**President Ingrid** opened the official portion of the meeting at 7 p.m. following half an hour of fellowship. Grace was said by Carolyn, Nicole led the national anthem and Rebecca was the designated SAA having won the most recent instant win 50/50 draw! Our guests were introduced as being Peter Mule, our speaker; Halad Siddique, a former Friday a.m. attendee; Aveola a nurse visiting us from Kitchener; and returning visitors Ken and Martin.

Rotary Club of Milton

Weekly Bulletin for

Monday March 27, 2017

Attendance: 15 members and 4 guests

Program: Peter Mule, Pack a Bag for a Friend

Start time: 6:30 p.m. End: 8 p.m.

Club President: Ingrid Hollinger

Secretary: Barbara Saxby

Treasurer: Sohail Naseer

President Elect: Romeo Mitchell

Bulletin Editor: Rebecca Hunter

***Rotary International President,***

**John Germ, Rotary Club of**

**Chatanooga, Tennessee**

***2016 / 2017***

***Rotary International Theme***

***“Rotary Serving Humanity”***

Our Mission Statement

Milton Rotary fosters friendship and self-improvement by working with local and global partners, with an emphasis on youth development.

Our Vision Statement

To be recognized as the premier volunteer, humanitarian service organization in Milton.

Looking Ahead…

Monday April 3 – Cecil Young Classification Talk and Mini Club Assembly

Monday April 10 – Committees Meet

Monday April 24 – Nicola Ross, Halton Hikes, Loops and Lattes

TEAM 1 is in charge of meetings for

Feb., March and April

Rod, Rubina, Nicole, Margaret,

Carolyn, Syed and Madison

**Announcements:** Congratulations to Vino who has been appointed **ADG** for the next Rotary year. Well Done!! **Denim and Diamonds** tickets are moving… if all that are currently out sell, we will be at 160 and the committee is hoping to be at 150 plus our unpaying guests. Please remember to bring 2 bottles of wine for the auction. If you cannot make it to our Monday meeting, you can drop them off at Ingrid’s office. We are still in need of silent auction items, valued at $25 or higher please. Vino has informed us that thank you letters are ready for the **web auction donors.** We recently had a speaker from **Kids Against Hunger**, and have been asked to participate in a food packing event in May at St. George’s Church (Guelph Line and Derry Rd.) Carolyn will email more details. Carolyn also updated us on the **Community Fund** application that we submitted to support this organization’s November event and was pleased to report that we have made it through the first step. In the past year, we applied to the fund for three event tents, and due to a misunderstanding on the quote, we were only able to spend the money to get two tents, therefore about $900 of the $4,000 received will go back to the town. In relation to the **car raffle**, the lottery license application has been submitted and it will be about 2 weeks before we hear back. Ries also circulated a sponsor sheet for his participation in a Zumba challenge in support of **ROCK (Reach out centre for kids)**. Way to go Ries!! Blanche informed us that 13 schools have gotten back to her regarding the **grade 3 dictionary** program and her first presentation has already been done. Two schools including Boyne have dropped out. She is still looking for sponsors. FYI, 15 minutes at the start of our next regular meeting will be devoted to **Club Assembly** which was missed due to inclement weather in March. Finally, Vino has 100 children’s t-shirts that he wondered what we could do with… later it was decided they would be donated to Peter’s organization.

**Program:** Ries introduced our guest speaker, his neighbor and friend, Peter Mule who, together with his wife Denise run “Pack a Bag for a Friend” from their home. Lifelong Miltonians, Peter and Denise have been running this project for 14 years, starting out doing food drives for the first 10 years, involving the children they had in their home daycare setting. Then they changed to the backpacks and this past Christmas they filled and sent out 1,450 backpacks stuffed with all new merchandise for everyone from infants to adults. Items inside include; pj’s, hand knit hats, age appropriate book, water bottle, toiletries, etc. If the pj’s donated are seconds, they have volunteers who will sew on buttons etc. to make them perfect. Merchandise is collected all year long, and stored in the Mule’s basement (and throughout their home as that fills up!) and the former daycare kids help to sort, pack and label the bags, which are then turned over to charitable organizations such as Food 4 Kids, the Salvation Army, churches, shelters etc. They are hosting a Victorian Tea on April 9 at Country Heritage Park to raise money. Tickets are $25 and if you bring a pair of new pj’s to donate you will receive a draw ticket, possibly winning a pair of tickets to see Cirque du Soleil and have dinner at the Ancaster Old Mill. Fundraising like this, and through garage sales helps to ensure they can provide all new items. Ditto’s Boutique on Main St. supplies them with the “seconds” of pj’s. In the 4 years of the backpack project they started at 400 and gradually grew to their current size. Their goal this year is to produce 1,500 of the bags, with a target of 32 backpacks for each age and gender group. How can Rotarians help? Buy tickets and attend the Victorian Tea, donate cash and spread the word!! Thank you so much for joining us Peter and telling us more about this amazing project!

Following the program, Ries was officially presented with his President’s Award in place of the “ghost presentation” done at our 70th Anniversary celebration.

**S.A.A:** As SAA for the meeting I had no opportunity to note many details… however both Maitland and Rob were fined for lateness, and Blanche for talking during the meeting (her fine was paid by Carolyn who felt bad for “shushing” her!). Carolyn and Ries both also paid for having been out of the country.

**50/50:** In the instant win (red) draw, Sohail had the lucky ticket and went home with $15 in his pocket. In the big draw, for half of $248, it was Sohail again who had the right number, but he did not remain lucky enough to draw that white marble. Better luck to next week’s winner.

**Dates to Note:**

**Sunday April 9 – Pack a Bag for a Friend Victorian Tea at Country Heritage Park**

**Monday April 17 – no meeting Easter**

**Saturday April 22 – Denim and Diamonds Gala at Country Heritage Park**

**Friday May 5 – Rotary Club of Acton Gala**

**We want to have a full table from our club attend. Tickets are just $50**

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**To unsubscribe from this newsletter, email Rebecca at** **earlyfuneralhome@cogeco.net**

**Please See the Next Page for NEW TEAM information!!**

**TEAMS**

**Team One**

Captain – Rod McLachlan Feb. March & April 2017

Rubina Ali

Nicole Sylvester

Margaret Hamilton

Carolyn Keyworth

Syed Raza

Madison Twose

**Team Two**

Captain – Vino Khimasia May, June, July, August 2017

Ries Boers

Kirsti Fry

Rebecca Hunter

John Lintack

Rob Rubino

Maitland Spencer

**Team Three**

Captain – Romeo Mitchell January 2017 Sept. Oct. and Nov. 2017

Bill Hamilton

Sohail Naseer

Barb Saxby

Emmanuel Mensah

Rick Saxby

Each team is responsible for setting up the room (this includes bringing a snack of some description to go along with our wine. You will be reimbursed within reason.), providing a greeter, someone to say Grace, someone to lead O Canada, someone to introduce and thank the speaker and to provide suggested speakers to Rebecca for the weeks that she lets you know one is needed.