

Rotary Voice is published by The Rotary Club of Toronto

## **Today's Programme: CHANGE OVER DAY Topic: Completion of Our First Century Speaker: Sandy Boucher** Location: Imperial Room, The Fairmont Royal York

President # 99's last official task is to hand over the gavel to incoming President Neil Phillips. A bitter/ sweet moment for our president, however, he can retire to "PP" status, knowing that he did an outstanding job as the leader of our Club. Come to hear his final words of wisdom as he heads off into the normal work-a-day world. He is leaving the Presidency and the Club in excellent shape as we commence our 100th year of Rotary in Toronto.

# **100th President's Year in Review**

Fellow Rotarians – a year ago I delivered my "throne speech" to the club and outlined what I planned to accomplish during my year as president of this great club. Twelve short months later it is time to review our progress as we move into our exciting centennial year. I had outlined three areas of focus; the core operations of the club including the office, its infrastructure processes, the board and executive committees i.e. our internal activities. Membership – especially retention, training and new members, and Marketing and communications i.e. the way in which we promote and publicize ther club and its activities

I am pleased to report that we have made great progress in all three areas; the following are the highlights only. Our revamp of core operations is essentially complete with greatly improved financial results and controls and more efficient office processes through better use of technology. The process of developing a strategic plan for the club proved to be more than could be achieved in one year but I am pleased to report that soon to be President Elect Richard White has the strategic planning exercise well in hand ably assisted by Ric Williams and John Whincup. Their committee is working through this complex process and I am looking forward to hearing what they recommend as the plan develops.

Club membership remains a top focus for all clubs and we have made some significant strides over the past year. The membership by-law, categories and fees have all been reviewed and improved as necessary. Our new structure will, among other things allow us to attract Rotaractors who have previously found the transition to our fee structure a significant barrier. We have also developed the "emeritus" category which we believe will keep senior club members active whilst allowing them more flexibility than before.

Two new subcommittees of the membership committee, Retention and New Members have been busy and we can expect to see the impact of their work. We are now able to track attendance easily using Club Runner and we plan to make good use of this information, including keeping the membership informed of how they are doing. The new members committee has initiated a number of new and revamped initiatives that we believe will continue to improve our ability to connect with this important constituency. There is still more work to be done but we have made a good start and the 100 for 100 goal will be the focus throughout the centennial year.

Probably the biggest and most noticeable change has been in our new marketing and communications program. Thanks to the team of Sylvia Geist, Greg Vermeulen, Craig Rennick and Dina Rashid, our communications have been completely revamped. The new website, Facebook page and other social media elements are just one part of the new machine. Strategic and tactical plans for every element of the centennial, special web pages for projects and events and professional press releases and information packages are greatly improving our ability to deliver our message and grab attention for the club.

Our centennial preparations, especially the projects and the new communications plan have already changed the way our club works and thinks and I am sure that as we enter the year we have never been in better shape to celebrate our achievements, raise our profile in the community and grow the club. As for me? I have had a demanding but rewarding year and thank you all for your support and encouragement. My highlights were probably the Power of Rotary lunch and the scholarship launch with Pinball Clemons but there have been many more memorable moments which I will always treasure. So good luck to President Neil and remember to think big and make a difference.

### Sandy Boucher' Lament

I was a man of good intent, I was the Rotary President, My word was law, I had my way, I ruled the roost from day to day. Time marches on, it's just not fair, A brand new president takes the chair, Just when I had the job in hand, No one seems to 'care a damn', I was a man of much intent, Now just one more Past President"

### **Rotary Argo Game Day** Wed. July 18th 7:30pm **Rogers** Centre

Celebrate our Club's Game Day Event to launch our Community Champion Scholarship. Be there to see the kickoff performed by President Neil.

### The Centennial Year's Strategic Plan

The Number 1 objective of our Club's 100th Anniversary celebrations should be to create awareness of our Club's activities and community involvement in order to:

### **Engage and Grow the Membership**



July 6, 2012

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS

- 2012 July
- 6 Change Over Day
- 13 New President Neil Phillips, "Centennial Year Kick-Off"
- 18 Argo vs Blue Bombers Football Game
- 20 Ted Koziel, District 7070 Governor
  27 Terry Fallis, Author

August

3 No meeting (Civic Holiday Weekend)

PROPOSE A SPEAKER - CONTACT Peter Simmie, Chair PROGRAM COMMITTEE peter.simmie@bristolgate.com Editor of the Week: Don Bell Send Inquires and articles to: Voice @AbacasConsultingServices.ca

### **Rotary Warrior**



Richard White Member since 1996

**Rotary Warrior** 



Rick Goldsmith Member since 1994



On June 21st almost 60 club members joined Sandy in a most appropriate place for an Englishman – a pub. It was a lovely evening and Sandy and Bridget enjoyed the best wishes for their future free time together after a very busy year. Pipers Pub kept us well-filled with wings and other snacks and we were entertained by the local singer. Some members were overdressed in tuxedos but were forgiven as they came early before proceeding to another event. It was a great mixer and the informal nature was most conducive to good fellowship



# What You Missed on Friday, June 22, 2012 – by Dina Rashid

The Imperial Room was at capacity; President Sandy introduced and welcomed four visiting Rotarians and sixteen guests. He thanked everyone for attending the Sandy bash pub

night and hoped the next one would not be a year away. There were a few announcements, the first one was for the Argo's game that is taking place on July 18th, don't miss the kick off by president elect Neil Philips. Paul Westlake took the podium to announce the annual golf tournament being held on August 23, 2012- the early bird tickets are now on available.

President Sandy welcomed Lisa Lemon, the director of philanthropy at the YWCA to the podium. There was a warm applaud welcoming Lisa Lemon, she took a couple minutes to thank the Rotary club of Toronto for the generous contribution toward the YWCA Elm center project. Lisa explained what the center does for the community of Toronto. The YWCA Elm center is an innovative residential community located in the heart of downtown Toronto. It



project. Lisa explained what the center does for the community of Toronto. The YWCA Elm center is an innovative residential community located in the heart of downtown Toronto. It offers 300 affordable apartments for low-income women and their families, women living with mental health and addiction issues and families of Aboriginal ancestry. There are 100 supportive apartments for women living with serious mental health and addiction issues, 50 affordable apartments for families of Aboriginal ancestry, including 10

units for women fleeing violence. Marg Stanowski was called up to the podium to present a cheque to the Urban Advocacy Center for their work with sex workers and trafficked women in the Regent Park/Moss Park communities. Their mission is to empower sex workers and trafficked women through holistic programming, peer lead initiatives, and individual and systemic advocacy.

Marg Stanowski remained standing to present the guest speaker Diane Redsky to the podium. Diane thanked everyone in the room for being there to learn about human trafficked women. She began by defining the word exploitation, which is forced labor, a fraud to recruit and deceit from human traffic. She described how she worked with a National task force and set up interview coast to coast to gain knowledge and put an end to trafficking in Canada. She learned that each woman was worth \$280,000 annually to a pimp and unlike drugs or weapons she could be used over and over again. A very disturbing subject matter but one that needs immediate attention. President Sandy thanked Lisa Lemon and in recognition for her time he presented a donation made out to her name for Pat's Place. The lunch ended with a bottle of wine for the ace of clubs draw

The July 15th Voice Editor is John Andras. The What You Missed Reporter is Catherine Lloyd .

# Looking Ahead: Friday, July 13, 2012 Today's Programme: The Throne Speech Speaker: Neil Phillips Topic: The Club's New Millenium. Location: The National Club



The President of DGN Marketing Services, Neil has been a member of our Club since 1988. Proposed by Gerry Nudds, one of our past presidents, Neil has focused his abundant energy in many committees, and as a member of our board for a three year term. As we begin our centennial year, come to the meeting to hear what our new president has planned as we launch the Club into our second millenium.



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