A damp fall morning in the great northwest with 15 Lakehead Rotarians on hand plus our “regular” visiting Rotarian Walter Hardie [Hamilton A.M.]; our GSE Tasmania Team member Siobhan O’Malley; our “shared” Exchange Student Juan Luis; Ken’s guest Chris Davidson [who is moving to Thunder Bay from Sioux Lookout]; the Valhalla Inn’s new GM, Mary McLellan [a prospective new member]; Sandy’s guest Marcia Burleigh [also a prospective new member]; and our special guest Ian Smith from the MTO.

President Allan adopts Rotary’s theme for our Club this year… “PEACE THROUGH SERVICE”

ON THE DOOR IN 2012/13:
Richard was on the door today and for the month with Karl on deck for October. Help your Club...pick a month. Contact Sergeant Bill or Clint if you can take a month in our new Rotary year. Here is the “gatekeeper’s” line-up for the new Rotary year:

JULY Mo Papich
AUGUST Karl Ratz
SEPTEMBER Richard Kehrig
OCTOBER Karl Ratz
NOVEMBER Graham Stewart
DECEMBER Graham Stewart

JANUARY Volker Kromm
FEBRUARY Gail Brescia
MARCH Réal Bouchard
APRIL Devon Teeple
MAY Devon Teeple
JUNE Clint Kuschak

OUR FAMILY OF ROTARY IN THUNDER BAY

Celebrating birthdays this month

And anniversary congratulations go out to
Glenn & Laura Craig
Allan & Lori-Ann Kozlo
Roy & Jane Lucas

Note: If we have missed your birthday or anniversary this month, please let us know

Our sponsor this month is INVESTORS GROUP… Thank you Rotarian Dale McGinnis

CLUB MEETING SPONSORSHIP:
If you can help your Club and wish to promote your business or community interests through a month sponsorship, please contact Sergeant Bill or Clint. Here is the sponsorship line-up for 12/13:

JULY Sunset Memorial Gardens
AUGUST Investors Group
SEPTEMBER Investors Group
OCTOBER Regional Food Dist.
NOVEMBER John Howard Society
DECEMBER NOSM

JANUARY Garry Kushner
FEBRUARY Investors Group
MARCH Bob Ikola
APRIL MS Society
MAY Salvation Army
JUNE 4 Star Rotarians
CALENDAR – MEETINGS & EVENTS:

**SEPTEMBER – NEW GENERATIONS MONTH**

- **SEPT 21** UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
- **SEPT 22** ROTARY SHELTER FOOD DRIVE
- **SEPT 23** MILES WITH THE GIANT MARATHON
- **SEPT 27** DET. CONSTABLE CHRIS DUNNILL
  - T.B. POLICE COMPUTER CRIME UNIT
- **SEPT 27** CANADA CLUB MEETING

**OCTOBER – VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH**

- **OCT 3** BOARD MEETING
- **OCT 4** MICHELLE KOLOBUTIN/PREVENT SKIN CANCER
- **OCT 8** THANKSGIVING
- **OCT 11** ROY TURNER – ROTARY FOUNDATION
- **OCT 18** REGULAR MEETING CANCELLED...
- **OCT 18** CLUB VISIONING FOR LAKEHEAD ROTARY
- **OCT 25** BUSINESS MEETING

**NOVEMBER – ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH**

- **NOV 1** ROY TURNER – ROTARY “FUTURE VISION”
- **NOV 7** BOARD MEETING
- **NOV 8** GSE TASMANIA – TEAM MEMBERS
  - SIOBHAN O’MALLEY, KATHRYN HILDEBRANDT & HEATHER MINTHORN
- **NOV 11** REMEMBRANCE DAY...
- **NOV 15** BUSINESS MEETING
- **NOV 17** ROTARY CHRISTMAS PARADE
- **NOV 22** LEE STUESSER, FOUNDER DEAN OF LAW
  - FACULTY OF LAW, LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY
- **NOV 29** OPEN
- **NOV 29** CANADA CLUB MEETING

**DECEMBER – THE FAMILY OF ROTARY MONTH**

- **DEC 1 & 2** DECEMBER DREAMS SHOW – CLE COLISEUM
- **DEC 5** BOARD MEETING
- **DEC TBA** CHRISTMAS SOCIAL WITH FW ROTARIANS
- **DEC 6** OPEN
- **DEC TBA** SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS KETTLES
- **DEC 13** OPEN
- **DEC 20** BUSINESS MEETING & CLUB ELECTIONS
- **DEC 25** CHRISTMAS EVE
- **DEC 26** CHRISTMAS DAY
- **DEC 27** OPEN
- **DEC 31** NEW YEAR’S EVE

**PRESENTATION:**

Ian Smith is Regional Director Northwest for the Ministry of Transportation Ontario.

MTO Regional Offices are responsible for the planning, design, construction, maintenance, operations and management of the provincial highway network.

Ian provided an information-packed review of the MTO’s mandate and current and future work across the Northwest region. He illustrated the MTO’s 7-point Strategic Directions for 2010 – 2015 noting that $230 million is currently invested in this Region - $150 million of that for roads and bridges and $80 million for expansion.

In 2011/12 234 km of highway will be paved with an additional 285 km resurfaced. Ian noted that in 2012 the major focus has been on pavement and bridges...something most of us can relate to as we travel the road east of Thunder Bay. He talked about the work completed, underway, and yet to start in the Thunder Bay to Nipigon corridor. The new Nipigon River Bridge is nearing the end of a 2-year design phase and will begin construction soon.

He talked about the unique features and design of this bridge due to the sensitive nature of the river and environment. He also talked about a major archaeological discovery in the McKenzie River area.

![Rendering of the new Nipigon River Bridge. When it is completed it will be Ontario’s first suspension bridge.](image1)

The McKenzie River twin bridges coming together...

![The McKenzie River twin bridges coming together…](image2)

Each structure is three-span, slab on steel girder bridges supported on reinforced concrete piers and abutments founded on bedrock. Each bridge supports two 3.75 m traffic lanes, with 3.0 m shoulders. The overall length of the bridges is 180m with span lengths of 50m – 80m – 50m. The bridge deck utilizes full-depth precast construction in order to accelerate construction, ensure high quality concrete in a remote location and to reduce long-term maintenance. The joints between the precast panels and deck connections were constructed using Ductal Ultra-high performance concrete and the Mackenzie River Bridges represent the largest field-cast Ductal project in North America to date.

The precast deck panels and the structural steel were tendered as advance contracts in order to facilitate the timely delivery of these components and to facilitate construction of the new bridges in one construction season.

Ian talked at length about new construction and engineering technologies and new materials that are intended to make building of highway infrastructure more cost-effective and to give longer life to elements such as bridges.
David Norris from Lakehead University is leading an archaeological dig near Thunder Bay that has uncovered a remarkable number of artifacts dating as far back as 9,000 years.

And here’s a heads-up for those planning to donate a cooked turkey for the feast. Safeway currently has turkeys on for $.99 per pound. Buy now to save for the Shelter dinner. Not to be outdone, today’s Superstore flyer offers Utility Grade turkeys at $.95 per pound. Good value.

Ian wrapped up his presentation with a review of other MTO responsibilities including the operation of numerous remote airports in Northwestern Ontario. And then there is the big area of ongoing maintenance and winter road clearing…that is now being carried out by contractors working on long-term contracts.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: G. Brescia, Service Director

ROTARY SHELTER FOOD DRIVE:

Our Club is set to help raise food and dollars for Rotary Shelter House during their annual food drive...on Saturday, September 22nd at our usual location – Metro Store in the Arthur Street Marketplace [across the road from the Valhalla Inn]. The hours will be 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and the sign-up sheet is now full... thank you Rotarians.

ROTARY SHELTER HOUSE – TURKEY DINNER:

We are booked to donate, cook and serve a complete turkey dinner on Monday, October 29th. This is another of our annual community service projects and Lakehead Rotarians, family and friends contribute everything for the occasion. The sign-up list was available today and is starting to fill nicely. The push will begin in earnest next week to cover the list and recruit volunteers to help peel, chop, slice, cook and serve the meal.

TERRY FOX RUN:
The annual Terry Fox Run was held last Sunday with approximately 500 participants running or walking around Boulevard Lake. Several Lakehead Rotarians came out to help at the registration table and for other jobs on site. Don Morrison was our leader once again and he reported today that $15,000 was raised for the Fox Foundation. Local media coverage of the event was quite good and Rotary was clearly identified with the success of this seasonal event.

FELLOWSHIP FINES:

Karl executed a fine display of loonie extraction...starting out with Dale for missing a few meetings in his “sponsored month”. Those who have not yet signed on for the Club Visioning session were recognized as were those who have not signed on for a shift at the Shelter House food drive on Saturday. Those who have not yet taken a month of service this Rotary year as gatekeeper for our meetings were also recognized. And with time running out, Karl happily accepted tribute from all those not wearing red socks...a time-tested ploy to guarantee a sweep. Richard offered a sad/happy dollar acknowledging that our usual Valhalla server – Jessica – has returned to Lakehead University in the School of Nursing...sad for us but great for Jessica. Allan offered his happy dollar acknowledging the great turnout for today’s meeting and the introduction of two new prospective members.

50/50 DRAW:

Our happy 50/50 winner of the Foundation points was Karl...and the winner of the bonus prize of two tickets to a comedy show donated by our sponsor Dale was Anne Hinton.

NEXT MEETING:

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2012
DET. CONSTABLE CHRIS DUNNILL
T.B. POLICE COMPUTER CRIME UNIT