

Today's Program

Thorkil Sonne, Founder, *Specialisterne*

Topic

The Power of Thinking Differently

Host

Knud Westergaard

Location

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Concert Hall



More and more people are being diagnosed with a disability and struggle to find meaningful and productive jobs in the labour market. At the same time many businesses face a shortage of

skilled employees. The gap between untapped talent among people with disabilities and vacant jobs can be reduced or even removed. The founder of the Danish Social Innovation *Specialisterne* will share experience from Denmark and Canada and discuss how stakeholders can work together to realize the goal to enable one million jobs for people with autism and similar challenges.

Thorkil Sonne is the founder and chairman of *Specialisterne* and *Specialist People Foundation*. Thorkil first became involved in autism when his son Lars was diagnosed with infantile autism in 1999. He became active in the Danish Autism Society, eventually leaving his Technical Director position in an IT startup company to establish *Specialisterne* in 2003. Thorkil has since played an active role in global social entrepreneurship, and was named an Ashoka Fellow in 2009 and Schwab Foundation Social Entrepreneur in 2012. He is now based in the United States where he is driving the expansion of the *Specialisterne* model.

On this special occasion The Rotary Club's lunch has been opened to host the Danish Delegation to Canada to raise awareness for Danish innovations in healthcare and healthy living. Also participating in the lunch will be the Danish Minister of Trade, Mr. Mogens Jensen, Canada's Ambassador to Denmark, Andre Francis Giroux, and the Ambassador of Denmark to Canada, Mr. Niels Boel Abrahamsen.

Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary of Denmark Visit Rotary

HRH the Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik was born in Copenhagen, Denmark on May 26, 1968. HRH the Crown Prince is the son of Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II and His Royal Highness Prince Henrik of Denmark. HRH the Crown Prince is in line to succeed to the throne and is regent when Her Majesty the Queen is out of the country.



TRH the Crown Princess Mary and the Crown Prince Frederik

In 1995, HRH the Crown Prince Frederik obtained an MSc degree in Political Science from Aarhus University. During the course of his studies, he spent one year at Harvard University (1992-1993). He has performed extensive military studies and training in the Household Corps, the Hussars and the elite Naval Diving Corps, becoming a First Lieutenant in 1995.

HRH the Crown Prince Frederik was posted as First Secretary to the Danish Embassy in Paris from 1998-99 and again in 2002. HRH the Crown Prince is the Patron of The Foreign Policy Society, The Greenland Society and The Royal Danish Geographical Society, and has received numerous Danish and foreign honors and decorations.

On May 14, 2004, HRH the Crown Prince Frederik married Miss Mary Elizabeth Donaldson from Tasmania, Australia, who became HRH the Crown Princess Mary of Denmark. The couple has four children: Prince Christian, Princess Isabella, as well as twins Prince Vincent and Princess Josephine.

HRH the Crown Princess Mary of Denmark

Her Royal Highness, Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, née Donaldson, was born in Hobart, Tasmania Australia. In 1994, she earned a BA in Economics and Law from the University of Tasmania to which she added an advertising and marketing diploma.

During the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, she met HRH the Crown Prince Frederik. Mastering Danish perfectly and playing an active role in many important areas of society, HRH the Crown Princess has gained the respect and affection of the citizens of her adoptive home.

Her patronages are far-reaching, ranging from culture and humanitarian aid to the fashion industry. She is a member of the International Committee of Women Leaders for Mental Health. She supports and promotes Denmark's Save the Children anti-bullying program and is also involved in a new campaign to raise awareness and safe practices among Danes about skin cancer through The Danish Cancer Society. In June 2010, HRH the Crown Princess Mary became the Patron of UNFPA (the United Nations Population Fund).

HRH the Crown Princess Mary established the Mary Foundation in 2007 with the aim to improve lives compromised by environment, heredity, illness or other circumstances that can isolate and exclude people socially. The Mary Foundation's mission is to advance cultural diversity and prevent and alleviate social isolation.

District 7070 Foundation Walk

Date: Sunday, September 21st

Time: Breakfast served from 8:00 to 9:45 a.m. (register by 9:30 a.m. please), walk of historic Toronto at 10:00 a.m., BBQ lunch at 11:30 a.m., done by 1:00 p.m.

Activities: This will be a walk to remember with lots of fun planned for people of all ages! We've booked the South Sherbourne Common right beside George Brown for a Rotary Days component. There will be activities for kids, Rotary displays, and a Recycle Your Electronics collection. Dogs are welcome in the park and in the public areas of the waterfront adjacent to George Brown. Have your club's photo taken by Rotarian Walter Psocka - come dressed in lots of Rotary gear & bring a banner!

What to bring:

- yourself, your family, friends & potential Rotarians
- a water bottle - we'll be selling some special Rotary water bottles on site for \$5!
- unwanted electronics for collection
- good walking shoes & perhaps a jacket (it's cooler by the lake)

The fabulous 5km walk route (accessible and with shortcut options) has been developed by the Rotary Club of Toronto Skyline and will feature the Distillery District, the Hockey Hall of Fame, Toronto's First Post Office and much more. Live guides will be available to talk about each point of interest.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Have lunch with K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, President-elect of Rotary International 2015-16, at The Rotary Club of Toronto on October 17, 2014

As part of the 2014 Zone Institute, The Rotary Club of Toronto is delighted to welcome Ravi Ravindran as their guest speaker for their October 17 lunch. If you wish to attend, please register, on line, using the Rotary Club of Toronto's website: <http://www.rotarytoronto.com>

This is a great opportunity for Rotarians from surrounding districts to hear our President-Elect, and also to introduce potential new members to Rotary. Having spoken at The Rotary Club of Toronto in the past, we can attest to the vibrancy of his message.

What a great event to bring a potential Rotarian!

ROTARY at WORK

In District 7070, Rotarians Mark Wafer and Joe Dale have developed a strong advocacy program for people with disabilities, including Autism. This week they are launching Canadian Business SenseAbility with the help of Lieutenant Governor David Onley.

Estimates suggest that more than twenty percent of Canada's population will have a disability by 2020. Couple that with the Conference Board of Canada's prediction that by the same year there will be a one-million worker shortfall and it is clear that business will need to enhance their understanding of disability to increase market share and meet future labour needs. The Solution? Hire people with Disabilities.

Corporations that do have documented:

- A decrease in turnover
- Higher productivity
- Cost savings and higher business profits

Hiring people who have a disability is much more than "doing the right thing." It's good for your business. Be part of the solution!

Mark Wafer owns eight Tim Horton franchises and is deaf himself. He has found that not only have the people with disabilities proved to be wonderful and reliable employees, they have increased the overall morale of the staff and drastically reduced the turnover rate at his stores to well below industry standards.





The Rotary Club of Toronto and Autism:

– by Ross Amos



AUTISM IS NOT A MENTAL ILLNESS. It is a spectrum of disorders, which means that there is a wide range of symptoms that affect each individual in varying degrees. These symptoms are classified under an umbrella term known as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Autism can be managed but not cured. It is a neurodevelopment disorder. And, it's a life long condition.

Every one of us knows someone affected by autism. Take a moment and think about your family, friends, neighbors, or acquaintances, and you will remember someone you know that has autistic tendencies, or someone who has a family member with autistic tendencies. According to the latest estimates (March 2014) by the Centre for Disease Control, one in every 68 children is born with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. This figure does not account for numerous family members and caregivers whose lives are impacted by autism.

RCT has assisted in the never-ending task of training autistic children, researching the causes, and the development of programs. In particular, our club has supported The New Haven Learning Centre, a learning institution focused on training and developing children from the ages of two to the mid-teens. This forty-student centre is one of the leading centers in Toronto.

New Haven is building on its foundation as an ABA-based (Applied Behavior Analysis) school and is transitioning into a multi-service organization led by new partnerships comprised of educators, clinicians, public representatives and business leaders, all located in a campus setting. The Rotary Club of Toronto made a significant contribution to this much-needed institution.



Rotary District Conference, Agents of Change October 24-26, 2014, Westin Prince Hotel, Toronto



Come prepared to be Shaken & Stirred at this great event. A full range of speakers has been arranged and The House of Friendship will have information for everyone.

This year the committee has made it far more accessible for those who can't stay the whole weekend. You can register and pay for modules of time, including the Gala Dinner only on Saturday night. Read about it at rotary7070.org and sign up at Bit.ly/DC7070Register.

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

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Editor September 26, 2014:

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What You Missed Reporter for September 19th:

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:

voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca

Upcoming Speakers & Events

September 2014

- 26 Shelter Box International CEO, Tudor 7 & 8

October 2014

- 3 Dr. Jacqueline Fabian, "Rheumatology and Internal Medicine."
10 No Friday lunch due to Thanksgiving holiday weekend
17 Ravi Ravindran - Rotary International President-Elect Welcomes Zone Institute Delegates and other District Guests - Concert Hall
24 Christopher Ruty, Health Heritage Research
The Middle Class Plague: Ontario and the Polio Years

Events

September 2014

- 21 Foundation Walk

October 2014

- 24 World Polio Day
24-26 District 7070 Conference, Toronto

Propose a Speaker

Alex Brown, Chair

Program Committee

alexbrown@integratedappliances.ca



Pizza Party

Autumn is here, which means falling leaves and the return of our Club's International Cuisine Restaurant Night. What better way to warm you up on a potentially chilly October evening than having a pizza party? Cost: \$45pp, which includes all taxes and gratuity. Payment is cash at the door. Alcoholic drinks extra.

Our next night out is Thursday, October 2nd at 6:30pm. We head to the west end, near other popular picks of the past, to Defina Pizzeria at 321 Roncesvalles Avenue.

To sign up for this exciting culinary excursion, contact nphillips@dgn-marketing.com by Friday, September 26. (But hey, confirming early helps...)

WANTED

BRIDGE PLAYERS



**6 TUESDAY
AFTERNOONS**

Oct 7 & 21
Nov 4 & 18
Dec 2 & 16

FUN FELLOWSHIP

Contact Peter Naylor
416-463-2114
or Belli at office

What You Missed September 12, 2014

– by Rohit Tamhane



If Rotarians were Canada Geese, it was springtime! The Tudor room was packed and filled with smiles of friends and chatter of summertime stories. If President Steve were not so adept at rolling with the punches, Glenn Davis would have had him seeing little chirping birds circling. But alas, the newbie President's knees didn't buckle. . . and though he protected his glass jaw well, it was a round, I mean, a meeting, fated with impromptu punches, ahem, excuse me, speakers. (Ring any bells Mr. Phelps?) Our head table was

notable, for there was a blushing groom and a birthday boy, esteemed Past President Sandy Boucher and Harry Figov, respectively. We wish Sandy and Harry well! Harry decided to wish himself Happy Birthday and then shared that in 25 years of membership, by keeping a low profile, this was his first speaking opportunity. When President Steve finally regained the lectern, he turned to Harry and said, "It was worth the 25 year wait to hear from you."

Many of you may remember a past member, Karl Schmidt, who is currently a member of the Rotary Club The Hague Metropolitan. While exchanging banners, Karl briefly had President Steve reeling on the ropes while he took over the meeting with a heartfelt greeting to his past fellow Rotarians. Karl shared that The Hague Metropolitan is comprised of 45 members from 24 countries; upon reflection, our club may be almost as diverse – something of which we should all be proud. The President spoke for us all when he told Karl that he will always be welcome and considered a member here. Karl is soon to be a member of the Warsaw (Warszawa) Rotary Club in Poland.

John Andras made a passionate request for school backpacks; there are 60+ needy students who will benefit from them. If you have one to donate, please contact John. Michele Guy, in her wonderful graceful way, reminded us of the upcoming International Dinner on Oct. 2. For details, please contact Neil Phillips.

Unfortunately, we were left without the original speaker. The mayoral candidate, David Soknacki, stepped down on September 10 and Brian Kelcey, his campaign manager, filled the spot. Brian believes that voters have not demanded enough of their chosen political representative. The issues that politicians have been gathering votes on are not truly long-term solutions to common problems that are fixable. Issues such as rising water usage, that transit will not be able to keep up with demand, the looming public housing crisis and, of course, the car and transit problems are all issues that not only face our wonderful city, but face cities all across this beautiful country. Brian delivered a message of hope; the problems this city faces are fixable. There are solutions that have succeeded. Medicine Hat has solved its homeless problem, for example. Winnipeg solved its flood damage problem with Duff's Ditch. So, what is the first step? To decide to not choose a candidate on the basis of their personality or "brand" image, because, according to Brian, that's a sucker's bet. We, as responsible voters, should decide by what long term plans a candidate has and whether they have any track record for following through. Kudos to the program committee yet again for an informative and engaging lunch!

The 50/50 had over \$900 at stake, and Maureen Bird's silent *yawp* smothered John Andras; and a lovely bottle of wine was the reward!

Please share with your social media – Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter
Speaker on September 26th - Alison Wallace - CEO, ShelterBox International

JOIN ROTARY NOW!

www.rotarytoronto.com



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