# SY VOICE



The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 104 | Issue 34 | April 28, 2017

# **Today's Program**

Hon. Hugh D. Segal, CM, OC, Ont Robert O'Brien, our club "angel"

## **Topic**

Freedom That Matters, Defense That Counts

### Location

Upper Canada Room,18th floor, Fairmont Royal York



Hugh Segal, the fifth Master of Massey College, has served in the public sector as Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Associate Cabinet Secretary in Ontario during William Davis' premiership and served in the Senate of Canada for ten years from 2004 to 2014. In the Senate, he chaired the Foreign Affairs Committee and Special Committee on Anti-Terrorism. A graduate from the University of Ottawa in History, Hugh holds honorary doctorates from the University of Ottawa and the Royal Military College. A former Senior Fellow at the Queen's School of Public Studies and Queen's School of Business, Hugh is now senior Fellow at the Monk School of International Affairs at the University of Toronto, Hon. Chair of the Navy League of Canada and an Hon. Captain in the Royal Canadian Navy. He serves as a distinguished research fellow of the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute and is a former Chair of the Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies. He is on the editorial Board of the Canadian Naval Review and chairs the NATO Council of Canada. In 2010, he was appointed as member of the nine person Commonwealth-wide Eminent Persons' Group advising the heads of government on Commonwealth reform and renewal. He is a popular writer and commentator on Canadian politics and his many books include The Long Road Back and The Right Balance.

# **Spring Has Sprung!**

- President Susan Hunter



Spring is upon us and everything is full of promise and hope. This time also signals the coming end of this Rotary Year of 'Rotarians Serving Humanity' and the beginning of an exciting year for our

Club. As it is, we are already a very busy Club! If you are passionate about a cause in our community, you will surely find a Committee or group where you can channel your energy and time. We have incredibly talented members leading our Club in many philanthropic areas of service. I am constantly amazed by the commitment and leadership of our members. And somewhere in this Voice edition, you will find a list of all the exciting upcoming events. Of all of these events, my personal advice to you is this: do not miss Camp Scugog! It is the perfect place and time to get to know fellow members and to do some physical work while enjoying the great outdoors and spectacular food. What more can you ask for?

At this time, I wanted to let you know what our Club Board has been doing over the past few months. Last July, I mentioned to you that we would focus this year on a couple of key initiatives including: operationalizing our Strategic Plan, reviewing our organizational structure, and looking at improving our weekly lunch meeting. How are we doing on these initiatives? Well, we have put in place a number of changes in keeping with these initiatives such as:

- maximized the number of lunches at the National Club
- introduced different formats for our weekly meetings
- reviewed specific operational expenses

There are other initiatives currently in progress. You will hear more in the next little while as plans evolve. We will reach out to you for your feedback and input on how we can continue to make this a great Club.



# WOW! ... Steam Whistle Fundraiser a fantastic success!

- by Brian Porter, Chair, Fundraising Committee

A Sold Out Event and Record Fundraising Revenue this year at the Steam Whistle Brewery!

Steam Whistle tickets were impossible to obtain three weeks before our fundraiser, held on March 31st, 2017.

The noise became louder and louder and the action was fast and furious as players competed in earnest. Fabulous food provided by en Ville Catering included the best chef's chili you've ever consumed, sumptuous salads, delectable desserts and of course lots of beer! Numerous prizes were distributed to many winners, including: a Pusatari's gift certificate, gift cards from Canadian Tire, Home Depot, LCBO, a Woodman Wine and Spirits Case of Wine, a Mercedes Benz Watch, dinners at restaurants such as the Keg, Oliver and Bonacini, Red Leafs and Gold Argos tickets, gift cards for the Cactus Club and Earls, a much sought after dinner for four at National Club, including cocktails and wine, a Richmond Hill Golf Foursome, a fabulous weekend stay at the Road B&B in Beamsville with a private day's Wine Tour, a gourmet dinner for four with wine at home provided by en Ville Catering, an overnight stay at the Royal York and the ultimate prize, to a box for the winner and many friends at a future Blue Jays game, with



\$500 spending money. This year, table sponsors were successfully secured as well as other ones for the beer etc. In all a record, revenue of \$79,895.67 was raised which, when expenses are accounted for will help fund the myriad of projects of our Foundation.

Big Winner Nader Ansary



# **The Rotary Fundraising Committee**

Dawn-Marie King Liz Simmie Sarah Larbi Trevor Lenders Suzanne Seaguist Fabio Ventolini John Joseph Mastandrea Brian Porter (Chair) John Fortney (Board Liaison)

# **Volunteers at the Steam Whistle**

# **Ticket and Table Sales**

Fabio Ventolini

# **Sponsors and Donors**

Suzanne Seaquist Fabio Ventolini Brian Porter John Fortney

# **Prizes/Donations**

Pat Neuman

### **Ticket Sellers**

Terry and Elaine Wray
Michele Guy
Andrea Tirone
Heather Gordon
Sarah Hui
Marcy Berg
Dennis Lam
Kaitlynn Almeida
Haakon Webber-Winsor
Jason Colbert
Brian Porter
Joseph Hanna

# **Cash Management**

Krystyna Benyak Mary Lach

# Cash Machines And Overall Advisor Carol Hutchinson

## **Coat Check**

Diego Rauda Anisa Anazir Lori Brazier

# Signage

John Lloyd

### Food

Geoffrey Johnson
Jeff Dobson
Casey Hadaway
Jackie Davies
Gloria Lee
Meu Ching Crompton
Caitlin Goodmurphy
Attilio Ronzani

# **Room Set Up**

Dawn-Marie King Jim Schaus Brian Porter Liz Simmie Pat Neuman



# **RI Foundation supports Rotary Scholars. Congratulations!**



Angela Kim, group advisor Kevin Power, Krista Kruja and Spencer McMurray

Angela Kim is a Rotary Foundation Scholar from District 5280. Angela was sponsored by the Westwood Village Rotary Club in Los Angeles. Angela is currently pursuing her Masters in Environmental Sciences with a focus on climate change at the University of Toronto Scarborough campus.

This year our District has selected and will be sponsoring two outgoing Global Grant Scholars. Global Grant Scholarships fund graduate level coursework or research and

are to support future leaders in fields related to Rotary's areas of focus.

Krista Kruja was recently selected as a District 7070 Global Grant Scholar for 2017/2018. Krista is pursuing a Master of Science in Health Policy, Planning and Financing run jointly by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the London School of Economics.

Spencer McMurray was recently selected as a District 7070 Global Grant Scholar for 2017/2018. Spencer is pursuing his Masters in International Security at Sciences PO, in Paris.

# en Ville Dinner May 4th

- by Geoffrey Johnson

Join the fun and frolic fellowship committee. On May 4th a dinner of epic proportion will be held at the en Ville Kitchen. Two years ago, the theme was Asparagus. Last year was dishes from the Indigenous culture of several of my chefs.



Geoffrey and his crew

This year the theme is food Aphrodisiacs. Each dish will contain known aphrodisiacs. I will particularly enjoy this dinner. It will get my sap flowing and what a great start to spring for all of us. I am contemplating having attendees sign a waiver exonerating en Ville from being responsible for their behaviour; so what are these foods?

Think oysters, chocolate, pomegranates and countless more. Think avocado, caviar and prairie oysters...to name a few.

To reserve your place at our table speak to Brigitte Bogar and pay \$100 cash at the door. Bring your own bottle and sweetheart if you have one.



The Rotaract Club of Toronto invites you to a Masquerade Gala on Friday, May 12th at Hotel Ocho (195 Spadina Ave). Masks are optional but heavily encouraged and there will be some available to purchase and decorate the night of the event. A silent auction, DJ and hors d'oeuvres will top off the event. Regular tickets are \$50 but there are a limited number of early bird tickets available for a reduced price. You can purchase tickets at https://www.picatic.com/rotaract\_masquerade\_gala. All proceeds will go towards the worthwhile causes that the Rotaract Club of Toronto supports.

RI President John Germ

**District Governor** Jim Louttit, Toronto Sunrise

# The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: Susan Hunter President-Elect: Pat Neuman Vice President: Jeff Dobson Treasurer: James McAuley

**Executive Director:** Carol Hutchinson

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation: Peter Love, President

**Editor of the Week:** Brian Porter

**Editor May 5, 2017:** Brigitte Bogar

What You Missed Reporter for April 28th: Bert Steenburgh

# 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?

# **Upcoming Speakers & Events**

# May 2017

- 5 Michele Guy, Update on RI Convention 2018
- 2 Paul Alofs, Pres/CEO, Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation
- 19 No Meeting-Queen's Birthday
- 26 No Meeting-Camp Scugog

# **June 2017**

- 2 Michael Burns, Invictus Games
- 9 Youth Day 2017
- 16 Jane Kovarikova, Improving Child Welfare
- 23 Aboriginal Day

# **Events**

April 29 Rotary Poker Walk for AIDS

April 29 Dinner Club Event May 4 en Ville Dinner

May 4 Cit Ville Diffici

May 13 District Assembly, BMO Institute for Learning

May 26-28 Camp Scugog Sweat Equity Weekend

June 10-14 RI Convention, Atlanta

# **Propose a Speaker – Contact**

Mario Voltolina, Chair mario.Voltolina@gmail.com Tel: 416-720-7236

# **Send articles**

to therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird

# **GREAT NEWS!** Syrian Refugee family have a date! - by Maureen Bird



Our al Zahabi family have been told by the International Organization for Migration that their travel date to Canada will be on May 10th. They are busy packing their bags, we are getting their immunization documents translated, we

are looking at apartments, schools are being contacted and much more planning is underway.

Many thanks to our great transition team who have been so patient during this long wait. Many thanks to our donors who will make this first year of transition so possible.

Muneer speaks English so we have talked regularly since we first connected on February 23rd, 2016. His wife Lubna is looking forward to improving her English - she has been taking classes for six months. Sarah (13) and Sami (8) are anxious to start school here. Karam (2) is recovering from a broken femur but we have things lined up at Sick Kids to deal with his needs.

Much more to follow!

# What You Missed: April 21 2017 - by John Andras



Four Visiting Rotarians and eleven guests joined us in the Confederation Rooms to hear an Earth Day message from former Toronto Mayor David Miller. They also heard several announcements:

- The Rotary Club of Willowdale is 65 years young and has incoming R.I. President Ian Riseley joining the festivities on May 5th.
- Carol Hutchinson was our blushing Birthday girl thanks to Brigitte Bogar's harmonious "Happy Birthday" serenade
- Geoffrey Johnson invites a first come first served exploration of food aphrodisiacs on May 4th. Guests must pay \$100.00 and sign a waiver before entering the en Ville kitchen.
- Maureen Bird in her mad Poker Hat promoted the Rotary AIDS Poker Walk.
- Rotaract Club of Toronto President Dennis Lam announced the club's annual fundraiser, which is scheduled for May 12.
- Alanna Scott, the Chair of the Environment Committee outlined their many activities (a written report will be coming).

District Governor Elect Neil Phillips introduced our guest speaker and mentioned that in an earlier time he climbed the CN Tower to raise funds for World Wildlife Fund and meet Bare Naked Ladies at the top. How disappointed he must have been that it was the musical group, all male and fully clothed!



David Miller on the Work of WWF

David Miller, the President and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund informed us on the crisis facing the global environment. He blamed it in part on the growing lack of connectedness between nature and people.

From 1970, 58% of wildlife populations are gone (fresh water populations down 81%, land populations down 38%

and ocean population down 36%). Predictions are, that by 2020, 2/3 of populations will be extinguished. Human activity (logging, over fishing, agriculture, climate change, pollution) are all factors. People now consume 1.6x the ability of the planet to produce resources. In Canada we consume 4x the planets resource production. Canada has 20% of the world's fresh water, 20% of global wetlands, 25% of boreal forests and 15% of temperate forests. Canada also has the world's longest coastline. Of 70,000 known species in Canada 800 are at risk of extinction. The good news is if we stop plundering nature it will come back. Canada was rich in fish. We had the richest bounty of fish in the world. Sailors told stories of being able to walk to shore on the backs of cod. The fishery is now all but gone. The rules and principle of sustainability was not considered. However, we do know how to get it right. The 3Ps cod stock off Newfoundland has been certified by the Marine Stewardship Council as sustainable under some restrictions. Fish stocks are slowly growing and a fishing industry based upon sustainability is taking hold. By looking at long-term impacts not short-term profits both business and individuals can make a difference. Each of us can plant non-invasive species in our gardens and can encourage natural pollinators. We can plant trees to provide shade and to absorb carbon. The Fairmont Royal York Hotel, for example, keeps bees on its roof and harvests the honey for its recipes. Governments can institute a national price on carbon and a cap on industrial emissions. Promotion of car

sharing and public transit are also ways governments make substantial change. Nature is resilient and will come back if we let it. Bert Steenburgh won the wine. The pot grows.



Brigitte and our birthday girl Carol

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