



Sue Ricketts

A 'thank you and farewell' commendation from our club

March 26, 2021

Sue Ricketts, a member of our Rotary Club of Guelph for the past 20 years, will be relocating from Guelph in a few weeks' time to live in Drayton with her daughter and son-in-law.

As one of most active and treasured club members, we'd like to take this opportunity to share some of Sue's history and say **Thank You for your Service Above Self**, Sue. It is hard to imagine our club meetings without your regular and friendly presence and your lovely singing voice.

Sue joined our club in November 2001 at the invitation of her client, Chandra Kothari (the former club member credited with starting Canada Day fireworks in Guelph). Sue loves to sing, so at the time she was invited to Rotary, an appealing aspect was that we were known as The Singing Club, having delightful club sing-alongs led by John Brubacher at weekly meetings.

Sue's official Rotary classification is "Insurance and Investments." In her 20 years with our club, Sue:

- Volunteered at almost every Rotary fundraiser over time
- Served on numerous club and district committees as both member and chair – the most recent being Chair of our World Service Committee
- Became a "go to" person in our club and district regarding Global Grants
- Became a Paul Harris Fellow

- Regularly attended Rotary training events and conferences, meeting other Rotarians and bringing good ideas back to our club
- Mentored many new Rotarians, sharing her knowledge of club, district and Rotary International operations
- Travelled to both Mexico and India on Rotary missions to administer polio vaccinations; and on the India trip in 2018, together with Nanita Mohan, they also checked up on our club's global grant projects there
- Sue has championed club communications, writing many of our club bulletins over the years and she personally set up our initial ClubRunner website when we switched over to that platform
- She served as our club's ShelterBox representative for 8 years
- She supported our club's Speaker Program and Audio Visual committees in the past, and also our club's involvement with the Science Fair

Outside of Rotary, Sue also

- Volunteered for 10 years with the Guelph Multicultural Festival
- Volunteered as a director on a number of local boards
- Volunteered at Guelph Wellington Victim Services

In the last couple of years, a number of health issues crept up for Sue requiring a several surgeries. Sadly, Sue's eyesight has deteriorated considerably and her low vision is now very challenging, preventing her from driving and impacting many other activities. Together with her family, Sue recently arrived at the decision to sell her condo in Guelph and move in with her daughter Suzanne and son-in-law Stephen in their lovely new home in Drayton. She is looking forward to having daily company and help on hand in her new dwelling, and hopes that her Guelph friends will look her up and stay in touch with her. And she has already reached out to the Drayton Rotary Club in advance to let them know she is coming their way!

Three more remarkable things about Sue are that:

1. Sue has pretty much been her own boss throughout her working life in her three main careers: first as a freelancer working from home and providing accounting, bookkeeping and computer programming services, then later owning and running two computer retail stores, and finally, in her most recent role, being a Life Insurance & Investment Advisor.
2. Sue is deeply interested in world cultures, as we have seen in her many different “international” activities, including chairing our club’s World Service Committee with such passion.
3. She is a lifelong learner and intrepid activist and is now actively engaged in matters concerning the challenges for people like herself living with low vision, and she has started advocating for service changes for the vision-impaired.

Sue, THANK YOU for your service to Rotary and to our community. We will miss you at the Rotary Club of Guelph, and you will ALWAYS be a welcome guest with us. We wish you a safe move to Drayton, and the very best in the time ahead.



2016, receiving a certificate of thanks from ShelterBox Canada.