ROTARY VOICE



The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 102 | Issue 1 | July 11, 2014

Today's Program

The Presidential Address

Speaker

President Steven Smith

Location

National Club, 303 Bay Street



Steven P. Smith joined the Rotary Club of Toronto in 1999. He has served on several committees, including but not limited to, Finance, Fellowship and Entertainment, Fundraising, Investment, Marketing and Communications (including as Voice Reporter), Operations and the Aboriginal Service Committee. Steve served as Vice Chair (2001/2002) and Chair (2002/2003) of the Fellowship and Entertainment Committee. In 2004/2005 he was Chair of our Foundation's Investment Committee. In July 2004 Steve joined the Club Board for 2004/2005 with President Geoffrey Johnson and was seconded to the Operations Committee. During his second year with the Club Board 2005/2006 with President Sylvia Milne, he served as Chair of the Fundraising Committee and the Ice Breaker sub-committee, in addition to being a member of the Finance and Investment Committees. In his final year of his first term with the Club Board for 2006/2007 with President John Lloyd, he served on the Charitable Foundation Board.

One of Steven's first roles as incoming Vice President in 2011/2012 was to chair and organize the President's Farewell for then President, Sandy Boucher. With a broad exposure to and working relationship with many First Nations groups, he immediately dove in to use his expertise to assist with our First Nations Task Force and then continued as a member of the Aboriginal Service Committee. As Club Vice President in 2012/2013 he was Chair and Committee Liaison Director of the Club Assembly, a member of the Club Board as Fundraising Committee Liaison Director, and a member of the Executive Committee and Foundation Board. Most recently, as President Elect in 2013/2014, he chaired the Strategic Planning Committee, Honours and Awards Committee and the Executive Committee. He also served as a member of the Foundation Board.

Outside of Rotary, Steven served on the Board of the Toronto Public Library Foundation and chaired the Toronto Public Library Foundation Finance and Investment committee. Steven was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Award in 2013. He received his Club Builder Award in 2011 and became a Paul Harris recipient in 2012/2013.

Mankind Is Our Business

Fellow Rotarians

Welcome to the New Rotary year! I am honoured and delighted to serve as President for the 2014/2015 year and look forward to working together to continue the good works of this great club.

As a result of the tireless contributions of our current members and those members who have served over the last 101 years the Rotary Club of Toronto has made a significant contribution to the lives of an innumerable amount of people in our community and abroad. And we will continue to do so.

The spirit of Rotary and the philosophy of "Service Above Self" have remained constant since our club was founded. The reasoning, the "Why" we become Rotarians has not changed over the years. The goal of making a difference in the lives of others remains as strong today as when we began in 1912. With the passage of time, however, demographics change and the ways in which we perform and deliver our services to the community has evolved. Today we are an organization of men and women from many varied backgrounds (and age groups!) that bring an extensive and diverse set of talents and skills to the table. This is the "Power of Rotary" today. And in order to thrive, we must continue to attract like-minded people who will join us. In the words of a certain poet/songwriter, "the Times They Are a' Changin'!" In fact, have changed and we must continue to evolve with the times. This does not mean that we abandon the traditions of our great club. It means that we must build on them and find innovative ways that are even more effective to continue evolving so that we can attract new members, including young professionals and corporations with similar altruistic goals. This is the basis our Strategic Plan.

In Sandy Boucher's year as president, the Strategic Planning Committee was formed. Based on a member survey and detailed discussion and analysis, six strategic drivers required for the continued success and growth of our club were identified. The primary strategic drivers, Engaged Membership and Inspired Communications, are currently being implemented. The focus this year will be to continue implementation of the Strategic Plan, improving the effectiveness of our committees, growing our Foundation, strengthening Governance and fine-tuning our financial operations. This plan will ensure that the Rotary Club of Toronto will grow and continue its good works for the next 100 years.

I consider it an honour and privilege to serve as President of the Rotary Club of Toronto and look forward to working with the Board and all our members to build upon our past incredible accomplishments and to continue to make a significant difference in our community and around the world. In the words of incoming RIP Gary Huang, "Let's Light Up Rotary!"

The 2014-2015 Board of Directors of The Rotary Club of Toronto



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Chair Exec. Com.
Liais. Dir. Honours & Awards,
Strategic Planning and Marketing
and Communication



Steve Smith
President



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Board



Peter Love Vice Pres. of the Foundation Board

Paul Harris Fellow – William Peace for Pat Neuman – by Neil Phillips

The Paul Harris Fellow, named after the first President of Rotary International is a recognition given to an individual who makes a financial contribution to The Rotary International Foundation (TRF). In most Clubs, you achieve this recognition by making a donation. In our Club, we twin this with the William Peace Award, named after our own Club's first president (PHF/WPA). In so bestowing, our Club makes a \$6,000 donation to TRF on that member's behalf – in recognition of the great contribution they have made to our Club. It shows well-deserved thanks for individuals who believe in the spirit and goals of Rotary. And how great is that contribution, you ask?

Well first, they must have already been honoured as a Club Builder (CB). That entails being a member for three years, active on at least three committees, and chairing at least one. That, in itself, is an accomplishment for which any member would be proud. But to be awarded the PHF/WPA, this member has shown a level of Club support and dedication at an even higher level. For starters, they must have been active members for at least ten years. They didn't rest on the laurels of their Club Builder, but had the dedication to continue to serve the Club, and more importantly, the community we serve.

Each year, the Honours & Awards Committee convenes to discuss who has earned this distinction. I am here today to tell you about just such an individual. One year after receiving their Club Builder, she was elected to our Board of Directors. During that time, she was an active, and much-loved, liaison director for the Rotaract Club of Toronto. Apparently the Rotaractors didn't keep her busy enough, because she then joined our partnership

with the Argos – to which I should add she has been involved with ever since.

Three years after their CB, she was active on our Fundraising Committee. Not just an ideas person – this was someone who would not hesitate to



Five years after their CB, she lost control. Now she sat on the Membership Committee, was the Chair of the Fundraising committee, Secretary for Youth & Children's, Chair of the Children's Christmas party – our longest-serving Club project, and Chair of the Youth Exchange & Ambassadorial Scholarships.

Worth an award unto itself, she even put up with Harvey at our annual Camp Scugog work weekend. Last year, in our Centennial, while we were already bursting at the seams with activity, this person immediately volunteered to help Jai Persaud and I to organise the new Ribfest partnership with The Rotary Club of Etobicoke. Did I mention she also sits on our Foundation's Research & Appeals Committee? Ongoing committee engagement. Concern for our Club in a leadership role. Willingness to help our Club grow. Philanthropic Promiscuity. And a touch of fun and the ability to ground those around her.

Indeed...a Rotarian to admire. It is with absolute pleasure that I introduce our latest Paul Harris / William Peace Award recipient, Pat Neuman.





The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: Steve Smith
President-Elect: David Hetherington
Vice President: Susan Hunter
Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director: Carol Bieser

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation: Bob Smith. President

Editor of the Week: Jeff Dobson

Editor July 18th, 2014: Greg Vermeulen

What You Missed Reporter for July 11, 2014: Joseph 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

July 2014

18 Brian Thompson – Rotary 7070 District Governor
 25 Sarah Kutulakos – Canada China Business Council

August 2014

1 No Meeting, Civic Holiday

Events

Aug 21 - Rotary Golf Tournament

Propose a Speaker Peter Simmie, Chair

Program Committeepeter.simmie@bristolgate.com

Rotaract Mentoring

- by Sarah Hui

On Friday June 6 and Friday June 13, over ten Rotaractors received the opportunity to participate in a mentorship lunch with Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Toronto, Rotaractors and Rotarians were paired up and given the opportunity to speak about goals in the future, current industry trends and educational experiences.

It was a great opportunity for Rotaractors to attend a Rotary Club of Toronto lunch meeting at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel. For those who attended on Friday, June 13th, they got the added bonus of hearing John Tory, a Candidate for Mayor for the City of Toronto. Also, they got to see the Paul Harris Fellow and William Peace Award presented to Lorraine Lloyd!

Thank you very much to Neil Phillips and Cliff Johnson for making all this happen!!



Paul Churchward, Netila Demneri, Lisa Ingram, Neil Phillips, Kelly Ku, Annie Chu, and Sarah Hui.

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What you Missed – July 4th 2014

by Brian Porter



You missed a meeting full of transition and thanks and Rotary success, beginning with thanks to those who volunteered for RibFest, which at the time of our meeting last week had already raised \$88,000. Karl Kramer also reminded us of the 66th Annual Rotary Golf Club Tournament, which will be held on Thursday, August 21, at Richmond Hill Golf Club. For \$175, golfers will enjoy a complete program of events including BBQ lunch, a

warm-up bucket of balls, 18 holes of golf with cart and a steak dinner. He also said that sponsors and prizes were still needed for the event.

However, the main business of our lunch was to bid "adieu" to President Richard and departing members of the Board and to welcome and hand the reins of office over to President-Elect Steve. First, Sylvia Geist, on behalf of the Voice Committee, presented President Richard with a book of this past year's Voices, a "tradition" now after our Centenary year. President Richard expressed his thanks to Sylvia for this "unexpected appreciation." And, he also expressed his gratitude for the work of outgoing Board members: Agnes Walkinshaw, John Whincup, Nick Larter, and Ken Rawlins.

Past President Susan Howson, who had been charged with giving "words of advice" for President Richard, began by noting impressively that he had served on the Executive Committee for six years, twice as President — and attended more than his share of Rotary meetings! But, it was the advice that she expressed as a warning about future withdrawal symptoms for President Richard as Past President, or PP, such as:

- constantly checking his watch to ensure the correct timing for each Friday meeting
- greeting people with a hand shake at the door of Rotary meetings, only to be overlooked as members searched for President Steve's handshake
- not having Carol at his beck and call
- not receiving hundreds of e-mails every Monday morning
- having a lot of time on his hands

Susan did suggest, however, that three important jobs remained for PP Richard:

- 1. Giving the President's roast-aka, his six-month evaluation!
- 2. Setting up the Nomination Committee for the new President
- 3. Arranging the formal dinner for the Past Presidents

After a toast to President Richard, he expressed how great a privilege and honour it had been to serve Rotary over the years and he expressed his thanks for the support of the Club and its members. He particularly thanked and recognized the work of: David Hetherington, his mentor, The Board, Treasurer James McAuley, the Committee Chairs, Foundation President Bob Smith, Past Presidents, especially Neil Phillips, Vice President David Hetherington, President-Elect Steve Smith, Carol and Belli and Barbara Thomson.

President Richard then presented Rotary Warrior Pins to Glenn Davis, James McAuley, Gerry Bird Lastly, President-Elect Steve Smith came to the podium and recited Rotary's Presidential Oath, thus becoming our Club's next President. Susan Howson followed by affixing the Past President's pin and name tag on PP Richard's jacket label and by presenting him on behalf of the Club with a gift of a travel voucher. The meeting was then adjourned by President Steve.

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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