



# ROTAROOTER

STILL  
\$1.00

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Oakville West (RCOW)  
Volume 20 Issue 38

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2003

### Helping All Of Us This Morning:

Door Keeper	David Nourse
Greeter	Pam Bingham
Gracer	Jean Fletcher
Finer	Steve Greer
Introducer	Stephen Cryne
Thanker	Ed Wright
Cleaner Upper	Rob Rubino

### Today's Program

### Today's Lucky Draw Pot:

**\$500**

### Today's Thought

When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.

*Mark Twain*



*Alex Bystrin, President & CEO of Oakville Hydro, spoke at last week's meeting.*

### Solving the Power Puzzle

Last week's speaker, Oakville Hydro President Alex Bystrin, predicted continuing problems with Ontario's electricity supply unless changes are made to the production, delivery and pricing systems.

Mr. Bystrin said Ontario's electricity generating stations need improvement but it's highly unlikely any capital investment will be made until prices are deregulated. He said deregulation is probable because the electricity industry considers the current situation "unsustainable."

Mr. Bystrin said consumers could avoid high prices in an unregulated market by shifting their consumption of power to non-peak times. Hydrogen fusion may provide a solution to the world's electricity woes, but not for 50 to 60 years, he said.

Mr. Bystrin, who came to Canada from Russia in 1973, said he has three priorities at Oakville Hydro, which has moved from being a

municipally owned and operated utility to a public corporation. His first priority is to "keep the lights on" and maintain the power network in Oakville. His second objective is to earn money for shareholders. His third priority is to change the structure and culture of the organization to suit its new status.

## New Member Approved

It's almost official now. Dr. Peter Clark is the newest member of RCOW. Peter will be inducted into the club at next week's club assembly which, incidentally, kicks off at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at The Oakville Club.

## RCOW Club Assembly Details

Here's the agenda for the club assembly next Tuesday evening, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Looks like a great meeting...particularly the bit from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

I understand the bar will reopen following the meeting. Perhaps the winner of the 50/50 draw will treat us!!

6:00 - 6:30pm	Cocktails
	Committee sign-up
6:30pm	Singing of the Anthem
	Grace
	Induction of Dr. Peter Clark

Buffet Dinner

Attendance Report

Fine master

"Happy Bucks"

7:00pm ***Fundraising / Fund giving - Structure and process***

A full club discussion on the importance of developing a "criteria for commitment" that RCOW can follow for projects we support in the future.

8:00pm 50/50 Draw

Adjournment

## RCOT Anniversary Details

To: Alister, Dave, Al,

As you know Rotary Club of Oakville Trafalgar celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September.

We wanted to confirm our plans and affirm our invitation to you and all the members of your club.

We are honoured that Oakville Club and Oakville West have decided to make our anniversary their weekly meeting.

We'll set up registration tables for all four clubs so you can sign in your members and collect the

money. It'll make the entrance process speedy and simple.

The evening will feature a special guest "artist" as well as greetings from Past District Governor Charlie Fogel, who will be introduced by our current District Governor, Mike Knell.

Would you please check with the members of your clubs to let me know how many will attend on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We'd like to know the number by September 8<sup>th</sup> so we can make sure to have room for everyone. Send me an e-mail with the number.

### Here are the details again.

Date: Monday, September 22, 2003

Time: Gathering: 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Otello's Banquet Hall  
2273 Royal Windsor Drive  
Oakville

Contribution: \$30.00 pp (payable at door)  
Cash bar

Dress: Business Attire

RSVP: Jim Campbell (905) 844-2543

[k.james.campbell@sympatico.ca](mailto:k.james.campbell@sympatico.ca)

We are all looking forward to seeing you on the 22<sup>nd</sup>!

Regards,  
James Campbell, President RCOT

## Hosts Sought for Visiting Student

Oakville's Rotary clubs will host a Youth Exchange student from Mexico for a one year

period, starting in January and volunteers are being sought for hosting duties.

Judy Warrington, of the Rotary Club of Oakville, is coordinating the exchange. She hopes that each of the four clubs will host the student for three months. To volunteer or get further information, please contact Judy.

Judy Warrington  
phone: 905-338-2304  
e-mail: [judy@lfwca.com](mailto:judy@lfwca.com)

## Upcoming Events

RCOT 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary...September 22<sup>nd</sup>  
RCOW Club Assembly...September 30<sup>th</sup>

## September Birthdays

September 5, Ron Gall  
September 6, Nur Cowan  
September 7, Joanne. Skantzos  
September 10, Bruce Norman  
September 29, Andrew Keitner

## The Words of Paul Harris

Between March 1 and June 8, 1934, Paul and Jean Harris embarked on a major tour of Britain and South Africa. While they were in Britain, they attended many Rotary functions. In April 1934, the British Rotary magazine, 'The Rotary Wheel', published a report of the District 6 Conference at Worcester, England, held in March, when one of the guests was Paul Harris. His speech at the Conference luncheon was reported in 'The Rotary Wheel'. It should be read in the context of the political developments taking place round the world at this time.

"Paul Harris, who expressed his appreciation of the Cotswold country-- the loveliest he had seen in England, made a plea for tolerance of other countries' customs and experiments. Rotarians in the United States did not expect there to be the same kind of expression of Rotary in the British Isles as in the United States. There must be many different expressions of Rotary. He did not believe it was going to be possible to use Rotary as an instrument for deciding momentous international questions.

Rotary would have done well enough if it did some of the spade-work in preparing the minds of the peoples for the acceptance of the doctrine that it was better to be at peace than at war.

He could look with a good deal of composure at the experiments in Russia. He did not believe in communism; he believed that a person could be as selfish under that system as under capitalism; but he felt that the rest of the world should be happy that Russia was conducting these experiments, for they would profit by learning from Russia's successes and mistakes. The same applied to Germany and Italy, and his own country was making an experiment to help the unemployed from which the rest of the world might benefit at some time."

April 1934, the British Rotary magazine, 'The Rotary Wheel'

Contributed by History Fellow Basil Lewis, RC of Humberside, UK

Next week: In the days to come

#### BE A CONTRIBUTOR

What is your favorite Paul Harris quote? Send it to us, with your comments on why you believe Paul Harris's words are relevant today. Please include the date, publication and page where Paul Harris wrote the quote. Also send your name and club. We'll credit you for your

assistance. Send the quote and information to [editor@whatpaulharrissaid.org](mailto:editor@whatpaulharrissaid.org)

## EDITOR'S CORNER

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Every time I sit in a barber's chair I'm reminded of one of Shakespeare's plays; Ed Sweeney and Ren Henderson will know the one I mean.

I love going to the barber shop. When I was a boy, it was a great place to catch up on the gossip about everybody in the neighbourhood. Today, I know virtually no-one in my neighbourhood so the gossip doesn't mean much to me; but I still enjoy sitting in the barber's chair.

It's one of the few times in life when you're called upon to place absolute faith in the skill and good intentions of another person. After all, you're at the mercy of someone you hardly know who's snipping, slicing and shaving mere centimetres from your jugular vein. I feel much the same in the barber chair as I do when I'm flying. I'm sitting in a tin can that could plunge to the ground any second and I can't do a thing about it, so I might as well relax and enjoy the ride.

Most barbers are chatty. They feel they have to entertain you as well as cut your hair. I hate chatty barbers. Their minds tend to wander. When I visited my barber this week, Joe became so engrossed in trying to determine if Jim Gregory, the former general manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs, was alive that he walked up and down the shop asking each barber and customer if they knew the answer, while I waited patiently for his return.

Once, the barber cutting my hair became engrossed in the conversation another barber

was having with a customer. As he kibbutzed with them he cut my ear with his scissors. He didn't miss a beat and carried on cutting my hair. It was only when I got home that I saw my ear, neck and shirt were a bloody mess.

Another time, I had decided to get rid of my mutton chop sideburns. (It was the 70's, what can I say!). I paid the barber, left the shop and went about my business. I had a feeling that something wasn't quite right, but I couldn't put my finger on it. When I got home, Mary took one look at me and started laughing.

"Are you trying to start a fashion trend?" she chortled. "Because if you are I think you'd better forget it!"

"What are you talking about?" I asked.

"Go look in the mirror," she directed.

When I peered into the glass, I saw the slightly ridiculous face of a man with one full, glorious mutton chop sideburn. The other side of my face was completely clean shaven.

That's why I don't like chatty barbers.

Joe usually isn't chatty, but I made the mistake of asking him a question. I had been lost in a reverie about what Alex Bystrin of Oakville Hydro had said at this week's RCOW meeting concerning the need to deregulate electricity prices.

"What do you think about electricity, Joe?" I inquired. "Do you think it should be deregulated?"

"Yes, people should pay for what they use. It's only fair. Why should we subsidize the people who use a lot of power?"

"That's a good point, Joe," I said. "I guess it's kind of like the barber business."

"What do you mean?" he asked.

"Well, you've probably noticed that I don't have a lot of hair. Yet it costs me the same amount for a haircut as it does someone with a full head of hair. That's not fair!"

"Of course it is! You're getting a haircut; they're getting a haircut...same thing...same price."

"Yes, but why should people like me subsidize the people with hair. They take more time, they use more tonic, gel and spray and you have a lot more to clean up afterwards. It doesn't seem fair to me."

Joe was silent.

"And another thing, Joe. How much do you usually get for a tip?"

"About two dollars."

"So, some guy with a full head of hair comes in here, you charge him \$12 and he gives you a \$2 tip. Why does he do that," I asked.

"Because I work hard and I do a good job."

"Right! But when I come in, you trim the sides and back and I'm out of the chair in no time. So should I tip you the same amount?"

Joe didn't say anything but continued to work silently. When he finished, we walked up to the cash register. I was anxious to see if my logic had had any effect. Unfortunately, he rang up \$12, the regular price for a haircut.

I forked over the \$12 and two dollars for a tip. As I turned to leave he said, "I've been thinking about what you said and I'm going to vote NDP."