

Today's Program

Patrick O'Driscoll, CEO Corby Spirit and Wine

Topic

Canadian Whisky Pioneers: The History and Future of Corby Spirit and Wine

Location

The National Club



Mr. Patrick O'Driscoll's career in the Spirits and Wine industry spans more than 25 years. He is currently President and Chief Executive Officer of Corby Spirit and Wine and has been a director of Corby since July 2009. He is also Chair of Spirits Canada, the Association of Canadian Distillers.

He has held a range of positions both in the UK domestic and international markets prior to his current position. From 2007 to 2009, Mr. O'Driscoll was the Chief Executive Officer of Malibu-Kahlúa International, a subsidiary of Pernod Ricard U.S.A. LLC. He was the Global Commercial Director for Chivas Brothers Ltd. from 2002 to 2007, gaining significant experience in markets in Europe, Asia, and the Americas. Prior to that he was the Marketing Manager of Campbell Distillers, and held various positions with International Distillers & Vintners.

The Fellowship and Entertainment Committee Starts a New Christmas Tradition

Rotarians and friends enjoyed a walk back into time, strolling through the outdoor European Christmas Market at the Distillery District this past Sunday. There were carollers and folk dancers, mulled wine and Drambuie-laced hot toddies, poutine and gingerbread, a gigantic Christmas tree, a Ferris wheel and a merry-go-round for the wee ones, and fire-pits to warm yourself, all amidst much good cheer. When we got tired from browsing the little wooden stalls with hand-made craftwork and home-made delights, we adjourned to the Beer Hall at the Mill St. Brewery.



Andrea Vabalis, Organizer, with three guests, at the European Christmas Market

In a private corner of the Beer Hall set aside for us, some 35 Rotarians, family, and guests enjoyed many libations and a delicious and endless dinner of soup and salad, steak and Cornish hen and perogies with sour cream, topped off by little apple tarts and a scrumptious gingerbread and beer ice cream sandwich.

No speeches were made, no money was raised, but a great time was had by all. Toronto Rotarians mixed with their fellows from GTA clubs, and retirees made merry with the young folk - an event brought to you by your Fellowship and Entertainment Committee, and one not to be missed next year.

Merry Christmas!

The Fellowship and Entertainment Committee invites you to join us in convivial melody under the guidance and direction of The Right (mostly) Reverend Doctor John Joseph Mastandrea to wax rhapsodic in seasonal song for an hour - bringing peace, goodwill and hope and non-sectarian joy to the patients and visitors of St. Michael's Hospital.

We will be gathering together at 5.45PM on Thursday, the 18th of December in the Queen Street East lobby of St. Michael's Hospital, in-between Bond and Victoria Street. At 6.00 PM we will burst into song for an hour and then toddle across the street for libations at John Joseph's favourite dram shop.

There is nothing to bring apart from energy and good cheer.

HOWEVER! John Joseph will be bringing song sheets for all of us and will need to know how many to print. By return e-mail tell me how many you will be bringing...

Cliff Johnson: cliff.johnson@me.com



The “Bestest” Party in Town!

– by Pat Neuman, Chair, Children’s Christmas Party

HO, HO, HO! Jingle bells, jingle bells, here comes Santa Claus! Our **85th Annual Christmas Party for Children with Disabilities** was held on Saturday November 29, and was a resounding success! Christmas spirit was everywhere. Glenn and Brigitte entertained the children and families with Christmas carols as they entered the foyer on the Convention Floor of the Royal York Hotel. At 11:15 the doors swung open to live Christmas music by the Coppertones Police Band. Yummy food was ready, Rotaractor face painters roved about, AFCY (Arts for Youth and Children) set the pace with artsy creations, Mary D helped the kids do scrapbooking, June Brown, Goldie and Anna wound some tales in the Storytelling sessions, and clowns (District YEP students/Rotaractors/Souliek, our 1st Scholarship winner) entertained the children and families. President Steve Smith, District Governor Brian Thompson, Unit commander 52 Division Dave McCormack all welcomed our guests. MC Paul Truelove kept the party moving along. Jango, a 2-year-old police dog, attracted lots of attention (almost as much as Santa Claus) as children clambered for a pet and hug. Antique police cars were on display outside, the firemen brought the pumper truck for kids to see, and volunteers from the Toronto Police and Fire Dept were on hand to help out!

The “snowball” fight pitted the policemen against the children armed with sponge balls. The party included a visit with Santa Claus and a gift bag overflowing with gifts, toys, candy, and fruit all donated by generous corporations and Rotarians.



Pat Neuman, one of the organizers of the Children's Christmas party with Santa

About 650 people, including children with special needs and their families, enjoyed the party hosted by the Committee of Pat Neuman, Lorraine Nelson, Don Bell, Jeff Dobson, Shannon Lundquist, Bill Empey, Jay Littlejohn along with over 100 Rotarians, friends and family volunteers. A very special thank you to Staff Sargeant Kevin Suddes and his team of policemen and the Fire Dept who help us every year!! Thank you, thank you to everyone who helped make the party a GREAT SUCCESS! It was such fun. Let's do it again! Next year's party is December 5. See you there!



The room was packed with families enjoying the “Snow Ball”



Rotaractors dressed up as clowns to entertain the children



Malawi Trip Invite!

– By Chris Snyder



On April 23rd approximately 12-14 Rotarians and friends will be boarding an Ethiopian Airlines Flight to Zomba, Malawi. We return May 11.

The purpose of the trip is to help build some more classrooms on the Mbidi School.

Over several trips we will have added and improved eight classrooms. Even though, in general, only about a third of Malawian children are able to finish primary school, our Rotary-sponsored additions have enabled many more to stay and finish.

We will also be working with the amazing women of Kachere. These women have full-blown AIDS but because of antiretroviral drugs they are able to lead a full life. Their average income is only about one dollar per day, yet they are the most giving, positive and spirited women I and others who have been on our trips have ever met!

While we work hard the work is not difficult. The temperature is not too hot, either. We will also take in a short Safari. So far, Rotary Club of Toronto members Paul Truelove, Brian Westlake and Maureen Bird will be going. Join them! The cost is \$4600 and is tax receiptable. We still have a few spots open. If you are interested in joining us, please go on our website www.makeanimpact.ca or contact me snyder@eccgroup.ca if you would like more information.

Those who have been on our trips (our sixth to Malawi, and thirty-second in total) have found them to be absolutely outstanding and life changing. Approximately sixty percent of us are repeaters!



Children of Mbidi school. More classrooms are needed.

Donating a Win-Win Situation

– By Susan Howson



Considering a donation to the Rotary Club of Toronto now or in your will? Thanks to changes in Canada's tax laws, you now get maximum bang for your donation buck when you donate stock or other valuable securities.

What's the change and how does it work for you? Simple, now you can donate any publicly traded stock to Rotary. The value to the Club is the same, but the value to you can be significant, because you get to skip right over the issue of capital gain.

Following is an example of how this benefits you. Assume you have stock that cost you \$1,000, now valued at \$2,000 and you'd like to give that value to us. Under the old rules, you'd have had to sell the stock first, incurring a capital gains tax liability. Under the new rules, you can simply give Rotary the stock – and there's no tax obligation!

By KPMG's reckoning the value of the new rules looks like this:

	Old Rules	New Rules
Donation	\$2000 realized from stock sale	Stock valued at \$2000
Original cost	\$1000	\$1000
Tax on capital gain	\$230	n/a
Donation tax credit	\$920	\$920
Net tax saving	\$690	\$920
Net cost of donation after tax	\$1310	\$1080 (a \$230 improvement)

Your donation can be directed to the Rotary Club of Toronto Foundation, Philanthropic Fund (for committees). It's a win for you, a win for the Rotary Club and a win for the initiatives we're all trying to support. It is recommended that you speak to your accountant or financial advisor before taking any action. To proceed contact Carol Bieser in the Rotary office at 416-363-0604

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

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 President-Elect: David Hetherington
 Vice President: Susan Hunter
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Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:

Robert Smith, President

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Lorna Johnson

Editor December 12, 2014:

Don Bell

What You Missed Reporter for December 5th:

Joe Pochodyniak

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?

Submit an Article to the Voice Newsletter:

voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca

Upcoming Speakers & Events

December 2014

- 5 Canadian Whisky Pioneers: The History and Future of Corby Spirit and Wine
- 12 Senior's Christmas Party
- 19 Members Christmas Party
- 26 Boxing Day - No meeting

January 2015

- 2 New Year's – No Meeting
- 9 Dr. Gillian Kupakuwana
"How Rotary Changed My Life!"

Propose a Speaker – Contact

Alex Brown, Chair

Program Committee

alexbrown@integratedappliances.ca



ROAST OF STEVE SMITH

Committee Chairs got together this past Tuesday to roast president Steve. After hearing about all his misadventures—especially with cheap wine—we nevertheless voted to keep him for another six months. The truth is, other than his bad jokes, we could find little to fault him with. This is a picture of Steve getting in some early prayers, knowing that one day he'd need them! It appears that they were all answered.



Rotary/Rotaract Club of Toronto 2015 Dragon Boat Team

Rotarians and Rotaractors, we're slowly entering that time of year when we start getting more moonlight than daylight, with snow on the ground rather than flowers, frozen water on the harbour rather than waves hitting the shore and, if you're like me, you'll start daydreaming of warmer weather.

One of my favourite things to do when it does get warm outside is to dragon boat. Dragon boat teams are made up of 20 paddlers and it requires practice and training to learn the strokes and to paddle in sync with the entire team. The key to this sport is timing and teamwork to get the boat across the finish line.

Well, instead of daydreaming of warmer weather I suggest we start preparing for warmer weather now - send me (sar.hui@gmail.com) an e-mail if you would like to explore the possibilities of putting together a 2015 Dragon Boat Team.

What You Missed November 28, 2014

— by Rohit Tamhane



Last Friday, you could feel the festive season in the laughter and conviviality on the eighteenth floor of the Royal York. Besides an inspiring National Anthem accompanied by our resident Nordic opera singer, Brigitte, there were three new members and a potential fourth at my the table. Almost as exciting was the rumor that Suzanne Boggild is getting a Rotary tattoo on her ankle. (How Glen Davis usurps such tidbits is beyond this writer). Our esteemed President Steve, in his sixth month, somehow forgot a cardinal lesson: “Do not take shots at a past-president who is scheduled to speak at the lectern, especially if it is Mr. Geoffrey Johnson.”

Another inspiring moment at lunch was the announcement of three new members being stripped . . . of their red stripe. (No, they were not drinking Jamaican beer at the head table).

While President Steve shared his excitement at the idea of stripping the red “New Member” stripe off of Lorna Pitcher, John Farrell, and Lorna Johnson's respective badges, Geoffrey Johnson began to skulk up behind the president with a knife that Sandy Boucher handed him. Theatrically speaking, it was the quickest imitation of *Julius Caesar* I can recall. On a more sincere note, we were all proud of our new member's accomplishments!

Mr. Robert O'Brien's poignant introduction of our speaker, R. H. Thomson, began with some gentle reminders. One month ago, Cpl. Nathan Cirillo was killed, and it was also the hundredth anniversary of World War I, during which 60,000 Canadians gave their lives for our freedom. Mr. Thompson has created a global project, Vimy Vigil, whereby each year from 2014 to 2018, each of 9.5 million souls who died would be honoured by projecting their name for 25 seconds a hundred years since they passed. The scope and challenge of this project, especially working with so many foreign governments, is daunting. We wish him all the success possible. Mr. Thomson was so touched by our club sending books to a fly-in community in his honor that he gave President Steve a high-five. (One of the best reactions I can recall in the last seven years).

Please remember to contact Cliff Johnson you would like to carol at St. Mike's Hospital on December 18th. Peter Love had the 50-50 ticket, picked the queen of clubs and took home a bottle of wine.

JOIN ROTARY NOW!

www.rotarytoronto.com

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