



# St. Catharines Torch Club

## June 2015 Newsletter

### Spring Social

#### Next Meeting

- Wednesday June 17, 12 noon.
- Beacon Inn, St. Catharines. See article for directions.
- **Lunch: Family Style:** Rolls and butter, green salad, roast chicken and roast beef, roasted potatoes, vegetable medley, cheesecake, tea and coffee.
- Cost: \$25.
- Please let your phone captain know whether you are coming.
- Please pay in advance: see article.
- If you require a special meal, please contact Doreen Peever or Julia Frankel.
- If you need a ride, contact David Warren at 905-934-9765.

This year we will return to the Beacon Inn (officially the Ramada Jordan Beacon Harbourside Hotel & Suites) for our Spring Social. It will be Wednesday, June 17, at 12 noon. Please note that this is the **THIRD** Wednesday in June. The address is 2793 Beacon Blvd., Jordan. To reach it from the QEW, take Exit 55 toward Road 26, then take the North Service Rd. to Beacon Blvd.

The service will be family style with menu as follows:

***Rolls and butter***  
***Baby Green Salad with Red Pepper dressing***  
***Roasted Chicken with Fine Herbs and Black Angus***  
***Roast Beef au Jus***  
***Roasted Potatoes and Vegetable Medley***  
***Desert: Cheese Cake with Fruit Topping***  
***Coffee, Tea, Decaf***

We need to get payment in advance for this event. If you haven't already paid, you can send a cheque for \$25 per person, payable to the St. Catharines Torch Club, to

Alan Veale  
10 Erinbrook Cres.  
St. Catharines, ON, L2T 1Y5

The deadline for paying (or asking for a refund) is June 7. Please also let your phone captain know you are coming, and tell Doreen or Julia if you have dietary restrictions.

## May 14, 2015 Meeting

### Secretarial notes by Abraham Rempel

#### Regular Meeting

Date: May 14, 2015

Location: Best Western

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Attendance: 28

#### Welcome: Anne Elliott (President)

In response to Anne's welcoming remarks, she was given credit for the notable increase in guest attendance. She was also applauded for her overall success as the club's president. Thanks so much Anne.

Ivan Hrabowsky expressed his appreciation for the gluten-free meals. Ditto for the fine and varied vegetarian plates.

#### Invocation and Toast to the Queen: John Northover.

John was exceptionally generous in recognizing our Christian and Jewish historic values in light of the ongoing ISIS conflict. He toasted to our *freedom of speech* and *humanitarian values*, both of which are upheld by our Torch community. Thanks John.

#### Business: Dave Sydor

As the outgoing Past-President, Dave presented the roster for next years Executive.

Past-President: Anne Elliott.

President: Michael Manley-Casimir

Vice President: Robert Cooper

Secretary: Abraham Rempel

Treasurer: Alan Veale

Membership: David Warren

Newsletter & Webmaster: Roy Blake

Phone Co-ord & Hospitality: Julia Frankel and Doreen Peever

Directory: John Northover

Archivist: unfilled position, volunteer wanted

(Please note: This is Robert Coopers's first official position on the Executive. The rest are tried and true veterans. Welcome Coop.)

Thanks Dave, and all of the outgoing executive members for their unfailing commitment, generous time-giving and effectiveness in the affairs of Torch for 2014-2015.

#### Speaker Introduction: Roger Brook

Roger introduced the speaker in glowing terms as one of the first persons he got to know when he came to St Catharines in 1958. Roger commended Dr Peter McMain not only for his multi-level success as a paediatrician, but also as a true philosopher and independent thinker. Peter has been an abiding friend to Roger. Thanks Roger.

#### How Natural Dyes Colour History by Dr. Peter McMain

Most dyes are historic, beginning in Egypt around 2945 BCE. Hence Peter took the club on a journey that included a visit to a Turkish rug factory, Newton's theory of light, Goethe's use of pigeon excrement and wine, the bison cave painting at Altamira, neolithic charcoal (black dyes are very scarce in nature and generally do not dissolve in water), Aboriginal ochre, the Elgin marbles, lapis lazuli from Afghanistan and the Pope, Nero's exclusive use of purple, the Indigo Wars and Mahatma Gandhi, the colour orange and the New York state flag, green wallpaper and Napoleon's suspicious death, and Queen Victoria's mauve with the coming of synthetic dyes.

**Thanks to the Speaker and Closing**

**Remarks:** Alexandra Fic

Alexandra's generous thanks was accompanied by an encouragement to have Peter submit his talk to the Torch Magazine for publication. It was a Tour de Force talk and fitting end to our Torch year. Thanks Alexandra.

May I extend my personal thanks as well. My role as the Secretary has been scaled down considerably from that of my predecessor, Peter Skelton. He worked hard. My minutes-taking is easy because our members make it easy. Thanks all and congratulations on another successful and enjoyable year.

**Executive for 2015-16**

President: Michael Manley-Casimir

Past-President: Anne Elliott

Vice-President: Robert Cooper

Secretary: Abraham Rempel

Treasurer: Alan Veale

Membership: David Warren

Newsletter, Webmaster: Roy Blake

Hospitality: Julia Frankel, Doreen Peever

Phone Co-ordinator: Doreen Peever

Torch Booklet: John Northover

**2015-16 Directory**

John Northover is preparing the 2015/16 Member Directory. Please send any changes of address, phone

number or email address to him at [jgnorth@vaxxine.com](mailto:jgnorth@vaxxine.com).

**Newsletter and Website**

The St. Catharines Torch Club website is at <http://vaxxine.com/torch>. Updates for the website and items for the news-

letter can be sent to [stcatharinestorch@gmail.com](mailto:stcatharinestorch@gmail.com)