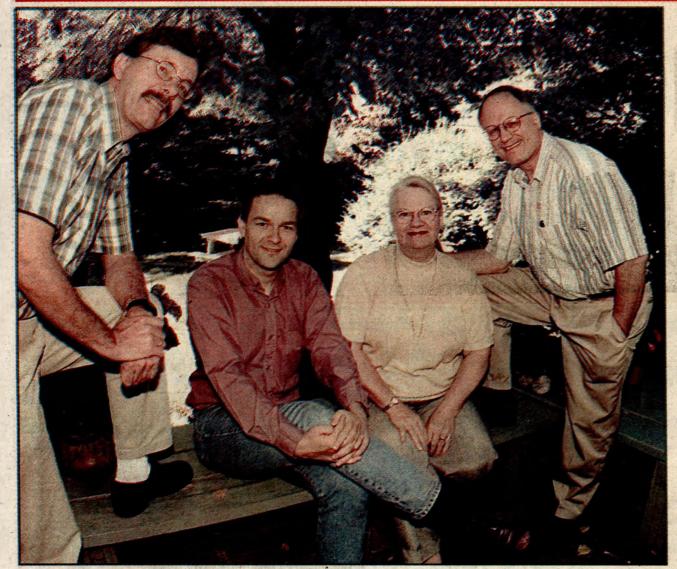


Arts & Entertainment

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Above photo by Peter McCusker

(Above) Visiting from Holland with the Soli Deo Gloria choir, Rinus Verhage (left), the choir director, and Wim Diepenhorst, its organist, pose with their hosts Lynne and Jan Hieminga on one of the few "free days" the two enjoyed during their 10-day stay in Oakville. (Right) A small group of the visitors from Holland dressed in traditional costumes and wooden shoes and performed traditional Dutch folk dances at Oakville Place on Saturday.

Photo on right by Riziero Vertolli



Dutch choir toured Ontario, stayed in Oakville

By Carol Baldwin **ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR**

he one thing that struck Rinus Verhage and Wim Diepenhorst about Canada was its size. The two Dutch musicians said their entire country would fit into Lake Ontario.

"We live in a small country with 50 million people, and you have a big country with 30 million," said Verhage. "You have so much empty space, tall buildings, and every house has lots of land. We live in mostly flats - our houses are very close together."

Diepenhorst, in awe of Niagara

Falls and the beautiful lakes and trees in Ontario, added, "We have windmills and tulips that we take for granted. We don't know why people want to take pictures of them," he said, acknowledging how different things look through the eyes of a tourist.

Here from Holland with the Soli Deo Gloria choir for only 10 days, Verhage, the choir director, and Diepenhorst, its organist, stayed with Oakville residents Jan and Lynne Hieminga.

The choir, which has a long tradition of traveling, mostly in Europe, was in Canada for the first time from Sept. 25th to Oct. 4th, performing in Hamilton, Grimsby, Toronto and, of

"Some people in the town liked to sing, so they came together and started a choir - not with a congregation or a church. They just came together to sing some church music, some secular music,

course, Oakville.

build goodwill and better friendships and strive to

benefit all in every inter-personal relationship. In short,

Membership is by invitation. Members are chosen to

represent their respective businesses or profes-

sions and function in some executive capacity

Principle" ensures that membership includes those from most every type of

discretionary authority. The "Classification

business or profession in our community.

In this way a Rotary Club is a good

The visit grew out of friendships that were established four years ago in Holland when the senior choir of Oakville's Knox Presbyterian Church was invited to take part in celebrations of the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands. But the connection that kept the communication open between the two choirs,

said Verhage, was between two sisters - one with the Dutch choir and the other with Knox's choir.

Although Verhage refers to the Dutch choir as Christian, the 43-yearold says it has no religious affiliation. "It's an old choir, about 100 years old," he said in flawless English.

"Some people in the town liked to sing, so they came together and started a choir - not with a congregation or a church. They just came together to sing - some church music, some secular music."

Verhage, who has been with the choir for about 10 years, says the choir gives concerts in foreign countries once every three or four years, and has been to Poland, Greece, Austria, Britain, and now Canada.

Choir members always tackle at least one song in the language of the country they are about to visit. But with Canada it was easy. "Most of the choir members speak English," Verhage explained.

"We have to learn four languages (See 'Four hands' on page B5)

hat Are Rotarians?

By Bill Roebuck

The 1999 Oakville Rotary Auction is organized by three of the Rotary Clubs in town. Have you ever wondered what a Rotary Club is and why Rotarians put on events such as this? Here's some background to explain it.

What is a Rotary Club?

each member's place of business.

The Rotary idea of friendship, fellow-

six continents with more than 27,000

Halton and Peel.

Who are Rotarians?

ship and service to others has spread to

members. There also are several other clubs throughout

Rotarians are persons who look beyond themselves to

the community, the nation and the world. Their aim is to

seek the truth and let fairness govern relationships. They

The original Rotary Club was organized in Chicago by Paul Harris, a lawyer. Rotary is the oldest service club its first meeting was held February 23, 1905. The name "Rotary" was chosen because the club then met in rotation at

OAKVILLE ROTARY How many Rotarians are there?

cross-section of the community. The Rotarian & Service: AUCTION

they put "Service Above Self."

or with some

November 19th, 20th clubs and well over one million members. In Oakville, there are four clubs with about 200

An example of service activities is the Rotary Polio Plus Project where Rotarians raised millions of dollars to purchase polio vaccines to stamp out polio throughout the world. Plus there are hundreds of projects right

in our community that are supported by Rotary activities. They will be discussed in another column.

Bill Roebuck is a member of the Rotary Club of Oakville-Trafalgar.

Support your community. Tune into Cogeco TV 23 November 19 & 20 for the Rotary Auction.

October 1999 15 14 13 12 11 23 22 21 18 30 29 28 27 26 25

Market your business by marking this date!

Plan to be a part of the Home Based Business Speaker Series presented by The Oakville Chamber of Commerce.

Topic: "Creative Marketing for Home Based Businesses" Topic Speaker: Kelly Montague

Director of Advertising, The Oakville Beaver

Date: Tuesday October 19th Time: 6:30 p.m.

To Register call 845-6613





Oakville Chamber of Commerce