

The Lighthouse

newsletter of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore



LAKESTORE COMES TOGETHER FOR FOOD4KIDS

Club members and friends held a successful one-day food drive for Food4Kids Niagara, collecting almost \$5,000 in food and cash to support local children. Thank you as well to Michael from the South Club for helping out.

Helping ensure no child in Niagara goes hungry.

INSIDE THIS MONTH

- Welcome, Maico!
- Lakeshore Comes Together for Food4Kids
- Riding Together to End Polio
- Trivia Night Is Almost Here
- Meet a Rotarian: Beth Fleeton
- September Speaker Spotlight
- A Toast to Marlene & Norm

Plus President's Message, dates & volunteer news



WELCOME, MAICO!

Our exchange student from Argentina

RIDING TOGETHER TO END POLIO



Rotarians and friends came together for the annual Dr. Ron Mergl Memorial Ride, combining fellowship, fresh air and a shared commitment to ending polio for good.

END POLIO NOW – UNTIL IT'S DONE.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Bryan Pett
President

President's October Message

With summer almost behind us now, we are gearing up the new Rotary year in earnest.

Our budget has been set, and our committees are developing their detailed plans that will be presented to the Board by October 15th.

Quite a few club members enjoyed a pleasant evening at Strewn Winery this week, where we had a tour of the vineyard by President Joe Will, a fellow Rotarian from the NOTL club. We also held a very successful one-day food drive for Food4Kids, collecting almost \$5,000 in food and cash!

Our exchange student Maico arrived from Argentina this month and is fitting right in.

On a sad note, we are bidding au revoir (but not adieu!) to our much loved and admired Marlene Mader. She and Norm are relocating to be closer to family, which fortunately is not too far away, so we hope to see them both on occasion. We all wish them the best.

Let's keep up the momentum we built last year and see if we can do even more to help our community and the world; they both need us more than ever.

**ROTARY CLUB OF
ST. CATHARINESLAKESHORE
2026–2027 Leadership & Committees
CO-PRESIDENTS: Bryan Pett & Annette**

Marchionda

**CO-PRESIDENTS ELECT: Trish Shouldice &
Patricia Murenbeeld**

SECRETARY: Ellen Wodchis |

TREASURER: Janet Allan |

**DIRECTORS: Beth Fleeton, Anne Lanthier,
Patricia Murenbeeld, Coral Timms**

**ASSISTANT GOVERNOR: Julio Batres-Gavidia
(non-voting)**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCT 14

Exchange Students: Clara & Maico

OCT 21

Jason Lalonde — International Services

NOV 21

Trivia Night

DEC 9

Annual General Meeting

FEB 2027

Trivia Night

MAY 5, 2027

Paul Harris Night



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

Already volunteering with us?

Find current dates, shifts and upcoming service activities.

[VIEW SCHEDULES →](#)

STAY CONNECTED

[Facebook](#) • [Instagram](#) • [LinkedIn](#)

rotarylakeshore.com

Service • Fellowship • Community



ANNUAL FUN
TRIVIA NIGHT!

SATURDAY, 21 NOVEMBER, 2026

CLUB ROMA, GEMINI ROOM, ST. CATHARINES

TEAMS. LAUGHS. MEMORIES. PRIZES!

CASH PRIZES

50/50 DRAW

FREE FOOD!
HOT DOGS • POPCORN
COFFEE & TEA

DUH! ANSWER PACKS

NEW! **ADD A DUH! ANSWER PACK WHEN YOU BOOK YOUR TABLE!**
5 FREE ANSWERS • ONE PER ROUND • NOT VALID IN ROUND 7

Early Bird Pricing Available Until October 9!

TRIVIA NIGHT IS ALMOST HERE!

OUR MAJOR FALL FUNDRAISER NEEDS ALL OF US!

EVERY LAKESHORE ROTARIAN IS NEEDED ON NOVEMBER 21

Our Annual Fun Trivia Night is one of our club's major fundraisers, and we need everyone involved to make it a success!

There is a job for everyone — set-up, registration, welcoming guests, food, 50/50, prizes, trivia support, clean-up and more.

Please mark November 21 on your calendar and plan to be there.

THREE WAYS YOU CAN HELP



1. BE THERE!

We need our Lakeshore Rotarians working together throughout the evening. Many hands make this event work!



2. HELP FILL THE ROOM!

Invite family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. Organize your own table or encourage someone you know to bring a team.



3. HELP US FIND SPONSORS!

Think about the businesses and people you know. **Who could you ask to sponsor Trivia Night?** Every sponsor helps us raise more money to support the work our club does in our community and beyond.



DON'T FORGET — EARLY BIRD ENDS OCTOBER 9!
\$224 for a table of up to 8 players

NEW THIS YEAR!

Pre-purchase a DUH! Answer Pack when you book your table and receive 5 free answers — one per round. (Not valid in Round 7.)



Rotary

Club of
St. Catharines Lakeshore

RESERVE YOUR TABLE TODAY!



www.rotarylakeshore.com



MEET A Rotarian BETH FLEETON

Barcelona
1987-88



“I wanted to give back to Rotary for changing my life.”



MY ROTARY JOURNEY

I first became involved in Rotary as a Youth Exchange student in 1987-88 in Barcelona, Spain. Thirty years later, the club that sponsored me invited me back to speak at their 30th anniversary about how my life has evolved with Rotary. I was their very first Rotary Youth Exchange student.



WHY I JOINED ROTARY

I wanted to give back to Rotary for changing my life.



WHAT SURPRISED ME MOST

There are so many different areas you can get involved in. Before joining, I only knew Rotary through Youth Exchange.



MY FAVOURITE PROJECT OR MEMORY

Other than Youth Exchange, one of my favourite experiences has been getting our club involved in plasma donation.



WHAT KEEPS ME INVOLVED

The people – they are a second family.



AN UNEXPECTED OPPORTUNITY

Becoming a host mom. I really enjoyed the total experience and the relationships that came with it.



WHAT I ENJOY MOST ABOUT OUR CLUB

The people and the opportunity to give back locally.



MY CAREER

I have always worked in travel as a result of my Youth Exchange experience. I am currently the Director of Travel at CAA Niagara.



WHEN I'M NOT DOING ROTARY

I love to travel.



IF I COULD TRAVEL ANYWHERE TOMORROW

I have not been to Africa, but I would love to go, particularly South Africa, and experience glamping.



SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT ME

I start 6 days a week by leading a boot camp in Port Dalhousie at 7:00 a.m.

A SPECIAL SUPPORTER

My husband, Harry, helps at many of our club events whether it's helping with trivia, hosting exchange students, watershed cleanups or any other club activity – Harry is always ready to help!



Travel
Opens a World
of Possibilities



MY ADVICE TO A NEW ROTARIAN

“Don't feel overwhelmed.”

Take the time to discover Rotary, meet the people, and find the opportunities that are meaningful to you.

Rotary





SEPTEMBER SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT

Great speakers. New ideas. Stronger connections.



DAN PILON

CEO, Niagara District Airport

The Future Is Taking Off at Niagara District Airport

Dan gave us a fascinating look at the airport's nearly 100-year history and its plans for future growth.



DID YOU KNOW?

Air Canada passengers can connect from Niagara District Airport to Toronto Pearson three times daily, with free parking at YCM.



TRAVEL TIP!

When booking with Air Canada, search using airport code YCM.



REBECCA BALYK

President, Rotary E-Club of District 7090

Rotary E-Club: A Flexible Way to Connect

Rebecca shared her Rotary journey — from RYLA and Rotaract to her current role as District Alumni Chair — and introduced us to a different way of experiencing Rotary.



A DIFFERENT ROTARY MODEL

The E-Club meets virtually once a month, stays connected through WhatsApp, and offers a flexible, low-cost way to participate in Rotary.



THE BIG IDEA!

Rotary can adapt to people's lives while still creating opportunities to connect, lead and serve.



THANK YOU TO OUR SEPTEMBER SPEAKERS!

*Thank you, Dan and Rebecca, for sharing your time, knowledge
and Rotary connections with Lakeshore.*



Marlene is beginning a new chapter with another Rotary club — and they are very lucky to have her.

A TOAST TO MARLENE & NORM

Celebrating Service, Friendship & New Adventures



SEPTEMBER FELLOWSHIP AT STREWN WINERY

Our September fellowship at Strewn Winery gave Lakeshore members a special opportunity to raise a glass to two people who have been an important part of our Rotary family — Marlene Madar and her partner, Norm.



A LEGACY OF SERVICE



FRIENDSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Marlene has served Lakeshore as a Past President, long-time Board member, volunteer and leader. She has been instrumental in our work with Food4Kids and Ronald McDonald House, along with many other club activities and service projects.

A COMMITMENT TO ROTARY

A long-time supporter of The Rotary Foundation, Marlene recently reached a very special milestone — becoming a Major Donor. Her generosity reflects the same commitment to Rotary she has shown through many years of service.

FRIENDSHIPS THAT LAST

Marlene's contribution is also measured in the friendships, laughter and memories made along the way. Our September fellowship gave us the chance to gather, celebrate, and raise a glass to Marlene and Norm.

WE WILL MISS YOU, MARLENE & NORM!

Thank you for the service, leadership, generosity, laughter and friendship you have shared with Lakeshore. We wish you both every happiness and success as you begin this new adventure.
Once a Lakeshore Rotarian, always a friend of Lakeshore