



Unite for Good

WEEKLY MEETING Minutes

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Frank Adamson, Paul Allen, Bob Eamer, Hugh Graham, Don Haber, Philip Hanna, Annie Holtby, Fred Leppard, Randy Momot, Dave Schulz, Dave Sherlock, Mike Taylor, Guest Debbie Blakelot, Speaker – Tyler Snure, Youth Author,

1. Welcome to Tyler Snure, Youth Author and Guest Speaker! snurestories.com

2. Land Acknowledgement – Carolyn

We begin this gathering by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis and Inuit people and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people

3. National Anthem– ALL with Carolyn leading

4. 4-WAY TEST – Angela

Of the things we think, say, or do

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build good will and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

5. Invocation – Mike

6. Announcements.

Hugh. Home Show Booth Sat & Sun 11th & 12th. Angela offered chairs and covering.

Hugh. Annie is back for set up. No other Rotarian on Sunday. All Bandshell. Good opportunity. They've promised they're not sticking anyone in a corner. Thanks to Dave for volunteer signups.

Frank. Following Saturday is Great Lakes Clean Up 8 am-12 noon. We're donating the first \$5000 to the **Library** at a public presentation next week.

Paul S. There's a Cornhole meeting at Mossimo's on Thursday. We'll review Cornhole notes. Flyers handed out last week.

Mel. Nominations are open for **Paul Harris Fellow Awards**. Paul Harris is the founder of Rotary. Once a year we honour club members, community members who we feel live Rotary's Motto, Service Above Self. Usually no more than 5 are honoured each year. June 4th is our evening here in the Accursi Room. Nominations are open from now till April 30. **Changeover for New Rotary Year will be June 17th at Sons and Daughters.** Frank will become Past President and Angela new President for July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027.

Frank. Our New Rotary Flag will fly out in front of MCC for the first week in June. Our 35th Anniversary is June 11th.

7. Today's Presentation is by Tyler Snure, Author. Tyler explores why reading is important for children and teens. Fantasy novels help kids develop a love of reading! snurestories.com

Welcome, Tyler!

Tyler. It was the worst first date. Problem 1. It was the first for this 12-year-old. Problem 2. Popcorn was all over the floor. Problem 3. The Movie choice was The Nut Job. Wrong movie at the wrong time. Similarly, the truth is that **the Right Book in the hands of the Wrong Reader equals the Wrong Book! The Right Book can change someone's life!** I wrote 2 Fantasy Novels. (Here are a few books to browse while I'm talking) What do they have in common? Big dreams influence all readers. Celebrate those who like to read – LeBron, Mr. Beast, Kim Kardashian – lots of successful people read. It's an opportunity for success. How does Reading help? 1. Reading increases communication skills. 2. Reading increases chance of academic success and 3. Reading increases chance of better career choices.

WHY aren't more kids reading? Why are kids reading less than ever? TV? Everything is faster. Social Media/phones. Most kids spend 1/3 of their lives here. Bring in speakers who can share most of literature individually. Have an understanding of who in life is a real leader. Have an understanding of what kind of books appeal.

SIP Method – Short. Interest (align with his/her interest). Pacing (how many chapters/how many images per chapter.) Harry Potter which was hugely popular is not AS popular now – short attention span. Willy Wonka – kids like him. Reading is on decline for kids. But the right book in the right hands?

3 years ago, Tyler and his buddy graduated. Because of what happened years before, hi buddy graduated without ever reading an entire book. His mother asked him to read the first chapter of Tyler's The Jewels of Fate. Then he read the second chapter, then third - he'd never read before. Jewels of Fate are clean teen and YA fantasy series for fans of Harry Potter. Snure's Stack of Stories is Tyler's list of 15 **must** read books.

snurstories.com www.snurestories.com A reader reads 25-30 minutes 5 days minimum. A NON reader is less than that.

What was YOUR inspiration? Harry Potter. Hardy Boys. Mom read to me. I wrote a book when I was 5.

I'm not against technology. Use an X pad. Technology is a useful tool but it's used way too much today. I prefer kids read paperback to kindle but better kindle than no reading! Just not first go to.

I write for 12-15 year olds, some 9 and 10 year olds. 12-18. Graphic novels.

I went to university for 2 years but left to do this full time. No quarrel with books!

5 years to write my first book for 13-17 year olds. **3 ½ years for the 2nd. Now writing a third – a trilogy.**

I have ideas in head for next book but have to do one at a time.

Which groups do you speak to? I've spoken to 40 Rotary Clubs so far. I live in St Catharines. I have lots of clubs' support, Dolly Parton Books.

Motion to spend money on his books for the library. 2 sets for Library. Moved, Seconded, Carried.

Frank. Thanks so much!

Dave. Thanks so much! It's very important in our families.

Hugh. Very important to me and my son. House is full of books. I prefer books to hold. I like the length of chapter being important.

Bob. My wife does a lot of reading. Chris Hatfield is a favourite of mine. I suggest two sets of Tyler's books for the Library!

Mike. Thanks

Angela. Love reading to grandkids. Gave a book allowance to them.

Tutie. Biking to next town. BC was so exceptional. Great presentation, Tyler. I admire your ability at such a young age. I have no grands to read to yet. I'm a reader. Reading to scrolling.

Paul. What's a book for an 18 year old? Zak is going to Europe.

Tyler. Obama's List

Carolyn. If you see your parents, your grandparents, reading

Frank. I'm avid about Dallaire's new book.

Tyler. I'm happy about a short drive today.

Dave. My grandson Colt has spent time with kid with anxiety.

Annie. At Casa Dan here in Puerto, there's a library as you enter from the outside world. People bring books to leave behind, read books that others have brought that year or years earlier, always so much choice and many readers!

Frank. Thank you so much, Tyler. This year– we support the Canadian Legion Poppy Fund with our thank you to speakers.

8. Next Meetings

April 15. Weekly Meeting – Speaker, Stephen Cooper, Executive Director. Comfort Bears.

April 22. No Weekly Meeting.

April 29. Board Meeting, First Floor Concession, Everyone welcome.

May 6. Weekly Meeting. Toutie presenting and Habitat for Humanity, Madeline Gerbracht – a Double Header