



Club #85, founded 1913

August 11<sup>th</sup> 2009

**Attendance :** Herman Alves, John Bishop, Bertrand de Cardaillac, Cezar Dragutan, Carlo Pugliese, Steve Sadler, Barry Schmidt, George Shalhoub, Udo Stundner, Nemo Turner, Bob Velan, Drew Webster. Visiting Rotarian: Auli Kankkunen. Honorary Rotarian: Manon Lafleur. Guest speaker: Ilona Dougherty accompanied by Geneviève Millaire. Visitor: Charles from Ghana.

**President Nemo** chaired the meeting and invited members to consider reports from several committees.

The Community Action Committee presented five requests for funds. Members declined approval of three and gave approval of two, namely \$305 for CanGrands and \$1000 (including \$200 received from the Ealing Rotary Club of Greater London) for the Varanasi, India project.

Montreal Membership Downtown: **Bertrand de Cardaillac** spoke of the committee chaired by PDG Edmond Lanthier. It seeks to offer plans to recruit 70 new members for downtown clubs, morning and noon meetings, in French and English, and concrete reasons for young people to join Rotary. A new club operating in French and meeting at Noon is being discussed.

Website: **Cezar Dragutan** invited members to check out the club website . It has had a facelift. He requests photos of activities by email. Have a look at [www.rotarymontreal.org](http://www.rotarymontreal.org)

**Drew Webster** said that membership cards were being distributed. Be sure to countersign yours and use it when visiting another club. He spoke of the District Conference on October 17 and 18 in Kingston and of the need to organize a group to accompany our president. He mentioned the CBC-TV two part series on INDIA, on Thursday at 8 pm. Last Thursday it showed something of Varanasi .

**Guest speaker: Ilona Dougherty** made a power-point presentation of "Apathy is Boring", a non-partizan, not-for-profit organization of which she is the founder. Their website gives an excellent idea of the activities at [www.apathyisboring.com](http://www.apathyisboring.com) The Patron is Governor-General, Michaëlle Jean.

The speaker informed us that *The Globe & Mail* of August 12 contained an article critical of the work of

Apathy is Boring and that she had written a rebuttal that she expected would be appearing shortly.

In the question and answer period that followed, she was asked if her organization could issue receipts for income tax purposes. When she responded in the affirmative, a member of the club with 12 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren said he would be making a donation of \$5000. The speaker was visibly moved. She spoke of the difficulty of raising funds. The budget was \$250,000.

**Steve Sadler** thanked the speaker (shown here with Geneviève Millaire) and presented a certificate of appreciation.



Past President Herman and President Nemo also requested a photo with our guest speaker.



#### **Future Speakers:**

The Mayor of Plattsburgh ; Astronaut Marc Garneau.

**Next Meeting August 18<sup>th</sup>:** Breakfast at the St. James Club, 7.30 am "Heraldry in Canada Today".