

ROTARY ACTION FOR THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF AIDS RESPONSES

## ON THE RADAR

### WELCOME

November is indeed a bleary month, generally overcast, sometimes rain, but more often snow flurries. For many it's just the month before Christmas, but to Aids agencies, organizations and activists it's a great month! November means National Aids Week, this year November 23 culminating in World Aids Day, December 1, 2008.

It's rewarding, for always there are invitations to do presentations, be involved with a variety of December 1st activities and network with people, learn about their projects and often develop partnerships simply by virtue of "walking the talk". Please let me know what plans you made so we might include them in the next newsletter: [jashley@radar7070.org](mailto:jashley@radar7070.org)

### RADAR CALENDAR

- Friday, November 7, 2008, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm the 4th annual Wine and Art Safari will take place at The Station Gallery, 1450 Henry St., Whitby (at Victoria St., West). Funds raised will support ongoing overseas projects; of note, The Howard Hospital in Zimbabwe. This great South African Wine tasting event will also feature Zimbabwe's stone sculptor, Passmore Mashaya. A silent auction of authentic African art is also available.  
Hosted by the Rotary Club of Whitby  
Tickets \$50.00 each  
Contact Ray Richardson – 905-430-2350  
Joanne Ashley -- 905-571-4829  
Further Info visit: <http://rotarywhitby.org/pdf/winesafari.pdf>
- Tuesday, November 25, 2008, 7:15am Rotary Club of Whitby's breakfast meeting, hear from RADAR Chair Joanne Ashley and the Club's W.C.S. Chair, Ray Richardson give an update on HIV-AIDS 2008, some of the facts and myths surrounding HIV and AIDS. The meeting place, Whitby Public Library, 405 Dundas St. West, Rotary Room.

### FALL 2008

This November 2008 edition of "ON THE RADAR" includes . . .

- RADAR Calendar
- Recent HIV and AIDS happenings
- News
- Success Stories
- Keeping 'on the RADAR'.



Joanne Ashley, Director RADAR7070

*"On The RADAR" is a quarterly e-mail bulletin designed to update our readers as to the progress of Rotary District 7070's Aids Action Committee. We always welcome news from your Club, your Community and your work in Developing Countries. This first edition will primarily focus on some vital African projects and acquaint you with some recent events as well as highlight upcoming events.*

### RECENT HIV-AIDS HAPPENINGS

- Casey House Volunteers and Staff hosted their annual appreciation luncheon in the Casey House Foundation Courtyard, 119 Isabella Street, Toronto on Thursday, September 18, 2008. District Governor nominee Doug Byers and Joanne Ashley, Chair of RADAR 7070, were pleased to attend and once again witness how Casey House touches the lives of those so in need.
- The Rotary Club of Whitby and the Whitby Sunrise Club joined in partnership to host a 'Dine Out' at the *Desiam Thai*, a fellow Rotarian's restaurant where wonderful Thai food was served. The purpose of this unique fundraiser was to assist in the

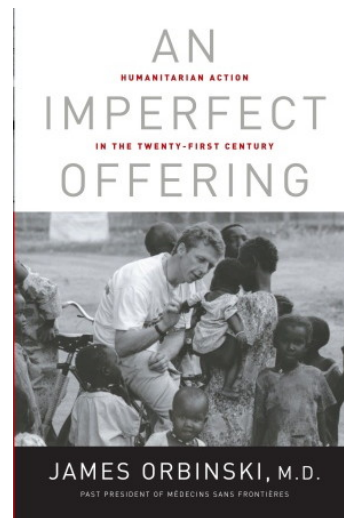


## RECENT HIV-AIDS HAPPENINGS

Sunrise Club's Thailand Project and for the Whitby Club to assist Chris Kalema, from Uganda, to restore his children's orphanage which was severely damaged by fire. Casey House Toronto had wonderful National Television coverage on *CTV News Tonight* on October 15 2008. The feature addressed the epidemic, age demographics and the fallacy that treatment is a cure. All this while Casey House, specifically TD Waterhouse presented the fundraiser for Casey House Auction 2008, *Art With Heart* on Tuesday October 28<sup>th</sup>. What a great event!

## NEWS

- Dr. James Orbinski was present at a private screening of the documentary, *Dr. Orbinski and Triage*. His newly released book *AN IMPERFECT OFFERING* was available and the Documentary has been selected to be seen in select theaters in Toronto and Vancouver beginning October 31, 2008.
- New Health Minister, Barbara Hogan, South Africa, broke from a decade of discredited Government policies on AIDS declaring the disease was, without question, caused by HIV and requires conventional medication. Former Health Minister, Manto Tshabalala-Msimang created ten years of denial regarding the link between HIV and AIDS. (source – Toronto Star)
- District RADAR 7070 in 2008 – 09 has been assigned to World Community Service under Director Lynn Bird.



## SUCCESS STORIES

- A great success story came in from Dr. Ruth Mathieson from The Rotary Club of Belleville:

*Briefly, I am off to work in Zanzibar at Assiah's clinic a gynecological clinic, and at the local hospital called Mnaza Mmoja, (meaning one coconut) after the street on which the hospital resides. We try to treat all comers, those with HIV/AIDS and every other disease, as one cannot address AIDS without addressing Malaria, T.B., Typhoid fever and poverty, too. I will be there for a month. From Jan until July I was finding 2 anesthetic machines (old but in working order) and an O.R. table, and dental chair+ medical equipment, clothes, books, blankets etc to, fill a 20ft container, which left Kingston and Belleville for Stone Town, Zanzibar. The hospital serves 1 M, and has 2 anesthetic machines that work, but can only run on isoflurathane, and they cannot get a steady supply of same and so have no general anesthesia. I continue to knit ponchos for friends etc, the money I spend on the wool goes to Mully's children in Kenya, children orphaned by AIDS. I will take wool with me to knit in the evenings. Thank you to The Rotary Club of Belleville for their support of \$5,000.00 for medical supplies. Dr. Ruth Mathieson*

- News of our Zimbabwe Projects and Partnerships as submitted by Ray Richardson for The Rotary Club of Whitby:

Our continued work with the Salvation Army Howard Hospital is especially important as they struggle with political and economic chaos (211 Million % inflation as of last month). Using a Rotary Matching grant with club partners – RC of Belleville, RC of Scarborough,



## SUCCESS STORIES

RC of Whitby we were able to purchase \$49,000 US in medications split evenly between general medications and HIV/AIDS medications. In all cases Medications have be purchased outside of Zimbabwe and shipped to the hospital to avoid their inflationary woes. The ARV meds have meant that those already on ARV's are supplied with medication not always available but critical to their individual regimes and survival. An added bonus was the use of Health Partners International (Cdn organization with HQ in Montreal) to supply general medications at a fraction of the original budgeted cost ie approx \$30,000 value for about \$6,000. Therefore our combined support was closer to \$63,000 US.

We are happy to report that the last shipments have been delivered to the hospital, so in all of the Zimbabwe chaos, we have again been able to provide those receiving services from the hospital basic and more than basic meds. Under the direction of Dr Paul Thistle and with the help of volunteers at the hospital they continue to function and serve many in desperate need which is truly remarkable.

Their gratitude for our support is not to be taken for granted when so many have pulled back from any support in Zimbabwe.

If you would like to assist in future projects of Fuel and Education supplies to their schools please contact Ray Richardson at the Rotary Club of Whitby. Ray Richardson, WCS Chair, Rotary Club of Whitby.

### ➤ As requested, a wonderful story from the Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton came in from president Jackie Scroggie

April 20, 2008

Dear President

The Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton invites your support of a project that holds promise to save the lives of African infants born of mothers with HIV/AIDS.

The two-year project in Zambia is a clinical study directed by Dr Michael Silverman of University of Toronto and Lakeridge Health Centre and the staff of the University of Zambia. The project would study the effect of a combination of medications including the drug Aluvia, in an attempt to prevent mother to child transmission of HIV. Dr Silverman has received a grant from a pharmaceutical company for the drugs to conduct this study.

We are hopeful that a combination of medications will protect the child, not only during pregnancy, and childbirth, but also during breast-feeding. Making breast feeding safe will also allow the child to get all of the benefits of breast feeding critical to prevent pneumonia and diarrhea, which are major killers of children in sub-Saharan Africa. Furthermore this treatment will likely improve the health of mothers and prevent children becoming orphans. If this program is successful, it will become a model for similar programs elsewhere in Africa, and thus has the potential for a huge benefit in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

Two nurses are required for this study to ensure that the drug regimen is followed and to monitor the health of mothers and babies throughout the study. The cost of the nurses' salaries is approximately \$40,000 for two years. Their salaries are not funded by the study and this is where we need your assistance. Drawing on the financial resources of our McClure



### SUCCESS STORIES

Foundation, The Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton will match dollar for dollar any funds contributed by other Rotary Clubs in our district to pay for the nurse's salaries.

The McClure Foundation was established in the memory of Dr. Bob McClure, a medical surgeon, and a Rotarian, dedicated to providing medical care to the less fortunate at home and around the world. Dr McClure pioneered rural health care workers in China, encouraged family planning in India and instigated some of Rotary's first immunization campaigns. The Foundation supports projects that will improve the quality of life through medical training in any aspect of health care-- prevention or program delivery.

If you would like to partner with us in this exciting project, please contact Jayne Gresham at 416-483-3228 or [jaynegresham@sympatico.ca](mailto:jaynegresham@sympatico.ca). We would be pleased to speak to your club to provide additional information.

Yours truly,

Jayne Gresham, Chair, World Community Service Committee

Jackie Scroggie, President, Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton

### KEEPING ON THE RADAR

Your involvement in our newsletter has been really gratifying. Our next edition will be out in the New Year, so in the interim keep me informed so you can be "On The RADAR".

Thank you so much,

Joanne Ashley,  
Chair RADAR 7070,  
[jashley@radar7070.org](mailto:jashley@radar7070.org)  
905-571-4829

### About RADAR

**Mission:** RADAR provides leadership by challenging and empowering Rotarians at the Club level to respond to the HIV and AIDS pandemic.

**Approach:** We work with community partners locally, nationally, and internationally, for the good of all people infected or affected by HIV and AIDS.

**Our Start:** October 2003, the Rotary Club of Whitby's Aids Action Committee provided a panel discussion at District 7070's conference. Mr. Stephen Lewis, former U.N. Special Envoy to HIV and Aids, presented a dynamic and thought-provoking message on the World Status of Aids.

November 2003 District Governor Bill MacKay, in a call-to-action, requested a measurable HIV and Aids operational plan be formulated. This was completed for presentation by RADAR founder J. Ashley in January 2004.

March 2004 District Governor 7070 Bill MacKay, Dr. James Orbinski, Stephen Lewis and Bill Carter 7080 endorsed RADAR as a Rotary grassroots vehicle to assist in the cause of addressing the Aids Pandemic from Communities to Continents.