



ROTARACT NEWSLETTER FALL 2007

A Message from the President...

I'm very excited to be president of the Rotaract Club of Toronto this year. I've been a member of the club for almost 4 years now, and am proud to have been part of so many inspiring projects and activities. Prior to joining the Rotaract Club of Toronto I was a member of the Rotaract Club of Somerville-Newmarket in Auckland, New Zealand. It was great to be able to come to a new country and instantly meet like-minded people who love giving back to the community, and improving themselves while having fun at the same time.

I have 3 goals for the club this year. The first is to see us become involved in some new worthy projects, to build on our solid foundation of projects developed in previous years. This year we are launching one of our most ambitious projects yet, the International Recipe Calendar, which is a great tool for both building relationships internationally and fundraising locally. My second goal is to increase our membership base with more fun, like-minded, interesting people, which will allow us to undertake even more ambitious activities and projects. My third and most important goal is for the club to continue to have fun!

Mahatma Gandhi once said "You must be the change you wish to see in the world" and I truly believe that all of our members embody this attitude to the fullest!

Vikki Hearn
President
Rotaract Club of Toronto

The Year in Review 2006-2007

Well, it certainly was a memorable year. I enjoyed my time as the President for the best Rotaract Club out there (I know, I know, I'm a tad biased). Seriously though, you won't meet a more dedicated team than the one I had the pleasure of leading for the past year.

Now it wasn't all rainbows and cotton candy, as any strong leader knows there were those trying times. I found being President of Rotaract an amazing life experience. Not too many other twenty-something's (a gal never gives away her exact age) have the opportunity to be part of such an incredible organization. I made decisions, studied the outcome, and always remembered to make sure that it was fair for all involved.

I would have to say my main goal as Prez, was getting the word out about Rotaract. I want people from Victoria to St. John's to know what we are and who we are. For the most part we tend to be nicknamed "Junior Rotarians." However, after holding our first annual Rotaract District Conference and aggressively pursuing our International Recipe Calendar project, I think you all agree that there is nothing "junior" about us.

Since I stepped down a few months back, numerous people have asked me what I liked most about being the big chief. That question is easy to answer, as it is pick which pumps perfectly match my new outfit. (Bit of shoe addict so trust me that statement speaks volumes). I now know without a shadow of a doubt that the world is only getting

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better with age. As long as Interactors, Rotaractors and Rotarians exist, then the human race will flourish. Of course the journey won't be an easy one, but with prosperity as the goal, anything is possible.

So as you can see, my tenure was absolutely awesome. It was an honour to represent my club. I only hope that someday I will have the chance to do it all over again.

Yours in Rotary,

Liz Greenland
Past-President
Rotaract Club of Toronto

EVENTS

Argos 50/50 Ticket Selling, Sept. 23 2007

On Sunday September 23, members of the Rotaract Club of Toronto sold 50/50 tickets with the Rotary Club of Toronto at the Toronto Argonauts game against the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Ticket sales were good, and the Rotary club raised almost \$5000 towards Youth & Children's projects including: their annual Christmas party for Disabled Children, groups to address youth violence, such as Leave Out Violence., and groups that represent youth, such as Toronto Youth Cabinet.

It was a great day and we'll be out again on October 27 trying to raise even more!



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Rotaract Development and Leadership Conference, Sept. 15-16 2007

The second annual 7070 Rotaract District Conference took place over the weekend of September 15-16th. Hart House Farm in Caledon was once again the beautiful backdrop for the event. This year we were proud to have twenty-five Rotaractors attend, representing four Rotaract Clubs across District 7070. We were also fortunate to have Rotarians join us from the Toronto, Port Hope and Woodbridge clubs.

The schedule for Saturday afternoon focused on sessions that would build stronger relationships with the Rotaract community. Break-out groups allowed each participant to choose a specific area of Rotary in which they would like more involved. The biggest accomplishment of the weekend was the decision to organize District Rotaract projects. We look forward to the first event, which will be a joint Holiday gala sometime in the New Year. All are welcome so stay tuned for more details.

In the evening, we enjoyed a feast fit for royalty. So when our tummies were full, we headed outside for an extra large and extra fabulous campfire. Everyone bonded in the cool air with many funny stories told and many more memories made.

The conference was possible because of the hard work of Vikki Hearn, Aftab Khan, Nastassia De Souza and Liz Greenland. Since the feedback from all the attendees was so positive, we look forward to an even bigger and better conference next year. Our goal is to have at least thirty-five Rotaractors take part and all six Rotaract Clubs in the district represented.

We would like to thank the District for all of their support. It is so nice that you all believe in us and recognize that us "youngins" are the future of Rotary.



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Changeover Dinner, August 10 2007

This year's changeover dinner was at the Hot House Café on Front Street. Rotaractors and Rotarians from over five clubs were in attendance to help celebrate our past year and to welcome in the exciting new year ahead. Congratulations to Elisabeth Rosenfeld for winning the Jamie Maynard Leadership award and to Liz Perriguey for taking home the Herbert J Taylor award. The awards were well deserved and we are honoured to have both these members as part of our club. Your leadership and dedication to the club and the community serves as an inspiration to all of us.

As we enjoyed the delicious three course meal, we were entertained with speeches, raffles and wonderful conversations with other Rotaractors, Rotarians and guests. The evening ended with some beverages and dancing at the Reservoir Lounge down the street.

We would like to welcome Vikki Hearn as our new President and Elisabeth Rosenfeld as our Vice President. We are also excited to have Pat Newman as our Rotary liaison. Thank you to Past President Liz Greenland and last year's executive board for a job well done!



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Camp Scugog Book Drive, May 2007

In May this year several members of the Rotaract Club of Toronto volunteered at the Annual Rotary Club of Toronto Camp weekend at Camp Scugog. One of the tasks we undertook was to clean out and tidy up their bookshelves. We realised that the camp was in need of some new books so we undertook a book drive, and also donated some funds to buy some new books for the children and mothers who attend the camp. On July 14th a book delivery was made and there are plans for another drive in the fall. Please contact us if you have any children's or young adults books you would like to donate.

Tree Planting, April 28th 2007

On April 28th, the Rotaract Club of Toronto participated in the City of Toronto's Tree advocacy program. We spent the morning planting native trees at a site in Sun Valley in the Lower Don Valley. Between the 7 participants we planted around 40 trees as part of an ongoing effort to re-grow the natural habitat of the Don Valley.



Interval House Clothing Drive, Dec. 18 2006 & Feb. 19 2007

On Monday December 18th, 2006 the Rotaract Club of Toronto donated Women's Career clothing to Interval House. Interval House is a centre offering a comprehensive range of programs and services to abused women and their children. Their goal is to provide a continuum of support along the difficult path from the need for emergency shelter, towards healing, growth and independence. The clothing will be used by the women attending the shelter, while they attend job interviews and other events to enhance their careers. A second clothing drive took place on February 19th, 2007.

www.intervalhouse.on.ca

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UPCOMING EVENTS

International Recipe Calendar

The International Recipe Calendar was developed in 2006 by the Rotaract Club of Toronto, Canada. It was created to bring together the worldwide Rotaract network for charitable purposes.

The calendar has two overriding goals.

1. To increase collaboration and understanding between Rotaractors worldwide.
2. To facilitate fundraising for the local charities considered most important to Rotaractors.

The response from Rotaractors worldwide was so overwhelming that in its inaugural year two separate calendars had to be developed to include everyone. Those calendars are being sold across 5 continents and in 16 countries by the 19 participating Rotaract clubs. Proceeds from calendar sales in each country will support the local charity that each club has selected. The Rotaract Club of Toronto has selected the Daily Bread Food Bank as their recipient.

ROTARACT CLUB OF TORONTO

CANADA



Poutine



INGREDIENTS:

FRENCH FRIES

- 4 Large russet potatoes, about 2 1/2 lbs.
- Vegetable oil for deep-frying
- Salt and pepper

BEEF GRAVY

- 1/4 Cup butter
- 1/4 Cup flour
- 2 Cups beef stock
- 1/4 Teaspoon salt
- 1/4 Teaspoon pepper

CHEESE CURDS

DIRECTIONS:

FRENCH FRIES

- Peel the potatoes and cut each one lengthwise into sticks 1/2 inch thick.
- In a large, heavy pot over medium-high heat, pour in oil to a depth of 2 inches and heat to 325°F.
- Working in small batches, fry the potatoes until just tender but not brown, about 3 minutes.
- Let the potatoes cool for at least 1 hour or up to 3 hours.

GRAVY

- Reheat the oil in the fryer to 375°F. Fry the potatoes again in small batches until they are a deep golden brown and crisp, 3 to 4 minutes per batch.
- Melt butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Add flour and whisk together, making sure to get all visible lumps.
- Add salt and pepper.
- Cook over medium heat for 5 minutes or until mixture starts to turn light brown, stirring constantly.

- Turn heat to low and slowly add beef stock, stirring constantly.
- Turn heat back up to medium and continue stirring until gravy boils and thickens.
- Lay the fries out on a serving platter or individual bowls. Layer with cheese curds and top with gravy. Allow the cheese curds to melt before eating. Enjoy!



The Rotaract Club of Toronto was founded more than 20 years ago. Our members are dedicated individuals who truly care about the well-being of others on a local, national and international level. Proceeds from our calendar sales will support the Toronto Daily Bread Food Bank, a local non-profit organization dedicated to fighting hunger.

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Monthly Professional Development Series

The Professional Development Series hosted by the Rotaract Club is aiming to expose members to a series of Rotary professionals who can offer a wealth of knowledge and experience that they can draw on as they pursue their educational and career paths.

The first of these seminars was held on September 17. Rotarian and President of the Welcome Wagon, Pat Neuman delivered a rousing address to some 20 Rotaract Club members.

Pat Neuman, in her address, took the time to explain to those present what they may need to change paths from a professional point of view and encouraged Rotaractors to seek tools that would allow them to pursue their professional aspirations.

The second event on October 15 introduced, Jack Renteria, Senior Trade Advisor with the Danish Embassy and passionate youth and children projects advocate within Rotary, as a guest speaker.

Jack treated members and guests to a dynamic session spanning from his first contact with Rotary at the early age of 16 while participating in the Youth Exchange program, to falling in love with Scandinavia and pursuing his career at L'Oreal Norway and Canada, and onto how chance plays a small but important role in each one's career.

The Rotaract Club of Toronto will cascade its project to the Rotaract Club at the University of Toronto, where professionally active Rotaractors will share their career path with current students.

Soccer Tournament

Let's all meet together for a worldwide sport! Whatever your nationality is, whatever your age is, whatever your position is... No matter if you have the latest soccer ball :YOU can play Soccer!

The Rotaract club of Toronto is organizing a soccer tournament in May-June 2008 that will build stronger relationships within the community!

The tournament will divide one field into two smaller fields so that four games will be held at the same time. Up to 10 players will be able to register under the name of one team but only 7 players will be playing. Our goal is to gather at least 16 teams mixing the 5 continents and nationalities African, American, Asiatic, European, and Oceania!

We will also be organizing a barbecue, raffles, and other entertainment for this wonderful day! All funds raised during the soccer tournament will be either given to an association or used to send equipment & material to under-developed countries.

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Questions/Inquiries/Info?

Contact the Rotaract Club of Toronto today!

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