



Today's Program

Colonel Dwayne Hobbs

Host

Alex Brown

Topic

Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

Location

National Club,
303 Bay Street



Colonel Dwayne Hobbs was born in Ottawa and raised in Toronto. He enrolled in the Canadian Armed Forces in 1988 with the Essex & Kent Scottish Regiment and Commission with the Toronto Scottish Regiment (Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's Own) in 1992 while he was studying at the University of Toronto. He has commanded from the Platoon to Unit level and has held staff appointments in 32 Canadian Brigade Group, 4th Canadian Division, the Canadian Army Doctrine and Training Centre and Army Headquarters. From 2006 until 2012, he worked as a Military Advisor to Defense Research & Development Canada in Toronto. He has commanded the Toronto Scottish Regiment, the Brigade Battle School and 32 Canadian Brigade Group, the Army Reserve formation covering Greater Toronto.

Operationally, Colonel Hobbs has deployed twice to Bosnia-Herzegovina, served as a United Nations peacekeeper in Israeli-occupied Syria and has served in Afghanistan as the Officer Commanding the Operations Coordination Centre -Province (Kandahar) inside the Governor's Palace in Kandahar City. In a domestic context, he served as the Operations Officer of the Reserve Force contingent of Operation PREAMBLE in 1999, was the Brigade's Domestic Response Company Commander and served as the Armed Forces Logistics Coordinator for three tours of Canada by members of the Royal Family.

He is a graduate of the Infantry School, the Tactics School, Army Staff College and most recently he completed the National Security Programme at the Canadian Forces College. During the day he works for Scotiabank in Audit Professional Practice. He and his wife Laura live in Muskoka. He is currently the Assistant Chief of Staff for support functions of 4th Canadian Division Headquarters in Toronto.

Honouring Our Rotary Club of Toronto Veterans



John Austin

In May 1945, at the age of 18, John entered the Canadian Armed Forces in Toronto. When he was in advanced training at Camp Borden, his father, a veteran of the First World War, passed away. After the war ended, John stayed on to achieve his active service, and left the Armed Forces in October 1945 as a Private.



Jim Bell

Jim enlisted in the army in August 1960 to fight in the Korean War. Jim was in the Fox Battery of the Second Regiment of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, eventually becoming a bombardier, where he plotted gunfire and managed signals.



Elgin Coutts

Elgin formally joined the Royal Canadian Air Force on August 28, 1940, as an airplane mechanic after training in Cambridge, Ontario. Elgin served at Flight Training Centres and Repair Depots. He got his wings and became a Pilot Officer, then a Flying Officer and finally a Flight Lieutenant, eventually travelling to Iceland.



Saleem Kassum

Saleem served with the Royal Air Force Equipment Branch from 1962-1967 and in the Reserve from 1967-1971. He became a Flying Officer. Saleem served in Singapore 1963-1965 during the Indonesian Confrontation of Malaysia.



George Richardson

George joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1943 and trained in Toronto, Oshawa, and Ottawa, where he got his wings. He continued training in Ontario and Quebec until 1944, when he was posted to a fighter squadron on the West Coast, doing patrol flights to spot Japanese until September 1945. He was discharged as a Warrant Officer with 135 Squadron.



Jack Robertson

Jack left high school to enlist in the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1943. After training as a pilot he then went through further training as a navigator, becoming a Pilot Officer in February 1945. He remained in Canada working as a navigator until demobilization after VE Day.



Frank Strickland

Frank joined the Royal Air Force in 1942 and trained as a technician eventually joining The British Second Tactical Air Force, which sent him to post war Germany. He was discharged in 1947.

The District 7070 Conference

- by Lori Brazier

A small but mighty group from The Rotary Club of Toronto descended on Niagara on the Lake this past weekend for District 7070's annual fall conference - aka Rotary Uncorked, chaired by our own Andrea Tirone. The fun got underway Friday afternoon with a golf tournament where our resident songstress, Brigitte Bogar, joined Rotarians from across the District and honed her skills at North America's oldest golf club. The tournament honoured our former member, Nina Cole.



DG Neil Phillips presenting at the District Conference

After checking in at the beautiful White Oaks Spa, some of us joined DG Neil Phillips for a winemaker's dinner at the Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery for a veritable feast and many lovely wines. Attendees were interviewed for this article... the memories are cloudy so we can conclude the event was a success. Saturday was about inspiration. We listened transfixed to Nazanin Afshin-Jam Mackay tell us how she got started in service as Miss Canada and runner-up to Miss Universe. One day she stumbled on a teenage namesake held prisoner in Iran after stabbing her rapist. She successfully advocated for a new trial that gave the other Nazanin a fresh start at life...and so was born the organization Stop Child Executions. Her talk was followed by presentations from the finalists in the District "Taming of the Dragon" competition - three teams of high school students well on their way to making a difference in the community. The prize went to a project to offer comfort to pre-teens and teens during cancer treatment. Horticulturalist Mark Cullen then took the stage to outline the Highway of Heroes Living Tribute project that will result in a major tree-planting exercise all along Highway 401 from Trenton to Toronto in honour of fallen military personnel.

The afternoon concluded with various breakout sessions of using on the pillars of Rotary - plus a "blanket exercise" that provided insights into the history of our indigenous peoples and the unfortunate treatment suffered at the hands of North America's European immigrants.

A bit of free time followed...and some visited the nearby outlet mall for a little retail therapy before the evening's gala dinner - feast of quite substantial steaks. Saturday's hospitality suites were lively. Our Michele Guy kept things going until well into the morning. Thank goodness for the extra hour of sleep! It was my first district conference and I have to say, I'm sorry I waited 11 years to attend one. I left inspired and energized.

A big shout-out goes to the Rotary of Toronto Club members including Committee Chair, Andrea Tirone, Lorna Johnson who worked tirelessly to secure event sponsors, and of course to Marcy Berg, DG Neil Phillips and President Pat for their inspiration and hard work on the organizing committee. We can't forget the Rotaractors and Rotarians from across District 7070 who also played key roles on the Rotary Uncorked organizing committee. Next year the conference moves to Prince Edward County. The fun starts on October 27th, 2018. Don't miss it!



Don and Susan Brooks, Pat Neuman, Mary Lach, Alex and June Brown, Emre Yurga and Lori Brazier enjoying the fellowship



Saturday December 2, 2017

At the
Fairmont Royal York Hotel

RI 2018 – Home Hosting - Can You Help an Attendee?

Hotels have been filling up and some are booking out at the airport. Some would love to attend but find costs difficult. Do you have an extra room in your home?

The following is a request we have received: A 32 year veteran of Rotary, twice President of his Rotary Club in Bayswater, Victoria, Australia, is coming to the Rotary International Convention in Toronto. James Cunningham has purchased a booth with the Toronto HOC to advertise his Digital business. This 71 year old gentleman will be travelling alone, arriving approximately June 21 and leaving June 27 or 28. He is hoping to find a home stay situation, to enjoy some Toronto hospitality and help avoid the cost of a hotel.

If you are willing to provide him a room for the convention, please email James directly at atjames@smartdigital.com.au

You can check out his business at www.smartdigital.com.au



Roadmap to 2020, Update # 4 – Focus groups outcome

You have read about our Vision 2020, Mission and Values in the previous Voice issues... the big question remains how do we get there? To help deliver from Vision to Action, almost 80 Rotarians from our club have provided their insights, be it in our 3 focus groups, Board members, Foundation and Club executives, and the Strategic Planning Committee members.

We established 5 core drivers that act as the key pillars or factors for our Club and our Foundation.

Vision | Mission | Values



5 Core Drives of our club and foundation:

1. Member Satisfaction
2. Meeting Community Needs
3. Operational Effectiveness
4. Financial
5. Risk Management

With the help of the focus groups for each of the core drivers above, keeping the Vision 2020 in mind, we came up with goals, objectives, measures, targets and initiatives to brainstorm a good cross section of ideas we can work on. In these focus groups we have come up with over 120 ideas/initiatives, across 66 measures, 40 objectives and 8 goals. We thank everyone who participated!

As you can see there are a lot of insights and ideas that were captured, but there is only so much we can do, so we need your help to join us in the Club Assembly on Nov 20th to vote and help prioritize these initiatives and shape the future of our great Club.

Editorial: Maureen Bird

Every year we take time to remember those who have served to protect our freedoms and the freedom of others. Canada has lost the last surviving soldier from World War I. But we still mark the anniversaries of those battles where our troops shone through sacrifice. April 12, 2017 was the 100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge. The battle for Passchendaele concluded with the troops from Canada taking the town on November 10, 1917. The fighting at Passchendaele took great bravery. Nine Canadians earned the Victoria Cross there (the highest award for military valour that a Canadian could earn): Private Tommy Holmes, Captain Christopher O'Kelly, Sergeant George Mullin, Major George Pearkes, Private James Peter Robertson, Corporal Colin Barron, Private Cecil Kinross, Lieutenant Hugh McKenzie and Lieutenant Robert Shankland. Two of these men, McKenzie and Robertson, sadly lost their lives in the battle.

At our district conference Mark Cullen, Founder of Highway of Heroes Living Tribute, talked about planting a tree not just for every soldier who has died fighting for Canada but for every soldier who has fought for Canada. Rotarians will be participating in the planting of trees on Earth Day, April 22, 2018.

Prince Harry has inspired veterans with The Invictus Games for injured soldiers which took place in Toronto this September. Never forget.

In Flanders Fields

- By John McRae, Second Battle of Ypres, May 1915



*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
 Between the crosses, row on row,
 That mark our place; and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly
 Scarce heard amid the guns below.
 We are the Dead. Short days ago
 We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
 Loved and were loved, and now we lie
 In Flanders fields.
 Take up our quarrel with the foe:
 To you from failing hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.
 If ye break faith with us who die
 We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
 In Flanders fields.*

RI President
 Ian Riseley

District Governor
 Neil Phillips, Toronto

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

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 Peter Love, President

Editor of the Week:
 John Andras

Editor November 17:
 Lorna Johnson

What You Missed Reporter for November 10:
 Alex Brown

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

November 2017

- 17 Lorna Johnson, Fintech
- 24 Julie Mahfouz, Rezvani, Mes Amis Canada

December 2017

- 1 Nathalie Des Rosiers, Parliamentary Assistant to the Ontario Minister of Energy
- 8 Seniors Christmas Party
- 15 Club Christmas Party
- 22 & 29 - NO MEETINGS – enjoy the holidays

Events

- November 17 - Lorna Johnson, Fintech: What Is It and Why Should I Care?
- November 20 - Club Assembly
- December 2 - Children's Christmas Party

Propose a Speaker – Contact

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Send articles

to therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird

What You Missed November 3, 2017

- by Maureen Bird



Today we welcomed RI President Ian Riseley's representative to our District Conference, Virpi Honkala and her husband Matti, from Finland. We also had other visiting Rotarians joining us on their way to Niagara.



Left to right: RI Representative Virpi Honkala, Raaha Rotary Club, President Pat and Matti Honkala, Pietari Brahe Rotary Club, present banners.

Announcements:

Our Club Assembly on November 20th is your opportunity to influence the direction of our club. Write "club assembly" and your name on the back of a lunch ticket and give to Carol.

Children's Christmas Party is Saturday December 2nd. Sign up to be a table host and we still need to borrow a high quality printer for the pictures with Santa.

RI 2018 - Don Bell asks us to host attendees to a dinner in your home on the Monday of the conference. See Valerie Clarke.

Our speaker, Brian Crombie is from GTA Transit Alliance, a Civic Action Group with a platform of using social capital to create interactions and connectivity. As population increases in the GTA we must work harder to create green, clean and quick mass transit solutions. The DVP moves 1,200 cars per lane per hour (where do they park??) while GO Transit moves 2,000 people every seven minutes. He pointed to London, England as a way to get things done. While no new mass transit occurred from 1945 to 1989, the building at Canary Wharf brought new life to transit plans with a LRT and the Jubilee Line, twice as long as our Sheppard line, was built at half the cost and in half the time. In the last 7 years they have built a whole new rail line to make central London more easily accessible. London transit is a business with no subsidies.

Toronto already has rail lines in place, which are not being used efficiently. Union Station is under-utilized. The new UP is helping and more can be done. We need fare integration but there are jurisdiction problems between cities and provinces which need fixing. London has 9 different transit suppliers but there is a one-fare system (the Oyster Card) providing seamless movement from suburbs in and out. Oakville buses and GO Transit are combined but TTC is not yet.

We have a long way to go. TTC is moving to driverless subway cars -like Vancouver's Sky Train. Freight trains need to be moved. 407 has a train right of way but they did not build the needed bridges. Lack of political will creates disaster. He left us a lot to think about.

Susan Howson drew the 9 of clubs so the 50-50 pot grows.

Who We've Helped - July to October

- From our Golf Day Fundraiser - \$7,510.78 to Blankets for Burn Kids
- From International - \$4,218.86 for Alma Foundation - Education in Bolivia
- From Scholarship - \$25,256.37 for four students
- From Rotary Charitable Foundation
 - Sherbourne Health Centre \$200,000
 - Shelterbox Canada \$15,000
 - Georgian Bay Forever \$1,000
 - Lake Scugog Camp Bikeathon \$5,000

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