

Jan.— Jun. 2016

Volume 1—Issue 3

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Editor's Note:

The curtain was brought down on yet another successful rotary year! As such it is extremely timely to capture all activities and share with you the memorable moments we experienced as a club in the latter half of the rotary year 2015-2016. As usual this publication intends to keep members, partners and other stakeholders informed of the achievements, activities and goals of the club. As we continue this journey into the new year, let me take this opportunity to encourage us to uphold the Presidential Theme of 2016-2017 –“**Rotary Serving Humanity**”. May our activities, projects and community services be impactful to those communities in need. Many thanks to those members who contributed to this and all Dem Rota editions in 2015-2016. To those of you who readily availed yourselves to my calls and conversations about putting this newsletter together...thank you! Congratulations to the new PR Chair and committee members. Please feel free to call on me at any time.

Warm regards and happy reading!

Oncelia Johnson,

Public Relations Chair 2015-2016

Rotary Club of Demerara



President's Message

It is with a mixture of emotions that I make my last installment under the above mentioned title to our Dem-Rota Newsletter. Under my stewardship another great year is over. Several objectives were achieved among those notably were;

Fundraising— among those activities organized to raise funds were - an oldies party, a raffle and a take-away lunch all of which turned out to be profitable.

Membership: our membership drive through out the year welcomed some new faces. Regrettably we also said goodbye to a few persons. Together as a club I'm sure we will continue to address this challenge.

Foundation - Four individuals participated and was honoured by the Paul Harris Foundation. Our EYREY program still needs more enthusiastic participation on the part of more of our members. We are again in the midst of applying for Global Grant to continue our Diabetes outreach to Region 9.

Public Relations - Through out the year we continuously made every effort to keep our club membership and our stakeholders informed of all activities through our 'Dem Rota' newsletter, which even made it into the District newsletter a few times. Our facebook page and whatsapp group supported our PR efforts as well. Additionally a great video on the importance of being a Rotarian was also created.

Community Service: Four medical outreaches were completed. Work on the Archer's home is ongoing. We partnered with Help and Shelter to do an advocacy campaign on Gender Based Violence. Many thanks for the support we received from Ansa McAl Trading, Edward B. Beharry Company, Hand in Hand and Sentinel Security.

International Service: This year we were privileged to work with Rotarians for the District 7120 in Massachusetts on a joint project with the Rotary Clubs in Georgetown. They were a lovely bunch of people and the fellowship was outstanding. A new play area was refurbished at the David Rose School for Special Needs.

We received a donation of copy books from the Rotary Clubs of St. Croix and Kensington Maryland which we managed to distribute to schools in St. Cuthbert's, Malali, Mauritaro communities. Books were also donated to the David Rose School and the First Lady to assist with her projects.

Vocational Service: “Spend a day with a Rotarian” was organized to showcase various professions. Thanks to all Rotarians who facilitated this activity.

Youth Services - Our Rotaract Club continues to thrive. To improve skill sets and Professional Development several sessions were planned. However one session on 'Financial Record Keeping' were held.

The challenge for us as a club and as a movement, is to make that experience visible and available to those who want and should take part. I believe that our core values of fellowship, fun and contribution are as relevant now as they were in 1993 when this club was chartered.

The challenge is in the wrapping, not the gift that lies within. Notwithstanding, it would be remiss of me not to use this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who formed the support structure that carried me along. To the 2015-2016 Board of Directors/Committee Chairs, your support throughout this year has been most invaluable without your shoulders to the wheel this journey would have been a difficult one. I have enjoyed your support and valued your work with the committees. I value your wise counsel, and you have done well to ensure that the activities of the club were completed. I've said it before, but the real value of this club and for Rotary are its members – their skills, attributes, personalities, senses of humour. A big “Thank you” to everyone and best wishes to the new President and his team.



Renata Chuck-a-Sang - President 2015-2016
Rotary Club of Demerara

Rotarians in Action - Community Service



A section of residents waiting to receive medical care.

The fourth medical outreach was held at St. Cuthbert's Mission on June 5th 2016. Once again, a group of Rotarians from

Medical Outreach 4 - St. Cuthbert Mission

the Rotary Club of Demerara, along with a team from the US Embassy and other medical practitioners journeyed through adverse weather and



A temporary dental examination room.



St. Cuthbert's Health Center

poor road conditions to provide several medical services to this community.

Among the services offered were ; Eye testing, VIA Screening, Dental Care , HIV

Testing and general examinations.



A pharmacist on site assisting with the dispensing of various drugs and medication.

Medical Outreach 3 – Yarrowkabra



Blood Pressure Testing among medical services provided.

The community of Yarrowkabra was delighted when a medical team comprising of Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Demerara and other medical practitioners visited the community to once again provide much needed medical services to its residents. This out-



Residents awaiting the provision of several medical services

reach was held on April 10th 2016 and the team provided medical services to approximately fifty (50) persons.

Similar to other medical outreaches services such as sugar

and blood pressure testing, dental care and general medical checks were provided. Villagers were extremely accommodating and were pleased with the services they received.



Club members assisting with the sorting of prescription drugs



A resident of the community receiving a general medical examination



A child quite happy with the service she received.

Meetings

The president, board of directors 2015-2016 and members of the Club take this opportunity to thank the following persons who presented on a particular area of interest at our weekly meetings/fellowship during the period Jan-June 2016:

- Representative from the National Blood Bank: **Purpose and Importance of the Blood Bank**
- Rotarian Dennis Bassier – Men's Health Coordinator Ministry of Public Health: **Erectile Dysfunction**
- PAG Keith Williams—**Rotarians as Mentors**
- Tamara Rodney—Public Relations Officer GECOM — **Local Government Election**
- Supriya Singh and Anthony Autar—Guyana Foundation—**Work and role of the Foundation in Guyana.**



Mr. Sherod Duncan—Deputy Mayor of Georgetown

- Mr. Richard Pitman—Script Writer/ Producer—**Film Making and Production in Guyana**
- Mr. Sherod Duncan—Deputy Mayor of Georgetown—**Plans and Challenges of New Council**
- Mr. Eric Antinucci—Director of US Embassy Georgetown Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP) -**Student Exchange with Columbia**
- Mr. David Bertelli –**ISO 2000 and the work of the French Consulate**
- Dr. C.P.Giri—Rotary Club of Richmond Hill Ontario—**Procurement of the Dental Bus (Joint Project Initiative)**



Rot. Dennis Bassier delivering his presentation.

- Quyanne Powers—Guyana Women Miners Association.—**Role and work of the GWMA**
- Ms. Marjorie Arjune-Pritipaul– Ministry of Public Health– **Maternal and Children Health Services.**



Ms. Supriya Singh—Founder , Guyana Foundation

Service Projects

Refurbishing of the Recreation Area— David Rose School for Special Needs



Helping Hands—Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Demerara and Rotary Club of Massachusetts

Painting and Resurfacing of the Basketball Court



Rotarians organizing various aspects of the work.

Happy faces was the description given to children of the David Rose School for Special Needs, when the school received the necessary labour and resources needed to relocate and rehabilitate their recreational/play area. As part of their exchange humanitarian visit to Guyana friends and family of

the Rotary Club of Massachusetts and The Rotary Club of Demerara joined every effort in bringing this project to fruition. The Head Teacher of the school expressed gratitude to all Rotarians. The visiting Rotarians were hosted by the RCOD and enjoyed several activities and sceneries through out their stay in Guyana.



Happy faces— Students of the School

Tree Trimming and Repairs to Recreational Shed at Archer's Home



The renovated shed at Archer's Home.

The compound of Archer's Home received a much needed enhancement when two Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Demerara joined efforts and resources to trim overhanging trees, renovate and paint the recreational shed (mobile shed that can be relocated to any area of the compound) and

fence of the compound. This project was made possible by PP Ian Ceasar (Safeway Security Inc) and Rot. Bhageswar Murli. Occupants of the home can now enjoy additional outdoor activities. The Board and members of the Club expressed many thanks to the sponsors of this project..



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Vocational Service Award

Annually, the Rotary Club of Demerara recognises the services of an individual or organisation who has achieved a high level of excellence in his or her vocation and who, through such vocation, has rendered outstanding service to the community. This year the Club endeavoured to highlight and recognise the work of Ms. Denise Dias, founder of **“Help and Shelter”**, a shelter organization for women and children who are exposed to domestic violence, **“Mother’s in Black”** and the **Alicea Foundation**. Ms. Dias was honoured for her continued unwavering dedication and exemplary service in areas such as advocacy against domestic violence towards women and children and legislative changes to traffic laws. Through the efforts and dedication of Ms. Dias and her team several women and children garnered the strength, will power and resources needed to reintegrate themselves back into society.



PAG Marcel Gaskin presenting the award to Ms. Dias in the presence of President Renata Chuck-a-Sang

Presidential Project



Friends and family of Rotarians giving a helping hand in the project

Joining the Fight against Gender Based Violence: Domestic violence, particularly gender based violence, has been on the increase in Guyana. At the beginning of the rotary year (2015-2016) the Board of Directors and members of the Rotary Club of Demerara made a decision to embark on a major project which involved joining the campaign to end gender-based violence in our community. In partnership with Help & Shelter and various sponsors, twenty three (23) advocacy message signs were designed and mounted in communities in central Georgetown, West Bank and East Coast Demerara. Each sign informed persons of where assistance can be sought in the event that they are exposed to gender based and domestic violence.



Making it visible!—Rotarians mounting signs at Lusignan, East Coast of Demerara



Rotarians mounting signs in Parika, Region 3



One of the signs.

Fundraising

Raffle



Fifth prize being presented by Rotarian



*Fourth prize presented by President
(2015-2016) Renata Chuck-a-Sang*



*Second Prize presented by PP Patrick
DeGroot*

As part of its fundraising efforts the Rotary Club of Demerara held its annual raffle during the latter half of the rotary year. To this end several winners emerged and each was delighted to be in receipt of their prize. Proceeds from this raffle were added to the revenue stream of the club to facilitate its

day-to-day expenses.

All prizes were donated by sponsors such as Computer High Tech, Bounty Farm Ltd, Ansa Mc Al, Brain Street and Umami Inc. The Club wishes to express sincere thanks to its sponsors for all donations and to members who sold tickets.



*Sixth prize being presented by Secretary
(2015-2016) Jenelle Blackman*



*Third prize being presented by President
(2015-2016) Renata Chuck-a-Sang*



First place winner—Randolph Yaw



All Prize Winners of the Raffle

CONGRATULATIONS!



*Honouree 2015-2016—Oswald
James (Paul Harris +1)-
Rotarian*



*Honouree 2015-2016—Ramesh
Seebarran - Rotarian*



*Honouree 2015-2016—Ramesh
Dookhoo*



*Honouree 2015-2016—
Ronni Grouper*



Congratulations to all Paul Harris recipients of 2015-2016!

Four individuals (club members and friends of the Rotary Club of Demerara) who contributed US \$1,000 or more in the last Rotary Year (Paul Harris Member) or contributed US\$1000, over a period of time (Paul Harris Fellow) to the Annual Fund, Polio Plus Fund, or approved Foundation grants were honoured and received the prestigious Paul Harris Awards. The purpose of the Paul Harris Recognition Award is to identify, engage, and thank members who have the ability and desire to make substantial annual gifts to help communities around the world.

Congratulations are extended to PP Patrick De Groot

on receiving honorary membership of the **Rotary Club of Boundary Canada**. Mr. De Groot played a pivotal role in the implementation of the matching grant project in Region 8. PAG Jan Draper of Boundary presented the certificate of membership on behalf of her club.

Memory Lane

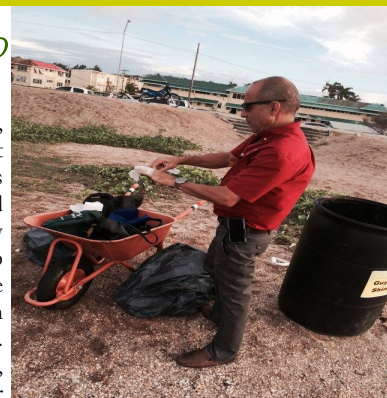
Take Time Tuesdays-Beach Clean Up



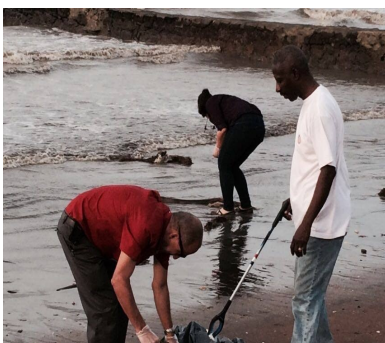
Rotarian Karim de Toledo doing his part in the clean-up campaign

During the latter half of the rotary year, the Rotary Club of Demerara on two occasions participated in the "Take Time Tuesdays, Trash Talking and Beach Walking" This activity was organised by the United States Embassy with the main objective of joining forces in the clean-up campaign. During the exercise, several persons worked together towards creating a clean environment in the Georgetown seawall area.

The exercise involved cleaning, clearing and trash collecting at specific areas of the area and was open to the general public and was held for one hour every Tuesday. On the day the club participated members seized the opportunity to treat participation as a fellowship opportunity. They interacted with each other, community members and other groups during and after the exercise in a social setting.



PP Patrick DeGroot participating in the activity.



"Each one help one" -Rotarians helping to clean along the Georgetown Seawall.

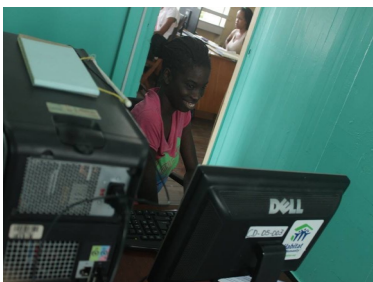


An open invitation for all to participate.



Several Rotarians interact as they participate in the activity.

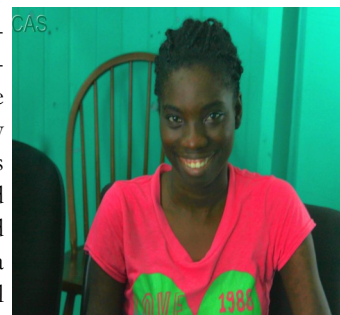
Donation of Desktop Computer and Computer Training Tuition Fees



Althea Lespoir - testing features of her new computer

At age 22 and being unable to stand or walk, Althea Lespoir continues to rise above her physical challenges and endeavours to become computer literate. Last May, Althea became one happy young lady when she received a Dell desk top computer and tuition fees to attend computer training classes as part

of a joint donation from the Rotary Club of Demerara and Habitat for Humanity Guyana. While the computer was donated by Habitat for Humanity, tuition was made possible through the kind sponsorship of Surveying and Project Management Inc. Althea was extremely elated to receive all donations.



A happy Althea!

Sharing our Guiding Principles

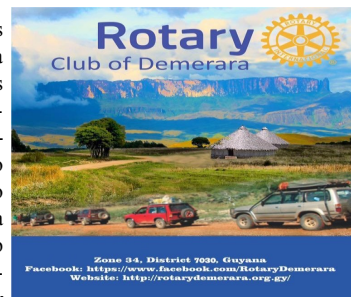


Four Way Test Sign being installed by Rotarians at Parika Stelling.

The 4-Way Test guides the way of life and represents the guiding principles by which each Rotarian endeavours to live. Over the years the Rotary Club of Demerara continues to share this philosophy publicly within several communities. During the year 2015-2016, permission was granted to the Club to install a sign with the test at the Parika Ferry Stelling. The Club believes that this message should be known and followed by all Rotarians as well as persons living in our communities.

Creation of our Pennant/Flag

With the input of several of its members the Rotary Club of Demerara created a new Pennant. The new pennant depicts landmarks found in the county of Demerara and further highlights the unique identity of the club. Rotarians traveling to distant locations often take a pennant to exchange at "make-up" meetings as a token of friendship. Exchanging club pennants is a very pleasant custom, especially when a creative and artistic banner tells an interesting story of community pride.



New Pennant of the Rotary Club of Demerara .



Rotary club members are part of a diverse group of professional leaders working to address various community and international service needs.

Interested in joining?



Rotaract Updates

Joint Fellowship Installation of Board—2016-2017

The Rotaract Club of Linden organised and held a joint fellowship activity with the Rotaract Club of the University of Guyana. The camping event served as an opportunity to interact and bond as fellow Rotaractors. Several activities were held and sustainable ideas were shared among all participants.



Its fellowship time! - Rotaractors from Linden and University of Guyana



President Deryck Collins being presented with club charter by Ramesh Seebarran - President 2016-2017

Congratulations! The Rotaract Club of Linden held its installation dinner during the month of July.

The New Board—2016-2017—Rotaract Club of Linden

In support of the new President—Deryck Collins, the new board looks forward to making a difference in the town of Linden.

Rotary Club of Demerara

Website

<http://www.rotarydemerara.org.gy/>

Meeting Location

Pegasus Hotel
Seawall Rd., Kingston,
Georgetown, Guyana

Meeting Date and Time:

Tuesdays 6:00 PM

THANK YOU

The Board(2015-2016) extends heartfelt thank you to our members, their families and all our sponsors for their support and unwavering commitment during the year 2015-2016 .

- Ansa Mc Al
- Bounty Farm Ltd
- Dapper Technology
- Beharry Group of Companies
- Hand in Hand Insurance

- Sentinel Security Inc
- Beesons
- Ivor Optical
- Safeway Security Inc.
- Surveying and Project Management Inc.



"If Rotary hopes to advance its aims, it must be evolutionary always and at times revolutionary."

Paul Harris

Here's to a great 2016-2017 Rotary year!

DGE Sieglinde Warren



Rotary

"Service Above Self"