



# The Lakeshore

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BE THE INSPIRATION WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MONTREAL-LAKESHORE

Chartered February 27, 1961

## *This Week's Program...*

Our **Christmas Dinner**. 6:00 for 6:45 pm, at the **Forest and Stream Club**, 1800 Lakeshore Dr, Dorval, QC H9S 2E6. Dress code: Gentlemen: jacket required; tie optional. Ladies: appropriate dress. Cost: \$50 per person, tax included.

## *Birthdays and Anniversaries...*

**Happy Birthday, Emily .....Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>!**

**Happy Birthday, Aytaç .....Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>!**

**Happy Birthday, Tracey Lauder (Mrs. P. Lefrançois) ...  
... Tuesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019!**

## *Future Programs...*

Dec 28: (Friday) We will have our traditional Rotary club breakfast at the Holiday Inn restaurant. Plan to arrive around 8:30 to enjoy an early celebration of the fast-approaching New Year.

January is Rotary Vocational Service Month.

Jan 8: [**Evening meeting**] We will present a Paul Harris Award to former MNA **Geoff Kelley**.

Jan 15: T.B.D.

## *Last week's meeting...*

Our last 'regular' meeting of 2018 featured our election of officers and committee chairs and a delightful PowerPoint presentation by **Victoria Marcoux**, our Amcal Rotary Leadership award winner. She told us how much she enjoyed the Montreal Conference 2018 at the Hotel Bonaventure in September. Featured speakers included Rotary International President **Barry Rassin**.

Members present: **Wayne, Anne, Lawrence, Maureen, Rosie, Esin, Brahm, Bill, Joe Maxwell, Sade, Sola, Knud, Brenda, Emily, Cameron, Deniz, David** and **Joe Zemanovich**.

We were also pleased to welcome visiting Rotarians **Irwin Kumka**, Past President of the Rotary Club of Winnipeg West, and his wife, **Karen, Anto Akcakiryan** from the West Ottawa club and **Murray Horn** from the D7040 Rotary Passport Club.

Guests were **Joanne Marcoux** and **Anthony Young**.

**Lawrence** opened the meeting with a discussion of the slate of club officers and directors that had been published in last week's issue of *The Lakeshore*. He pointed out that we will have a new Treasurer, **David Warne**, starting January 1, 2019. Lawrence then went on to say that we have three positions to fill for the Rotary year starting July 1, 2019: International Service chair, Club Service chair and President-Elect. He clarified that President-Elect refers to the member who would be our club's President in the year 2020-2021. "That means that President-Elect, the position for which we are seeking nominations, would not start serving as Club President until July 1, 2020.

He then asked if anyone present had any objections to the positions already filled by the Nomination Committee, i.e. that he and **Cameron** would continue to serve as Co-Presidents next year. The same question applies to the other positions, Secretary **Deniz Veral**, Treasurer **David Warne**, Community Service chair **Brenda Scalzo**, Youth Service chair **Rosie Dilek** and Membership Chair, **Maureen Cantrill**. There were no such objections from the floor.

The question was asked, "What about Sergeant-at-Arms?" Lawrence replied that it was intended that **Glorefe Kozma** would continue in that position. **Bill** pointed out that Sergeant-at-Arms is not necessarily a Board position.

Lawrence then sought nominations from the floor for International Service chair. **Bill** suggested that we consider **Knud** as International Service chair. At first Knud replied that a new person should take over as chair of our International Service committee. When Bill pointed out that we have no one who is both competent and willing to do the job, Knud reluctantly accepted.

"In our club the chair of the Club Service committee has traditionally been the immediate Past President," Bill pointed out, adding that perhaps **Helen Cane** would accept the post. He was told that Helen already has a lot on her plate as Area Governor and that she has recently acquired some health issues to be resolved.

**Lawrence** closed the discussion of officers and directors by asking everyone to give some serious thought as to how we might fill the President-Elect position and said we would look at that again early in the new year.

He then called upon **Victoria Marcoux** to begin her talk.

She began by telling us a bit about herself. "I'm 17 years old and I won the Rotary-Amcal Leadership Award in 2017. I have been an air cadet for five years and I am currently studying Special Care Counselling at Vanier College.

She then told us about her experience at the Montreal 2018 Conference, using a brief PowerPoint presentation to illustrate her remarks.

"The important people I met at the conference were Rotary International President **Barry Rassin**, Rotary International Director **Jeffrey Cadorette**, who was also the Director of the Montreal 2018 Conference, **Alan Mallory**, a Canadian professional engineer, international speaker, author and professional development trainer, and **John Hall**, Founder and CEO of *Influence & Co.*, one of the 'Most Promising Companies in America, according to *Forbes* Magazine.

"President Rassin impressed me right from the start with a photo of him and his wife and a bunch of flamingos. He explained that flamingos represent Rotary to him. We Rotarians have decided to go against the flow and help other people who don't have the resources to help themselves. I can't explain but this year I have learned that his definition is really accurate.

"I also met John Hall and he said something that really stuck with me. He said, 'There is nothing more important than investing in yourself. There's a story in everyone. You can either be involved in the narrative or you can let others control it. You can't get upset if your story isn't written right if you don't pick up the pen. To me this means if you don't invest in yourself you won't be able to help others. If you don't learn from what you've done and what you've experienced, you won't be able to take it from there. I feel that I've been able to apply this to my everyday life. I've also been able to get to know people better because if I focus on myself first, then my issues can be put aside, especially in my field of study, and I will be free to help others, to do what I have to do because I will no longer be focussed on myself.

"I learned that teamwork is so important. In this picture all the Rotaractors are taking a selfie with President Barry and that was amazing!



He wanted feedback from Rotaractors. He told us he has not had much opportunity to work with Rotaractors; he has mostly worked with Rotarians. He said he has learned that there is often a gap between Rotaract and Rotary that needs to be filled. In a discussion we all had with him I learned that Rotaractors and Rotarians have so much to give to and learn from each other. That lesson, along with the importance of teamwork and the 'Don't go with the flow' message.

"What I have concluded from this conference is that we need a West Island Rotaract Club. Most Rotaract clubs in Montreal are university based: McGill and Concordia. Both are downtown. Moreover, a lot of people don't make it to university, so there is no Rotaract for them. I would like to start a Rotaract club that is community-based.

"For those who don't know, Rotaract clubs are for people aged 18 to 30, to exchange ideas with leaders in the community (to me that means you guys), develop leadership and professional skills and have fun doing it. While I was at this conference, I met so many Rotaractors. They taught me that the smallest thing you can do can have a big impact, and you can also do larger-scale things that will also have a big impact. I met the President of the McGill University Rotaract club. They are now called the Rotaract Club of Downtown Montreal and they have a lot of projects on the go right now and they would be willing to help us as well.

"That means I need your guidance, of course. Rotaractors decide how to organize and run their clubs. We manage our own funds and plan and carry out activities and even service projects.

"Rotary clubs sponsor, guide and support us and work with the club as partners in service. One of the many things I learned at the Montreal 2018 conference is that Rotarians teach Rotaractors how to go about their meetings. Rotaractors have certain limitations on meeting times. They don't meet in the middle of the day; they meet after school or at times that suit teenagers or young adults.

"So basically, that concludes my presentation. Hopefully, I will be working with your Youth chair.

"Thank you for inviting me and for giving me your attention today."

**Lawrence** said we can use the support of Rotaractors, for youth-related events such as our Alan Liddiard Public Speaking Contest. It would be great to have a Rotaract club on the West Island and you can count on us to do all we can to help you organize it.

**Cameron** asked Victoria where she would find West Island teenagers and young adults for this new Rotaract club. She replied that, since she left the Montreal conference in September, she has been in contact with many of the people she met there. She also said when young people leave air cadets, they often have no other place to go. She mentioned several other organizations for teenagers that she could contact to garner prospective Rotaract club members.

"Sounds like a great start to me," Cameron replied.

**Murray** spoke briefly about Amcal Family Services and how our club initiated the Amcal-Rotary Leadership Award that Victoria won. "She did a lot in Amcal as a leader, youth leading youth, and in air cadets and other programs for teens. She is a voice to be reckoned with and we are very proud of the leadership Victoria has shown in the roles she has played in all of these organizations."

Victoria was thanked by **Maureen**, who observed how she has grown into a vibrant young woman. "We are really proud of you, Victoria. Thank you for coming to speak to us today. Thank you for planning a Rotaract club for the West Island and when you're ready to become a Rotarian, I'll sponsor you."



**Lawrence** reminded us that, at the end of each year, we pay tribute to the great job our servers have done. "And **Lee Ann** has been a marvelous server and friend. We have an envelope here with a \$100 bill inside and we also have a gift to show our profound appreciation."



When **Lee Ann** arrived, he told her, "This meeting is our last of this year so we want to thank you for all you have done for us in 2018."

**Lee Ann** thanked us for "these very kind words and for the gifts of love and friendship, the most important gifts of all."