



St. Catharines Torch Club

February 2016 Newsletter

Robert Cooper

Robert began his photography career at the Niagara Falls Review in 1967, working after school in the darkroom to pay for small aircraft flying hours after obtaining his private pilot's licence through an Air Cadet Flying Scholarship the year before.

Photography and flying became his focus. To further his photojournalism interests he took a position with the Sault Star in Sault Saint Marie in 1970 a photographer.

After a year with the Sault Star he moved to Ottawa to work for Canadian Press (CP), again as a photographer, and after 8 years with CP he was hired by the Prime Minister's Press Office as the first-ever personal photographer to a Canadian Prime Minister.

He shadowed Prime Minister Trudeau for 5 years from late 1979 to Trudeau's retirement in June of 1984. He traveled with Trudeau to over 70 countries and across Canada many times. Took photos of family events, photos for Christmas cards and much more.

Post Trudeau he was Prime Minister elect John Turner's photographer, and Prime Minister Mulroney's photographer for five minutes.

After the fall election in 1984 he headed to the British Virgin Islands where he spent five years sailing before returning to Canada to pursue other activities.

In 2002 he founded the AD/HD Foundation of Canada and returned to the Niagara Region in 2005 to be close to his aging parents.

Spotting Differences

Do you believe humans are more observant than other species?
Do human individuals in a room observe the same room?
Is observation a product of conditioning or of physical presentation?
At what point do we stop observing?
Is observation an inherited ability?
The discussion begins.

Next Meeting

- Thursday Feb. 11, 6 pm social hour, 7 pm dinner.
- Best Western, St. Catharines.
- **Dinner:** Salad, beer batter fish and chips, fresh vegetable medley, English trifle, tea and coffee.
- Cost: \$25.
- **Speaker:** Robert Cooper.
- **Topic:** Spotting Differences.
- Please let your phone captain know whether you are coming.
- 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.

Meeting: Jan. 13, 2015. Notes by Abraham Rempel

Location: Best Western

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Attendance: 40

A Reciprocal Evening

Once again, it was a privilege to have members from the Buffalo Torch Club join us for the evening, and provide us with a guest speaker. Our Buffalo guests were Maria Bardos, Reed Taylor, Rod Doran, Tom Weber and Tim Spaeder. Tim drove a long way under difficult winter conditions in order to join us.

The St Catharines Torch Club held a reception for our guests in a room provided by the Best Western. It was well attended by our executive and other local members. Wine and snacks were provided for the occasion. The meal costs were waived for all our guests, a generosity provided to our members when visiting the Buffalo Club in October of last year.

Welcome: Michael Manley-Casimir (President)

After a warm welcome to our guests, Michael inducted three new members into the St. Catharines Torch Club: Linda Gaspich, Milan "Michael" Plentai and Steven Bronn. In keeping with Torch International standards, our new members are rich in learning and experience, and in good standing with their communities; in a word, "fine people" and sure to add even more depth to our club experience.

Toast to the Queen and "Multitasking":
Anne Elliott

Invocation: Doreen Peever

Speaker Introduction: Reed Taylor
Dr. Maria Bardos was one of Reed's teaching colleagues and a dear friend. Both taught in high school where Maria specialized in Latin. Maria earned her PhD at SUNY Buffalo where she studied German literature and linguistics.

Reed also expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the Buffalo/St/Catharines relationship. He used the expression "fumes of yesteryear" which seemed appropriate when I made the notes for the evening. I'm sure it was.

The Etruscans and Ancient Rome by Maria Bardos

Maria's talk stemmed from the American Academy's excavations that began in 1980. Maria visited Italy in 1983. There were twelve major Etruscan cities in the 5th and 6th centuries BCE, and at least 60 tombs from which much of Etruscan history has been gleaned. Maria included Rome and Pompeii in her visit to Italy. One interesting fact is that the Emperor Claudius wrote a history of the Etruscan people and may well have been the last to speak the Etruscan language.

Although Maria's visit to Italy was over thirty years ago, her memory was excellent and command of facts equally so. Her Power-Point support was also very good — all in all, a lively presentation that kept our attention throughout.

Thanks to the speaker: Michael Manley-Casimir

The Family Support Network of Niagara

Dixieland Jazz and Brunch

Sunday, May 1, 2016

11.30 am

at Hernder Estate Wines

1607 Eighth Ave Louth, St. Catharines, ON, L2R 6P7

Tickets: \$65.00 (includes \$25.00 tax receipt)

Information: 905-964-6935

Celebrating 20 Years of Family Counselling

The Family Support Network (FSN) was founded in 1996 by five Niagara families faced with the mental illness of a loved one. They decided to share the knowledge gained from their experience to help other members of the community. Since that time, more than 1,000 families across Niagara have taken advantage of the free educational workshops and support groups offered by FSN. The importance of our services has been recognized by funding from the Ministry of Health, the United Way of Niagara Falls and Greater Fort Erie, and the Branscombe Family Foundation. This fundraiser both celebrates 20 years of outreach and helps to meet the increasing demand for our services, especially the Home Visit Program.

Tickets from Merle Richards (905-685-6984) or online at www.familysupportniagara.com (Click on 20th Anniversary Celebration).