



Speaker

The Honourable Jean Augustine

Host

Dauna Jones-Simmonds

Topic

Celebrating Women and Diversity

Location

Fairmont Royal York, Upper Canada Room



March 8 is International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The Day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. International Women's Day (IWD) has been observed since

the early 1900s. While we have made great strides in advancing the progress of women, we have yet to achieve true equality in business or politics. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has achieved gender parity with the federal cabinet making Canada a leader in the world. He has said that

"Diversity is Canada's strength." We are pleased to welcome the Honourable Jean Augustine who will talk to us about the presence of Canadians of African heritage, their contribution to Canadian society and the reason to celebrate and recognize their achievements. In 1993, the Honourable Jean Augustine became the first Black woman elected to the Parliament of Canada. Among her accomplishments as an MP was the introduction of a motion to have February proclaimed as Black History Month in Canada. Ms. Augustine is currently working with Dauna Jones-Simmonds on publishing a book of the '100 Most Accomplished Black Women' which will highlight the accomplishments of current and past Black Canadian women in government, business and private and public sectors. After completing a Master of Education degree, Ms. Augustine has supported many social causes. She also served as the National President of the Congress of Black Women of Canada. She holds an honorary Doctorate of Law from the University of Toronto. During her years as a federal member of parliament, The Honourable Jean Augustine served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister of Canada, Chair of the National Liberal Women's Caucus, Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Deputy Speaker. In 2007, Augustine was nominated by the Government of Ontario to become the first Fairness Commissioner, a position created to advocate for Canadians with foreign professional credentials, a position she held until 2014. She is the recipient of the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award, the Kaye Livingstone Award, the Ontario Volunteer Award, the Pride Newspaper Achievement Award, the Rubena Willis Special Recognition Award, and the Toronto Lions Club Onyx Award. She has received the Order of Canada for her distinguished career as an educator, politician, and advocate for social justice in Canada.

Welcome to a New Member with a Familiar Surname!



Elizabeth Simmie was born in Toronto to Trish and Peter Simmie. After a short stint at McGill, studying Economics and History, Liz returned to Toronto to begin her career in qualitative market research. She continued working at Ipsos in a Quantitative role. After four years she moved onto the financial world as an Analyst at Bristol Gate Capital Partners. There, Liz developed her quantitative skills in portfolio management and analysis. Liz moved most recently to RBC Dominion Securities as an Investment Advisor. Work aside, her true passion is community building. Inspiration from her Parents and Grandparents puts service far above self and is an essential part of her life. Her Grandfather, Arthur Johnston, was a Winnipeg Rotarian. Over the past 15 years, she has developed her community leadership and governance skills at various organizations including stints as President of McGill Synchro and President of the Junior League of Toronto. She is currently still involved with Synchro swimming as a provincial level coach and a member of the Rules Committee for Synchro Ontario, and Liz currently runs the Junior League of

Toronto's Speaker Series and is the community program coordinator.

She is also the most recent member elected to the Red Door Shelter Board of Directors. In her spare time, Liz enjoys running around after one year old Sara, two year old Dave and four year old Alexandra and lives with her husband Andrew in the east end of Toronto. Liz has been attending Rotary Lunches for the past few years and finally found the right time to join.

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District 7070 Salute to Bill and Delphine Patchett in honour of their tireless support – Feb 28, 2016

Over 250 Rotarians and guests packed the Conference room of the Quality Inn and Suites in Oshawa for a luncheon to salute Past District Governor Bill Patchett and his wife Delphine for so many years of service to The Rotary Foundation. Bill's selfless dedication to helping others is well-known locally and throughout Rotary, all over the world.

Bill was instrumental in establishing Cobourg's Women In Crisis centre. He's a Member of Cobourg Hospital Foundation Board – 1996/1997; he funded a public school Hot Meals program; he was the Chair of the Northumberland United Way Campaign 1998, raising a to-date record \$650,000; he was Chair for United Way in Northumberland County for 1999 and 2009 which raised a record amount in these years as well; he chaired Northumberland Hospital Foundation's building fund drive, raising in excess of \$19 million for construction of the new facility. Bill was awarded one of six commemorative medals during the International Year of Volunteers 2002 and was sent a letter of greetings and congratulations from Canada's Prime Minister. He was a fundraiser for Keystone House for homes for the intellectually disabled children of aging parents in Northumberland County and a member of the Community Supports Board; a spokesperson for Bridge Point Healthcare (a fundraising project for the new hospital for Chronic Disease in Toronto); he was fundraising Chair, Habitat for Humanity, Northumberland County, 2010; and a Board Member of Paralympics Foundation.

We all know Bill in Rotary too for which he is most worthy of receiving this tribute. He became a member of the Rotary Club of Cobourg in 1988 and chaired many committees prior to becoming Director, Vice President 1998, President Elect 1999, President 2000, and District Governor 2006-07. And, he is District Foundation Chair 7070 in 2011-2012, 2013-2016; Zone Coordinator for \$ 200 million Rotary PolioPlus Challenge for Canada (Zone 24 East). He has chaired Rotary Foundation Walk – 1995, raising over \$500,000, and the District 7070 PolioPlus Galas – 1997 and 1998 raised a combined total of \$160,000. He is also a Major Benefactor of Rotary Foundation, Zone 24 East Coordinator for Polio Eradication 2008-2012; and a recipient of a Regional Award to End Polio Now based on WHO regions of the World of which Canada is granted one only. In October 2011 he received the International Service Award for a Polio-free World 2012-2013. District Governor Brian Thompson had the pleasure of announcing and presenting the Rotary District 7070 Dr. Bob Scott Disease Prevention Award for 2014-2015 to Bill in November 2015. This award is made to a Rotarian, Rotary Club or a friend of Rotary who, in the judgment of the District Governor, has made a significant contribution to disease prevention and treatment in Rotary District 7070 and beyond.



PDG Brian Thompson, Delphine Patchett, Bill Patchett, RI President-Elect John Germ

Distinguished attendees who took part in the Salute to Bill and Delphine Patchett included Past RI VP and Chair of the Salute, Dr Bob Scott; Members of Federal and Provincial Parliaments (Rotarians Lou Rinaldi and Kim Rudd, respectively); Carolyn Ferguson, Senior Rotary Foundation Major Gifts Officer for Rotary Zone 24; Interactor Connor Visser, representing the youth of District 7070; District 7070 Governor Michael Bell, 10 past and future District 7070 Governors; Past RI President Wilf Wilkinson, and keynote speaker, RI President Elect John Germ.

Here are just some of the words used to describe Bill Patchett, by the presenters: a force of nature; a force for good; positive change; positive force; Bill makes things happen; passionate Foundation supporter; extraordinary people like Bill do extraordinary things. RI President Elect John Germ and his spouse Judy congratulated Bill. John said "you are a tremendous guy"; "I would have done anything to be here today"; "Bill is Unselfish Service Above Self"; "he is dedicated and compassionate about what he does"; "he is a leader and a role model"; "Bill has lived up to next year's Rotary theme for many years 'Rotary Serving Humanity'"; "Bill does God's work here on earth". He then read a letter from the Chair of the 14 Trustees of the Rotary Foundation, Ray Klinginsmith.

Past District Governor Brian Thompson made the following major announcement: My Fellow Rotarians, The Distinguished Service Award is the Rotary Foundation's highest service recognition and is given to Rotarians who have demonstrated exemplary service to the Foundation. Recipients must have received the Citation for Meritorious Service four years prior to be eligible for this award. Financial contributions to the Foundation, however notable, are not relevant to this award. The Distinguished Service Award is an internationally competitive award granted annually to a maximum of 50 Rotarians who have exhibited exceptional active service to The Rotary Foundation. Fifty recipients annually, out of 1.2 million Rotarians, makes it extremely rare. The last recipients in District 7070 were Dr. Bob Scott in 2007 and Wilf Wilkinson with Tibor Gregor in 2003. We wanted to share it with everyone today. Congratulations, to Bill Patchett!

Source: Rotary 7070 District newsletter



Mary Lou Harrison Selected as District Governor for 2018-19

– by District Governor Michael Bell, 2015-16



To all of my Fellow Rotarians in District 7070, in accordance with Rotary International Bylaws and District Policy, the Nominating Committee for District 7070 (including PDG Bob Wallace, PDG Ted Koziel, PDG Valarie Wafer, PDG Brian Thompson and DG Michael Bell) has selected our District Governor for the year 2018-19. We are pleased to announce that Ms Mary Lou Harrison from the Toronto Sunrise Rotary Club has been selected as our District Governor Nominee Designate. Please join us in congratulating Mary Lou in taking on this important District role.

Mary Lou has been the Assistant District Governor for the past three years.

RI President
Ravi Ravindran

District Governor
Michael Bell

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: David Hetherington
President-Elect: Susan Hunter
Vice President: Pat Neuman
Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director:
Carol Hutchinson

**Rotary Club of Toronto
Charitable Foundation:**
Peter Love, President

Editor of the Week:
Brian Porter

Editor March 18, 2016, Voice:
Shelley McIntyre

What You Missed Reporter:
John Farrell

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

March

- 18 Joe Roberts, Push for Change
- 22 President David's cocktails, The National Club
- 25 No lunch meeting, Good Friday

April

- 8 Chief Mark Saunders, Toronto Police Services
- 15 Deb Doncaster, Earth Day Canada
- 22 Jeremy Diamond, Vimy Foundation

Events

- March 22 – President's Cocktails, National Club
- March 31 – Annual Fundraiser, Steam Whistle Brewery
- April 9 – Macaron vs Macaroon at Aphrodite Cooks

Propose a Speaker – Contact

Alex Brown, Chair
jandabrown@rogers.com
416.799.5827

Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter:
voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca



Our Club reached 1,300 people on Facebook this week.



SHHHH... IT'S A SECRET

YOU'VE BEEN DEALT AN INVITATION TO
**THE ROTARY CLUB OF TORONTO'S
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AT
THE STEAM WHISTLE BREWERY**

Thursday, March 31st 2016 6:30 PM

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

GREAT FOOD, GAMES & PRIZES

Admission for only \$125 includes dinner! All donations made will go towards Rotary's many charitable activities.

Corporate tables for 10 with Corporate recognition \$1,500



Springboard Makes 'the Difference' For Our Speaker Last Week, Segun Akinsanya



Marg Stanowski has been a Rotary Club member for 16 years and the Executive Director of Springboard for even longer. Marg and her staff at Springboard are constantly evolving their work in response to a challenging external environment as witnessed last week when Segun Akinsanya spoke to the Rotary Club about his life experiences, tragedies and rehabilitation. Youth in jails was one of the reasons Springboard began in the early 70's - to help families reconnect with their loved ones who have been incarcerated. Soon, a bus service was transporting family members to provincial and federal prisons across Ontario.

From these humble beginnings Springboard, 42 years later, is now a multi-focus agency that builds safer communities by providing reintegration programming for youth in conflict with the law, supporting at risk youth with employment and life skills development and helping individuals with developmental disabilities transition to greater independence. Although it works with a diversity of at risk populations, Springboard is united in its belief of putting people at the centre of everything it does. Tackling the complex issues youth face such as substance abuse, homelessness, poverty and racism requires a strong collaborative and innovative approach. So to increase the impact of its work, Springboard is highly responsive and adaptable to a changing environment and achieves success through partnerships in the private, public and non-profit sectors. This includes working in partnership with youth leaders, young entrepreneurs, start up groups and agencies and social enterprises. Currently Springboard is working with several grassroots groups to help train youth in violence intervention, explore innovative ways to decrease high youth unemployment rates as well as empowering young entrepreneurial start-ups and supporting their ongoing business development. The growth of youth-led social enterprises and young entrepreneurs is remarkable. Their desire to improve their communities and their lives is inspiring. Working with Springboard, Segun Akinsanya resonates this passion. Segun spent three years in prison for manslaughter and is now working with Springboard to help other youth build on their talents and strengths to become contributing members of their communities. Wendy Leaver, a Springboard Board Member has helped Segun share his incredible story with others in the hopes of making a difference. Springboard is always evolving. By fostering opportunities at the grassroots level where youthful initiative and creative energy abounds, Springboard is heading in an exciting direction. Critical support from both public and private sectors will ensure that this vital work - and the lives of our young people - continues to thrive. The possibilities are endless.

What You Missed March 4, 2016

— by Jeff Dobson



You missed a great meeting last Friday; it achieved all three criteria that make our lunch meetings great in this author's opinion: great food, great fellowship, and a great speaker. President David was back at the lectern after recovering from a minor back injury (just in time for moving day). He started the meeting by reading a very nice letter from the President of RC Barbados South who toasted our Club at their recent meeting as part of an ongoing tradition to toast other Clubs around the world...very nice! He also reported that the recently held tribute dinner to Bill Patchett was well attended and garnered over \$500,000 in net donations linked to this event. A complete summary of this event appears elsewhere in this issue of the Voice. Upcoming events include: R2R on March 9 now moved to Wednesdays by request to attract to a new variety of members, President's Cocktails on March 22, Our Annual Fundraiser on March 31 (PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO), and Aphrodite Cooks on April 9. According to Brigitte Bogar, the Fellowship and Entertainment Committee (aka FnE), needs a few 'big strong men' to join the committee. Reema and Jordana from the UofT Rotaract Club took to the lectern to promote their upcoming international fundraiser in support of the Haitian Humanitarian Assistance and Relief Team (HHART) in the Dominican Republic. The event is a polar bear dip and our own Neil Philips is the, er, dipper. Cards on the table were available to make donations. The amount raised will determine how much of Neil will be submerged in the icy water. \$1,000 means a full dunk. Today we welcomed another family member to the Rotary family. Elizabeth Simmie, daughter of Peter Simmie, was introduced at the meeting. Her bio can be found in this issue of the Voice. Marg Stanowski introduced our guest speaker Segun Akinsanya. Mr. Akinsanya told his story with passion that included elements that were difficult to listen to, but compelling. His complete story can be found in the February edition of Toronto Life and a follow-up article in this Voice. As President David noted in his thanks, Segun is not a typical speaker at our Rotary lunch. Nevertheless the audience was spellbound as a pin drop could be heard during his pauses. Segun received a well-deserved ovation from the crowd for a difficult story powerfully told. New member Abdel Toucan had the winning ticket but took home the wine in the Ace of Clubs Draw. David shared some humour from Downunder that referred to Qantas Airlines banter between pilots and mechanics. Funny...maybe not for those with a fear of flying.

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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