

“Where everyone is kin; with a sense of worth, over all the Earth”

~ adapted from Robert Burns/Gordon McNally, RI President 2023-24

WEEKLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday September 20, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

Collins Acheampong, Paul Snack, Hugh Graham, Ann Harrison, Gail Levay, Dave Schulz, Troy Killick, Bob Eamer, Carolyn Mullin, Mel Groom, Annie Holtby, Satoka Hayashi, Lance Wiebe, Frank Adamson, Michele D. Starwalt-Woods.

1. **Welcome Satoka Hayashi**, Our 2023-24 Youth exchange Student and Michele D Starwalt-Woods, District Chair for Membership and DGN 20250-26

2. **Land Acknowledgement Ann**

We begin this gathering by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee (Hoe-de-ne-show-knee) and Anishinaabe (Ah-nish-nah-bee) 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 & National Anthem Dave**

- a) To the King and Canada, To the Office of the President of the United States, and To the President of Rotary International
- b) National Anthem

4. **4-WAY TEST Dave**

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 Paul**

Service happens in laughter and friendship.
Service happens in quiet conviction.
Service happens with firm intention.
Service happens in growing kinship
to all humanity in attention.
to Service Above Self.

6. **President's Report, Correspondence and Announcements Carolyn.**

Announcements. Michele D Starwalt-Woods Magnificent Membership Zoom Meeting. 12-1 or 7-8 Monday, September 25th.

Last Ride for Wellspring for Tour de Lac. Frank. 150 km, from 7 am to 420 pm. For next year, we're in preliminary talks with Singleton and Steve Bauer. Wellspring is starting an endowment fund. **Participate for Polio.** On the Canadian side, it will start at St David's and end at N-O-T-L. 2 hour bike ride with goal of raising funds to end polio. There will also be **Paddle for Polio** on the US side

REMINDER for October 4th. Please attend our meeting as District Governor Scott Marcin will be with us. He will be inducting 2 new members that day as well.

Golf Tournament. September 15th. Hugh said there'd probably be \$10,000 at least going to Niagara Childrens Centre. He spoke with the executive director. She'd love to come and talk to us or we could go to their premises! **Hugh** presented a 'hole' flag to Scott Marcin, DG. We're trying to sell them all! Vermeer sponsored \$500 – he holds the tournament for Rose City Kids.

Purse Bingo. 144 confirmed to play. We have 3 tables left. All purses are sponsored. There's one extra basket with an \$850 value so far. Date is November 10th from 6-10 pm at MCC. When talk turned to eats, Bob suggested White Meadows Charcuterie Boards.

Question about Auction signs. Hugh. we have a more friendly website this year going forward and we'll have new **lawn signs that will pop out!**

Closure of Auction on the last day - December 2. **Closure** might pose a problem if all items are closed at the same time. Annie and Hugh will bring it up at our next Auction meeting on October 3rd.

Possible Guest Speaker on October 18th is a **Youth entrepreneur.**

7. **Rotary Auction Niagara** is the new name for our Auction. It's the first year it will be on line ONLY. For you, our donor solicitors, making the call on donors, your past ones and new ones and for newer members, new donors, is **our starting point.** The documents Hugh gave out are **VERY IMPORTANT!** And very **helpful!** The Canvasser paper is yours so you can follow the steps. The Donor's sheet is to get all the information about the Donor and the Donation Page is the description of the item or gift certificate. Both those need to be filled in and confirmed that there will be a donation. Hugh will send electronic copies so you can either print your Donor Form and the Donation Form so you can approach Donors **OR** you can canvas by sending Donors the copies of the form with a message to these potential or repeat donors. Your choice. Here is the link to our earlier PPT that gives an overview of how things will work this year.

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/289/Documents/en-ca/bee4c923-a349-479a-b923-cbc86d2e5057/1/> (this is a repeat!)

Dave and Clubrunner. The best way to find what's happening is to go to Clubrunner, select Events and then Calendar. Dave publishes news items as well that no longer reach beyond Canadian borders. He would like to create a backdoor to Clubrunner.

Hugh, Mel, Mike and Lance have formed a committee for making sure everything is set up in the morning. Microphone is ours. Everything else belongs to MCC.

Rotaract's Niagara chapter is struggling right now. Hamilton Rotaract is doing well – events for young professionals. Collins is continuing to meet with Niagara Rotaract.

District Grant for Tree Planting. We want to take advantage of spring events at MCC with our 400 trees.

Strategic Plan. Historically, Angela Carter led us through our planning and initial follow-up. Now we have an opportunity to work with **Leadership Niagara**. *Collins will be our point person.

October 4th. **District Governor Scott Marcin** will be here for his prearranged meeting with our Fonthill Club. (DG meets with every club at least once during is year) He will be inducting new members Tracy Holmwood and Crystal Lambkin. We will meet as a board after that.

Fundraising – there is a need for leadership.

Bi Annual Fees. Right now, we send out invoices for two payments a year – July 1st and January 1st at \$150 per term. Of this \$300, we pay Dues to Rotary International, the District and the Foundation. That cost with the US\$ exchange comes to \$352.36. It used to be that Happy Loonies would make up the difference but that is not happening now. We need to increase our fees and are proposing January's fee payment increase to \$200.

M/S/C To raise fees to \$200 this coming January 1, 2024.

8. **Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies Troy**

Annie enjoyed the golf tournament. Good weather, good company, good prizes and play!

Collins was on the Strategic Planning call last night. I'm excited to be working on the Strategic Plan.

Paul thanked Hugh and Annie for their behind the scenes work on the Auction.

Bob was happy to play golf. He got the only prize in his foursome. Secondly, as a Rotarian, when he hears what's going on in the world, he thinks 'if only we could practice the 4 way test and make things better.'

Lance just returned from Haida Gwaii, a bucket list destination for both Judy and Lance. Perfect weather, perfect visit!

Frank was happy that his daughter had been here from England for 9 days. Last time was 6 years ago. Welcome to anyone who can make the Polio Ride.

Mel. Rick's dad, 93, is taking treatment for colon cancer and is doing well.

Gail. Thanks Hugh and Sandy, I'm happy we're planting trees. It was our first project as a club in 1991.

Michele. This is my favourite club. I remember Penne our long standing secretary who used to help with Chautauqua - she would tell each class each year that they were the best class ever!

Dave. Most people find it difficult when people move on. Because we're family, people who leave are still there as friends of Rotary, as volunteers – they're **our extended family**.

Carolyn. Speaking of family, we have 32 members from my mother's side coming this Sunday including cousin from as far away as Taipei. We're looking forward.

Troy. It's great that Niagara Childrens Centre was the Beneficiary of the Golf Tournament!

9. **Next Meeting is September 27, Terry Dow, Leadership Niagara.**

Meeting October 4th. DG Scott Marcin's Fonthill Visit and induction of two new members. Please welcome our new members and our visiting District Governor, Scott Marcin.