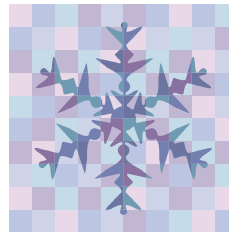




St. Catharines Torch Club

December 2014 Newsletter



Next Meeting: Seasonal Social

- **When:** Thursday Dec. 11, 6:30 pm social hour, 7 pm dinner.
- **Where:** 223 Church St., St. Catharines.
- **Menu:** See article this page.
- **Cost:** \$35.
- **Entertainment:** Catherine Willard, piano.
- Please purchase tickets from Doreen Peever by Nov. 30.
- If you require a special meal, please contact Doreen Peever.
- If you need a ride, contact David Warren at 905-934-9765.

Our December Social

Date: Thursday, Dec. 11.

Place: Unitarian Congregation of Niagara, 223 Church St., St. Catharines.

Time: Doors open 6:30 pm, dinner served at 7:00.

Cost: \$35, includes dinner and entertainment. Tickets must be purchased in advance by Nov. 30 — contact Doreen Peever.

Menu: Served Family Style

Fresh Artisan Bread & Whipped Herb Butter
Butternut Squash Soup with Lime & Ginger
Petite Beef Shoulder Tender Medallions with Bordelaise Sauce
Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Root Vegetables
Ice Wine Panna Cotta with Berry Coulis
Coffee and Tea Service

Note: Wine and Beer are not included and will not be available to purchase. Feel free to bring your own wine or beer if you wish.

Entertainment: Catherine Willard, Piano.

A concert of Chopin and Bach primarily will be provided by Catherine Willard, who is a professional musician.

November 12, 2014 Meeting

Regular Meeting

Date: November 12, 2014

Location: Best Western

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Attendance: 53

Welcome: Anne Elliott (President)

This evening included our Community Care program and an annual gratuity for the hotel serving staff. We also had a record 16 invited guests. A new member (actually a returning member) was inducted: H. Christina MacNaughton, a retired family law attorney with a wide range of personal interests.

Invocation and Toast to the Queen: Merle Richards

Business: 20 Tickets were sold for our Seasonal Social featuring a catered gourmet dinner and live grand-piano music. The final number is expected to be closer to 40. The date is December 11, and the location is the Unitarian Congregation building on Church Street in St. Catharines.

Theo Tytaneck introduced the speaker. Theo was one of Julia's students when she taught at Brock University. A friendship ensued, and Theo shared her abiding appreciation of Julia as a person.

Holocaust: A Personal Perspective by Julia Frankel

Born in Eastern Europe and a retired professor of Russian Studies, Julia was well equipped to supply the historical background of the Holocaust. Historians have universally expressed a "wonderment" that such cruelty to fellow humans could ever be manifested.

Late one night, there was a knock on the door, and Julia's family fled. Rescued by her father's employer, the family went into hiding. Soon, the parents were sent to a ghetto, while their eight-year-old daughter was smuggled into Hungary dressed as a boy. There she remembers being hidden in a coal cellar for days at a time. Deeply touched by the pervasive reality of the Holocaust, and missing a normal childhood entirely, Julia nevertheless experienced countless acts of kindness toward her during those years.

Her mother also survived the Holocaust, and the two came to Canada in 1963.

John Tordiff thanked Julia for the most anticipated talk of the year, summarized as "good in the face of evil," and echoed by Anne Elliott in her closing remarks with "a sobering evening with a human face."

Next Torch: Thursday, December 11, our Seasonal Social.

Minutes: Abraham Rempel

Our January Meeting will be a Lunch!

The meeting scheduled for January 8 will be a lunch rather than a dinner. It was decided at the October meeting to try this, as some members would rather not drive at night in the winter. So, as an experiment, we will gather at the Best Western at noon, for lunch at 12:30 followed by a talk by Leslie Thorburn entitled "WW II: From My Point of View."

At the January meeting it will be decided whether to repeat this schedule for February.