



St. Catharines Torch Club

June 2016 Newsletter

Spring Social

Next Meeting

- Thursday June 16, 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 Thursday, June 16, at 12 noon. Please note that this is the **THIRD** Thursday 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 Roasted Tomato dressing
Roasted Chicken with Fine Herbs and Black Angus
Roast Beef au Jus
Roasted Potatoes and Vegetable Medley
Desert: Cheese Cake
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 13. Please also let your phone captain know you are coming, and tell Doreen or Julia if you have dietary restrictions.

We'll also be taking up a collection at this meeting for the St. Catharines Community Centres, for school supplies.

May 11, 2016 Meeting

Minutes by Roy Blake with material from Anne Elliott and John Northover

Regular Meeting

Date: May 11, 2015

Location: Best Western

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Attendance: 31

Welcome: Anne Elliott (Past-President)

Invocation and Toast to the Queen: Do-reen Peever

Business Meeting: Chaired by Anne Elliott

- The executive is in place for next year (see list in this newsletter.)
- The speakers list for next year is almost complete (see the complete list in this newsletter)
- Alan Veale reported that we are in good shape financially, with approximately \$6000 in assets.
- The executive has decided to contribute \$50 US per member to Torch International, as they have requested, rather than the \$50 Canadian that we have contributed for the last few years.
- Robert Cooper will be leaving the country and can no longer provide his projector for our use. It was decided to ask for about 3 or 4 volunteers to purchase and operate our own equipment. Steve Bronn and Roy Blake volunteered at the meeting. There will be a short meeting after the June social to discuss the purchases. More volunteers will be welcome at that time.
- Julia Frankel reported that the June Social will be Thursday, June 16, 12 Noon at the Beacon Motor Inn. The cost is \$25, payable in advance. See the notice in this newsletter.

Speaker Introduction: John Northover introduced himself. John was born in Bristol in southwest England. He obtained an Hons. B.Sc in botany from Bristol University in 1960, and a Ph.D. in plant psychology from the University of London in 1965. After moving to Canada, he worked for Agriculture Canada in St. Catharines for 35 years, retiring in 2001.

Diseases of Niagara's Fruits

John Northover gave an interesting presentation on the principal diseases of Niagara's fruits. He showed images of apples infected with apple scab, peaches with brown rot, strawberries and grapes with grey mold caused by botrytis. Some electron microscopic images of Botrytis cinerea showed it resembling a grape bunch. John described the life cycles of the different fungi causing apple scab, black knot of plum and powdery mildew of grapes. Surprisingly, these three fungi have a sexual phase, followed by an asexual stage that is often repeated during the summer. Some infections of peaches, plums and cherries occur when the fruits are green and immature, but develop into rots as the fruit ripens - these are called latent infections. Some fungi like botrytis and penicillium that infect apples and show up as post-harvest rots, can be grown on jelly poured into small plastic dishes called agar plates. John showed images of the bacterial disease of pears caused by erwinia, and grapes by agrobacterium. The plum pox virus of prunus species was mentioned as being less serious than the European strain but serious enough for the federal government to provide \$40 million for the eradication of infected orchards so that nursery stock could be sold from Canada to the U.S.

John's presentation was followed by a good question and answer exchange. Peter McMain asked why mycoplasmal diseases were not mentioned. There is only one minor disease, namely X disease of peaches, which is spread by in-

sects from wild chokecherry. Control is by eradication of chokecherries rather than by injecting antibiotics into diseased peach trees.

Thanks to the Speaker: Dale Shipley

Executive for 2016-17

President: Michael Manley-Casimir

Past-President: Anne Elliott

Vice-President: David Warren

Secretary: Abraham Rempel

Treasurer: Alan Veale

Membership and Directory: John Northover

Newsletter: David Tordiff

Hospitality: Doreen Peever, Linda Gaspick

Phone Captains: Julia Frankel, Hilde Wheeler, Doreen Peever, Jane Tymofie, Alan Veale

Speakers for 2016-17

Wed. Sept 14 Roy Blake: *From Multiverse to Hologram: New Creation Myths*

Thurs. Oct. 13 Buffalo Speaker: Susan Eck

Wed. Nov. 9 Maria Tiro and David Warren: *The 150th Anniversary of Confederation*

Thurs. Dec. 8 Seasonal Social

Wed. Jan. 11 Dan Madar: *Will We Miss the Cold War?*

Thurs. Feb. 9 Wes Turner: *The Treaty that Shaped the Future*

Wed. March 8 Alan Veale: *The Future of Beaverdams Creek*

Thurs. April 13 Dale Shipley: *Smart Growth for Sustainable Lifestyles*

Wed. May 10 Steven Bronn: Making Your Money Last: Ten Principles for Living in Retirement

Thurs. June 8 Summer Social

2016-17 Directory

John Northover is preparing the 2016/17 Member Directory. Please send any changes of address, phone number or email address to him at

jgnorth@vaxxine.com. Please also send your email address, if changed, to stcatharinestorch@gmail.com, for the newsletter.