

St. Catharines Torch Club Bulletin

October 2016 issue

Next meeting: Thursday October 13th
Social Hour 6pm, Dinner 7pm

Location: Best Western, St.Catharines

Dinner: The October 13th menu is a tasty Italian themed buffet with coffee, tea, decaf.

Cost; \$25

Speaker: Susan Eck from the Buffalo Torch Club

Topic: Stadler's Buffalo

Please let your phone captain know whether you are coming.

If you require a special meal, please contact Doreen Peever .

If you need a ride, contact David Warren at 905-934-9765

Susan Eck Bio

Susan Eck is a native Western New Yorker. After a career in teaching, she was an administrator at UB. It was there she became technologically literate and, since retiring, she has applied those skills to illuminating local history on the web.

Now in her third career as a student of local history, she has been a guest curator and created virtual exhibits for the Buffalo History Museum. She has two websites, one on Western New York history (wnyhistory.com); the other on the 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo (panam1901.org).

E.M Statler's Buffalo 1896 – 1925

Almost everyone knows the Statler Hotel in Niagara Square. Few know that E.M' Statler built two other hotels in Buffalo, a ground-breaking restaurant, and a grand estate on Soldier's Place. He was not born in Buffalo but decided that booming Buffalo in 1896 shared the same attitudes as he and so he moved here to grow with the Queen City. This presentation illustrates the parallel evolution of E.M. Statler and his adopted city from 1896 through 1925,

St Catharines Torch Club Events

Secretarial notes by Abraham Rempel

Regular Meeting

Date: September 14, 2016

Location: Best Western

Time: 6:30 - 9:30 PM

Attendance: 26

Welcome: Michael Manley-Casimir (President)

Our very able President is staying on for another year in lieu of our equally able Vice President who is moving to the Caribbean. We wish Robert Cooper (Coop) all the best in another courageous endeavour.

Toast to the Canada: David Warren

Invocation: David Warren thanked the Almighty for our “good stomachs.”

Business:

Our thanks to John Northover for another excellent Directory. John will be giving his *Diseases of Niagara's Fruits* talk in our Buffalo sister club on October 4.

Our Past President Anne Elliott needed another speaker for the year. Our Secretary, Abraham Rempel volunteered.

Speaker Introduction: Michael Manley-Casimir introduced Roy Blake who has been our Newsletter-Webmaster for three years. Thanks so much Roy.

John Tordiff will be taking over the Newsletter position. Roy will continue as our Torch Webmaster. We have so many capable people in our club.

From Multiverse to Hologram: New Creation Myths

Roy introduced his talk as a “new myth,” saying that science can never “prove” anything, and that we are dealing with ideas more than certainties. He then took us through the universe’s 13.8 billion year history, the Big Bang Theory, black holes, String Theory, Quantum Physics, multi universes, a theory that our universe may be a hologram, and referenced some inscrutable math along the way. Roy kept everyone’s

attention, handling his difficult topic with enthusiasm, and the question period with humour and aplomb.

A very good start for another Torch year.

Closing remarks: Michael thanked Roy in good form. Recently he had watched television's Big Bang sitcom with his son Scott. In that episode the statement was made that by the end of the century we will know everything. But as far as our President is concerned, it's all still a mystery.

On a sombre note: In the last week I received a letter from my dear friend, Dr Edgar Peer. It was his letter of resignation from Torch, citing health reasons and his concerns for the future of the St Catharines Torch Club. Mike thought I should read it which I was reluctantly prepared to do. But Anne Elliott saved the day, asking if I really wanted to read the letter on our first evening of the year.

May I suggest our club send a card to Dr Peer thanking him for founding our club, his past service, and wish him well.

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: John Tordiff

Webmaster: Roy Blake

Hospitality: Doreen Peever, Linda Gaspick

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

Speakers for 2016-17

Thurs. Oct. 13	Susan Eck from Buffalo Torch Club: Stadler's Buffalo
Wed. Nov. 9	Wes Turner: The Treaty that Shaped the Future
Thurs. Dec. 8	Seasonal Social
Wed. Jan. 11	Dan Madar: Will We Miss the Cold War?
Thurs. Feb. 9	Abraham Rempel: A Topic of Interest

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

Membership Dues are Due!

Membership dues remain at a bargain \$50 for this year. Payment will be gratefully and graciously accepted at the October meeting.