

## Today's Program

Bill Blair: Chief of Police, Toronto Police Services

## Topic

Toronto Police Services

## Location

Imperial Room, Fairmont Royal York



William Blair was appointed Chief of the Toronto Police Service on April 26, 2005. Chief Blair started his 35-plus year policing career as a beat officer in downtown Toronto, and continued with assignments in drug enforcement, organized crime units, and major criminal investigations. Promoted to the senior ranks of the Service, his postings included Divisional Commander, Community Policing Programs, and Detective Operations, responsible for all specialized investigative units. Chief Blair holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Toronto with dual disciplines of Economics and Criminology (1981), a Certificate in Law Enforcement Administration from the University of Toronto (1983) and a Certificate in Criminal Justice from the University of Virginia (1990). He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy (1990), the Police Leadership Program of the University of Toronto, Rotman School of Business Management (2002) and the National Executive Institute (2006).

## Host Family Needed for One Summer Week

The following letter was forwarded to our Youth and Children's Services Committee. If you are interested and can help, would you please call Pat Neuman.

*Good evening,*

*My name is Francesca Lazzarato Gomiero. I live in Padua, Italy. My husband, Enrico, is member of the Rotary Club of Padova Euganea District 2060. Our son, Riccardo, is going to participate in the Rotary International Youth Camp in Sioux Lookout, Ontario, from July 19th to July 23rd. As he is already there, he would like to stay a week more in Canada possibly in Toronto to immerse in your culture as well as to widen his horizon.*

*Could you kindly let us know if someone from the Rotarian family would be willing to host him from July 23rd to July 30th? In exchange we would host their child in Italy in any other period suitable for the families.*

*Just to let you know more about us ;  
We have two sons, Riccardo 18 years old and Federico 19 years old. We have already experienced the Rotary Youth Exchange program two years ago when we hosted a boy from Oregon for a month. It has been a rewarding experience for both us and the boys and we would like to relive that again. Riccardo is attending the high school, he is a quiet guy, very sportive and easygoing, he doesn't smoke. Hence for him, this is his first time being away from the family and out of Europe. For this reason I would feel more comfortable knowing that he is staying with a Rotarian family and that he would be in safe hands. I dearly hope you would lend us a hand in finding a host family. I thank you in advance for the help.*

*I look forward to hearing from you soon.*

*Your sincerely  
Francesca and Enrico*

## The Senior Citizens Committee Forum – by Bert Steenburgh



On Friday February 28th 2014 approximately 40 community leaders representing diverse perspectives and deep knowledge of issues impacting senior citizens met at the National Club. They were hosted by the club's Senior Citizens Committee, supported by a number of other interested RCT members. We were there to guide the Senior Citizens Committee in the evolution of a strategic plan which will direct our efforts, financially and otherwise, as we continue a rich and proud history the RCT has of impacting the lives of seniors in our city to help them live with hope and dignity. We were lead by club member Dr. Sylvia Geist supported by members of the committee. Rotarians and community leaders worked in groups to develop key priorities to guide our club's efforts in the coming years as we invest our human financial resources to impact the lives of seniors in the most meaningful way possible. We started with a pretty large and open canvass and the early going was a difficult process with so many divergent views and perspectives represented in the room. A key guiding principle revolved around focusing upon a role and approaches which matched our club's resources and the desire to have a hands-on focus for our work. The Rotarians in the room made it clear to our community partners that, although we do have financial resources to invest, we like to be more than just "cheque writers."

3 key areas of service emerged;

- 1) Housing/Shelter/Support Services for Senior Citizens
- 2) Health /Nutrition
- 3) Equitable and Fair Access To Services/Navigation / Transportation/ Pathways To Services

Each breakout group submitted almost 40 more specific program ideas under these broad areas of service providing more concrete guidance to drive our planning. Here are a few examples;

1. 211 (information line for seniors) - providing ease of navigation across Toronto
  - expansion of model
  - leverage what already exists
  - bring partners together
  - feed into a data bank
  - commit to its promotion/build awareness about the model
2. Support existing access programs such as CNAP - Community Navigation and Access Program
3. Support a peer support network - seniors helping seniors

All ideas put forward will require further consideration and investigation.

The Senior Services Committee came away with the following key follow-up actions;

- 1) To analyze & synthesize key findings from the Forum
- 2) To determine the next steps and whether more information and/or data is needed
- 3) To develop the Community Advisory Group: Terms of Reference, parameters, purpose, function and a membership that will represent the diversity of Toronto and its issues.

The forum evaluations presented by all attendees rated the session in the 'good' to 'excellent' category. Many of the participants also commended the club for hosting this opportunity for these agencies to come together – a rare event in their experience and a good opportunity to exchange ideas with each other as well as with Rotarians. Our club has been working to make a positive difference in the lives of senior citizens in our community from very early on in our existence. We have a proud history of doing so, not the least of which is the founding, building and operation of Rotary Laughlin Lodge midway through the 20th century and culminating more recently as a lead donor in the establishment of a new home for at-risk seniors operated by the YWCA on the grounds of the former Laughlin Lodge. It is a source of pride to see RCT members rolling-up their sleeves and working side-by-side in 2014 to continue this rich history. We are all so fortunate for the opportunity to be a part of and continue such a great heritage. Watch for ways you can be engaged in this important work in the months and years ahead.

## Revellers at the Toronto Eglinton Club's 60th Anniversary Gala



President Richard White, Past Presidents, Bert Steenburgh, Neil Phillips, Michele Guy and John Lloyd



## Greetings From Florida – by Don Bell



This is one of those years when I look at the Toronto weather forecast every morning and decide that, in spite of a few shortcomings, spending time here in Florida is worthwhile. Its sunny and 80f as I write this. Other than weather, one of the main draws for us, is going to the Spring Training baseball games. Its eleven years now and I keep saying, “maybe this is the year for the Blue Jays”. Well frankly, I don’t think the ‘boys in blue’ are showing signs of making it a banner year, but it’s still fun to sit in the sun and enjoy a hot dog and a beer photo is of ‘The Beer Man’ the day before St. Pats Day. The Seminole Rotary Club where I usually do a ‘makeup’ is thriving with 63 members including a few part-time Canadian members (called “semi chiefs” for some reason). I am always interested when they start the meeting by pledging allegiance to the flag and singing God Bless America.... and they conclude the meeting by reciting the Four Way Test. Rotary may be worried about membership but ‘Seminole’ is a good example of the fellowship and community spirit that exemplifies so many Rotary clubs around the world. Their golf tournament is this week so I have volunteered to assist. I think my job will be to stand at one of the greens to verify a ‘hole in one’, in the unlikely event that it occurs. I think the prize is \$10,000. One of the other prizes at the banquet following the golf is a Booze Barrel, where your lucky number gets you a choice of bottles, as donated by club members. Of course the costs are more reasonable than at the LCBO. One of my favourite stores here is called Total Wine, which is a big box liquor store...sort of like

Home Depot without the tools. I feel like the proverbial ‘kid in the candy store’. The only trouble is I can’t take home all I want to buy unless I pay the duty...so I have to drink it! Some of the price discounts in the local restaurants are not as desperate as in the past few years, but still pretty good, when you can get two beers for \$3 at happy hour. I believe the economy here is picking up little by little and you can see this in housing sales and construction. I have to say that I’ve not caught one fish yet, that I could keep, or was worth eating. Without Publix we would be starving! One of the problems has been that my poor inflatable boat is coming apart at the seams (a bit



“The Beer Man” the day before St. Pats

like its owner) so there haven’t been many fishing expeditions. There are a few unwritten rules down here. One is, don’t talk politics with the locals...it can only lead to an argument. And there is a law in Florida entitled ‘the stand your ground rule, which simply means that you can defend yourself if you think you are being attacked...it also means that, when you go to the movies, don’t spill your popcorn on your neighbor. You never know what he may have in his pocket! We shall be back in Toronto in a few weeks and as always, it will be good to get home.

## The Issue of the 800 Missing Women - by John Andras



The mandate of the Aboriginal Service Committee is to focus on projects and programs that provide educational opportunities for local and remote aboriginal communities and to educate club members on the realities facing indigenous people in Canada

We meet at the Native Child and Family Wellness Centre, 30 College Street, the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 4:30 pm. All club members are welcome to join us.

There are over 800 missing aboriginal women in Canada. The Federal Government has refused to launch a National Enquiry. This perceived rejection could become a flash point galvanizing First Nations. To understand the position of aboriginal people it is important to hear their voices. Please see the link below.

<http://nationsrising.org/in-the-spirit-of-our-ancestors/>

## The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

### Officers:

President: Richard White  
President-Elect: Steven Smith  
Vice President: David Hetherington  
Treasurer: James McAuley

### Executive Director:

Carol Bieser

### Rotary Club of Toronto

### Charitable Foundation:

Robert Smith, President

### Editor of the Week:

Don Bell

### What You Missed Reporter March 21, 2014

Peter Love

### Editor for March 28, 2014:

Jeff Dobson

## The Four-way test of the things we think, say, or 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?

Submit an Article to the Voice Newsletter:

## Upcoming Speakers & Events

### March 2014

28 D.J. Schneeweiss, Consul General of Israel

### April 2014

4 Karen Stintz Councillor Ward 18  
11 Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto  
18 Easter, no meeting  
25 Earth Day TBA

### May 2014

2 Major General Richard Rohmer

### Events

Mar. 27 - Annual Fundraiser, Steam Whistle Brewery

### Propose a Speaker

Peter Simmie, Chair

### Program Committee

[peter.simmie@bristolgate.com](mailto:peter.simmie@bristolgate.com)



**Psst...  
Can you  
keep a  
secret**

**Don't Leave It To Chance!**  
Thursday, March 27, 2014  
at 6:00 PM

**I'll let you in on a little secret.**  
The Rotary Club of Toronto's Annual Fundraiser will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2014. Spend an evening wheeling and dealing with your Rotary friends, and their friends. And pass it on.

\$125 gets you a buffet dinner, and lots of laughs, your cards are free and so are the good times. You can purchase a table of ten for \$1500 or a full sponsorship package including dinner for ten and corporate acknowledgment for \$5,000.

**The Steam Whistle Brewery**  
255 Bremner Blvd.  
(South East of Rogers Centre)

For tickets or to make a donation go online and follow the links  
[www.rotarytoronto.com](http://www.rotarytoronto.com)

## Rotary Club of Toronto's Annual Club Fundraiser... Thursday, March 27, 2014, 6 p.m.

Spend an evening with your friends, family, work colleagues, wheeling and dealing... For \$125 you get a buffet dinner, good fun, and your cards are free!! Players get a chance for one 'top up' and one 're-buy'...great prizes, including the side tables. Get your spot at the tables and help our club raise money to do the necessary work it does for downtown Toronto projects. Purchase one or two tickets or a table of ten, for \$1,500, or a full sponsorship package, including dinner for ten and corporate acknowledgment, for \$5,000. All proceeds go to the philanthropic work of RCT. Tax receipts of course!! What if you can't attend? Make a donation and you will get the same full tax receipt!

Tickets are available online:

[http://rtc.r-essourcecenter.com/event//index.asp?Event\\_id=60](http://rtc.r-essourcecenter.com/event//index.asp?Event_id=60)

Show up at 6p.m. for food and drinks (drinks only \$5) and have the time of your life!!

If you are able to donate a prize please contact Pat Neuman

[pneuman@welcomewagon.ca](mailto:pneuman@welcomewagon.ca) or 416-889-5673

## What You Missed on March 14th, 2014

– by Bert Steenburgh



This mid-March Rotary experience commenced with the beautiful tones of Knud Westergard at the keyboard as he played a number of bright Spring-like melodies for our enjoyment. With the sun streaming in the windows of the 18th floor banquet room and the joyful chatter of members and guests enjoying the rich fellowship of our club, one really felt so privileged to be in the room.

Our monitor for the day was our esteemed Past-President Jack Robertson (and he actually fits the moniker 'esteemed' unlike some others who only aspire to it). Jack introduced one visiting Rotarian and one Rotaractor plus 23 guests. No doubt, the abundance of guests had something to do with our speaker today ... more about that shortly.

President Richard made a few announcements – the most noteworthy was a reminder for everyone to book now for Camp Scugog – our annual sweat equity and 3 day feast May 23rd to 25th. As a 20 year attendee, I certainly support his encouragement for all members to attend, especially newer members.

Past President, Bill Morari introduced our guest speaker, Robert Deluce the founder and CEO of Porter Airlines. Robert presented to our club in 2008 when his airline was in its early days. Porter and its bold plan to fly from the island airport stirred-up controversy back in the early days. Now, with a major proposed expansion of its fleet to include "whisper jets" to expand their reach to farther destinations, Porter finds itself embroiled in controversy once more.

Robert presented his side of the debate in the forthright and reasoned manner. I will not delve into the pros and cons. I will say that his presentation was compelling and one tends to wish him well as he takes-on the big guys once again to lead the evolution of his dream.

Joyce Westlake had the right number in the 50/50 draw. Alas, she didn't choose the right card so she took home a bottle of wine to share with Brian. Another great day at Rotary.

## INNER WHEEL NEWS: FINAL BRIDGE LUNCHEON on Tuesday, May 7th at the Islington Golf Club.

Mark your calendars and plan to come at 10 a.m. Bridge 10:30 to 12:30; social time until Lunch at 1 p.m. The cost will be \$35. payable to Maryan Tisdale, Ste 707, 1907 Lakeshore Rd. W., Mississauga, ON L5J 1J6. Please send your cheque as soon as possible so we will know numbers for lunch. Thank you. We hope to see as many as possible - non-bridge players for lunch.

**JOIN ROTARY NOW!**  
[www.rotarytoronto.com](http://www.rotarytoronto.com)

**The Rotary Club of Toronto**

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