



**SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES**

ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL

WEEKLY MEETING MINUTES

July 14th, 2021 (Zoom meeting 53)

ZOOMING Nancie Taylor, Keith McConkey, Hugh Graham, Mike Taylor, Ann Harrison, Annie Holtby, Jennifer Allen, Angela Carter, Paul Allen, Greti Zsikla, Pat Duncan, Mel Groom, Michael Jacques, Jason Thompson, Bob Eamer, Paul Snack, Janet Cripps, Frank Adamson, Kevin Vallier, Troy Killick, and Andy Glavac.

1. **Open meeting:** – Welcome Greti, Jennifer, Nancie, Angela and Michael on his first meeting.

2. **Land Acknowledgement: Pat**

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 A**

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: Paul A**

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: Pat**

Lord, bless this gathering of fellow Rotarians today. Please help us to see those in need and give us the strength and wisdom to serve our community as we should. Help us to lift the burdens of others while we maintain the dignity of humankind. Soften our hearts to be sensitive and loving as we serve together as Rotarians. Amen

6. **President's Report/Correspondence/Announcements:**

- a.) **Thank you - Hugh's 30 year report** summary is on website as well. It reminds us of all our service. A link was shared by Dave to get to the report on Clubrunner. [About Our Club:](#)

Canada Day. Lance said that it was a virtual parade. 5 Rotarians waved the flag and danced to Lance's marching band music all morning. Dave posted a link. [About Our Club:](#) **Move to Wellspring** for supplies. Thanks to Lance, Mel and Annie who put everything back on the new shelves now in Wellspring. Thanks to team for setting up.

Butterfly Garden headed by Troy and Michelle at Wellspring also has photos at [About Our Club:](#)

- b.) **Information from Board Meeting** - request for committee members
Highlight was Ann's meeting beforehand with Randy. He will continue on as treasurer but is asking for help with signing privileges and day to day business. Paul with new **Fundraising** Committee also needs people for his committee too.
- c.) **Business Meeting - July 21st, 2021**
Next week there is no guest speaker. We'll be outlining work that needs to be done going forward.

7. Guest Speaker - Greti Zsikla - Exchange Student Update

Intro and Thanks by Mike Taylor You'll see how Greti captured the hearts and minds of all of us. She's why we LOVE the Youth Exchange Program.

Greti Zsikla - Exchange Student

I'm happy to be here. Really miss all of you. Still planning on visiting back soon! Whenever you feel like visiting Hungary, let me know. We have a flat in Budapest. Angela visited me both in Budapest and home town which is 2 hours away. I graduated this year and will start University in the fall – Economics – I'm very interested in that. I'm sharing a room with my brother. We have 2 rooms but we're looking at renting it to another to cover the loan.

Paul A. On return to Hungary, did you make a presentation to your Rotary Club? **Greti.** Yes. I wasn't the only one who went on Youth Exchange so there were 3 of us. I was the only one for a year's exchange; the other two were on a 3 month's exchange.

Mike. What did you like the most? **Greti.** The trips with the Rotary Club, quality time with my hosts and families. I felt carefree every day. Here, I have to study, think of the future. In Canada, I lived for the day. I don't think I'll have that feeling again. Everyone was so nice. 'How are you?' Such a nice greeting. I liked every day. **Mike.** What was most difficult? **Greti.** Every moving was hard. I knew at end it was all for the best. I had a feeling I could come back to the host family but I wouldn't know the inside jokes! Each host family was fantastic. Hardest day was leaving day. I got really sad on the way to Toronto airport. I was happy to see my family but would cry occasionally.

Hugh. While in Canada, what was most interesting? **Greti.** Maple Syrup Sticks on an ice cream float – so sweet, too sweet!

Mike. In Sault Ste. Marie, Greti commented on the food fairy. **Greti.** Mike's mom.

Nancie. What's your university going to look like? **Greti.** It's a 4 year program. 3 years then Master's probably. It's a point based system. To get into Economics, the points needed last year were 410. I have 456/500 so it's likely I'll get in.

Angela. I visited 1½ weeks after Greti got back. Her family couldn't do enough for me. I could see her adjusting to being back. Thank you, Greti, for that. Hope to get back and hope *you'll* come back. You're always welcome.

Greti. I'm more open to new things. I'm more comfortable to say yes to things outside my comfort zone. Canada is the least judgmental country. They accept everyone. They think the best of everyone before meeting them. I think I'm better at that than before.

Mike. We went to Whiskey Rock, with a cliff 25-30' high. I told Greti that Eli would jump off. She said 'it's high, I'm afraid, I'll do it!' Mike knew then she'd have a great year.

Carolyn. Tess can attest to the help with Math from Greti. Now they have another country to consider!

Ann. Covid year made a virtual grad at EL Crossley. What was your final few months like this year? **Greti.** It was different than previous years. We had graduation ceremony in a garden so safer than inside. We couldn't have as many relatives – 2 instead of 6. Other than that we had a normal grad. Schools opened in May.

Mel. We did a purge but you took your quilt home. What was the feeling like when you shared? **Greti.** They were amazed. I was really proud, I'm afraid to use it because of the dogs and cats so I use it in my room and I'm bringing it to Budapest. I'm also planning to join a sewing or crocheting course because I still like this. I like the chat and sewing every week. It was really special. **Jennifer.** It's special to see you! I enjoyed our time together. Let the cats and dogs on it and throw it in the wash. **Greti.** I don't want to risk it. **Jennifer.** You'll have it forever then.

Greti. It's nice to know most of you are already safe. When Covid came along, I thought of you a lot. I was worried about you all. **Angela.** How are things with Covid? **Greti.** We're back to normal. 5.5 million/10 million have been vaccinated. Probably many don't want to get vaccination. Earlier card said they were vaccinated – access to restaurants, etc. A week ago the government said the card wasn't needed in everyday life anymore, just for travel – not sure if it's a good decision. How is it there?

Angela. We're still wearing masks, restaurants are opening, students back to school in fall; many have vaccinations so it feels good. Grateful to be in Canada! **Greti.** Here, there is a fear of the delta variant. After 3 weeks it usually comes from Germany. We're hoping that because of vaccinations that there is more protection. 16-18 year olds – at what age is Canada starting? **Angela.** Here it's now 12 and up.

Greti. Video chat is good. Would love to see you. If you can make it over, wonderful!

8. **Rotary Moment and Happy loonies – Kevin.** Very inspiring! It's been a tough while for Canada and Canadians in reflecting on our past. It's refreshing to hear Greti say how much she loved Canada and Angela for comment about being glad to be here – land of the Canadians!

Angela. Quiet happy moment. Greti will always be part of our family.

Mike. To see Greti here brings back the fantastic times. On a funnier side, I had to make 102 jars of pickles. I only have one more week before 2 weeks off so cramming a lot in! I'll be relieved to be on vacation!

Hugh. Thanks, Greti. I remember your dessert at the end of the year at Mel's. Delicious. I'm a dessert person too. Shout out to Claudio and his detailing at Elite.

Pat. Lovely to see you. Congrats on your English – it's come a long way! I remember you coming in native dress and teaching us a dance – the women got up! (Carolyn has the video)

Mel. One thing Zoom doesn't do is hugs and Greti has the best hugs. Say hi to your parents.

Bob. Greti, thanks for sharing. Always enjoyed chatting at breakfast meetings. Also, with Mary Simon as Governor General, I look forward to accordion music coming from the GG Residence.

Paul S. Nice to see you, Greti. Zak and Lori say hi. I'm drawing a name from this bag for a draw for 1, 2 or perhaps 3 Zucchini's. Bob Eamer won!

Annie. Wonderful to see you Greti and wonderful to see a shining example of what Youth Exchange is all about. So proud that we support our youth.

Janet. Crossley misses you. Happy moment. We are so happy to be born in Canada. Happy about the vaccine. Best of luck, Greti!

Frank. Greti, great to see you again! Once I arrived late at night in Budapest with the city lit up. Beautiful. Kwik Fit is open this Friday and I'm very happy. It's also nice to be back.

Dave. Being part of this meeting makes me so proud to be part of this club and happy Angela is here – not a member any longer but definitely family.

Michael. I'm happy to be part of the Club and to hear Greti's experience. Very cool.

Jason. Happy to meet Greti – she's a bright light. Don't know how I'll top Paul's zucchini raffle!

Kevin: Kids are playing ball across the street.

Paul A. Shout out to Greti for her share. Look forward to seeing you over there!

Carolyn. University of Guelph registration system crashed. Tess and I zipped up to Guelph with furniture to her new house and she's in the smallest room.

Ann. The entire family is double vaccinated.

9. No birthdays or wedding anniversaries listed in Club Runner for July

Rotary Anniversaries: Lance July, 2004; Pen Financial Corporate Membership July 2020

Next Meetings:

Wednesday, July 21st Business Meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, July 28th Social Meeting at Peace Park in the Bandshell area. - 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Bring your own chairs - bring your own food/snacks/beverages (other than water)- bring your family/partner/children - we will provide water and desserts.

<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/289/Event/regular-club-meeting-9> to register.