



**WEEKLY MEETING**

January 20 2021– (Zoom 33)

**Zooming today:** Bob Eamer, Hugh Graham, Andy Glavac, Paul Snack, Annie Holtby, Ann Harrison, Kevin Crosby, Mel Groom, Ben Kerman, Barbara Ochterski, Lance Wiebe, Kevin Vallier, John Cappa, Keith McConkey, Frank Adamson, Heather Scott, Mike Taylor.

Regrets: David Schulz

1. **Open meeting:** – Welcome everyone. And welcome Kevin Crosby, Ben Kerman and Barbara Ochterski, our guest speakers from The Rotary Club of Buffalo Sunrise.
2. **Land Acknowledgement:** Ann  
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. **Toast:** Paul S.  
To the Queen and Canada, To the Office of the President of United States, and To the President of Rotary International
4. **4-WAY TEST:** Annie  
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?r
5. **Invocation:** Hugh. Peace. Rotary is about peace and friendships. Let us hope for peaceful transitions in all we do. May the Inauguration Day south of the border be a peaceful transition for our US friends. May peace be with us in our homes and families.
6. **President's Report/Correspondence/Announcements:**
  - Community project requests Right now we have had about a dozen responses with Women's Place and women's shelter prevailing.
  - District Grant Scholarship. This \$3000US Scholarship is for 1<sup>st</sup> year post secondary students. Applications must be received mid February. There must be no connection with any Rotarian; an essay is required as well as good character. Applications are adjudicated at District Level. Mike thought he had a potential candidate.
  - From last week's query about funding requests, the prevailing sentiment is to adjudicate requests twice a year. Noted was a request to have an emergency fund just in case.
  - Hugh will send out an email asking us to consider future plans for ourselves in Rotary. Where do you see yourself in 3-5 years?



- Temperanceville followup. Mike reported that he'd checked with the Town and it's OK to take down Temperanceville and return to storage/painting/repair. Just 5 volunteers and we have them. Meeting at 11 am at the Bandshell Saturday, Jan. 23.

7. Speaker: PDG Kevin Crosby, Ben Kerman Ph.D. – Solar Lights, Child & Maternal Health  
Introduction: Paul S. Thanks: Hugh

**Solar Lights Introduction:**

The world sometimes feels like a dark place, but they're spreading hope and light around the world! A group of Rotarians in Buffalo, NY are passionate about maternal and infant health and have initiated a project to solar-electrify 2 rural health clinics in Uganda to new moms and babies through an innovative program. Fellow Rotarians, from the Buffalo Sunrise Club, Kevin Crosby and Ben Kerman, are excited to share their story about this unique project they are leading to provide Solar Lights, Child and Maternal Health in Africa.

Kevin Crosby joined Rotary in 2005. He is a member, and Past President, of the Rotary Club of Buffalo - Sunrise and has served in numerous positions at the district level including District Governor in 2015-16. Kevin continues to serve on a number of district committees and is a faculty member of the Rotary Leadership Institute. He has received the PHF +5.

Kevin is a Partner at Full Circle Studios – a digital media production company in Western New York and lives in East Amherst, NY with his wife, Nancy. They have four adult children and six grandchildren.

Ben Kerman is a Clinical Psychologist, past clinical fellow, and adjunct faculty member at the Yale Child Study Center. He has been a consultant on program development, evaluation and learning strategies with private and community foundations, human service and education nonprofits, and impact investors. Ben was Head of Global Strategic Learning and Evaluation where he created programs in the areas of Children and Youth, Aging, Population Health, Human Rights and social change and leadership development. He is a member of the Boards of Directors at Let There Be Light International and The Partnership for the Public Good.

**Welcome Gentlemen to the Rotary Club of Fonthill.**

**Solar Lights, Child & Maternal Health Presentation**

Click on the Link above for their visual presentation. This project in Uganda where 85% of the population is off the grid will bring light to the clinics and hospitals for birthing mothers and their newborns as it will allow the clinic to stay open at night. With the lack of electricity, people at home resort to kerosene. This creates soot which is a health hazard to those breathing it and the mosquito nets which are flammable are then not used and there's a heightened possibility of Malaria. When the women have their babies in a clinic, they are given a solar light to bring home and that one light has an effect on everyone who lives in that home - an economic, educational, health and nutritional benefit. The light also empowers women in the decision making in the home and village/town. The project only uses Equipment certified by a lab so that equipment lasts a long time. Those receiving a solar lamp have to commit to replacing the battery when its life is over. If it breaks, they do replace the lamp. Co-ownership is to ensure



lamp is taken care of. They are rigorous with follow-up. One of the project's goals is to also build local champions for outreach and advocacy.

8. Birthdays: Janet (Jan 2); Hugh (Jan 28)  
Rotary Anniversaries: Mel (Jan 6/16); Andrew (Jan 21/09); John (Jan 22/20); Dave (Jan 23/19)
  
9. Rotary Moment – Paul S. Important Dates You may not Know.
  - 1905: Chicago attorney Paul P. Harris convenes the first Rotary meeting in Chicago.
  - 1907: The Rotary Club of Chicago installs city comfort stations to improve sanitation as the first community service project
  - 1924: The Rotary logo is redesigned into today's gearwheel emblem.
  - 1935: Rotary's First International Club, The Boundary Club is established between the US and Canada
  - 1943: Rotary International officially adopts The Four Way Test
  - 1945: A group of 49 Rotarians help draft the United Nations Charter.
  - 1962: Rotaract for young people was founded
  - 1985: Rotary launches PolioPlus to fund the operational, social mobilization, and training efforts required to eradicate polio in the world.
  - 1989: Women join Rotary.
  - 1991: The Rotary Club of Fonthill receives its Charter
  - 1994: Canada is declared Polio Free
  - 2002: Europe is declared polio-free
  - 2020: The Fonthill Club holds its first 'Virtual Meeting'. This on-line chat room was meant to be a short-term solution to allow gathering at a distance and to socially connect during a pandemic. The Hollywood Square format allows semi-dressed Rotarians to convene and broadcast themselves from small cubby-holes located deep in their eclectic basements. Who knew it would ever come to this??  
That's my Rotary Moment!

Happy Loonies: Paul S. **In light of these difficult times, let's talk about something for which we are thankful.**

Cherishing the simple moments; **Living on a crescent and seeing friendly neighbours out walking;** Health and Well Being of family; **Health and Happiness and engaging with Brian Kon re future indigenous education;** Hockey's back; **Quieter time with daughters;** No one I know has been infected; **Spending more time with my mom;** Family, friends, fellowship, inauguration across the border; **Thankful for peace, for a comfortable home for riding out COVID;** Connectivity; **Delivering Cookie/now Leo the kitty, to Dave;** Watching Inauguration with hopes of stability and partnerships to the South; **Technology – Toronto kids call every day, St Catharines daughter texts every day;** Thanks to Rotary friends across the river; **Thanks to the frontline workers in hospitals, grocery stores, etc.**

10. **Action items:** Follow up when Hugh's email arrives asking about where you'd like to be in Rotary in the next five years. **ACTION: EVERYONE**