

# ROTARY HAMILTON AM NEWSLETTER



March 2020, Vol. 2 Issue 3



Photo credit: Dave Gruggen Photography

## Club Executive

President

Michael Howes

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John Dalgleish

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Catherine Jeske

Past President

Anne Bermingham

Directors

Michelle Austin

Shayna Beeksma

Celine Legret

Paul Lakin

Clare Freeman

District 7090

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Frank Adamson (Fonthill)

## March is Rotary Water and Sanitation Month

Clean water and sanitation is a human right. When people, especially children, have access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, they lead healthier and more successful lives.

We don't just build wells and walk away. Rotary members integrate water, sanitation, and hygiene into education projects. When children learn about disease transmission and practice good hygiene, they miss less school. And they can take those lessons home to their families, expanding our impact.

Mark your calendar for April 17<sup>th</sup> when our club will join other clubs in our district for The Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup. This initiative is an effort that has grown from a District 7090 service project covering a small portion of Lake Ontario and Erie to a multi-district plan to focus Rotarians' attention to all 5 of the Great Lakes and streams and waterways feeding them. Our goal is to make this the single largest cleanup event ever planned and coinciding with Earth Day 2021 on the Great Lakes Watershed. The Great Lakes contains almost 20% of the world's fresh water and is arguably the largest source of fresh water on the planet. It borders 8 states and 2 provinces and has 9,577 miles (15,323 kilometers) of shoreline. So far 15 Districts, 100's of Clubs, and thousands of Rotary volunteers have agreed to participate. We will be joining over one billion people worldwide working on projects together in their communities on Earth Day.

Trash, plastics, and other littered items plague our waterways. This trash poses a threat to terrestrial and aquatic life, often becomes microplastics and harmful toxins, and pollutes one of the most precious and limited natural resources. Shopping carts, tires, furniture, trash, foam cups, plastic containers, and aluminum cans contaminate our waterways and greenways. More than 22 million pounds (48.4 million kilograms) of trash and plastic pollution ends up in the Great Lakes each year. Join us on April 17<sup>th</sup> to make a difference in one of our most important local natural resources.

Rotary



Wednesdays 7:30am – 8:30am

Meeting via Zoom – <https://zoom.us/j/97313165265>

Take Action: <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/294>

## Member Spotlight – Darren Slemko



In the early part of my career, I did what you are supposed to do after completing a degree in business with a specialty in Finance, I went to work in the Capital Markets with the big banks. This led to a successful career at a mid market Investment Banking firm, and then as a CFO for the award-winning global cleantech company. I am entrepreneurial by nature and took as many ownership stakes as I could in the organizations I worked with, but I knew that eventually I wanted to run my own business.

I never imagined that the business I would purchase would be one that specialized in providing sanitation supplies to some of southern Ontario's leading organizations, but it happened. I bought Tennier Sanitation in 2018. I knew it was a good fit, an 80-year-old Hamilton company, with deep ties to the community I grew up in. It was an opportunity to be hands-on and grow a business with an exceptional team and support the community in ways in which I could not before. I've never looked back.

Over the last three years and through this Pandemic, Tennier has always tried to give back to the community and help causes that are close to our hearts. In 2020 I was introduced to Rotary Club and was invited to be a guest speaker. Following my presentation, I knew the Rotary would be part of my life moving forward. I would be able to connect with business and community leaders who have an impact on change and giving back. More importantly, I knew that Rotary aligned with my business and personal goals, beliefs about lifelong learning, establishing relationships, and building communities.

On February 10<sup>th</sup> I was graciously inducted into the Rotary Club. I am looking forward to taking on a greater role in Rotary Club of Hamilton!

### Rotaract

Rotaract originally began as a Rotary International youth program in 1968 at Charlotte North Rotary Club in Charlotte, North Carolina, United States, and has grown into a major organization of over 10,904 clubs spread around the world and over 203,000 members in 189 countries. We recognize this history with Rotaract week March 8 – 14.

Rotaract clubs bring together people ages 18 and older to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service.

In communities worldwide, Rotary and Rotaract members work side by side to take action through service. From big cities to rural villages, Rotaract is changing communities like ours.

Rotaract members decide how to organize and run their clubs, manage their own funds, and plan and carry out activities and service projects. Rotary club sponsors offer guidance and support and work with Rotaract clubs as partners in service.

### An Evening With Tom Wilson

Many thanks to our club for supporting our fundraising event on February 25<sup>th</sup>. We raised over \$6,500 for our club projects!

This was an opportunity to enjoy a delicious three course meal from La Piazza Allegra and an intimate, interactive show by the talented singer, songwriter and author Tom Wilson.

In lieu of pay, our club has made a donation to Tom's Indigenous Scholarship fund at McMaster University. You are encouraged to support this fund if you are able.

<https://tomwilsononline.com/scholarship/>



## Netflix Notables (with some regular TV) – Contributed by Mark Ewer

"Big Sky" is back!

The latest season of this excellent murder mystery is now available. If you fancy female detectives and some quirky killers, this could be for you. Sex trafficking in middle America that just doesn't go as planned, for any of the parties. I'm hoping the bad guys lose but we aren't quite finished this season yet.

"Virgin River" may whet your whistle. Ever think of moving out to almost no where to escape bad history? Also, if you like the interplay between small town know-it-all doctors and stand-their-ground nurse practitioners, you will enjoy this one. Hope you don't mind the small town gossip that comes with such a setting. Jack's Grill is the happening place in town- you just want to be there!

"Burden of Truth" is another mystery type- this time it is a high powered female lawyer who escapes to a small town to fight against the town's major polluter, and her dictator father also. Of course, there is a secondary love interest, Joanna finally succumbs to the charms of her local lawyer partner whose name is "Billy".

These last two almost fit the "chick flick" category but I totally enjoyed them. That either says something about quality of the shows - or about me! Hmm!

## CELEBRATIONS

### Birthdays

Ruth Liebersbach March 6

Angelo Misale March 7

Shayna Beeksma March 10

### Rotary Anniversaries

Cameron Nolan March 1, 1996

Don Grennan March 16, 2011

Marta Stiteler March 16, 2011

### Happy Stories!

**Mark E. and Celine L. have reported happy stories of losing weight during a pandemic. Have any of the rest of us found those lost pounds??**

Special Evening St. Patrick's Day Club Social  
Wednesday March 17<sup>th</sup>



### Irish Humour from Mike Shea

IRISH: I had the right to remain silent....but being IRISH I didn't have the ability!

What did our parents do when they were bored with no internet? I asked my 18 brothers and sisters, and they didn't know either.

It doesn't matter how big your house is, how much money you have, or that you wear expensive clothes. Our graves will be the same size. Stay Humble.

## March 2020 Guest Speakers and Member Meeting Responsibilities

Date	Speaker	Front Desk 1	Front Desk 2	4 - Way Test	Invocation	Intro- Speaker	Sergeant at Arms
March 3	Councillor Farr	Cathy Jeske	Martina Jobity-Mayers	Jennifer Kinnunen	Paul Lakin	Celine Legret	Cameron Nolan
March 10	TBD	Sharon Levy-Cohen	Ruth Liebersbach	Tim McClement	Janet McNaught	Dan Millar	John Janisse
March 17	St. Patrick's Social	Angelo Misale	John Mokrycke	Cameron Nolan	John Mokrycke	Paul Reardon	Norm Geddes
March 24	Ian Walker	Shikha Sareen	Irene Stayshyn	Frank Stechey	Marta Stiteler	Tom Tweedie	John Mokrycke
March 31	Club Assembly	Michelle Austin	John Baxter	Shayna Beeksma	Anne Bermingham	Yolanda Czyzewski-Bragues	Paul Lakin

# Blast from the Past!



*Al, Marta and Jane at a past conference*

## Rotary District Conference 2021

Do not miss out on your opportunity to join the district conference this year virtually.

“If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door,” said comedian Milton Berle.

Building and Opening DOORS, is what Rotarians do!

The conference built around 4 ‘doors’ will run over four sessions between March 15<sup>th</sup> and March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Register today at**

<https://rotary7090.org/sitepage/virtual-district-conference>

## Guinness

In 18<sup>th</sup> century Ireland, it was hard to find good beer. (And some say in the North today, it's still the same, I fear)

But one thing changed on New Years Eve.

In 1759:

When Arthur Guinness bought a derelict brewery for a dime.

Well, 45 sterling really,

Not too bad my dears,

Given that the lease was good

For nine thousand years

Ten million pints a day are drunk

Around the world, and that's meant

A pretty good return

On Arthur Guinness's investment



## Thank you to our sponsor!



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