

# Hill Rotary celebrates 25th anniversary

RICHMOND HILL — Richmond Hill Rotary Club is celebrating its 25th anniversary this month.

But the \$50 bill proposed for the evening to commemorate the occasion, has run into a bit of opposition.

As a result, the charge will be \$35 when the club gets together for its birthday party; only this time the drinks will be extra.

That's one of the few rubs along the way as the club readies itself for its quarter-of-a-century fling.

As publicity chairman Dennis Stainer says, "The non-drinkers just couldn't see themselves paying for everybody else's drink."

That may seem to be in direct con-

tradition to the club's motto, "Service Above Self."

But party time and service time are apparently two different things to the club. When they work they work. When they play they play, with each accounting for his own toys.

**Practice motto**

Besides they have plenty of ways in which they can practice their motto, such as in donating sightsaver books to the library, and money to keep Mill Pond park up.

Or maybe it's acting as sponsor of York County Science Fair and sending winners to the final.

"It'll cost a 'bloody' fortune this year, as it's in B.C.," Stainer said.

Or maybe it's a matter of decorating York Central Hospital at Christmas time, singing carols and providing gifts to the patients.

There's also help for the Richmond Hill School for the Retarded (formerly Thornhill), the School for the Deaf in Toronto, and just to show their interests aren't entirely parochial, they are now providing Haiti with a water purification system.

The club pays \$2,500 toward it, which is matched by a government grant.

**Peanuts work**

And how do they get their money? Well, sometimes they work for peanuts. Or maybe that should be, with peanuts,

selling them on street corners and in shopping malls.

And sometimes, not selling them. "Right now, I have wall-to-wall peanuts in my basement," Stainer said.

They also peddle Christmas trees. But that, of course, is seasonal work.

Rotary started in 1911 when a Chicago lawyer Paul Harris, thought it would be a good idea to get together with a couple of other businessmen once a week to discuss mutual problems, rotating from home to home each time. Hence the name, Rotary.

It became a community service club the following year, and in 1952, the Rotary Club of Leaside established the

Richmond Hill group.

**Professional members**

Membership in the club, which is for men only, is restricted to representatives of a single profession, and that, according to Stainer, "is what makes it so interesting."

At the moment, the club could use a garage operator, real estate salesman, a doctor and representatives from various other business to complete that well-rounded look.

Regular attendance is stressed by the club, which will drop any members missing four meetings in a row.

However, if you're out of town when a meeting is on, attendance counts just as much in Rangoon as it does in Richmond Hill.

So members have little excuse to say they couldn't make it.

One member who doesn't have to make excuses that way, however, is Ralph Butler. Not only is he, along with Donald Plaxton, one of two living members of the original Richmond Hill group, but he has only missed one meeting in all that time.

And he remembers it very well. "It was in March, 1953," Butler recalls. "We were on our way to Florida when we got caught in a snow storm."

**Attend around globe**

Otherwise you can be sure Butler would have been there, just as he was those other times in Tangiers, Venice and Honolulu, to say nothing of his many visits to Rotary clubs in the United States.

With each club he visited, he was given a small make-up card to show those back home that he still had them in mind, no matter what exotic spot he might be in at the time.

He says he came close to missing the occasional meeting in Richmond Hill over the years, due to sickness.

But somehow or other he always managed to set aside whatever malady he had long enough to maintain his record mark.

**Tuesday meetings**

The Richmond Hill club gets together every Tuesday night at the Black Hawk Inn for a little business, dinner and to hear a speaker.

"They're a fantastic organization," said Stainer, speaking almost as someone from the outside looking in. "They could have a great effect on other people — they don't blow their own trumpets."

They may blow a few others, though, when they mark off those 25 years at Thornhill Golf and Country Club, Feb. 26, because the party promises to be a good one.

And who knows, after things start reaching their peak, maybe some of those non-imbibers in the group will catch the spirit of the club's motto and even buy a round or two, themselves.



Ralph Butler  
... never misses



Don Plaxton  
... founding member



Bruce Lloyd  
... heads Hill Rotary

Richmond Hill Edition

## The Liberal

"In Essentials Unity, in Non-Essentials Liberty, in all things Charity"

Established 1878

Wednesday, February 9, 1977

54 pages

Price 20 cents

# Fine weather makes carnival one of best

By Jim Irving

RICHMOND HILL — Last year the rain mixed with the syrup at the pancake breakfast.

This year the syrup nearly froze as soon as it left the bottle.

But Winter Carnival organizers say that frozen syrup or no, it was one of the best carnivals yet.

The three-day event, which wound up Sunday, chose Sue Whalen of Langstaff Secondary School as Queen of the Carnival, and attracted a bumper crowd to all the festivities.

It didn't attract the weatherman's good graces, though. And, while there was plenty of snow and crisp air about to make it a Winter Carnival all the way, sometimes it was just a bit too crisp for those in the crowd.

They didn't exactly linger over all the fine snow sculptures, or take in all the games.

**Cold sky dives**

A couple of people the cold didn't deter, however, and they had it colder than anyone, were sky divers, Bob Schwartz and Tom Mesley of Richmond Hill.

Jumping from 3,000 feet, "officially," the two made pin-point landings in the Mill Pond, both Saturday and Sunday afternoons, despite chilling winds that made it "extremely difficult," according to Schwartz, who organized the event.

Just to give an idea of how difficult it was, Schwartz said that the first of three wind indicators they dropped, landed just by the Hillcrest Mall, not exactly next door to the Mill Pond.

To make their jump, finally, the two had to exit a half mile north of Elgin Mills and Bathurst St.

They also had to wear their "longjohns," said Schwartz, which is probably the biggest indication of all of the kind of weather conditions they were up against.

**5 girls in final**

Carnival Queen Whalen won over the other finalists, Sam Markham and Julie Wells of Richmond Hill High School; Sue Melsness of Bayview Secondary School, and Gwen Hood of Don Head Secondary School.

She is a grand-daughter of Otto Whalen, longtime commissioner of works with the town, and special consultant at the time of his retirement in April, 1975.

Judges were Lauren Ecclestone, last year's queen; Lorraine Kelly, program director, Hillcrest Mall; Toronto Maple Leaf star, Inge Hammarstrom; and Toronto Argonaut lineman, Wayne Allison.

Contestants were judged for their appearance, personality, grooming and all-around pose.

**Big bed race**

Another big event, which attracted both spectators and entries in large amounts, was the bed race.

The race, which was staged on the Mill Pond, was won by Richmond Hill works department, with the local firefighters, just a bed spring or two behind.

Tri-Action Pact's entry was third. The Hill firefighters also won an award for best design.

An estimated 2,500 people were on hand to see which of the bed guys could cross the finishing line the fastest.

**Snow sculptures**

In the snow sculpting department, Don Head's "Dragon" won in the grade 10 group. Richmond Hill High School won for grades 11, 12 and 13, with their entries of "Frog" and "Cannon," "Car 240Z," respectively.

There was no entry for the Grade 9 group.

Individual winner was the "Arch", the work of the three Neil brothers, Brian, 25; Bill, 21; and Ricky, 15; of 52 Hunt St.

The boys wandered down to the Mill Pond one night to look things over and decided they'd like to get into the act.

"Where do we sign up?" they asked Evelyn Ruttelle, one of the program organizers.

When told that all they had to do was grab some snow and go ahead, the boys did just that, starting Monday night and finishing their 14-foot arch over the roadway, Friday night.

"Snoopy with Car," Roselawn Public School's entry, was the public school winner.

Judges were architect Douglas Allen; engineer Bernie Toporowski; and Richmond Hill Rotary Club president, Bruce Lloyd, who owns a photographic business.



(Photo by Hogg)

## 1977 Richmond Hill Snow Queen

When you're the queen, you not only look like one, you dress like one. That's why Sue Whalen is shown adjusting her crown, while posing happily in her new fur coat. The two were gifts to the Langstaff Secondary School student. She was judged Queen of

the annual Richmond Hill Winter Carnival on the eve of the Carnival at a dinner dance at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall. Then she was crowned in special ceremony at the Mill Pond Friday night.

## Won carnival events

RICHMOND HILL — Winners of the Winter Carnival Kinsmen bicycles draw, were Angie Court, Sophie Howe and Suzie McWatt.

Other events and their winners in order of finish: Junior cross-country ski race, Valerie Murchison, Nancy Johnston, Doug Queen; senior cross-country, Brian Bacon, Phil Munroe, Bruce Murchison; snow shoe race, Fred Robins, John Wynn, Lynn Randall-Foster.

Tug of war, Bayview Secondary, Pleasantville Public School; junior public school hockey, Oak Ridges 5, Pleasantville 2; senior public school hockey, Roselawn 2, McKillop 1. Dave Kenny scoring the winner in an overtime shoot-off.

Girls' hockey, Don Head 3, Richmond Hill 2; broom ball trophy won by Richmond Hill teachers over Rotary Club;

Langstaff 2, Bayview 0; for Boys' hockey trophy; toboggan race won by Bayview by default.

**Best log cutters**

Log cutting contest: girls 16 and under, Sue McGregor; boys 16 and under, M. Bessig; girls 16 and over, Anne Skippari; boys 16 and over, B. McKinlay and B. McKinlay tie; girls' doubles, Sue McGregor, N. Carrington; boys' doubles, B. and B. McKinlay.

Roselawn Public School captured the public school curling.

**Fastest skaters**

Skating race results: boys up to 3, Scott Jackson, Duncan Parker, Stephen Anderson; girls up to 3, Jennifer Viverette, Bruce Langstaff, Stephen Centa; girls 4, Cathy Tromanhauser, Kristy Kilpatrick, Allyson VanderValk;

boys 5, James Jackson, Curtis Mahon, James Thompson; girls 5, Jennifer McKinley, Melissa Hunt, Angela Snowie; boys 6, Dale Moore, Brian Mathew, Warren Payne; boys 7, Brian Hunt, Jay Parker, Rob Page; girls 7, Ruth Perryman, Mandy Nelson, Christine Farrell; boys 8-9, Patrick Mulcahy, Dave McKee, Darryl McKinley; girls 8-9, Rosanna Farrell, Cathy Blum, Christine Williams, boys 10-11, Derrick Baker, Dave Barry, Patrick Mulcahy; girls 10-11, Anna Barry Tammy Plaxton, Lisa Henderson; boys 12-13, Dave Mashinter, Billy Easton, Stephen Moritsugu; girls 12-13, Jane Stephenson, Janet Gerritse, Diana Blair; boys 14-15, Steve Wilson, Norm Murphy, Billy Easton; girls 14-15, Jane Stephenson, Carol Mathewson; boys' open, Steve Wilson; girls' open, Jane Stephenson.

## Gift cost \$180,000

THORNHILL — The Town of Markham may have to pay about \$180,000 to buy back the Highway 7B road allowance it gave away in 1938.

The town gave the property to William A. Dean. He owned abutting property and his house may have encroached on the road allowance.

Road allowances were established in 1850, according to town clerk Diane Whetter. This one had not been needed up to 1938.

The council of the day must have thought it never would be, said Ms. Whetter.

Now residents of Eliza and Colborne Streets want the old road allowance opened and Eliza Street cut off.

**Post office move**

The move will be made possible if the post office moves to a proposed new location on the site to the south.

The ministry of transportation and communication's plans for widening of Yonge Street are another factor in the town's thinking. But the ministry has refused to subsidize the land purchase.

Since the town sold the land, the ministry officials felt the town should accept all the responsibility.

## Garbage dump park

BUTTONVILLE — Miller Paving Ltd. is proposing that its land on both sides of Woodbine Avenue near 14th Avenue be turned into a large park after it is filled up with garbage.

Miller and related companies, Markham Sand and Gravel and West Markham Industrial Estates, have owned over 400 acres there since the 1950's.

Much of their land, including the 95-acre Don Mills Golf Course, has been caught in the Parkway Belt freeze.

Miller is proposing to use most of the property (including the course) for sanitary landfill. When the area is filled up, it would be restored as green space.

**Improves area**

"I don't see anything wrong with the concept," said Councillor Walter Grieve, chairman of the Markham planning committee. "It will tidy up the area."

Miller is now waiting for decision

from the hearing officers on the Parkway Belt on its proposal, said Grieve.

At the same time they are sounding out local officials "to see if they have approval in principle."

Miller representatives appeared before the last week to outline the project.

**Long term job**

Miller's plans will take years to carry out. "The details will have to be worked out," said Grieve.

He felt that the park, when it was finally created, would be too large for just Markham and would have to be a regional responsibility.

Miller is planning some industrial expansion on its land east of Woodbine, already the home of several construction related industries. It is one of the few areas where open storage is allowed in Markham.

There is already a garbage transfer station.

## Bed race silver trophy winners

RICHMOND HILL — Of the 12 entrants who managed to get their home made beds to the Hillcrest Mall for judging prior to the bed race event last weekend, Richmond Hill fire department platoon 3 took home the silver trophy.

Other entrants in the best designed bed for the race were: Richmond Hill Arena, Richmond Hill Professional Fire Fighters, Richmond Hill Rotary Club, Oak Ridges Best, Citizen Band

Radio Club-Triaction pact, Richmond Hill works department, Richmond Hill Hydro, Bayview Secondary School, El Shamaly Shrine Club, Richmond Hill parks department and the Richmond Hill library.

Judges for the contest from Hillcrest Mall stores were: Nancy Franchetto, manager of Sam the Record Man, Joe Haggan, manager of Stainless Steel Stores and Roger Harper, manager of Fairweather's.

### Inside The Liberal

#### Bayview snobbery

Residents of Johnsville Village have been looked down on by their neighbors in other Thornhill areas, says columnist Lynda Nykor. See page A-4

Winter games in North Bay sees the Oak Ridges Dynes Jewellers and two Ridges figure skaters off to compete in the four-day event. See B-1 Sports

Thornhill-vaughan dating from the 1840s are threatened by the Thornhill-Vaughan plan. Some are more valuable than others. For an expert opinion, see page C-1

Sports	B1-5&12	Service direct.	C10	Editorials	A4
Classified	B7-9	Church directory	B3	Letters	A4
King-Oak Ridges	C1	In the Hill	C2	Vital statistics	B9
Entertainment	C6	Scheduled events	C3	Simpsons	Rs1-16
Real estate	B6-7	Yesterdays	A5	Hillcrest Mt.	Hm1-12