

Today's Program

Justin Taylor

Topic

Rainbow Railroad

Host

John Fortney

Member since 1999 and master fundraiser.

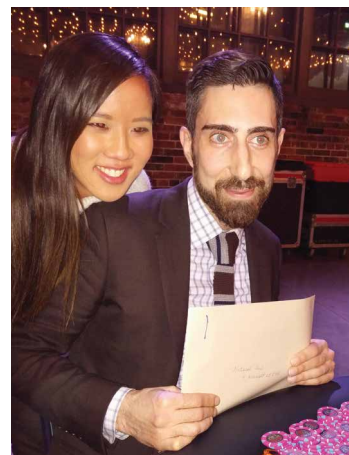
Location

Tudor Rooms 7 & 8

Annual Fundraiser a Big Success!

Our 8th annual Club Fundraiser was held at the Steam Whistle Brewery on Thursday March 31. All the tables were sold out prior to the event which meant over 245 people in attendance. The energy level was high, always fun and sometimes intense. All attendees enjoyed wonderful food provided by En Ville and Steam Whistle beer. Some attendees, namely the players who made it to the top 10 table, enjoyed great prizes. Some side games were struck with separate prizes including great Blue Jays tickets.

The tournament winner was Babak Rafat followed by our own Will Andras in second place. Mr. Rafat won a stay at the Royal York with dinner for four at The National Club. New member Trevor Lenders also made it to the top ten. All in all, over \$50,000 after expenses was raised for our Rotary Foundation. Anecdotal stories from attendees suggest the event has garnered a reputation as a great evening of fun highly anticipated by many. Congratulations to event founder Fabio Ventolini who has organized all eight events. He is supported by many Rotarians who assist in set-up, ticket selling, and food service.



Babak Rafat took the grand prize



Rainbow Railroad is a volunteer based registered charitable organization. In September 2014, we welcomed our first employee and Executive Director, Justin Taylor. Justin joins Rainbow Railroad as an experienced operations manager and capacity builder. He previously worked as Director of Member Services at Restaurants Canada, the largest hospitality association in Canada, and has held senior government affairs, international relations, and financial analysis roles in both the public and private sectors. He first became involved in LGBT refugee work by helping to privately sponsor a refugee with Group of 5 Toronto. Justin holds a Masters in Political Economy from Carleton University and a B. Commerce from the University of Ottawa.



Will Andras came close taking the second spot



Players and onlookers share in the excitement



Top Ten player with poker face



New member Trevor Lenders made it to the final table, here with Shannon Lundquist

Poker Walk for HIV/AIDS



Welcome to our 7th annual walk on April 30, 9:00 am

Yes, we've "dumped the Trump"! We are back at the Leuty pavilion in the Beach.

Sign up now at toronto.rotaryaidswalk.ca

Our team is Toronto High Flyers. You can join us on the walk or just donate to one of the walkers. See Maureen Bird for details.



Erratum

Correction regarding our speaker from March 18th

The Push for Change in partnership with Raising the Roof Canada and A Way Home are working to build a Prevention Framework called "The Upstream Project" to be used in communities across Canada. After implementation, the results will be measurable in each community and replicated.

We will also work alongside emergency service providers and shelters throughout the trek to support their efforts in raising money needed to help reach homeless youth today. Dollars raised at specific events hosted by service providers will be split 50/50 between The Push for Change and the event host.

Incorrect information appeared in our What You Missed article last week.

What You Missed April 1, 2016

— by Jonathan Wu



On this beautiful April Fool's Friday, members came up the elevators to the Upper Canada Room curious and hungry with anticipation to discover what the new members had in store for them. And boy did the new members come through! Each new member, donned with red ribbons as identifiers, greeted everybody with huge smiles and a card from a playing deck, which designated the table where people should sit. Shortly after 12:15, the bell was rung and the meeting was off. The head table consisted of Susan Hunter, Geoffrey Johnson, Sandy Boucher, Michele Guy, Pat Neuman, John Andras, Neil Phillips, Rudy Haddad, Andrea Tirone, and President David. President David stood up to say a few words but unfortunately for him, was quickly relegated to the Sgt. at Arms. The microphone was handed over to Andrea Tirone and Rudy Haddad for Invocation and Loyal Toast, before lunch was served.

In the spirit of getting to know other people in the club and have a bit of fun, the head table played two truths and a lie. Each person said three statements, two of them true and one of them false. Then everybody voted for which one was the lie. We learned that:

- Sgt. at Arms David has four kids, not three.
- Susan Hunter sails competitively and has won the championship in one year, not the past two.
- Geoffrey Johnson speaks for a very long time and has tried eating many animals, but cat is not one of them.
- Sandy does not have scars and injuries from a gang fight in HK.
- Michele Guy's mother is not a twin.
- Pat Neuman does not have six siblings.
- John Andras was not arrested by Bill Blair in Toronto's tent city.
- Neil Phillips has not tried grilled capybara, an extremely large rodent.
- Rudy Haddad is not a tennis champion.
- Andrea Tirone went shark cage-diving but did not almost get her foot eaten off.

Next, announcements were shared with the group, but people who were making the announcements were instructed to do it in either a foreign accent or their best dance moves. John Andras came up and began with an old man accent but nobody could understand it, so he started giving us his best "dance" moves. He reminded us about the KAIROS Blanket Exercise which leads participants through an interactive journey providing insight to

Treaty making, colonialization and Truth and Reconciliation. It is a very powerful experience and will give Rotarians, Rotaract members and guests a fuller understanding of the challenges, issues and opportunities we face as a country in dealing with repairing the relationship between Canada and its indigenous peoples.

It will take place Friday April 15 between 2:00-3:30PM in Tudor Rooms 7 and 8, following our regular meeting. All participants are asked to bring \$10.00 for an honorarium for the presenters.

Andrea Tirone told us about the next Fellowship and Entertainment event (so no funny accent or dance required) to be held April 7th at Milagro.

For the next part of the meeting, the new members stood up and told all the members of the club something interesting about themselves. For those of you who missed it, you'll have to seek out the red strippers and ask them about it! Then we had a table game where each member wrote down three things about themselves and our table host read them out for the members to guess who it was. Who does body builds twice a week? Who scuba dives? Watch out for our seniors!

As the meeting wound down, it was time for the Ace of Clubs draw. Rudy Haddad was asked to draw the ticket, and true to form, drew his own ticket! He did not draw the ace of clubs and accepted his bottle of wine. Except the joke was on him! For April Fools, the winner of the wine had to give the bottle away to someone else at the meeting! Rudy hummed and hawed and decided to give the bottle to President David for being a great sport!

The time flew and lots of laughs and fun was had. Thanks for all who braved the unknown and came to support the new members. We look forward to meeting everybody in the coming year!



New members gathered for a photo after a successful lunch meeting.

Upcoming Speakers & Events

April

- 15 Brenda Simon, Dir. of Play, Earth Day Canada
- 22 Jeremy Diamond, Vimy Foundation
- 29 Perry Monaco, LinkedIn

May

- 6 Rahul K. Bhadwaj, The Toronto Foundation
- 13 TBA
- 20 No Meeting due to Victoria Day Weekend
- 27 No Meeting due to Camp Scugog

June

- 3 Dr. Robert Inman, Univ. Health Network

Events

- April 9 - Macaroon at Aphrodite Cooks
- April 12 - R2R National Club
- April 30 - Rotary AIDS Walk
- April 30 - Feed the Children packing
- May 26 - President David cocktails
- May 27-29 - Camp Scugog

Editor of the Week

Jeff Dobson

Editor on April 15, 2016

Lorna Johnson

What You Missed Reporter

Bob Cartlidge

Propose a Speaker - Contact

Alex Brown, Chair
jandabrown@rogers.com
416.799.5827

Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter

voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca

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The Rotary Club of Toronto

The Fairmont Royal York

100 Front Street West, Level H, Toronto, ON M5J 1E3

Tel: 416-363-0604 Fax: 416-363-0686

office@rotarytoronto.on.ca www.rotarytoronto.com

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