The Rotary Club of Toronto

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July 24, 2015

Today's Program

District Governor Michael Bell

Looking At Our Clubs Through Fresh Eyes

Host

Mary Lou Harrison

Location

Fairmont Royal York, Imperial Room



Michael believes that, as Gandhi said, "You have to be the change that you want to see in the world". His involvement in Rotary allows him to do this. Michael was born and raised in the west end of Toronto attending Royal York Collegiate,

University and Humber College. He spent the majority of his business career running the family furniture business before selling it and retiring in 2008. He is married to his wife Jo-Ann and between them they have six children and seven grandchildren. Whether it was chairing the board of managers at his local church, serving as President of his local BIA (Business Improvement Area), or as President of his national business association, Michael has always been involved in volunteering where he saw a need. In 2005, he was invited to the Rotary Club of Etobicoke's 75th Anniversary celebration. This was where he first heard Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" which spoke to him in a way that he knew this was the place where he could really help to make a difference. President of the Rotary Club of Etobicoke in 2008-09 and again in 2013-14, Michael has been active in helping to add 42 new club members in the last three years. In addition, he has chaired his club's largest fundraising initiative, Toronto Ribfest from 2011-13, raising over \$650,000 for charity during that time and helping this local event to become perhaps the largest community fundraiser in Canada over the July 1st holiday weekend. At the District level, Michael has been an Assistant District Governor, a member of the Membership Committee, Long Range Planning Committee and the Paul Harris Society Committee. Michael and Jo-Ann are both Paul Harris Fellows and Major Donors.

In addition, Michael is a member of the Paul Harris Society, the Bequest Society, and a Benefactor. The Rotary Action Groups to which Michael belongs are, RAGM (Rotary Action Group for Micro-finance) and WASRAG (Water and Sanitation Rotary Action Group). Michael believes that, as Rotarians, we must be relevant and have fun in order to be successful. He is very much looking forward to his term as District Governor and to leading our District through service.



Be a gift to the world

Kevin Power - Paul Harris Fellow and William Peace Award



On November 24, 2000 Kevin Power joined the Club and took on the classification "Law Practice General", the same classification once held by Donald Day Carrick, Elgin Coutts, Ron Crane, Robert O'Brien and Michele Guy going back 62 years to 1953 and he has quietly exceeded all expectations in epitomizing Service Above Self. Never boastful and never self aggrandizing

he has built a record of solid achievement serving as Chair of Program Committee, on the Membership Development, Youth and Children, Community Services, Fundraising, Health and Environment, and Research and Appeals Committees and as Board liaison to the Foundation. He completed one tour of duty on the Board of Directors from 2005 to 2008 and this year the Nominations Committee asked if he might be prepared to lend his experience to a second term and so we are lucky to have his judgment and background on our Club's Board serving us and serving David Hetherington, Susan Hunter and Pat Neuman for the next three years. When it comes to the Club's Argos fundraising activities, he was a leading member of the Ambassador Programs Partnership and liaison with the Argos, coordinating and managing the 50/50 draws at all games. Through his dedicated efforts he has raised thousands of dollars for our Philanthropic Fund. When it comes to participating in our Club's programs whether it is Camp Huronda, Camp Scugog, building for Habitat for Humanity, Ribfest, our Club's Poker Night and many other projects Kevin is always there and the Club can always rely and depend on him. Congratulations.

New Member - Andrea Tirone



Born in Toronto, Andrea Tirone has been engaged in community and international service, both in Canada and abroad, through RI for the past 11 years. In 2004, Andrea completed the District 7070 RYLA program and promptly joined the Rotaract Club of the U of T. As a Rotaractor in both the U of T and downtown Toronto Clubs she has had the opportunity to serve as President and District Rotaract Representative twice; was invited

by the RI President to serve two terms on the RI Committee for Rotaract and Interact; has attended 7 Rotary International Conventions; chaired the International Rotaract Conference (Interota) last year; and in 2011 was invited by the Governor General of Canada to represent Rotaract and Rotary at a special reception with His and Her Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Andrea was honoured with a Paul Harris Fellowship in 2010 by District 7040.

Having completed a Master of Arts in Political Science as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in South Africa, Andrea recently returned to school last September to train as a Psychotherapist at the Transformational Arts College in Toronto.

Andrea is delighted to be joining the Rotary Club of Toronto, a family she has considered herself a part of since 2004 when she first joined Rotaract.

United Nations partners with Covenant House and the Women's Initiatives Committee

The United Nations as announced a special fund to help victims of human trafficking. They have identified 19 countries that need this help – and Covenant House in Toronto has been chosen as one of two locations in the Americas to receive this money. This gives a grant of \$60,000.00 over three years to support the work with young, female victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation. Obviously this





is a stellar recognition of the quality of work done by Covenant House as well as an endorsement of the nature of the project chosen by our own Women's Initiatives Committee. Covenant House estimates that as many as 1,000 youth are involved in the some form of the sex trade annually, mostly trading sex for survival. Their desperation makes them highly vulnerable to sexual exploitation for profit. We are proud to work with Covenant House on this project.



FELLOWSHIP DINNER AT TCJ

WHERE: WHEN:

TCJ Restaurant, 69 Queen St East Wed Aug 5th, 6:30 - 9:00pm

WHAT:

Casual dinner hosted by Lorna Johnson and

the FnF committee

a la carte menu or \$23 Eat-All-You-Can

Please contact Lorna Johnson at lorna.johnson@me.com or 647.308.2808 before August 1st to reserve your spot.

Upcoming Speakers & Events

July 2015 31 No Meeting, Civic Holiday

August 2015

Allan McInnis, Young People's Theatre TBD

TBD

Editor of the Week

Editor August 7, 2015 Lorna Johnson

What You Missed Reporter for July 24, 2015 Maureen Bird

Propose a Speaker – Contact Alex Brown, Chair alexbrown@integratedappliances.ca

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

What You Missed July 17, 2015 – by Dina Rashid

It was a very special lunch. This was our President's address! The room at the National Club was

filled with Rotarians and guests to welcome President David Hetherington as our new President for the coming year. Harvey spontaneously interrupted the lunch bell as the President was about to speak and delivered a red box to President David. The room drew silent and became very curious as to what was in the box. The piano was playing ever so lightly in the background as President David Hetherington uncovered a foot stool in Harvey's red box! Harvey chuckled, smiled broadly and asked David to stand on it from here on forward to give him ever greater 'stature' when hosting our weekly meetings. Stepping on to the footstool, President David became one of the tallest Presidents to take the podium for the RCT! Bob Smith introduced the visiting Rotarians and guests. The head table consisted of twelve people, including our newest board members; Barbara Thomson, Shannon Lundquist, Kevin Power and Binoy Luckoo. Michele Guy and Robert O'Brien had the happy task of introducing our newest Paul Harris Fellow and William Peace Award winner, their associate at Coutts Crane, Kevin Power. He went from running a rollercoaster at Marineland, through undergrad at McMaster and law school at Osgoode Hall and has never looked back. Kevin was pleasantly surprised to see his family applauding him from a table

President David then introduced our newest member, Andrea Tirone, a young lady wellknown to our club for her Rotaract work and a wonderful addition. Members were delighted as Neil Phillips put on her new pin. President David next introduced himself as the guest speaker for the day. His throne speech topic was entitled, Advancing Tradition. He began by describing his trip to Rotary International in Sao Paolo; at the start, he was expecting to see thirty Rotarians at the airport but

at the back of the room.

only his wife and he arrived to represent our club. There were 13,000 in attendance in Sao Paolo, one of the lower attended international conventions, but David said that so many Rotarians seemed really committed to attend the Toronto convention. David also described how our club differs from others in terms of awarding the Paul Harris Fellowship. He talked with a man from Texas who was wearing the Paul Harris pin. David asked this man how he had earned this pin and the Texan said he had donated \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation. David shared our club tradition which comes from the Honours and Award Committee and is a Fellowship at the \$6,000 level - thus the 5 blue stones. Our club actually makes annual donations to TRF double what is requested.

David had two more updates; one concerned the eradication of polio. The World Health Organization announced that Polio was months away from eradication, a milestone that was thought would only happen by 2018. The second announcement concerned the Strategic Planning Committee; this year's focus would be on "effective committees," which was timely in striving to improve their operations.

David's parting words to his very informative throne speech was "Be a Gift to the World; we can be one to our club"

The ace of clubs winner was Valerie Clarke who took home a bottle of wine with a 5 of clubs.



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