



Today's Program

Fellowship Meeting

Topic

Musical Concert

Host

John Andras

Location

Ontario Room, The Faimont Royal York Hotel



In recent years the club has developed a tradition of having a musical component the first meeting in August. This year we are not only having an accomplished cello player but our gathering will be in the form of a fellowship meeting which will include a buffet

lunch. This relaxed and enjoyable time will be an opportunity for you to bring friends to share in enjoyable listening and good fellowship.

The music will be provided by an outstanding cellist, Lydia Munchinsky. Lydia is a freelance performer and teacher currently residing and working in Toronto. She is a graduate of The Glenn Gould School of Music in Toronto where she studied with Simon Fryer. Also, she teaches both privately and with Sistema Toronto. Additionally, she performs and records in a wide variety of musical genres. She enjoys playing in chamber music recitals, has performed solo recitals across the province and in the United States, plays regularly with the Arraymusic Ensemble, and recently joined a chamber folk group called Ozere. She has been featured on CBC with her former piano quartet Veritas, performed the Haydn D+ Concerto with the Deep River Orchestra, and worked in music theatre productions at Stage West and Theatre Aquarius. Lydia has her ARCT in performance for both cello and piano.

Lydia grew up near Aylmer, Ontario and began piano lessons at the age of four. Six years later, she added a second instrument, the cello. At the ages of ten and twelve she performed at the International Suzuki Conventions in Australia and Korea. Before moving to Toronto in 2000, Lydia traveled across Europe with her cello. While there, she spent three months at Swiss l'Abri, an international Christian study and philosophy centre, where met her husband Marty. When she is not practising, teaching or performing, Lydia enjoys painting, playing soccer and tennis, and even making ice cream.



Welcome New Member Kurt Kroesen

Kurt was born in the Netherlands and moved to Canada at about 4 years of age. Came across like many, on a ship and by train to Toronto. Thankfully, he only remembers the good parts: running around the ship, the clackety clack of the train's wheels and not the bad parts: being sea-sick.

Kurt's parents were Dutch immigrants who, like so many thousands of others, fled Europe after WWII and the awful conditions. They came to Canada with 3 children in tow seeking a new life in this country called Canada. With hard work, perseverance and some luck they were able to establish a way of life that supported all 8 of their children as well as themselves. Having all that free labour on the farm also helped.

Kurt started his education in the proverbial rural one-room school. Then he progressed to 3 rooms and on to high school. After many years of on again and off again education he managed an MBA and a CMA.

Kurt undertook a career in financial planning and accounting in a food processing/marketing company. After 13 years there in positions of increasing responsibility he joined a major health charity where he became Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. After 19 years of helping fight the battle against the tidal wave of diabetes he retired. He now does some contract work and quite a bit of volunteering.

Kurt is in a long standing relationship with a very wonderful lady, Mary. After the trying times of financial struggles, blending a family of 5 children, ex-in-laws, extended relationships and maintaining a home, they are now able to enjoy life together more fully in retirement. Travel is high on the agenda of activities as is time at the cottage in Prince Edward Island. Kurt and Mary both volunteer, keep an active social life and work hard at keeping good health.

Kurt and Mary currently live on the Danforth in Toronto in a manageable home. They have traded house and lot size for freedom to travel and pursue other interests.

Kurt has had a long interest in joining Rotary for the fellowship and opportunity to serve; however, the demands of career, family and education were too great to allow joining. Now that he has more time he would like to become a member to develop relationships and serve the community.

JOIN ROTARY NOW!

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The Rotary Club of Toronto
65th Annual

- Golf Tournament -

Join us on
Thursday August 22nd,
at
The Richmond Hill Golf Club

Registration is now open on the
Rotary Website: **CLICK HERE**

Please contact Mathew Harrison,
(416) 868-3578
mharrison@burgundyasset.com

Proceeds to Princess
Margaret Cancer Foundation
in support of club and
golf committee member
Diane Watson

Sponsors and Donations
Needed



The 105th Rotary International Conference

- by Maureen Bird and Don Bell

27 club members and guests flocked to Lisbon in June for a wonderful week. It was not only a great conference but most of us took advantage of "being there" to take in fabulous tours around Portugal and Spain. The good news! Rotary is alive and well as evidenced by 20,000 plus descending on a city rich with history. Because Lisbon held a World Fair in 1998, there was a fabulous convention facility ready for us. The subway system in a city of 550,000 would make Torontonians weep with jealousy and the country's four lane highways are not only more numerous than Ontario's but generally free of traffic jams!

Polio Plus is working! There have been no new cases in Afghanistan in 6 months. The speakers left us inspired and the entertainment made the price of admission worthwhile. From Il Divo, to Fado to cellos, orchestras and opera there was something for everybody's taste. Speaking of taste, food was spectacular. Most



of us enjoyed the Zone dinner with grilled meats a la Brazil! Plus we organized two group dinners where we were able to sample fine Portuguese cooking and enjoy some fellowship with our friends. The Portuguese are famous for their BBQ'd fish and their custard tarts. Maybe something to serve at Camp Scugog.

We have returned renewed with fresh ideas and new hope. Next year, Sydney!

What You Missed July 26th 2013

- by Sandy Boucher



The old adage that you should never let a past president have the podium is a sound one as demonstrated this week when monitor Geoffrey Johnson turned his spell at the microphone into a presentation for President Richard (a chocolate muffin with a candle) to celebrate his 26th birthday as a Rotarian. This was entertaining stuff - but was actually overshadowed by Geoffrey's mangling of the name of almost every visiting Rotarian and guest and even some of our own club members. Quite memorable.

The meeting was well attended and we had many guests including VIPs from the Sherborne Health Center, Sketch and Shelterbox and Rotarians from Toronto and the USA. Ross Amos gave a delightful presentation about the golf tournament which will raise funds for the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation in support of club and golf committee member Diane Watson who is currently fighting her own battle with cancer. President Richard picked Michele Guy as the early bird winner, this was also rather a special moment as he had taken much of his speech to tease her.....was this a set up?

Our speaker was the impressive Michael Shapcott, Director of Housing & Innovation at The Wellesley Institute who after an excellent introduction from John Andras spoke to us about his work with the Prince's Charities Canada and in particular the "Seeing is Believing" program. Michael explained that the project works to introduce business leaders to pressing social issues in their communities and gets them to commit to doing something about it and making a difference. The project emphasizes hands on involvement over cheque writing. I am sure that I was not the only Rotarian in the room who saw many parallels with the work of our club. It was an interesting and well delivered presentation and I particularly enjoyed learning about the active role that "Prince George's Grandfather" takes in this hands on charitable work that really makes a difference.

The 50/50 draw was won by Harold Hetherington who took home a fine bottle of wine.

Upcoming Speakers & Events

August 2013

- 9 Lydia Munchinsky, Cello Concert & Fellowship Luncheon
- 16 Chris Snyder, Author, "Be Smart With Your Money"
- 22 Club's 65th Annual Golf Tournament
- 23 Valerie Wafer, Governor, Rotary District 7070
- 30 No Meeting, Labour Day Weekend

September 2013

- 6 Wendy Cuthbertson, Historian
- 13 Eugene Jones, CEO, Toronto Community Housing
- 20 Lt General Yvan Blondin, Commanding Officer, RCAF
- 27 Olivia Chow, Member of Parliament

Propose a Speaker
Peter Simmie, Chair

Program Committee
peter.simmie@bristolgate.com

Editor of the Week
Don Bell

Editor for August 16, 2013
Maureen Bird

What You Missed Reporter for August 16th
Valerie Clarke

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