you.

Sunshine Fund Appeal: Alex Moroz and the new “Fundraising committee” are preparing to launch the 2007 Sunshine Fund Appeal for April 2007, details to follow.

Garden Party: Hank Wright and Pearl Wolfe are working hard on the Garden Party for June that marks the end of the 2006-07 Rotary year. As the Hamilton Golf and Country Club is undergoing extensive renovations this year a new venue is being sought and we hope that an announcement can be made soon, we will keep everyone posted.



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House Keeping Items: I want to thank Alan Wright again for his tireless efforts in making sure our meetings are set up and ready to go, from the badge board to lunch tickets Alan is there every step of the way and we should all thank him for his dedication.

We do have a problem with lunch tickets, as we strive every week to verify who has paid, who has prepaid, and sadly who hasn't paid. (Last year we were out by \$5K) Alan has come up with a great idea that would assist us in verifying our head count.

From now on all those that have prepaid (i.e. lunch ticket book holders) please exchange your prepaid ticket for a white ticket when you arrive, that way there should only be one colored ticket collected and a more accurate number can be verified.

District Conference and District Governor: District Conference is taking place in May, and I am hoping that everyone is able to attend and show support to the incoming District Governor, our very own **Bob Leek**.

Our club is looking at participating by hosting a hospitality room at the conference (if you are interested in helping us please contact me or Alex Moroz). More detail will be announced over the next month.

Again, on behalf of the board we hope you continue to enjoy Rotary.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Beres
President 2006-07

New Member Proposals

The following has been proposed for membership in the club.

Week one notification

Patel Bhakti
Director, Professional Cleaners
Proposed by John Frid

Lucio A. Palazzo
Financial Advisor, Freedom 55 Financial/London Life
Proposed by Phil Winer

These membership proposals will be published for two consecutive weeks in the Ambassador. If you have any comments about these prospective members, please contact the Membership Committee chair Jim Commerford.

Come join us at our

5th Annual Spring Uncorked

Date and Time: **March 27th, from 7 to 10 pm**

Location: **LIUNA Station**

TICKETS \$100

Some Great Features of this event

There will be 12 to 15 restaurants from the Hamilton-Burlington area

Invited restaurants include:

Its All Greek to Me
Seven Windows
Brownies
Acclamation
Honest Lawyer
My Thai
Barangas on the Beach

There will also be 12 to 15 award winning wineries from the Niagara region

Invited wineries include:

Strewn
Angel's Gate
East Dell
Crown Bench
Reif Estate
Pilliteri

You can order cases of wine at the event
Wineries can take your order and ship you their wine after the event. Many of the exclusive wines shown at Spring Uncorked are available only at the wineries and not at your local LCBO.

All cocktail hour; no dinner to sit through!!!

From our Scribe

Everybody Gets a Turn

All of a sudden it was March 1st and on to Florida. Daughter-in-law, Janet, picked up Mr. & Mrs. Scribe at 10:30 a.m. We arrived at Toronto International by 11:30 loaded with three bags and two sets of golf clubs. Headed for Air Canada check-in for direct flight from Toronto to Sarasota – 3 hours.

Took longer to check-in because passports had to be checked. Pushed bags through, Immigration & Customs checked bags in, shoes off, careful security check. We are all set. Time for lunch. Good lunch, but left cell phone on table, it's gone.

Loaded at gate 51. Now wild blowing icy snow is going on outside. Departure board shows many flights cancelled. Not good old flight 1128, we were on our way. Plane out to departure area, four huge de-icers go to work.

They finish de-icing and the pilot comes on to say the plane has to return to the gate, partly because of the ice, but mainly because of some defect in the fuel line. He said they would try and find another plane. When we returned to the gate, we were informed the plane wouldn't fly and we should see attendants for a new booking. We were told that the earliest we could get a seat would be March 5th or 6th.

Our daughter arranged a booking by phone for March 2nd, a 9:20 a.m. flight to Sarasota via Pittsburgh, extra fare of \$690.

We were fortunate to obtain a room at the Hilton by the airport for a cost of \$279 a night. So, onto the shuttle bus and off again. We invited two ladies to come along with us. One of them looked scared to come. Your Scribe slept with wife and two ladies. Scribe is exhausted. More later.

Your Scribe

Refugees

March 2nd, up at 6:30 a.m. at the Hilton; arrive at the airport by 7:20, two hours before flight time. Loaded three bags and two golf bags again, on and off the shuttle.

The airport was jammed. The line to Air Canada check-in would have run from Bay Street to Queen Street. Not a chance that we would make our 9:20 flight. Back through Customs & Immigration; load the bags on to the conveyor, body check, etc.

Now down to Pittsburgh check-in area to a special section. Have to take a bus half way around the tarmac. It's now 11:30 a.m. The plane is leaving shortly the attendant tells us, but the connecting flight in Pittsburgh has already left and there's not other plane until Saturday. He works hard to get us on a through flight to Fort Meyers for 5:30 p.m. and said he would try to transfer our bags.

We had a great flight to Fort Meyers. Met nephew Michael Dubois (HMP) in the airport.

Transport from Fort Meyers to Sarasota, booked by daughter Julie, was waiting for us, a wonder. It was a Buick Suburban. Our two ladies, who also got on the Fort Meyers flight, joined us in the van.

By 11:30 p.m., we were at Casa Del Mar, more dead than alive. Unfortunately, no baggage. Found it two days later. Slept in our clothes for three nights.

Made the trip in just under 25 hours. So, here's to 25 days of sun and fun.

Your Scribe

Promoting our World Peace Fellows Program

Today, more than ever, the world needs leaders committed to peace. Through the Rotary World Peace Fellowship program, Rotary is providing tomorrow's leaders the tools to promote peace in the world

Rotary has partnered with seven leading universities around the globe to develop the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution.

The Rotary World Peace Fellowship Program trains professionals in conflict resolution and mediation strategies to foster policies and create settings that ensure peace worldwide.

The master's level degree program is aimed at mid-career professionals in government, nongovernmental organizations and private corporations. Program alumni have found high-ranking positions for organizations such as USAID, the United Nations, Interpol, and the World Bank.

Rotarians, on behalf of World Peace, we are asking for your help to seek out qualified candidates for our Rotary Centers Fellowship Program. We are now soliciting applications for the class of 2008 - 2010. Contact your district leadership for application information.

Please forward this message to anyone you think might be (or know of) a worthy candidate for a Rotary Centers Fellowship valued at upwards of US \$60,000./ Together we can help train and equip our future leaders for a better tomorrow.

For more information, please visit www.rotary.org

Eddie
Dr. Edward Blender
Chairman, Rotary Centers Major Gifts Initiative

Guest speaker, March 15 Mayor Fred Eisenberger

Thanks to David Gruggen for photography





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Guest Speakers

- Feb 8, Sarah Murphy Extreme Sports - and the Arctic
- Feb15 Driver distraction, Insurance Bureau of Canada
- Febr 22 Paul de Courcy Arts Hamilton: Tackling poverty thru the arts
- March 8 Scams and flimflams; Luisa Delduca Ont. Securities . Commission
- March 15 Mayor Eisenberger
- March 22 Carolyn Milne Hamilton Foundation The Golden Age of Philanthropy.
- March 29, Strategic Plan

The Ambassador

The Ambassador is the weekly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hamilton.. Deadline for articles is Monday each week for publication the following Thursday.

The newsletter is distributed by email each Thursday, and printed for distribution the following week.

You can help save the club money for mailing and printing costs if you are able to download the electronic version, and no longer need to pick up a printed copy at our weekly meetings.

One person is needed to co-ordinate; making sure that someone will be at each meeting and event to take the photos. And we need about 5 people who can be called on to take the pictures.

Janet McNaught (janet.mcnaught@gmail.com)
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 to be said for clarity**

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