



Club #85, founded Oct 2, 1913

January 18 and 25, 2011

Jan 18 Attendance: Herman Alves; John Bishop; Andy Dang-Duy; Jacques Dénommée; Ken Mann; Nosa Mohammed; Carlo Pugliese; Bill Ridley; George Shalhoub; Udo Stundner; Nemo Turner; Bob Velan; Drew Webster; Henry Zalzal. Friends of Rotary: Mark Yamada; Bassam Kadi. Guests of Rotarians: Jim West; Les Bayne; Greg Gregoriou; Martin Cerramçois; Binian Permejo; Former member: Josh Ronn. Also in attendance, 17 members of the Kiwanis-St.George club.

Jan 25 Attendance: John Bishop; Andy Dang-Duy; Bertrand de Cardaillac; Mikkel Elsborg; Steve Sadler; George Shalhoub; Nemo Turner; Bob Velan; Drew Webster; Mike Zivic.
McGill Rotaract: Deanna Cook.

Meeting of Jan 18

President Nemo opened the meeting with a special welcome to **Bill Ridley** and former member, **Josh Ronn**. He invited the Kiwanis representative to say a few words. He reminded everyone that our meeting on Feb 15th would be a joint luncheon and feature the **Velan Award presentation for 2010**.

Carlo Pugliese introduced our guest speaker, **Mark Yamada**, with a plea for his help in wading through the chaos of economic predictions for 2011. Known for innovation, Mr Yamada responded in an unusual way with an invitation to consider five pairs of shapely legs, unattached to a body, projected onto a large screen. After listening to what he had to say, he wanted us to guess which legs were female.

In reviewing the predictions he made to us last year at this time, Mr Yamada gave himself 5½ points out of 6, similar to his performance of two years ago. 2010 was a year of disasters – earthquakes in Haiti and China; flooding in Pakistan and Australia. It was also a year of nuclear threats from North Korea, Iran, and from the unrest in Pakistan. State debts are out of control – British children are born with a debt of £20,000 each, more than the cost to educate them. Inflation in China is reported to be 5% but in reality it is closer to 7% or 8%. The economy is climbing back but slowly and the older economies need more time. China is young, the US old. Productivity in China is unbelievable. As for interest rates and commodity prices, they will be up. Stocks: energy will outperform gold. Stock markets in local currencies: the US will outperform Canada. Food production could be a problem in 2011 because of the wet weather. As for the shapely legs on the screen, Mr Yamada made the point that predictions this year are difficult. He identified as male the legs most people thought were female.



certificate of appreciation.

Nosa Mohammed thanked **Marc Yamada** and presented him with a

Meeting of Jan 25

President Nemo welcomed the visit of **Deanna Cook**, McGill Rotaract. He received a motion from **John Bishop** that, subject to a spending cap of \$100, we order 50 copies of the 100th Anniversary Edition of THE ROTARIAN, seconded by **Mike Zivic** and carried.

Our guest speaker, new member **Andy Dang-Duy**, already well known by most members, introduced himself and gave his classification speech. His remarks seem to fall into two parts, joined with a common Rotary thread – the before and after of coming to Canada. His engineer father took the family to several European cities. Andy mentioned Paris, where he was born, and Nürnberg where he learned German. He also lived in the Middle East. As he was growing up, he saw the effect of Rotarian action in a situation and decided he wanted to have a part later in life. And so it was that when he came to Montreal he was part of Rotaract McGill and supported the sleeping bag project of our Rotary Club in the days of Gerry Church and Luc Baudoin.. The Ministry (of Immigration) lost his application papers for citizenship for 120 days. He was served with an eviction notice. Thanks to the support of various Rotarians, including Bob Velan, Carlo Pugliese and others, he was able to persevere and finally gain citizenship. His work as assistant to the President of the Grace Dart Foundation strengthened a long-held desire to help in the care of the elderly. He was to meet his fiancée at the



Foundation. He has accepted the responsibility of Asst District Governor starting July 1st 2011 because he wants to give back to the community. In the photo, he is seen with President Nemo and Deanna Cook, Rotaract McGill.