

ROTARY LAKESHORE IN ACTION

Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup Day

Charles Ansell Park and Area “Picked Clean”!

The Club gathered at our Charles Ansell Park for our annual Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup Day. This year we focused on the Park itself, north of Lakeshore Road towards the lake and the west side of Lock One on the Welland Canal. Thirty- two people joined our Lakeshore Club members including five from the Rotary Club of St. Catharines (Doug Carter, Rick Evans, John Potts, Scott Schappert, Tom Arkell) and a Rotaract High School Student from St. Catharines Collegiate. Our Youth Exchange Program was well-represented as well with Yuuka, her host family the Gibsons, Host Mom Michelle Ringuette and two additional students.

The group broke into four teams covering the Park (including curb and cigarette butt cleanup); the East side of Lock 1, north of Lakeshore Road; Jones Beach on Lake Ontario; Happy Rolph’s and Reid Road ditches; and the west side of Lock One, north of Lakeshore Road. In total, eight large bags of mixed litter were collected. After the event, fourteen met at Ricki Jo’s for lunch.

Walker Industries supplied a box litter picker sticks, delivered by Danny Schramm. We now have plenty of Sticks and Bags for next year. Thanks to Danny and to our friends at Walker Industries for their on-going support: Louise Tremeer, Lisa Arnold, and Mike Deprez.



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

May 13, 2026
Perry Hartwick
Niagara Geopark

May 27, 2026
Yuuka & Students
AIC and RYLA Junior



BINGO VOLUNTEERS IN MAY

**We have two regular dates in May
at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Mon May 4 - Trish & Ellen
Thur May 21 - Marlene & Patricia B

We need two volunteers
per session.

Bingo volunteers-please contact
Mary to fill in the blanks.

**Reminder: you must come in your
blue rotary shirt and black pants.**

President's Report



As we enter the last quarter of our Rotary year, I'm encouraged by the real and measurable progress we've made together:

- Membership is up net 3 so far.
- Our governance and finance oversight continues to surface practical ideas to strengthen how we operate.
- Our Youth Exchange program is more active—both incoming and outgoing—than it has been in years.
- We are finalizing what may be our largest-ever donation to a local charity (\$50,000 towards purchase of a vehicle for Happy in My Home), helping them bring improved mobility to residents in our community.
- We have several other significant projects under consideration, and we are optimistic about moving some of these forward before the end of the year.

Looking ahead, the top priority for the remainder of my term is finalizing and implementing our Leadership Development Track. This work is essential to the long-term strength and growth of our Club. We need to build the confidence and skills of our newer members so they feel ready to step into leadership roles and help us continue to grow and serve our community for years to come. I welcome your ideas on how best to approach this. If you have suggestions—or would like to be involved—please reach out.

World & Community Spotlight

Rail to Trail Project Update

Bruce Timms made a detailed report to the Club at the April 8th Meeting outlining the tremendous progress made on the project to date! In summary:

- The Rotary Club of St. Catharines has officially joined the targeted Group of Seven Service Clubs. This makes five committed so far: Rotary Clubs of Welland, Fonthill, St. Catharines South, St. Catharines and LAKESHORE ROTARY of course.
- Project has expanded a bit well and Rotary Welland has joined the group because there is a 1 km gap in the trail on their end
- We still have ambitions to win the official support of the Thorold Lions and the Foothill Lions. They like and support the project in principal, but are still a bit “non-committal”. In addition, we have interest from the Niagara Falls Rotary Club.
- We have comment from three farms on drainage, crossings and fencing and we have passed them on to the consultant.
- City consultant report has recommended a route different from the Rankin route; Beaver Dams road to Ormond to Dock Rd to Canal (which adds \$275,000 to the Budget).

Next Steps:

1. Convene a meeting of the Five Clubs.
2. Develop a strategy for advocating (focusing on Mayors and City Councillors, MPPs and MPs); funding the project and Rotary recognition.
3. Expand the *Group of Seven* (i.e. Niagara Falls Rotary, Fort Erie Rotary, the Lions Clubs)
4. Plan the new Welland link strategy and to get on City agenda.

As a side note, the Board has now designated the effort as an official club committee and that it will fall under World and Community Services and Projects.



TAKE ACTION: WWW.ROTARYLAKESHORE.COM

Food4Kids Update

The Club's Food4Kids Committee held a Pack on April 15 with eight Rotarians and two other volunteers (Daniela and Theresa, Mary's friends) in attendance - 460 bags were packed.



Darts Social Evening A Bulls Eye!



Schedules

Ronald McDonald Family Room (May)

May 7 Ellen
May 14 Coral
May 21 Anne
May 28 Morelle

Little Lending Library (May)

May 3 Patricia M
May 10 Mary
May 17 Bryan
May 24 Ellen
May 31 Trish / Stew

May Plasma Donation Dates

Our next donation date is Thursday May 21, 2026!
There are still open times available. Contact Beth
at bethfleton@hotmail.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Make sure to mark these future club events on
your calendars. You don't want to miss out on all
the action and fun!

May 7, 2026

Paul Harris Celebration
Amici's Conference Centre

May 21, 2026

Plasma Donation

May 27, 2026

Youth Committee Dinner Meeting
At our regular Club Meeting

Foundation Corner

St. Catharines Clubs to Honour Paul Harris Recipients!

Join the three St. Catharines Rotary Clubs (Rotary Club of St. Catharines, Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore and Rotary Club of St. Catharines South) at Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre on May 7th to honour six local community leaders. Our own Club has selected Mike Burtnik and Justin Preston as our honourees.

Tickets: \$50 per person (includes appetizer buffet)

Doors open: 5:30 p.m. Program begins: 6:30 p.m. Dress Code: Business Attire

[Click here](#) to purchase your tickets OR see the Ad on Page 5 of this newsletter for Full Details and the Sign up QR Code!

Rotary Peace Fellowship Deadline May 15!

This is one of Rotary's most prestigious programs, offering fully funded fellowships for individuals committed to peace and development. Rotary Peace Fellows are selected every year in a globally competitive process based on personal, academic, leadership and professional achievements. In 2026\2027, 50 Master's fellowships and 120 Professional Certificate fellowships will be awarded.

Peace Fellows have the opportunity to study abroad earning a Master's Degree or Professional Development Certificate in a field related to peace and development at one of the Rotary Peace Centers located at leading Universities. Successful applicants receive full funding through the Rotary Foundation for tuition, fees, room, board, round trip transportation and internship/field study expenses.

For complete details on the Application Process, Eligibility Requirements, and the Application Form please [CLICK HERE](#).

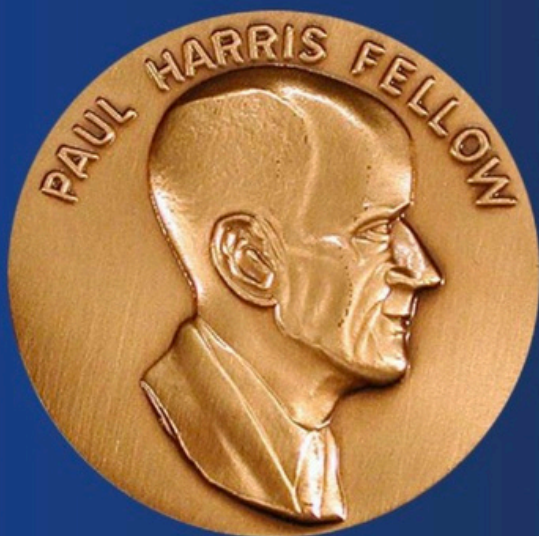
Youth Committee Report

We will be having a very large Youth Committee Dinner Meeting at our Club Meeting of May 27th where host families, students and school counselors will be invited to share in this very busy Youth year with collaboration with two other Rotary Clubs regarding Youth Exchange.

In other news:

- Yuuka our Japanese exchange student is now at her last host family, leaving Canada in June 2026.
- Maico, from Argentina, will be our next youth exchange student arriving in August 2026.
- We have two students attending on behalf of our club for Jr. RYLA this year.
- We have one student that the club is sponsoring for Adventures in Citizenship this May 2026.
- Patricia and Al will be collecting names of students from each of our sponsor schools to interview for our Club Scholarship, which is now at \$2000.
- We also will be presenting a name for the Rotary District Scholarship as well.

TAKE ACTION: WWW.ROTARYLAKESHORE.COM



A Paul Harris
CELEBRATION EVENING

Thursday, May 7th, 2026

HOSTED BY:

Rotary

Club of St. Catharines



Rotary

Club of St. Catharines
Lakeshore



Rotary

Club of St. Catharines
South



AMICI'S

BANQUET & CONFERENCE CENTER
2740 MERRITTVILLE HIGHWAY, THOROLD

DOORS OPEN: 5:30 PM

PROGRAM BEGINS: 6:30 PM

DRESS CODE: BUSINESS ATTIRE

TICKETS: \$50 PER PERSON
(INCLUDES APPETIZER BUFFET)

Join us for an elegant evening as we celebrate the legacy of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary International, the Rotary Foundation and honour outstanding community leaders. Enjoy a night of fellowship, inspiration, and recognition.

Tickets & Payment

Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets through Zeffy or visit:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/a-paul-harris-celebration-evening>

For assistance contact:
treasurer@rotaryniagara.org

Scan here to purchase
your tickets



Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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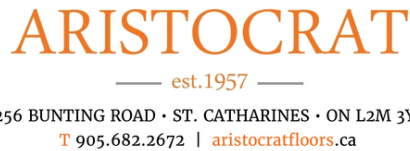
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