The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 105 | **Issue 24** | **February 9, 2018**

Today's Program

Darryl Singer

Topic

How an addicted lawyer hit rock bottom and not only reclaimed his life but now helps others do the same.

Host

Karl Kramer

Location

Fairmont Royal York Hotel-Quebec Room



Darryl Singer is a dynamic public speaker. As someone who has dealt with and successfully recovered from addiction and depression, he draws upon what he has learned through those experiences to help his audiences help themselves and others in similar situations. Speaking with incredible vulnerability and passion, he illustrates with personal examples from the collapse and rebuilding of his life to deliver a message of hope.

Darryl has over 24 years experience as a trial lawyer. He writes and speaks extensively within the legal profession about addiction, mental health issues, recovery, time and stress management, and work/life balance. He is the Wellness Columnist for The Lawyer's Daily, one of the two major newspapers servicing the legal profession in Ontario. His national column for the Globe and Mail in February, 2017, sparked such a positive response that Darryl realised his message to lawyers had wider application. After almost 16 unblemished professional years, during which he taught the professional ethics module for the Law Society in Ontario, Darryl found himself suffering from a major depression. He began to self-medicate with prescription narcotics, leading to a full-blown addiction, divorce, the deterioration of his law practice, and, ultimately, trouble with the regulator, which resulted in a 30 day suspension. At the point at which he could have lost it all, Darryl found the intestinal fortitude to take charge of his recovery. He turned himself over to the Ontario Lawyers' Assistance Plan and with the help of their professional staff and peer mentors, along with intervention from his physicians, Darryl closed his practice in 2009 and spent the better part of a year working full time on his recovery. Darryl was able by January of 2010 to defeat his addiction and depression and start his new law firm from scratch. Darryl's story is one of second chances and hope for those presently in despair. Darryl has achieved a level of calm, gratitude and contentedness in his personal and professional life he never imagined possible. He has rebuilt his practice and his life beyond where he it had been before the crash and he uses the lessons he has learned in recovery, along with his other life experiences, to inspire others so that they might find balance in their lives and achieve their goals.

FUN and FUNDRAISING! Thursday March 29, 2018

Our Steam Whistle Annual Fundraiser is less than 2 months away! In the past 9 years, we have raised over \$450,000 for our many philanthropic projects! This year, in celebration of our 10th year, our goal is set at \$100,000 with all proceeds to support our purchase of the new Rotary Club of Toronto Sherbourne Health Bus. Each year we sell out the tables; so, don't delay. Get your table of 10 together and go on-line to purchase. Great food by En Ville, best beer in town by Steam Whistle and fabulous prizes! If you can't attend, we ask you to make a donation for the price of a ticket. If you can be a sponsor, contact Fabio Ventolini or Bill Morari. If you have an idea for a prize, let Pat Neuman know. As always, it will be one of the Best Nights in Toronto!! We are asking every member to fully support this Fundraiser and help make our goal of \$100,000!!!

Register or donate online at **https://goo.gl/pwnX1w** or call the office.



YOU'RE INVITED!



The Rotary Club of Toronto's

Annual Fundraiser at

THE STEAM WHISTLE BREWERY

Thursday, March 29[™], 2018 at 6:30 pm
The Steam Whistle Brewery
285 Bremner Blvd.

(SOUTH EAST OF THE ROGERS CENTRE)

GREAT FOOD, GAME & PRIZES!

ADMISSION IS ONLY \$150 AND INCLUDES DINNER!

ALL DONATIONS MADE WILL GO TO TOWARDS ROTARY'S MANY CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE SHERBOURNE HEALTH BUS



Sherbourne Health Centre's The Rotary Club of Toronto Health Bus is a mobile unit that provides an entry point to healthcare services for people who often face barriers in accessing traditional health care services.

Accessing health and social supports is the key to helping individuals in the community manage their wellbeing and prevent further illness. The Health Bus makes regular stops at community locations, such as shelters, drop-ins and specialized community agencies. At each stop, individuals come onboard the bus to receive a variety of services targeted to their needs.

Please help us to support the marginalized people in our community. Give generously!







Upcoming Speakers & Events

NO MEETING, Family Day

23 Mona Lancaster, Memory Lane Home Living

March 2018

Stella Roy, End Polio Now

Paulette Senior, Canadian Women's Foundation

Jagmeet Singh, Federal NDP leader

Barbara Thomson, Google Suite for Non Profits

NO MEETING, Good Friday

Events

February 22

Rotaract Fundraiser for Aishnawbe Health

Steam Whistle Brewery

March 29 **Club Fundraiser**

Editor of the week Brian Porter

Editor for February 23

What You Missed Reporter for February 9

Propose a Speaker – Contact Mario Voltolina, Chair - mario.voltolina@gmail.com Tel: 416-720-7236

Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird



ROTARY CONVENTION JUNE 22-27, 2018



SATURDAY, June 23rd (start of RI Convention), TWO ticketed event options:

- Jazz at the Aquarium, 7 to 11 p.m. OR
- Rock at the Distillery District, 6 to 10 p.m.

TUESDAY, June 26th - ROTARYFEST, 4 to 10 p.m. (our final evening event)

Your on-line tickets include food and entertainment. The direct link to purchase your tickets for these events is: www.rotary2018.org/events/hoc/2

MONDAY, June 25th - Home or Host Hospitality, 4 to 10 p.m.

If you haven't already registered to host, sign up at: www.rotary2018.org/host

VOLUNTEERING and interacting with people from around the world: Dawn-Marie King and Lorraine Lloyd are looking for more volunteers to help. Our direct sign-up link is:www.rotary2018.org/volunteer

We already have 500 volunteers signed up but need another 1,000. Our Leaders will give volunteers instructions, prior to going on duty. We are also able to sign-up groups too.

What You Missed, February 2, 2018 - by Jackie Davies



It was a full house and we were given a warm welcome from President Pat on a freezing day. Peter Love was our monitor and he introduced six visiting

Rotarians and seven guests, including a very special guest, Peter Large, a former Rotary Club member. Peter is talking about rejoining the Club.

President Pat encouraged us to attend the upcoming R2R on February 7th at the National Club. Then, she announced that, on February 22nd, there would be the Rotaract Fundraiser for the Anishnawbe Health Centre. She next called upon Fabio Ventolini who spoke very passionately about our ten years of fundraising at the Steam Whistle raising over the years more than \$450,000. He wanted this year to raise \$70,000 on March 29th. He was subsequently challenged by Pat who suggested the goal should be \$100,000. Fabio concluded by thanking Pat for her support and hard work of ten years of getting prizes and volunteers amongst many other activities. Our Annual General Meeting, part three, was then called to order and a motion to approve Deloitte as our auditors to June 30, 2018, was moved by Steve Smith and seconded by Bill Empey and carried unanimously. Our speaker, Peter Russell, followed by giving us a history lesson from pre-Confederation period to the present day. He focused on the three pillars of our history: of English Canada, French Canada,

and Aboriginal Canada. Peter described snippets from his book Canada's Odyssey: A Nation of Incomplete Conquests. He stated that incomplete conquests are what have made Canada what it is today. He spoke about how Francois-Gaston de Levis won the battle of Ste. Foy and defeated James Murray; and, however, how the British fought back and, when James Murray took charge of Quebec, he had reassured the French of their traditional rights and customs. He spoke of the importance of Tecumseh who allied his forces with those of the British during the War of 1812, and how his active participation was crucial. Peter concluded his presentation by saying diversity in his opinion had become a unique characteristic of Canada and would be a key to success to the 21st century.

It was such a delight to have Peter speak to us, and it is no wonder why he is considered Canada's most respected 'Dean of Political Science. It was entirely appropriate that his gift was a certificate giving an indigenous child in a fly-in community a book once a month for a year. Harvey Sullivan was very surprised when his ticket for the 50-50 draw was pulled! But alas, he received a bottle of wine. The pot continues to grow.

Pat ended the meeting by saying how warm Toronto was compared to her trip to Saskatchewan – minus 40!

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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