



Club #85, founded 1913

May 26<sup>th</sup> 2009

**Attendance:** Herman Alves, John Bishop, Jacques Dénoimée, Cezar Dragutan, Bill Ridley, Barry Schmidt, Steve Sadler, George Shalhoub, Udo Stundner, Nemo Turner, Bob Velan, Drew Webster. Visiting Rotarian: Bertrand de Cardaillac. Also in attendance, at least 50 Rotarians from surrounding clubs and guests of the three speakers. Total meal count was 88.



**Honorary Membership:** His Worship, Gérald Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal, after shaking hands with everyone in the room, made his way to the podium and spoke about the importance of Rotary in Montreal. He is very aware of

the international convention in June 2010. After receiving honorary membership in our club at the hands of President Herman, he said how pleased he was to be asked to participate in the Rotarian of the Century Award which was to follow.



The Mayor could not speak highly enough of the person who was to receive this award. He had known him for many years. His contribution to excellence in business was outstanding in Montreal and in the country at large. The

Mayor was speaking of A.K.Velan who was joined on the platform by his wife, Olga Velan.

Mayor Tremblay regretted the need to leave for another reception and promised to ensure that the banner of our club was prominently displayed in his office.



**Guest speaker:** The US Consul General in Montreal invited us to call him by his first name. On that friendly note, **Lee McClenney** spoke of some of his experiences since coming to Montreal last Fall. He commented on the

speed that new inspection equipment allows truckers to cross the border and the observation posts for hunters that sit in the no-man's land between the borders of the US and Canada. Of the 60 people who work out of the consulate in Montreal, 40 are Canadian citizens. The flow of goods and services between our two countries must be

allowed to grow and flourish. The presence of the Montreal market is crucial to the existence PBS-TV in the Plattsburg and Burlington areas. The name of the new ambassador to Canada is to be announced shortly.

After a period during which the Consul General responded to several questions, he was thanked by Drew Webster and President Herman brought the meeting to a close.

**Board Meeting:** On May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, the Board of the Rotary Club of Montreal met and approved the membership request from Bertrand de Cardaillac, a former member of this club. Bertrand has agreed to wear two hats: that of VP and that of Membership Chair. Bertrand's keenness to grow our membership is an inspiration.

**Meeting schedule:** The St. James Club will be closed for summer vacation during July. The Board decided that we would meet for breakfast at La Rue des Femmes on two Tuesdays,– June 30 and July 7<sup>th</sup>. On July 14 and 21, we would be meeting with one of the local clubs on their meeting day. These details need to be finalized. We could expect to find ourselves back in the St. James Club on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming speakers:**

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Breakfast – speaker TBA.

**Next meeting: at 7.30am at the St. James Club, June 2nd.**