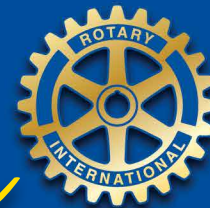


# ROTARY VOICE

*extra*



The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 106 | Issue 18 | November 29, 2018

## Today's Program

Annual Senior's Christmas Party

## Host

Senior Citizen's Committee,  
Chair Anny-Sandra Hamel

## Location

Fairmont Royal York,  
Concert Hall, C Level

For over 55 years, The Rotary Club of Toronto has hosted the annual Senior's Christmas Party at the Royal York Hotel. We invite over 200 senior guests that come from 9 agencies many of which we have long standing relationships with including the Second Mile Club, the Salvation Army and the Yonge Street Mission. This year, we invited 20 guests from 2 new organizations: Sistering and St. Matthew's Bracondale House.

We will be entertained by The Crescent Middle School choir, as well as music and singing from our fellow Rotarians and we will even have a visit from Santa...

Rotarians, Rotaractors, the Toronto Police Services and a few others all lend a hand to make this Christmas lunch celebration possible.



*The Salvation Army Band and The Rotary Singers entertaining at last year's Christmas Party.*



*The Children's Chorus from Crescent Middle School*

## Christmas Parties!

**Don't Forget the Christmas Parties!  
Mark your calendars and connect to volunteer.**

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY - Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

This has been a tradition for a century. There will be 150 children from 5 agencies and family members – over 450 people. This is a special heart warming event that we should attend. If you can volunteer on the day please contact Karl Kremer

### **CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY - Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

Come enjoy the Fairmont Royal York's spectacular buffet! There is plenty of room so bring guests for this special treat. Dauna Jones-Simmonds is in charge and will be looking for volunteers to help with silent auction, raffle ticket sales and a choir. Donations for the silent auction would be gratefully received and proceeds help with the Children's party.

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Club's Annual General Meeting for the purpose of the approval of the audited Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2018 and for the purpose of electing a Vice President and four Directors for a three-year term commencing July 1, 2019; a Treasurer for the year 2019 - 2020 and the election of Auditors; will be held during the regular lunch meeting on Friday, December 7, 2018 at the National Club. The Club's Financial Statements will be available for pick up at the Rotary office.

## Calling all Piano Players!

We would love for you to join the roster of club members who contribute to our Friday luncheons with their musical talents. We even have music for Road to the Isles, O'Canada, Take Me Out to the Ball Game, and other club favourites to help you get started. Please contact Glenn Davis, Lorna Johnson, or Carol Hutchinson for more information.

## Swedish Christmas Concert – by Lorna Johnson



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Are you thinking about trying something new this year? Please join us for the Fellowship and Entertainment adventure to the Swedish Singers Concert, on December 9th, 7.00 pm at Agricola Finnish Lutheran Congregation Church, 25 Old York Mills Road (York Mills and Yonge – two minutes walk from the subway).

Several members attended this wonderful concert last year, and it comes highly recommend – particularly, if you haven't yet had your fill of international Christmas music. The Toronto Swedish Singers puts on an event filled with Scandinavian music and hygge (it is very cozy) and after the concert the hygge continues with glogg (mulled wine), traditional saffron buns and gingerbread cookies. Concert conducted by Choir Director Brigitte Bogar.

In case you are a bit shy about walking into a new venue alone, please meet me at 6:15 PM at the York Mills TTC subway station, and take the short walk to the church (you can see the church from the TTC). Or meet me at the church – and join me for the glogg (mulled wine) and saffron buns afterward.

The cost is \$20 (advanced ticket price), and to book a ticket please contact Brigitte Bogar (brigitte.bogar@gmail.com). On the night, Lorna Johnson, lorna.johnson@me.com or cell: 647.308.2808.

Merry Christmas and hope to see you there.

Lorna Johnson



**William Bahen** - by Michele Guy



“SPEAK UP” said Bill loudly. Many people in the room smiled or rolled their eyes. Bill had become hard of hearing but he was really doing it for all his friends ... that was just the type of guy he was.

William Bahen was born in London, U.K. and raised in Toronto and was involved in real estate management and development in the USA and Canada. He joined our Rotary Club in 1988 and loved it. He even helped charter a Rotary Club in Kiev, Ukraine. As well he was instrumental in assisting Australian Rotary Clubs in supplying anti-malaria bednets to Timor Leste and earned a Paul Harris Fellow for doing so.

I met Bill after I had been in Rotary for a few years. He used to say to me “you’re a smart girl – one day you’ll be President of this Rotary Club”. Pshaw I’d say. Then one day Bill Bahen asked me to help him with the selling of his home. Well that did it. He

would tell everyone I was his lawyer. I’d say “Bill, the Law Society says I have to keep all clients confidential”. He’d look at me, smile that smile, and say “It’s me telling people, not you!”

Bill Bahen would hold “court” at each Friday lunch. He would sit at “his” table and his cronies would join him – Bill Dale, Don Carmen, Guido Marini and many others. If a new Rotarian came along and tried to sit at that table, you would receive a stare that said these seats were taken.

Bill was married to Ann Bahen who was the love of his life. Ann was very involved with the Rotary Inner Wheel and handled Bill with such graciousness it was a joy to watch.

Old age affected Bill’s health and he had to withdraw from our Club about 8 years ago. Ann’s eyesight deteriorated but she took care of Bill as much as she could.

Ann just passed away on July 4, 2018 and Bill followed her on August 31, 2018. These

wonderful people enriched our lives. You are not forgotten and you are loved by many.

Goodbye Ann and Bill.



Bill and Ann Bahen

# Upcoming Speakers & Events

**November 2018**

30 NO LUNCH – due to senior’s lunch on November 29th

**December 2018**

- 7 Michiel Roodenburg, World water crisis
- 7 Annual General Meeting
- 14 Club Christmas Party
- 21 NO LUNCH – due to Christmas Holiday
- 28 NO LUNCH – due to Christmas Holiday

**Events**

- December 2 Children’s Christmas Party
- December 6 R2R Christmas Event
- December 9 Swedish Christmas Concert

**Editor of the week**

Brigitte Bogar

**Editor for December 7, 2018**

John Andras

**What You Missed Reporter for November 29, 2018**

John Andras

**Propose a Speaker – Contact**

Bert Steenburgh, Chair  
 BSteenburgh@oxfordproperties.com  
 Tel: 416-868-3673

**Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter**

therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird



**What You Missed November 23, 2018** - by Glenn Davis



The Club enjoyed a delicious lunch again at Bill’s Place, and after the socializing and nutritional frolicking was done, we got down to business. The Head table usually marches in to ‘Road to the Isles’ but it sounded rather more like ‘Let It Snow, Let it Snow’.

Five visiting Rotarians from as far away as Slovakia, and a handful of guests, listened as Esteemed Past-President Bert Steenburgh spoke on behalf of the Program Committee, and exhorted the audience to pass along interesting topic ideas and names of possible speakers for evaluation by the Committee. Good, experienced speakers with interesting ideas and something worthwhile to say are apparently the most prized, according to EPP Bert. Harold Hetherington then introduced our guest speaker, fellow Rotarian Cyndie Jacobs, who Harold met at the International Convention. Cyndie herself an excellent example of the quality of speaker we seek to grace our Club luncheons, and is the current President of the Uxbridge Rotary Club. She outlined the fascinating story of how an orphaned bear cub from Ontario wound up as the inspiration for “Winnie the Pooh”, beloved by children all over the world.

Her Great Uncle, Major Harry Colebourne, qualified as a veterinary surgeon in 1911, and enlisted at the outbreak of the Great War at the ripe old age of 27. While on a troop train enroute from Winnipeg to Valcartier, Quebec, to join and train with the 2nd Canadian International Brigade, Harry encountered a hunter with a small cub at

a station stop in White River, Ontario. Harry’s diary records his purchase of the cub for \$20.00, a princely sum in those days. He trained the cub to the point that it slept under his cot like a dog, and we were treated to many assorted pictures of Harry hand-feeding treats to ‘Winnipeg the Bear’ who stood on his hind feet to receive them. ‘Winnipeg’ simply loved sweet, condensed milk, which gave him a rather rotund profile. He became the beloved camp mascot to the soldiers, even travelling with them to England, where they underwent further training on Salisbury plain. But when the order came to ship out to France, Winnipeg was not included. Harry donated the tame, friendly bear to the London Zoo, where he entertained thousands of visitors over the years-somewhat later including Christopher Robin, the son of A. A. Milne, who published four books of stories and poetry now featuring “Winnie-The-Pooh” between 1924 and 1928. Winnipeg died in 1934, but lives on through children’s books, and of course Disney. But Ryerson has established an archive holding historical documentation, and a descendant of Colebourne has published the story, called ‘Finding Winnie’, to help memorialize the little-known Canadian connection.

Peripatetic President Jeff gave thanks for his and Casey’s recent 10th wedding anniversary trip to New York, -via Panama- so Casey could participate in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. Pianist Glenn Davis won the bottle of wine, which he sadly claims he can’t share with his very-pregnant Diva Brigitte.

**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

The Rotary Club of Toronto Toronto Rotary @TorontoRotary

