

ROTARY HAMILTON AM NEWSLETTER



May 2021, Vol. 2 Issue 5



Photo credit: Dave Gruggen Photography

Club Executive

President
Michael Howes

President Elect/Treasurer
John Dalgleish

Secretary
Catherine Jeske

Past President
Anne Bermingham

Directors
Michelle Austin
Shayna Beeksma
Celine Legret
Paul Lakin
Clare Freeman

District 7090
District Governor
Frank Adamson (Fonthill)

May is Youth Service Month

Rotary has many ways to support youth, learn more about them.

INTERACT - Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club comprised of 14-18 year olds. Interact gives young people the opportunity to take part in fun, meaningful service projects. Along the way, Interactors develop their leadership skills and initiative while meeting new friends.

ROTARACT - Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 18-30. Rotaract clubs are usually community or university-based and are sponsored by a local Rotary club, making them true “partners in service” and key members of the Rotary family. Rotaract is one of the fastest-growing programs of Rotary service with more than 9,500 Rotaract Clubs with 291,000 members in 177 countries.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE - Rotary Youth Exchange is an excellent and inexpensive way for high school age students to travel and study in a foreign country. Youth exchange gives the participant the opportunity to experience another culture while acting as an ambassador for their home country. Each year the Rotary Districts that are part of CSRYE send approximately 300 young people to other countries and accept 300 young people from other countries in return.

RYLA - Started in Queensland, Australia in 1959 and officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, the RYLA program enables young people to debate issues of professional responsibility and human relations, improve leadership and communication skills, learn about businesses or institutions and meet Rotarians, while having fun and making friends. Young people are chosen for their leadership potential to attend a seminar, camp or workshop to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice.



Wednesdays 7:30am – 8:30am

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

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

Member Spotlight – Tim McClemon – still need

I've been a member of the Rotary Club of Hamilton AM for 24 years. Ellard McBane got me



Promoting Safety and Healing at Inasmuch House,
Mission Services' Violence Against Women Shelter:
Updating and Renovating LEAF Program Spaces.
An Update Report for The Rotary Club of Hamilton AM
Dear Friends,

Thank you for turning our Learning Effective Anti-Violence in Families (LEAF) rooms into warm, inviting spaces that are conducive to helping women and children heal from trauma, and learn how to prevent violence in the future.

Your gift of \$10,000 enabled us to purchase new flooring, furnishings, and lights needed to create refreshed and more appealing program areas.

When spaces look safe and cared for, those who enter are more likely to feel safe and cared for as well.

Since the renovation and refresh was completed, LEAF staff have heard many positive things from women and children, such as "the space is so relaxing", "I could stay here all day", and "It's so pretty!" Staff also get people knocking on their door often, just to ask to hang out in the rooms now!

All of it is thanks to you! Thank you for giving families safe, beautiful areas to feel more open to learning, healing, and growing.

Gratefully,
Carol Cowan-Morneau



Here are some more photos of the beautiful new spaces that were made possible thanks to you!

Thank You!



Impact of Rotary – by John Mokrycke

My high school friend, Sandy Marincic introduced me to Rotary in 1990. Our club, Hamilton Mountain Sunrise was started in 1989, and met at the Hillcrest Restaurant and Banquet Centre at Upper Wellington and Concession Street. Our membership was around 25 people at the time that I joined. Somehow, by 1992, I became President Elect. The incoming President that year, whom I think was Duncan Beattie, was not able to attend the 1992 International Convention in Mexico City. The club asked me to go. Mexico City, at that time was known to be a very violent place. The hotel staff warned me not to walk the streets outside the hotel after dark. I decided to include the daylight hours also. A Rotary bus stopped at the hotel. Upon arriving at the convention hall, I was stunned at the vast number of people in attendance from almost every country word wide. Twenty thousand good people were now diluting the treacherous Mexico City streets.

This first conference was for me an extraordinary introduction to the selfless work of Rotarians in all corners of our planet. Out-going President, Paulo Costa, an Architect, I think, had initiated in his year the 'Preserve Planet Earth' program, where 50 million trees were planted during his term. During a plenary session, John Denver performed, and received recognition for his work on behalf of humanity. Keynote speaker Secretary General to the United Nations, Javier Perez de Cuellar, told the attending Rotary family that the world is indebted to Rotary for it's ongoing humanitarian works internationally. I was a year away from becoming club President, and now much more aware of the potential for Rotary's ability to affect positive change, across borders and within a club's own community.

At an evening Mariachi party I met Jim Cimba, who was the incoming President of the Rotary Club of Hamilton AM. We bonded over north-end Hamilton stories, and lots of Mexican beer. We still do that today....except I have switched to wine. The conference was an explosion of stories from all corners of the world, about Rotarians giving their time and infinite skills toward the planet and it's people. These stories were delivered by highly eloquent and passionate individuals, but none more so than the incoming President, Rajendra Saboo. When he spoke, on the last day of the conference, his words inspired me so intensely as he passionately informed the attending twenty thousand Rotarians, about the power of Rotary through it's worldwide initiatives. To me that day, it was as if Gandhi was there on that stage, so far away from where I was sitting.

In 1996, I moved to the Hamilton AM club. One of my favorite Rotary programs is Group Study Exchange, and soon after joining the AM club, I began assisting with the hosting of the teams visiting our city. When a group from India came, I developed an instant friendship with the team members. In 2000, my son Peter and I travelled to India and Pakistan. I had lived in Karachi in 1981, and was returning to visit with friends, but the Indian portion of this adventure was a reconnection with the entire Indian GSE team. In India for two weeks, Peter and I moved between each of the team member's homes, visiting with their friends and touring local places of interest. When we were staying at the GSE team leader's house in Chandigarh, he informed me, during a humerous family dinner, that I was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Chandigarh the following evening. That message wasn't funny! That next day I did walk up onto a stage, in front of one hundred and fifty, or so, Rotarians, and I talked about Hamilton, Rotary, and the wonderful experiences Rotary had given me, including meeting the GSE team. Sitting in the front row was Rajendra Saboo. I did not know that this was his club, and that he would be there. At the end of the meeting Past International President Rajendra Saboo came up to me and thanked me for my presentation, and invited me to his home for a reception for Peter and I.

Rotary is a very extraordinary organization of people from almost every country in the world. It's an enormous organization of a vast number of talented people working to enhance the human condition. Equally, Rotary has this beautiful intimacy, allowing for collaboration and friendship opportunities worldwide, no matter what your community status may be. When attending a morning session at the International Rotary convention in 2002, in Barcelona, Rajendra Saboo noticed me within this crowded assembly, came over and invited me to join him for lunch that day. At the same table was the keynote speaker, Mikhail Gorbachev.

May 2021 Guest Speakers and Member Meeting Responsibilities

Date	Speaker	Front Desk 1	Front Desk 2	4 - Way Test	Invocation	Intro- Speaker	Sgt. At Arms
May 5	Maktaba Project Nairobi, Kenya by Robert Morrow	Paul R.	Shikha S.	Irene S.	Frank S.	Marta S.	Paul L.
May 12	Patrick Galvin- Joint Meeting- Brantford Sunrise McMaster	Tom T.	Michelle A.	John B.	Shayna B	Anne B	Cameron N.
May 19	research on COVID, vaccines & variants by Karen Mossman	Yolanda C- B	Lisa D.	Mark E.	Clare F.	Norm G.	John J.
May 26	Club Assembly	Don G.	Cheryl G.	Walter H.	Ashi J.	Kerry J.	Norm G.

Blast from the Past – Signs of Spring

The infamous Reardon's Hot Dog Cart



CELEBRATIONS!

Birthdays

Don Grennan May 11
Dr. Tom Tweedie May 13
Michael Howes May 26
John Baxter May 29

Rotary Anniversaries

John Dalgleish
May 1, 2004

Sharon Levy- Cohen
May 15, 2013

Thank you's from Hess Street School

We have received beautiful thank you notes from our friends at Hess Street school for the Christmas gift bags.

Some highlights:

“Thank you so much. I appreciate you giving the whole school treats and books. You are so nice because you spent all your time making them. I have question, how old you have to be to work there please? Because I'd love to work. Why? Because I love donating. I love you Love, Grace”

“Thank you for the gift. I really enjoyed those domino's. They were very fun to play with and the snacks, I appreciate those things. I hope I see you again. It's okay if you couldn't get pancakes and things because of COVID. I'm hoping I am grateful that you came to the school in 2019 and 2018. I hope to see you soon. Love, Heaven”

Thank you to our sponsor!

**STRONG BUSINESSES.
STRONGER COMMUNITIES.**

FirstOntario Business Services offers more than just account plans and credit cards and you can rely on us for a full range of support.

We have a great team who can help you hit the ground running or take your business to the next level.

Colin Cyr, Business Services
389-556-9962
Colin.Cyr@FirstOntario.com

FirstOntario
CREDIT UNION

