

The Rotary Club of Toronto is donating in excess of \$1,000,000 to local and international agencies during our Centennial Year

Today: Centennial Luncheon Program

The King Edward Hotel, Vanity Fair Ballroom,
37 King Street East

Featuring : Guest Speaker

Dr. Judith Shamian, R.N., Ph.D., L.L.D.(hon), D.Sci.(hon), FAAN



Back to the Future: 100 Years of Serving People and Communities

Judith Shamian, is currently the President and CEO of the Victorian Order of Nurses for Canada (VON Canada) and President of the Canadian Nurses Association. She is also a professor at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg, Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto and a co-investigator with the Nursing Health Services Research Unit and was the Executive Director

of the Office of Nursing Policy at Health Canada for five years. Prior to that she was Vice President of Nursing at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto for 10 years and has held various academic positions since 1989.

As President and CEO of VON Canada, Judith has guided this 115 year old organization through a time of great transition and transformation to bring it under one organizational umbrella. This reorganized structure will allow VON to maintain its place as Canada's largest, not-for-profit, charitable home and community care provider through its next century of existence. In this role Judith is championing the home and community care agenda in Canada, as well as working to strengthen partnerships between formal health care providers, families and friends who provide care, volunteers and community organizations in order to recognize and support the entire spectrum of care.

Dr. Shamian obtained her Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve, Cleveland, Ohio, her Master's in Public Health from New York University, and her Baccalaureate in Community Nursing from Concordia University in Montreal. She is the 1995 recipient of the Ross Award for Nursing Leadership, the Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002 by the Governor General of Canada, the Award of Merit by CNA and CFNU in 2004, and is the recipient of two honorary doctorate degrees from the University of Lethbridge, Alberta in 2005, and Ryerson University, Toronto in 2006. She received the Centennial Award from the Canadian Nurses Association which recognizes nursing leadership over the past 100 years. Dr. Shamian also became an International Fellow with the American Academy of Nursing in 2009. Most recently she received Canada's Most Powerful Women Top 100 award by the Women's Executive Network.

Judith has published and spoken extensively nationally and internationally on a wide range of topics. She is often called upon as an expert to speak to, and consult on, many issues surrounding nursing, health human resources, leadership, and health care policy by provincial and federal government departments and agencies, and internationally by other governments, academic bodies and the World Health Organization.

Judith is a proud mother of three and grandmother of 16.

The Good Neighbours' Club \$100,000 Grant Recipient Rotary Health and Wellness Centre – A new level of service!

The Rotary Club of Toronto has advanced the work of The Good Neighbours' Club by creating the Rotary Health and Wellness Centre through its Centennial Award.

The Rotary Health and Wellness Centre provides space for respite, front-line medical and dental care, social work, and group therapy for the members of The Good Neighbours' Club, all of whom are homeless and marginalized men over the age of fifty.

The Good Neighbours' Club has been serving older men since the Great Depression, providing meals, clothing, and a place of refuge for men who are often vulnerable to the cruelties of life on the street. Nearly four hundred men visit The Good Neighbours' Club every day, seeking out the camaraderie and sense of belonging that have become trademarks of the agency's life and work.



**THE GOOD
NEIGHBOURS' CLUB**

The Rotary Club of Toronto has long been a partner with The Good Neighbours' Club, but this takes their partnership to a whole new level, offering a permanent presence of Rotary's efforts.



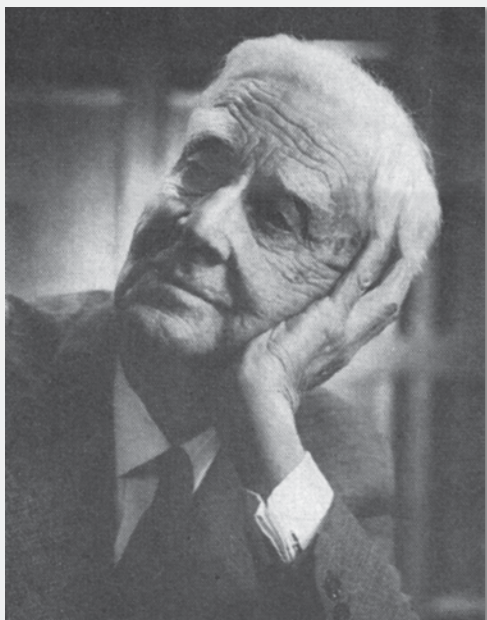
Lieutenant Governor, His Honour David C. Onley, officially opened the Rotary Health and Wellness Centre

Senior Citizens' Committee – You've Come a Long Way Baby!

– by Catherine Lloyd



The Senior Citizens' Committee or SCC came to life through a bequest. At the May 10, 1962 meeting of The Rotary Club of Toronto, Neil Peterson, then President of the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation, said "...that out of even the saddest happenings there is a glimmer of light and though we have lost Watson McClain, his spirit will ever be present through his generous will which reveals that Uncle Wat [of white horse in the Imperial Room fame] provided a substantial bequest to the RCT Foundation with the request that it be primarily used for the benefit of aging people."



President Emeritus R. Watson McClain from The Voice July 6, 1961

The next mention of SCC was in the Committee Report section of The Voice, December 12, 1963. Committee Chairman, as they were then called, Ken Laidley, said of the Senior Citizens' Committee "...despite its name this new committee of Rotary is made up of 14 forward-looking members of the Club who have met seven times so far to study the needs of the senior citizens in our community." The article is very interesting in several ways. Firstly, it reports that the committee had "expenditures to date of \$6,300" which in 1960's would have been serious money. Secondly, it discusses issues that are still current in our Club's committees today, namely finding organizations where a grant would do the most good. Thirdly, Ken Laidley notes that the committee had recently hosted two visitors to speak to them and pass on their professional experience in field of social planning and working with seniors; something akin to the activities and deliberations surrounding the choosing of our Club's Centennial Projects. Finally, another very interesting note in this concise 227 word report is the following, "The trend today is away from providing institutional care and towards assisting elderly people to maintain their own quarters and to help them feel they remain a part of the community as long as possible." That was written almost 50 years ago and could have been written today!

The Rotary-Laughlen Centre was "the largest single project ever undertaken by any Rotary Club in the world" and the first mention of the beginnings of this project in which our Club was designer and pacesetter for more than three decades, can be found in another SCC report published in the February 17, 1972 issue of The Voice. In reporting on the committee's work, the article says "...which range[s] from projects involving dentures, to considerations of a new senior citizens' residence, it is evident that this group in

a quiet way is doing much good work and is a credit to the Club in carrying on the Rotary tradition." And there it is an idea is born! There is a very good account of birth and growth of The Rotary-Laughlen Centre, written by Alan Martin, in our Club history book, *These Were the Days: the Story of The Rotary Club of Toronto from 1912 to 1999*.



1980 Artist rendition of the Rotary-Laughlen Centre

Changes in government regulations, sadly forced the Laughlen Centre to close in 2006. Because of the Club's involvement in starting and running the Laughlen Centre, Club member Doug Hughes was able to arrange for three transfers totalling \$3.2 million from the Laughlen Centre and the Laughlen Centre Foundation to the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation. The income from these funds is to be used for seniors' projects. This legacy of senior care lives on through the YWCA Elm Centre – a project built on the Rotary-Laughlen site, of which the idea and impetus came from members of The Rotary Club of Toronto. The Elm Centre provides individual housing for 300 homeless women; 45 of these units are for women over the age of 50.

Recent & On-going SCC Projects:

- St. Stephen's Community House is a community-based social service agency that has been serving the needs of Kensington Market and surrounding neighbourhoods since 1962. In 2008 The Rotary Club of Toronto was pleased to be an early sponsor with a grant of \$100,000 for renovations to gymnasium and kitchen facilities used by immigrant seniors for socializing with in their own cultural community. This multi-purposed facility provides day programs for frail and isolated seniors including counselling, exercise, personal care, nutritious meals and social support services to over 1,200 seniors annually.
- Pat's Place is a project spearheaded by the SCC, in conjunction with Toronto Family Services and is the first of its kind in Toronto. Elder abuse is a serious and destructive problem in our society and this project helps remove seniors from dangerous and debilitating situations, giving them a safe haven. The Rotary Club of Toronto is extremely pleased to be involved with this project and hopes that it will continue to provide real answers and real help for Toronto's aging population.
- Dr. Clown is a group that uses therapeutic clowning to help in nursing homes and hospital settings. This concept has met with great success in Montreal, and health care professionals have documented the improved mental and physical well being of their patients with this approach.



Senior Citizens' Committee – You've Come a Long Way Baby!

Now, the SCC is not only about the big and grand ideas. Starting in September, the committee organizes a Christmas Luncheon, with entertainment, gifts and Santa. Held every year in The Fairmont Royal York since December 1961, the Club invites as many as 225 disadvantaged seniors to a full turkey dinner, with as they say "all the trimmings"; many of the guests are picked-up and taken home by Club members, Club members' companies donate gifts and Club members donate lunch tickets to help defray the costs of the lunch. It is a true Club-wide activity.

Every year the SCC organizes and pays for meal deliveries in both the autumn and the spring with the Second Mile Club, an organization dedicated to helping seniors live in their own homes by providing services ranging from personal support to recreation opportunities; Club members were instrumental in getting SMC on its feet and have maintained a close relationship for many decades. The Thanksgiving and Easter meal deliveries involve many Club members, their co-workers and relatives; providing meals for over 150 individuals twice a year. As well, each spring the SCC hosts the June Picnic, at one of The Second Mile Club locations on Carlton Street. Also until quite recently, the SCC would arrange for seniors' tax returns to be completed and in March and April of every year the sharpened pencils and slide rules belonging to the accountant members of the Club would come out!

The Seniors Citizens' Committee is an active, vibrant part of The Rotary Club of Toronto; started with one man, born a century and a half ago, with his insight and the proceeds of his life's work; and built on by many, many others with vision, drive and passion. And now maybe more than ever, with Canada's aging population, government cut-backs and shrinking retirement pensions, there is a real need in our society to help make a difference in the life of a senior.



June Picnic held at the Second Mile Club

District 7070 News

- Foundation Walk: September 23rd
28 Beech Avenue, Bowmanville 9:00 am
For information contact Angie Darlison at exec-director@bellnet.ca
Don't forget to sponsor **President Neil** or *John Lloyd*
- District Conference: October 19th to 21st
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, Richmond Hill
For information & to register www.districtconf2012.com
- United Nations Day: November 3rd
For information & to register www.undaynov2012.eventbrite.com

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 — 1912

Officers:

President: Neil Phillips
President-Elect: Richard White
Vice President: Steven Smith
Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director:

Carol Bieser

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:

David Hetherington, President

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@AbacusConsultingServices.ca

Upcoming Speakers & Events

September 2012

- 19 Annual Day of the Homeless; The Good Neighbours Club 10:00 am
- 21 Claude Lamoureux, FAIR Canada
- 23 District 7070 Foundation Walk; Bowmanville
- 28 Lisa de Wilde, CEO, TV Ontario

October 2012

- 5 Peter Russell, Professor Emeritus, The University of Toronto
- 12 Frank Hasenfratz, Chair, Linamar Corporation
- 19 Major Centennial Speaker, Mary Jo Haddad, CEO, Sick Kids Hospital
- 26 John Fraser, Master, Massey College

Propose a Speaker
Peter Simmie, Chair

Program Committee
peter.simmie@bristolgate.com

Editor of the Week
Catherine Lloyd

Editor September 21
John Andras

Join Rotary Now!
office@rotarytoronto.on.ca



The Good Neighbours' Club: Respect Your Elders

– by Dr. Bruce, Director of Community & Social Services The Good Neighbours' Club



What if on your next appointment to your doctor, the receptionist said to you, "Please have a seat with everyone in the waiting area. The doctor will be out to examine you in a moment."

That's been the situation until recently at The Good Neighbours' Club, as street nurses, dental hygienists, addictions counselors, housing workers, social workers, and community workers struggled to work with homeless and marginalized men in hallways, foyers, and other open spaces. No one can quite say just how many men in need of help simply declined to visit with these professionals, for fear of embarrassment or ridicule from their peers. "These men may not have much, but they do have their pride," says Dr. Bruno Scorsone, Executive Director of The Good Neighbours' Club. "Many of them would be reluctant to sacrifice their privacy, even for treatment they need."

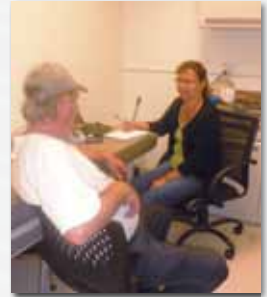
The Rotary Club of Toronto's Centennial Project grant has provided new facilities that offer older men dignity and respect. There is a respite room, for those who had no place to sleep the night before. There are two medical offices, one outfitted like a general practitioner's office and one that can double as a dental office. There is a counseling room,

where social workers and other professionals can work one-one-one with our members to provide ongoing case management. There is the Board Room, where group activities can take place, from planning meetings, music classes and group therapy. Interviewed recently, long-time Club member Ray Burgess commented, "Without the nurse at The Good Neighbours' Club, where would I go?" Community Worker Solmaz Khoujini commented that "Nurses are very valuable here. I am glad they come every week because a lot of the guys don't have or don't like to go to see doctors. We are thankful that now our nurses have proper private facilities from which to work." The facilities feature running water, electrical, internet, and telephone connections and will soon feature portable sterilizers for medical and dental equipment.



Rotary Health and Wellness Centre Board Room

Discussions on service development continue with longstanding partners Street Health, Community Outreach Programs in Addiction, Central Neighbourhood House, and Woodgreen Community Services as well as new partners such as the Christian Resource Centre and Inner City Health. Our vision is for The Good Neighbours' Club to become a key centre for providing various services to their underserved demographic, older marginalized men. This growing population has distinct needs for health and social services and are better served among their peers than in other situations. The Good Neighbours' Club has been providing basic services such as meals and emergency clothing since 1933, but has recently expanded its offerings under Dr. Scorsone's leadership. The Good Neighbours' Club is a registered charity and is becoming known as a leading agency in research and service coordination in the downtown core of Toronto. With help from The Rotary Club of Toronto, The Good Neighbours' Club will even more effectively live up to its new motto: "Respect your elders."



Street Nurse
Caroline Pitchot

What you Missed September 7, 2012

– by Bert Steenburgh



Glenn Davis set the tone with upbeat melodies and his wonderfully creative talent as we gathered and as the Head Table marched into the room. We are fortunate to have a number of music-makers who add so much to the weekly gathering of our Club. Great friends in the room, held in the intimate Ontario Room at The Fairmont Royal York, and a good turnout for the first meeting following a great summer.

President Neil welcomed one visiting Rotarian from Florida and 11 guests. I am told he took a shot or two at me during the Head Table introductions. Fortunately for me the hearing aids were not working well and I missed most of it... he sure does like to babble-on at times. Presidents... The only good ones have a "Past" in front of their titles!

Next was a rare Culinary Moment by none other than our own purveyor of gourmet grub, Geoffrey Johnson. Of course, when Geoffrey gets wound-up about grub, a moment is taken just allowing him to fill his high-capacity

lungs with wind for the sails upon which he launches words. The distraction caused by prompting signs around the room only prolonged the "moment". Frankly, I was too mesmerized by the whole display to write down anything of substance he said. I am sure he will send you the written version if you request it via email!

President Neil welcomed Gina Pereira as the newest member of our Club. Gina is a lawyer who runs a specialized consultancy as a donor advisor. Gina has an aura of effervescence and energy. She has travelled and lived around the world. Take the time to seek her out in the coming weeks and give Gina your own welcome to our Club.

Our speaker Dr. Nelson Wiseman is steeped in experience and knowledge about the way our

Canadian Parliament operates. What stood out for me in his fascinating speech was the picture he painted of how a great deal of power has evolved into the Prime Minister's Office in Canada in the past 30 to 40 years.

Jack Doney won a pair of Argo tickets in the first 50/50 draw. The final draw for the money saw Richard White's ticket drawn. Alas poor Richard, he was not able to pull the Ace of Clubs. Hopefully, by the time I am writing this, he has enjoyed his consolation bottle of wine. Another great day at Rotary.

What You Missed Reporter, September 14th
Barbara Thomson

The Rotary Club of Toronto

The Fairmont Royal York

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