# ROTARY VOICE

**The Rotary Club of Toronto** 

#### Volume 103 | Issue 16 | November 20, 2015

#### **Speaker**

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, OC, OOnt 29th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

#### Host

#### David Hetherington.

David joined the club in 1977. He has been president of the Charitable Foundation and our club president since July

#### **Location**

The National Club, 303 Bay Street



The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell is an energetic and highly regarded renaissance woman, an accomplished civil servant with wide-ranging interests, and is passionately devoted to the advancement of humanity. An intelligent, perceptive, and compassionate woman, Ms. Dowdeswell has devoted herself to public service, where her talents and skills have contributed greatly many important initiatives, to most notably those that integrate

environmental, economic, social, educational, and cultural concerns.

She cares deeply about the environment, which she considers the fundamental basis for life on earth. She has led provincial, federal, and international institutions, and has served on the boards of corporate and non-profit organizations. Her years as an Under-Secretary-General at the United Nations profoundly shaped her worldview and continue to inform her thinking as she undertakes her role as 29th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

Her overarching and ambitious vision is Ontario in the world. She wants to listen to Ontarians and engage them in meaningful dialogue about what they can contribute and learn from others in meeting the common challenges of our interconnected world. Her Honour's aim is to bring multiple perspectives to the table, encourage innovation, and cultivate new ideas, sparking action and commitment to seeing these ideas move forward.

Ms. Dowdeswell is an Officer of the Order of Canada and holds 11 honorary degrees.

## **Recent Tragedies and Refugee Sponsorship**



Our hearts got out to the people of Paris and Beirut, the victims and their families in this horrific time.

But the refugee families who have been in camps for three years in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey are victims too. We need to rise up as Canadians and work with our government to get 25,000 souls here as quickly as possible. Minister McCallum's mandate is do to it "in the coming months". And we need to be with them as friends as they settle in this new strange place for them. Help us make this come true. Cheques are payable to Rosedale United Church. Please be generous.

#### Children's Christmas Party – December 5th

We still need donations to purchase gifts which can be in cash, cheques or by calling Belli at the office re credit card use.

We also need contacts with business about donating suitable gifts and Christmas lights for decorations – these could be on loan if not donated.

### Seniors Christmas Party – December 11th

Driving Help is desperately needed as so many of our guest need transportation. Wheeltrans covers some but with the East Door elevator out of service we would like extra drivers to pick up some of the guests with walkers and bring them in to the parking garage.

Contact Jack Robertson robertsonj@sympatico.ca 905-847-9103 or Maureen Bird maureen.bird@sympatico. ca if you can help. Jack will be back on Tuesday.

And don't forget "Treat a Senior" to lunch with the donation of a lunch ticket into Mary's silver box.

## Special Awards Day at Rotary, November 13, 2015

Each year, the Honours & Awards Committee convenes to choose outstanding Rotarians for special Awards.



#### Lori Brazier - Club Builder Award presented by Susan Hunter

This award is to members who have demonstrated exceptional service to The Rotary Club of Toronto.

The latest recipient is Lori who has been a member since October 2006. Her many contributions include the Fellowship & Entertainment

Committee as Vice-Chair and then Chair for over two years, the International Service Committee as Secretary, Vice-Chair and Chair, and a Member of the Community Service Committee, the Centennial

Committee, and the Voice Committee.

In 2012 she was recognized as a Rotary Warrior. Her appointment to the Club Board was in 2013 where she served as Liaison Director to the Membership Committee and is currently Liaison Director to the Program Committee. She also serves as a Member of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Outside of Rotary, Lori is an opera fan and loves her cats and the theatre. She has been a long-time fitness instructor. She leads a very active business life and is currently a senior manager at CIBC.



# Susan Hunter - Paul Harris Award and William Peace Award presented by Richard White

Paul Harris was the Founder of Rotary and William Peace was the first president of our club. The awards are presented for outstanding service to our club.

Susan joined the club in 2002 and one of her first endeavours

was on the Planning Committee with Don Bell and others for Rotary Drive in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. She was a member of Community Service Committee in 2003 when it was first established by Des Bethell, who was her mentor. She was chair 2004-05. Her extensive Committee involvement includes Fundraising, International Service and Research and Appeals. More specialized committees for the future of the club include Membership Development, Strategic Planning focusing on Effective Committees, the Inaugural Scholarship Committee and Pauline Hill Award Committee, led by Catherine Lloyd.

She received the Club Builder Award in 2006. When asked to become vice-president in 2013, which leads to the presidency in 2016-17, she leapt at the chance to serve. This put her on our club board for the second time where she had previously been liaison to Community Service and International Service. Now her duties seem unlimited.

But she has taken time to enjoy other sides of our great club. She has been at Camp Huronda and Camp Scugog. She and Hedley have attended several International Conventions and two sweat equity trips to Cambodia. In order for her husband Hedley to spend more time with her, he joined our club in 2012. We look forward to her presidency next July.



#### Maureen Bird - Pauline Hill Award for Making a Difference presented by Agnes Walkinshaw

Pauline Hill joined our Club in 1988 and remained a very active member until close to her passing in 2011, receiving the Club Builder Award in 1995, The Paul Harris Award in 1996 and The William Peace Award in 1998.

The Pauline Hill Award was created specifically to honour "a person whether a Rotarian or a non-member, who exemplifies the traits of the first woman member of our Club, Pauline Hill, namely, integrity, exceptional commitment to improving the conditions of the marginalized whether economically, politically or socially, combined with an indomitable energy in pursuit of such improvement and a spirit of goodwill and graciousness".

And, Pauline herself said of this Award – "It's about creativity and energy and a commitment to getting the job done. It's about serving and trying to make things better than they were before. Most of all, its about attitude. Instead of shirking away from a task because it's something that has never been done before; see that as a once in a life time opportunity to achieve what no one else has achieved before. A chance to break down a barrier so others can follow. A chance to be first."

Maureen Joined the club in 1996 and is the recipient of the Club Builder

Award (2009) and The Paul Harris/William Peace Award (2012) She has served on the Fellowship and Entertainment Committee, is still on the Communications Voice Committee, Senior Citizens Committee and the International Service Committee, and is a past Chair of the latter 2 --more than once.. She has also served as a Director on the Board and holds the role of an editor for the Voice.

Maureen has been involved in running the District Trump AIDS Walk since its inception. She always participates in the Children's Christmas party, as well as making costumes for the clowns, the Seniors Christmas Lunch, as well as collecting our lunch ticket donations in her famous silver box to "Take a Senior to Lunch". She delivers Easter and Thanksgiving meals to shut–in Seniors. She is an enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer at Camp Scugog... and an expert at building latrines or fixing a roof. Maureen also has gone on three sweat Equity trips to Malawi and one to Cambodia. Her latest endeavours on behalf of Rotary finds her addressing The Syrian Refugee Crisis.

In fact, Maureen is involved in everything Rotary, supported magnificently by her husband Gerry, and family: Jean-Paul, Dan, Stephen, Diane and Nikki. Daughter Laura participates from Nanaimo by Facetime.

And if you haven't sat with Maureen for lunch yet – please try to do so. You will learn so very much about our Club ..... and everything Rotary.

## **Nominations Committee**

This committee will be choosing the directors for 2016-19 and the club president for 2018-19. The final member, chosen by the past presidents is John Andras.

# The Rotary Club of Toronto Scholarships in Partnership with the Toronto Argonauts



David Hetherington presenting the award to Poorva Patel along with Argos CEO Chris Rudge.



David's fantastic form!

We can be proud of the continuing legacy of our Centennial Scholarship Project of funding tuition for a top student every year. We now have four scholarship students at university from first-year to fourth. Our current winner is Poorva Patel who is studying NeuroScience at the University of Toronto. She and friends were at the Argos game on November 6th where a formal presentation was made on the sidelines but shown on the big screen.

As you may have heard, our presidents have been doing the ceremonial kickoff at these games. President David practised for weeks, spent time on the sidelines stretching and warming up, then went out to the 20 yard line. With his son Rob holding the ball and wearing his second-best dress shoes, David made a mighty kick over the crossbar, to great cheers from those Rotarians in attendance. Not quite good enough to be signed up by the Argos but still very sweet.



Rain, snow, or warm weather, The Fellowship and Entertainment Committee invites all Rotarians and friends to our annual Caroling. Song sheets will be provided. Meet at Café de Melbourne, 193 Church at 6:00 pm **RI President** Ravi Ravindran **District Governor** Michael Bell



# The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

#### **Officers:**

President: David Hetherington President-Elect: Susan Hunter Vice President: Pat Neuman Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director: Carol Hutchinson

**Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:** Bob Smith, President

Editor of the Week: Maureen Bird

Editor November 27, 2015: John Andras

*What You Missed* **Reporter for November 20th:** John Farrell

# 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?

# Upcoming Speakers & Events

#### November

27 Perry Bellegarde, National Chief, Assembly of First Nations

#### December

- 4 Ian McBride, AURA, Refugee Sponsorship
- 11 Seniors Christmas Party
- 18 Club Christmas Lunch, Fairmont
- 25 No Meeting due to the Holiday Season

#### **Events**

416.799.5827

Nov 28	Remembrance Walk
Dec 5	Children's Christmas Party, Fairmont
Dec 21	FnE Caroling, Café de Melbourne/Dunda

Propose a Speaker – Contact Alex Brown, Chair iandabrown@rogers.com

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

#### What You Missed November 13, 2015

- by Karen Scott



The Upper Canada Room was alive with music before our meeting commenced. 🌆 Brigitte led us in singing "What a Beautiful Morning" and "Some Enchanted Evening." Following the welcome and invocation from President David, we enjoyed the fellowship at our tables; at mine, sharing stories of university days.

There was a very full agenda that commenced with the introduction of the Head Table, followed by that of five visiting Rotarians and 10 guests by John Andras. John also reminded everyone to call the office regarding our November 27th meeting with AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde. We are targeting for more than 300 to be in attendance.

President David shared good news that Walter Thompson is back home and will welcome visitors starting on Monday. The Seniors Christmas Party will be held on December 11th. Mary Lach has the silver box to collect lunch tickets to support bringing a senior to lunch. This might be the only festive meal some of our seniors have during the holiday season. Donations are also needed for the Children's Party that will on December 5th. John Joseph Mastandrea warmed us up for the "Deck the Halls" Christmas carolling event on Monday, December 21st. The event will start at 6pm at Café de Melbourne on Church St. and will proceed to Dundas Square, sharing the Christmas spirit with neighbours and friends along the way.

It was a day for awards! Susan Hunter presented the Club Builder Award to Lori Brazier. Lori took the opportunity to get in a plug about membership.



Agnes Walkinshaw then presented the Pauline Hill Award to Maureen Bird. Maureen used her time at the podium to encourage support for our Syrian Refugee family sponsorship. Richard White presented the Paul Harris Award to Susan Hunter. In true fashion, Susan mentioned that she doesn't like awards because they leave out all of the others who contributed. Hearty congratulations were given to all of the recipients.

Lloyd Barber introduced our guest speaker, Antoni Cimolino, the Artistic Director of the Stratford Festival. Mr. Cimolino provided us with many interesting insights into the upcoming 2016 season, starting with a quotation from H.G. Wells that World War I was "the war to end all wars." It, in fact, sowed the seeds for all subsequent wars. There's been a pendulum that has gone back and forth between war and peace. Celebrating victories can be problematic as they build

resentments which result in fresh conflicts. The 13 plays for the coming season will explore the theme of "After the Victory." What do we mean by victory? What are the consequences? What grows out of defeat? But, not all victories explored will take place on the battlefield, explained Mr. Cimolino. Internal struggles will be explored. Defeats that force us to re-invent ourselves, thus producing discoveries, will also be showcased. We'll see that, as Winston Churchill said, victory is to go from one defeat to another without any loss of enthusiasm. Stratford will also host more than 200 Forum events that bring the plays to life and relate them to today.

Be a gift to the world

Steve Wilkinson took home the bottle of wine from the Ace of Clubs draw. President David concluded with a cheerful story of his ceremonial kickoff at the Argos game the previous week.



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