



Club #85, founded Oct 2, 1913

April 13<sup>th</sup> 2010

**Attendance:** Herman Alves, Bertrand de Cardaillac, Carlo Pugliese, Steve Sadler, George Shalhoub, Drew Webster. Visiting Rotarian: District Governor Nominee Bill Gray. Visitor: Nadia. Guest speaker: Wanda Bedard.

In the absence of **President Nemo**, the chair was occupied by **Carlo Pugliese**. He invited DGN **Bill Gray** to say a few words.

**DGN Bill's** remarks focused on the challenge of making Rotary attractive to young people. He said a city the size of Montreal should have 28 clubs and he acknowledged that he was speaking to Montreal's oldest club. He referred to his recent 25 day visit to India and Sri Lanka and mentioned the Uganda project with which our district was involved. By way of thanks, Bertrand de Cardaillac presented him with our club banner and he reciprocated in like manner.



Recently, **Herman Alves** found himself in the vicinity of **Bob Velan's** home and decided to pay him a visit on the spur of the moment. He found him well and in good spirits. Bob asked to have his greetings passed on to everyone. As to when he would be able to come to weekly meetings again, it would be soon.

**Guest speaker: Wanda Bedard** is the President of **60 Million Girls**, a public foundation established in February 2006. She is this year's recipient of The Velan Foundation International Service Award..

The mother of two daughters, Wanda spoke of giving vent one morning at the breakfast table to her frustration and anger upon reading in the newspaper about a mother who sold her daughter into slavery for \$750. "What are you going to do about it, Mom?" was the challenge issued by her 14 year old daughter.

In response, Wanda embarked on raising funds for a UNICEF project in Africa. However, realizing her primary mission was to provide educational opportunities for young girls in developing countries, she subsequently set up a

charitable organization with that specific objective. She is founder and President of the 60 Million Girls Foundation.

In 2006, 60 Million Girls partnered with the Stephen Lewis Foundation on a project enabling orphaned girls to return to school. Projects followed in Zambia (Umoyo training Centre), and Kenya (Maasai Mara school). More recently in 2008, there were projects to provide a community-based school in Afghanistan and the increase of refugee girls' educational attainment in two camps. In 2009, projects were supported in Zimbabwe and Honduras regarding the education of girls. In 2010, the focus is in Northern Uganda and India. Details and photos on all these projects can be seen at



[www.60milliondefilles.org/english](http://www.60milliondefilles.org/english)

**Carlo Pugliese** expressed the thanks of the club.

**Next Meeting:** April 20<sup>th</sup>  
**Speaker:** Club Assembly  
**Topic:** Club business  
**Location:** The Saint James Club at 7.30 am

For directions to The Saint James Club, go to:

[www.stjamesclub.ca](http://www.stjamesclub.ca)

For back-issues of The Rotary Record, go to:

[www.rotarymontreal.org](http://www.rotarymontreal.org)

#### **Up-coming Meetings:**

**April 27** at 7.30 am: **Christopher Hingley**, Rector of the Petra Schools in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe: "growing and developing despite the current crisis".

**May 4<sup>th</sup>** at 12.30 pm: The Public Speaking Finals (a yearly event since 1940, 71 non-stop years).

**Notice of meeting cancellation:** **President Nemo** advised that the Board, at its meeting on March 31, decided to cancel the regular meeting of the club on June 22, the reason being that the International Convention will be in full swing and that members will be fully involved. Also, we will be recovering from home hospitality on the night of June 21 at the Faculty Club.