



Club #85, founded Oct 2, 1913

March 1st 2011

Attendance: Herman Alves; John Bishop; Andy Dang-Duy; Bertrand de Cardaillac; Carlo Pugliese; Steve Sadler; George Shalhoub; Bob Velan; Drew Webster; Henry Zalzal; Mike Zivic. Asst DG: Claude LaLiberté. Guest speaker: Joseph Quinn. Also in attendance: Jérôme and Christophe Raynaud, newly arrived in Montreal from France.

VP Bertrand de Cardaillac opened the meeting in a very daring manner. He invited **Carlo Pugliese** to provide a dose of humour. The laughs that followed testified to the wisdom of Bertrand's invitation as Carlo spoke about a PEI furniture salesman on his first visit to Paris. Turning to matters of club business, Carlo broached several topics that included the Selwyn House School Dominican Republic project; Selwyn House participation in our Public Speaking; a conflict regarding the dates of the Adventure in Citizenship program and the exams of our potential candidate; the serving of a meal at Old Brewery Mission on May 4th.

Claude LaLiberté spoke about the Rotary Leadership Institute. It will meet in St-Jérôme on April 16th to provide Rotary Information in French for members who want to learn more about Rotary.

Mike Zivic introduced our guest speaker, **Mr. Joseph Quinn**. Mr Quinn retired as Chief Officer of the Verdun Fire Department after 32 years of service. He spoke of looking for something to do in 1997 when retirement was upon him. He went to the **Dawson Community Centre** and found himself in its basement where the **Manna Food Bank** is located. He saw a challenge and took it up. "It is a lifetime commitment." Daily he knocks on doors for non perishable foods. The Food Bank is open twice a week, on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 to 12 noon. Each time, 25 to 30 volunteers hand out food to the 5000 people who benefit in a given year. Before Christmas, the financial situation was precarious. There was not enough money to pay the liability insurance. The future looked dim. One of the volunteers was asked by the person she was nursing how it was going. When she heard of the crisis, she made arrangements for a cheque of \$10,000 to go to Manna. Mr. Quinn said Montreal had two large food banks: Sun Youth and Share the Warmth. He suggested that local Food Banks such as Manna had to compete with them for municipal support. He asked for "assistance to enable us to continue".

In the question period that followed, it was stated that volunteers are retired persons and are not compensated. Mr.



Quinn spoke with pride of his son's involvement in the Montreal Irish Society. As President, he is responsible for this year's St-Patrick's Day Parade. **Henry Zalzal** thanked Mr. Quinn with words and another member thanked him with a pledge of \$3000 from his Foundation.

Dawson Boys' Club: In the historical review of the Rotary Club of Montreal 1913 - 1986, prepared by the late Lloyd A. McClintock, President 1972 -73, the following mention is made on page 38. "In memory of Owen Dawson, our club donated \$10,000 which was matched by friends of Owen Dawson, to equip the new centre with furniture, handicraft tools etc." The year was 1958 / 59.

New Board Members: Bertrand reminded the four, new Board members for the Rotary Year 2011 - 2012 of their invitation to meet with the current Board at the regularly scheduled meeting on March 23rd at 6pm. The new members are: **Mike Zivic, Henry Zalzal, Andy Dang-Duy** and **Mikkel Elsborg**.

Old Brewery Mission May 4th: Members interested in serving this meal are asked to be in touch with **John Bishop**. He can be reached at jmbishop@videotron.ca

Next meeting: March 8th at 7.30am

Speaker: TBA

The Saint James Club: www.stjamesclub.ca

To District 7040 website: www.rotary7040.com

Rotary Record back issues: www.rotarymontreal.org