



# *Rotary Club of St. Catharines South*

# CLUB HISTORY

*“Service Above Self”*









THE ROTARY CLUB OF  
ST. CATHARINES SOUTH

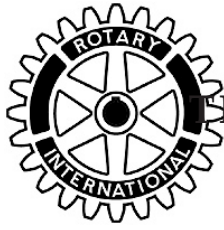
*Sponsored by  
The Rotary Club of St. Catharines*

# CHARTER NIGHT

St. Catharines Golf and Country Club  
St. Catharines, Ontario

Tuesday, April 23, 1968 - 6:15 P.M.





# THE ROTARY CLUB OF ST. CATHARINES SOUTH

## Charter Officers and Directors

W. J. Smith	President
Ronald Butson	Vice-President and Treasurer
Gary George	Secretary
Reginald Myers	Sergeant-at-Arms
Paul Kannegieter	Director
Kenneth McNicol	Director
Spencer B. Williams	Director

## Charter Members

Harry Bagnall (Harry)	Christianity, Protestant
James Beaty (Jim)	General Contracting
William Brooks (Bill)	Land Development
Ronald Butson (Ron)	Banking
Howard Etherington (Howard)	Drugs Retailing
Gary George (Gary)	Office Supplies Retail
Maurice Girouard (Maurice)	Real Estate, Title Service
John Hicks (John)	General Law Practice
Paul Kannegieter (Paul)	Piano Distributing
C.D. Kelcey (Don)	Senior Active
David I. Lorenzen (David)	Physician and Surgeon
Bruce McCausland (Bruce)	Education, Secondary
Harry McGimpsey (Harry)	Garage Service
Kenneth McNicol (Ken)	Department Store
Regional Myers (Reg)	Insurance General
W.J. Smith (Wilf)	Engineering, Consulting
William Steckel (Bill)	Radio Broadcasting
Wayne Tester (Wayne)	Dentistry
John Townsend (John)	Hospitals (Sanatorium)
Harold Treble (Harold)	Senior Active
Spencer Williams (Spence)	Education, University
	Information and Development
Clarence York (Clarence)	Plating, Electro



# Program

Fellowship Hour .....	6:15 p.m.
Call to Order .....	7:00 p.m.
	<i>C.D. Complin, President</i> <i>The Rotary of St. Catharines Presiding</i>
Invocation .....	Harry Begnall
Toast to the Queen of Canada	
Toast to the President of the United States of America	
Dinner	
Rotary Singing	
Welcome by Sponsoring Club	
Introduction of Paul Williams. . . . .	Don Fraser <i>Special Representative of the District Governor</i>
Introduction of District Governor. ....	Don Fraser
Presentation of Charter .....	Gov. Gordon C. Robinson <i>Niagara Falls, N.Y.</i>
Acceptance of Charter .....	W.J. Smith, President <i>The Rotary Club of St. Catharines South</i>
Introduction of St. Catharines South Rotarians. ....	W.J. Smith
Greetings from Australia .....	Dr. Kenneth McKerihan <i>East Maitland</i> <i>New South Wales</i> <i>(Past District Governor)</i>
Introduction of Guest Speaker .....	Paul Williams
Speaker. ....	Cass Pitrowski <i>Former Vice-President,</i> <i>Rotary International</i>
Presentation of Gifts .....	C.D. Complin
Acceptance of Gifts .....	W.J. Smith

*Adjournment and Fellowship.*





## PREFACE

1980 was the 75th year of Rotary International. Rotary Clubs throughout the world were asked to select projects of a special nature to solve this anniversary. As incoming president, one of the special projects I selected was a history of our club, which was now 12 years old. We asked all our past presidents, where possible, to document their year. It was our hope that this would not be a conventional statistical review, but would reflect their year as they saw it.

Future presidents will hopefully add their year end reports as a means of recording a continuing story about our club.

Information on the early years was gathered by Peter Grant.

— *Bob Hayden 1980.*

1995 UPDATE. Well, more than five years have passed and here we are again recapping 31 years as a club.

— *Bob Hayden June, 1995*

In the 2009-2010 Rotary year the book was once again brought up to date. I created an electronic copy which was circulated to all club members. I would like to thank Rotarians John Teibert and Don Beard that assisted me with this project.

In 2011 we added comments from Club President for 2010-2011, John Teibert. We distributed the updated Club History again to each club member electronically and printed a few hard copies for those requesting them.

— *Paul Monaghan, 2011*



## PREHISTORY

The South Club came into existence by the tenacious efforts of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines. The South Club has established itself as a hard-working group of individuals who live by the Rotary motto, **“Service Above Self”**.

During the early 1960's, the parent club conducted a survey under the joint chairmanship of Charles Complin and Dr. Donald Fraser into the feasibility of a second Rotary Club in the south end of the city.

Unfortunately, the senior club could not get the new club off the ground.

But in 1966-67, under President Don Shaw, a Rotary extension committee was formed with Dr. Fraser as its chairman. The committee once again surveyed the possibility of a second club. This time they were not denied.

With the expansion of The Pen, the development of Brock University and the St. Catharines' Teachers College (now known as the College of Education), the impetus and desire was there. Many of the problems which had stalled the establishment of the new club did not come to being under the presidency of Mr. Shaw. Incoming president Complin completed the task along with Dr. Fraser's committee.

In the closing days of 1967 and the early part of 1968, the development of the new club gained momentum. A positive influence in the final developments leading to the new club's Charter Night was the appearance of Wilf Smith, past president of the Welland Rotary Club, who eventually took on the role as charter president for the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South.

In a report to the historian of the senior club in 1968, Dr. Fraser commented that Mr. Smith “showed considerable enthusiasm and dynamic leadership in the establishment of the new club”. The culmination of many months and years work came April 23, 1968, with Charter Night, which was held at the St. Catharines Golf and Country Club and sponsored by the Rotary Club of St. Catharines.

Joining Mr. Smith on the charter executive were Ron Butson, vice-president and treasurer; Gary George, secretary; Reginald Myers, sergeant-at-arms and directors, Paul Kannegieter, Kenneth McNicol and Spencer B. Williams. The club had a total of 29 charter members.



## CLUB PRESIDENTS

1967-1969 Wilf Smith	1990-1991 Jim Shannon
1969-1970 Ron Butson	1991-1992 Ron Kozub
1970-1971 Ken McNicol	1992-1993 Frank Ercul
1971-1972 Paul Kannegieter	1993-1994 Ron Hansell
1972-1973 Jack Bailey	1994-1995 Don Hetherington
1973-1974 Ed Telenko	1995-1996 Alan Carr
1974-1975 Peter Grant	1996-1997 Jim Howes
1975-1976 Gary George	1997-1998 Fraser Stewart
1976-1977 Howard Etherington	1998-1999 John Teibert
1977-1978 Paul Meehan	1999-2000 Ian Forbes
1978-1979 Bob McBride	2000-2001 Don Beard
1979-1980 Bob Hayden	2001-2002 George Fitzpatrick
1980-1981 Mike Hansen	2002-2003 Keith Shaver
1981-1982 Rich Cavers	2003-2004 Rob Welch
1982-1983 Bud Walsh	2004-2005 Dan Toppari
1983-1984 Soren Harrison	2005-2006 Bob McKay
1984-1985 Jack Corbett	2006-2007 Matt Taylor
1985-1986 Norris Brown	2007-2008 June Manning
1986-1987 Ross Elliott	2008-2009 Greg McDonald
1987-1988 Brian Radford	2009-2010 Paul Monaghan
1988-1989 Jim Bagozzi	2010-2011 John Teibert
1989-1990 John Chotka	2011-2012 Sheila Bristo



Well, well, what do you know? D-Day has come and gone, and so has "O"-Day ... O for Organization, that is:

The Mighty Meeting was held as threatened, on Tuesday, November 14th, with only ten of the original 20 "Charter" Members able to attend. A very enjoyable "fellowship hour" was experienced by those faithful few, along with seven of Doctor Don's Committee at the St. Catharines Golf & Country Club. After the dinner which we all noticed was 19 cents more than promised by Wilf Smith in his last Bulletin (Wilf claims that he and Don Fraser had made it abundantly clear to the Golf Club that the \$3.75 was to be all inclusive), but I suppose the Club took a rather dim view of the promised thirty dinners dwindling to seventeen and probably decided to shaft the rest of us with tax.

Also in attendance from our Parent Club were the following:

President Chuck Complin

Past President Harold Barnes

Chairman Don Fraser

Members: Fred Miller, Don Kelcy, Chuck Coome, and of course, the District Governor's Special Representative, himself, Past District Governor, Paul Williams, who after suitable introduction by Don Fraser, chaired the Meeting, which, beginning in peace at 8 p.m. was closed in harmony shortly after 9:15 p.m.

Major items decided at this meeting were:

-The name of the new club was to be "The Rotary Club of St. Catharines South". Its first Officers were:

-President- Wilf Smith

-Vice President & Treasurer- Ron Butson

-Secretary- Gary George

-Meeting: Monday 6:15 p.m. at the "Pancake House" in the Pen Centre.

-From the date of our first official meeting (Monday, November 20, 1967) until we obtained our charter, we met as a Provisional Rotary Club.

Our fledgling Club staggered along for the next two months. The Charter President attempted to hold the little group together by writing a bit of a Bulletin most weeks and holding a few Directors Meetings and a Fireside Meeting. Our first "Fine-Box" was an old fare-box from the N.S.&T. Railway. This fine-box was later replaced by our present "Kookaburra" which was presented to our Club by the Australian Contingent which happened to be in the Country at the time of our Charter Night.

Our first Director's Meeting was held at noon, December 6, 1967 at the "Top-of-the Flame", a restaurant now defunct but then on the top floor of the Provincial Gas Building on Church Street.

Our Charter Night was finally held on April 23, 1968 at the St. Catharines Golf Club. This is always a big night for Rotary and ours was no exception. We started with the mere 20 member requirement, of which only 1 is with the club today (Howard Etherington).

For several reasons, our meeting time and place were changed to the Esquire Hotel on Mondays at 12:15 p.m.

Spencer Williams was one of the finest gentlemen you could expect to meet. He was an active Charter Member always working on the interest of the Club. He showed a good sense of humor at one of the meetings by walking right up the lectern and quickly snipped off the President's tie about 3" from the collar! We were all shocked to hear of his sudden death a few weeks later.

We had some good programs that first year of our Club. On April 8, 1968, a choir of 59 boys from Dayton, Ohio descended on our meeting place, gave us 4 or 5 really rousing productions and were gone out the back door almost before we realized they were here. The choir had been touring some of the States and a little of Canada under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Dayton, Ohio. Our Club had about 2 hours notice of the possibility of having boys, but it worked beautifully.

The Club never really got a “project” going that first year, but we did develop a special Cub Banner and acquired a unique fine-box, both of which are in use to-day.

***Wilf Smith***

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## 1969-1970      PRESIDENT: RON BUTSON

Ron Butson was born and educated in Stratford, Ontario. High points in his life included marriage to Mary, six children, and varied experience with the Bank of Commerce, including a bank robbery. Ron was extremely active in the formation of the South St. Catharines Rotary Club and became president in July, 1969, after filling the posts of both Vice-President and Treasurer the previous year.

The Club’s major work in that year was support of the Canadian Association for Children with Learning Disabilities. In addition to \$500 raised by an Organ Recital, the Club donated the valuable skills of Wally Partridge and John Townsend. Wally helped prepare a brief to the Board of Education, while John became Director of Public Relations for A.C.L.D. Dr. Wayne Tester headed the Transportation Program.

An open Club meeting was held on April 13, 1970, prior to meeting with A.C.L.D. Members present were:

Jack Bailey	John Townsend
Abel Kluwer	Paul Kannegieter
Howard Etherington	Wally Partridge

-A program was set up for transporting children to school, and to the Niagara Research Institute, in Delphian House, 112 Queenston Street.

-Rotarians took part in a “Miles for Millions” walk, made \$60 and donated \$120 to the Canadian Save the Children Fund. Birthdays accounted for the difference.

-An exchange student, Shelley Hallett, was sent to Belgium, and Philippe Ghyoot, from Belgium (Kortrijk-Courtrai) was hosted here.

-Our distinctive Club banner, featuring the New Brock University Tower and the Henley Regatta, was conceived this year.

Directors were:

-Ron Butson- President

-Ken McNicol- Vice-President

-Gary George- Secretary and Treasurer

-Wilf Smith- Past President



- Paul Kannegieter- Club Service
- Keith Guiltinan- Vocational Service
- Jack Bailey- Community Service
- Maurice Girovard- International Service

The second year ended with the young club well established, active and growing.

## ***Ron Butson***

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### 1970-71      **PRESIDENT: KEN McNICOL**

Ken McNicol ascended to the President's chair on July 6, 1970. Ken, a charter member of the St. Catharines South Club, is a typically well rounded Rotarian with experience in Law, T.V. and stage, flying in the R.C.A.F. throughout W.W. II, car racing, photography and oceanography, and soccer. He works for Simpsons.

Ablly assisting Ken were:

- Paul Kannegieter: Vice-President
- Gary George: Secretary
- Frank Barton: Treasurer
- Past President: Ron Butson

Directors of the four avenues of service were Jack Bailey: Club Service, Keith Guiltinan: community Service, Wayne Tester: Vocational Service, and again, Ron Butson, International Service. The Downtown Club provided strong support. On July 13, visitors outnumbered hosts, and Ken saved time by introducing our members. What else is new? Increasing membership was a high priority among this years' objectives.

- Our association and cooperation with Junior Achievement began in this year. So did our association with that remarkable Bolivian, Percy Boland, M.D., and his two families. Daughters Orietta and Marilyn Sacre were exchange students that year- Marilyn with the Downtown Club, and Orietta with us. Orietta was an excellent tennis player and all around outstanding fifteen-year-old. Anne Walsh, of Dennis Morris, was our ambassador to Mexico. Anne Marie Majtenyi returned from an exciting year, also in Mexico (Aguascalientes).

-Jim Hiscott, a Rotary Fellowship student, was sponsored for a year of study at Lancaster University in England, qualifying for a B.Sc. in Physics.

-\$482.93 was raised by selling raffle tickets at the Pen Centre, for a colour T.V. We were in a poor financial position then but had a major charitable project. The A.C.L.D., (Association for Children with Learning Disabilities), absorbed time, money and personal commitment from our membership.

-Visiting Royalty included Miss Trinidad; Elizabeth Stibbs, and Doc Larter of Niagara Falls, then a youthful 101, his attendance record was fifty four years without missing a meeting.

-The Club took part in the Bi-annual Rotary Guidance Careers exposition at the St. Catharines Armories April 26, 27 & 28.

-A walkathon for Crippled Children was held and Jack Bailey completed the fifteen miles. **He has been walking ever since.**

- But 1971 was chiefly notable as the year when Ed Telenko, on May 31, announced THE BINGO, to be held at the Lincoln Curling Club, starting June 7 "for three Mondays on a trial basis". Ed, John Townsend, Ron Butson and Frank Barton were some of the master strategists who launched the Bingo and made it work. Paul Kannegieter, Gary George and Ernie Penner were outstanding among the card sellers. The first bingo attracted a crowd of 900 and netted \$250.00. Better was to come. Frank Barton offered practical advice: **"keep the folding money in your left hand, and don't crumple the bills"**. Bingo was to lead this small Club into international trade and high finance.

Ken Putnam and Harold Treble faithfully recorded all these events in the Kookaburra Gossip Sheet.

***Ken McNicol***

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## 1971-72      PRESIDENT: PAUL KANNEGIETER

The Year of the "Klompen" (Wooden Shoes)

It was an exciting year and as Buck Fisher, the Bulletin Editor of the year said: "full of Engledutch and Frengledutch". This year's theme of Rotary International was "Good Will". We started the year with 30 members. It was the first time a President was sent to an International Rotary Convention and President Paul went to Houston, Texas, and came back full of energy and excitement for the coming year.

Executive: the 1971-72 Executive was:

-Past President- Ken McNicol

-President- Paul Kannegieter

-Vice-President- Jack Bailey

-Secretary- Gary George

-Treasurer- Frank Barton

-Directors- Ed Telenko

-Peter Partington

-Buck Fisher

Some directors' meetings during the year floated until 3 o'clock in the morning. They were always lively, and as President, I was very pleased with the dedication of our directors and members to Rotary and the community.

### **Social Events:**

-We had a successful Hammond Organ Concert with talented U.S. entertainer- Tom Thompson.

-Rotary Golf Day was a smashing success.

-Valentine's Day Dance was great.





- Picnic outing was well attended.
- Cookout at the Partington's was a real treat.

**Exchange Students:** Martine Pasquier came from Switzerland and was a true and beautiful ambassador- one fondly remembered. Our outgoing student to South America was Marsha Goldford- a delightful girl.

**Programs:** Programs were excellent and the largest turnout of any meeting must have been when movie star, Canadian Indian Chief Dan George from British Columbia was our guest speaker during Brotherhood week. Sixty-one Rotarians and guests attended this meeting.

**Fund Raising:** Fund raising was a highlight of this year. The Bingo Committee, chaired by Ed Telenko, raised a net profit of \$28,620.00 in one year.

**Donations:** Donations were made to:

-Camp Huronia Diabetic Association	\$150.00
-Briardale School- Ice Rink Boards	\$600.00
-Sponsored Minor Hockey Team	\$165.00
-Pakistan Relief Fund	\$100.00
-Press Theatre	\$200.00
-Careline	\$300.00
-Scholarship & Medals	\$300.00
-Rehab. Centre Automobile Station Wagon	\$4,372.00
-Symphony Orchestra	\$250.00
-Junior Achievement	\$150.00
-Niagara Regional Football Club	\$750.00
-N-Tec	\$500.00
-Nelephant Nursery School	\$200.00
-Family & Children's Services "Camp"	\$100.00

With much help from all Rotarians I can say it was a good year to be of service. My wife, Wilhelmina, and I made friends with Rotarians from all over the world- Australia, Holland, South Africa, Belgium. Because of the entertaining we did for a number of years during the District Governors week, we were privileged each year to host Australian District Governors. They stole our hearts and our one wish is to visit that continent in the near future. Thank you, Rotary, for the opportunity to be meaningful to our community and our country.

*Paul Kannegieter*

## 1972-1973 PRESIDENT: JACK BAILEY

In reviewing my year, 1972-73, I think first of those members who are still in the club: George Campbell, Howard Etherington George Fitzpatrick, Peter Grant, Keith Guiltinan, Paul Kannegieter, Abele Kluwer, Wilf Smith, Matt Taylor, Ed Telenko, for a total of eleven, including myself. Secondly I think of those who are no longer members. Frank Barton, Ron Butson, Ed Davis, Bob Davis, Buck Fisher, Don Forsyth, Gary George, Jack Hunt, Don Kelcey, Bruce Kelly, Richard Kelly, Rev. Father Joe Kelloran, Wayne Litzgus, Bruce MacCausland, Harry McGimpsey, Mel Norder, Paul Meehan, Peter Partington, Wally Partridge, Ernie Penner, Ken Putnam, John Ross, Jack Smith, Loues Tomas, Harold Treble and Jan Van Der Kuyp, twenty-six, for a total membership of thirty seven. All great fellows.

I was blessed, or chose well, good Bulletin Editors. Buck Fisher (later to be transferred to Huntsville) covered my inaugural meeting and in the Kookaburra Sheet of July 30, 1972, said "President Jack came to the meeting today well prepared to face the challenge of guiding our club for the twelve months". Those were Buck's words and those of you who knew Buck will remember that he was not inclined to exaggeration. Paul Meehan was Bulletin Editor for the last portion of my term and did such an excellent job covering my last meeting that I decided to let his report speak for me.

Report of the PRESIDENT: This was the last day in office for Jack Bailey, the fifth President of St. Catharines South Rotary Club. Jack said he was fortunate in having excellent Executive to work with. He paid tribute to Ed Telenko, Past President Paul Kannegieter, Treasurer Frank Barton, Secretary Gary George, Director of Club Services Howard Etherington changed over to Community Services. Due to heavy personal commitments outside the Club, Peter Partington regretfully had to resign. Peter Grant has taken over International Services. Later we regretfully had to accept Buck Fisher's resignation due to his transfer to Northern Ontario. George Campbell was nominated to fill his place. To all of them Jack expressed a special vote of thanks. Jack concluded by thanking the Committee Chairmen. We netted about \$29, 000.00 from the Bingo, again he thanked Howard and his Committee Members.

Jack then referred to the Committee for Charitable Donations under the Chairmanship of Wally Partridge. He pointed out that the Committee's policy is to allocate 25% of Bingo profits to various projects with the remaining proceeds going to a special project which is a new centre on Martindale Road for the Association for the Mentally Retarded. An Administration Committee, under the Chairmanship of Paul Meehan along with Paul Kannegieter, Abele Kluwer, Peter Grant, and Ed Telenko, (ex officio), along with others from the community has been appointed to carry out the project of constructing the new Centre for the Retarded on Martindale Road. The Social Services Department of the Regional Municipality of Niagara asked for special assistance on behalf of a family whose father was recovering from an open heart surgery, who has a boy threatened with the loss of the sight of one eye. The operation is to be done at Columbia University. The Charitable Donations Committee was asked, on short notice, for assistance and authorized the payment of \$100.00.

President Jack then referred to major projects for the year as follows:

**International Youth	\$747.23
**North End Arena:	
-Today's donation	\$5000.00
-Previous donation	\$1731.40
-St. Catharines residence for the Mentally Retarded	\$25,000.00
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<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32,478.63</b>

Minor projects included:

-Canadian Legion Minor Hockey	\$165.00
-St. Catharines Twinning Committee	\$25.00
-Junior Achievement/Niagara Section	\$150.00
-Niagara Training and Employment Agency	\$500.00
-Family and Children Services Camp Fund	\$100.00
-Canadian Diabetic Assoc.	\$100.00
-Careline	\$100.00
-Christmas Donation-Welfare Family	\$50.00
-Assoc. for Fatherless Children	\$100.00



-Bethesda	\$200.00
-Rotary World Service Committee Dist.705	\$100.00
-Lincoln Developmental Day Care Centre	\$1,000.00
-Y.W.C.A. Camp Fund	\$100.00
-Misc.	\$25.00
-District 709	\$150.00
-Rotary International Foundation	\$357.00
-Optimist Club	\$25.00
-Spencer Williams Bursary-Brock University	\$4,000.00

Making close to \$40,000.00 in all for projects in the community. The Club has 30 members and is just a little over five years old. Attendance has gone from a very low 50% in August last year to a high of 85% for two months with a fairly responsible percentage for the balance of the year. Social events under Matt Taylor's Chairmanship were superb. On exchange students, Jack Bailey stated that Janie-Lou Kannegieter had been sponsored for a trip to Australia. He thanked the families who hosted the two students in St. Catharines last year.

In closing, Jack directed a special word to the new members who joined the Club recently. He said that it takes time to enjoy and to contribute and get something out of Rotary but he assured everyone that it is all very worthwhile- "there is more to Rotary than just coming to lunch".

Jack Bailey then turned the Chair, gavel and pin over to incoming President Ed Telenko. Ed Telenko, in turn, presented the President's plaque to Jack Bailey. In addition, he presented a most distinguished pin identifying Jack as a member of that most distinguished Club known as the Past Presidents of Rotary International Club of St. Catharines South. Ed Telenko noted that Jack Bailey has a perfect attendance for 15 years!

**Special Thanks:** Max Kaminsky asked for an opportunity to say a few words to the Club. He felt that it was his duty and privilege as a citizen of St. Catharines to thank the members adding "in all the years that I have been associated with charitable work, I don't think I have ever heard of a more worthwhile project than that carried on by the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South-".

Thanks Buck and Paul for making the task of reporting on my year so easy. In conclusion, I can only add that the 1972-73 Year was the highlight of my twenty-two years in Rotary and I sincerely thank the members of that year for electing me President and prior to that for inviting me to be a member of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South.

*Jack Bailey*

## 1973-1974 PRESIDENT: ED TELENKO

One of the most significant policies that continue to have a major impact on the success of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South was formulated immediately preceding the beginning of this Rotary year. The major contributor to this milestone event was Jack Bailey.

The International Rotary Convention is held near the end of each Rotary Year. Our club had in effect a policy of sending the presiding President to this convention as recognition and appreciation for accepting and fulfilling the responsibilities of club President.

However, during his term as President, Jack Bailey realized the enormous benefits bestowed on those attending International Rotary conventions would be better utilized by in-coming Presidents rather than

out-going presidents. Jack relinquished his opportunity to attend the convention that year, being held in Lausanne, Switzerland in favour of the Vice-President. I was the first beneficiary of Jack's decision.

The impact of this generosity and insight exhibited by Jack Bailey will live on year after year. As a result each incoming President has the opportunity to be inspired and oriented first hand to the grand ideals and dynamics practiced by Rotary International throughout the world just before he accepts his full responsibility as President of our club. The education, energy, exuberance and enthusiasm gained by such an experience is reflected in a major way in each succeeding administration.

At the beginning of the Rotary year, and at this time in our history our club was in the midst of hyper activity. Although our numbers were modest, our accomplishments to date were exemplary. Energy abounded and fellowship was ubiquitous. Our giant weekly bingo absorbed so much energy that part time help was engaged to meet the relentless demands of this major activity.

Our enthusiasm prevailed and the activities of the club continue. Our membership was proud of its past success and motivated to attain higher levels of accomplishment.

Directors' meetings were changed from noon at the St. Catharines Club to evening meetings at Directors' homes, accomplishing two things: one, more time to deal with an ever increasing agenda and two, accommodated more rollicking fellowship, thanks to Ron Butson who always arranged for adequate finances for every event and Frank Barton, Don Forsyth, Howard Etherington and Peter Partington who provided the venues. Club assemblies, were held in the evenings at appropriate licensed locations for much the same reasons. To deal with the plethora of requests for financial assistance, a new charitable donations policy was implemented.

The Rotary Year 1973-74 was marked by numerous accomplishments and activities.

The main fundraising activity, "Bingo", raised an additional \$25,000.00 for charitable purposes under the Chairmanship of Howard Etherington. This success allowed the club to fulfill its financial commitment of \$20,000.00 to "Barnsdale", a 30 bed home for the mentally retarded.

As a result of this, approval for the remaining funding from Government sources was then obtained in September 1973, with construction beginning in February 1974. In addition, the Club established an on-going committee to help plan and administer the affairs of the home, in co-operation with the Association for the Mentally Retarded. The Rotary Club of St. Catharines South also supported the Rotary Club of Tobago in their efforts to build a Remand Home for juveniles in Tobago with a major financial contribution of \$1,500.00.

Cash donations were also made to:

- Various Summer camps
- Junior Achievement
- Spartan Athletic Club
- Mexico for School Construction
- St. Catharines Rowing Club
- Minor Hockey and Football
- Minor Softball and Baseball
- CareLine and included a \$10,000.00 contribution to the Bill Burgoyne (North End) Arena.

Community programs in which we continued to be actively involved in were:

The Rotary Medal Awards, Adventures in Citizenship. The Spencer Williams Scholarship to Brock University, Brotherhood Week, and International Student Exchange.



During the year, due to an unfortunate set of circumstances, the exchange student to St. Catharines had to be returned home before Christmas.

New members accepted into our Club for the year 1973/74 were: Paul Hartorp, David Cooperman, Frank Slocum, Shanker Nadkarni, Bill Towill, Bob Hayden, Bob McBride, John Bergsma, Walt Stratychuk, and John Kerr.

The social successes of the year were the Casino night at the Doric Club, dinner dance at the Meeting Place, the golf tournament in Niagara-On-The-Lake, the Bingo Binge at the country estate of Peter Grant, and the two Lancaster-Depew Club exchanges.

The Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South submitted my name (I was also serving as president of the Niagara Regional Football Club Inc.) to the Citizenship Awards Committee of the City of St. Catharines. The result being that in January of 1974, I had the honour of being named "Outstanding Young Person in the City of St. Catharines" in 1973, a tribute to our club as well as myself.

*Ed Telenko*

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## 1974-1975      PRESIDENT: PETER GRANT

1974, the seventieth year of Rotary, saw that organization flourishing in 151 countries from Argentina to Zambia (Zimbabwe not having been invented yet). In one of its more than 16,000 communities, a small aggressive Club, its designated turf the south, or right side of the C.N.R. tracks, confronted crisis.

Some years before, it had confronted problems:

- How to make large quantities of money
- How to spend it.

A team of brilliant economists quickly solved problem one. Bingo! A roller dome and curling arena was rapidly converted into the St. Catharines Bingo Centre and Monday became Bingo Night in St. Catharines. Vast in its conception and execution, the bingo drew crowds from Niagara Falls, Buffalo and the surrounding country, paid big jackpots and netted up to a thousand dollars on good nights. Paper exchanged hands faster than on the Toronto Stock Exchange. We gave good value- big pieces of paper in exchange for little ones. After a hard night's paper hanging, the Rotarians would adjourn to the members-only section where the proprietor's motto was proudly displayed. "Yeah, tho I walk through the valley of death, I shall fear no evil, cause I'm the meanest son-of-a-bitch in the whole damn valley". The claim was never seriously contested.

As our three score and ten approached, the Bingo was financially sound, despite-an upsurge of pale imitators. But irreconcilable differences came to a head in that year and your executive, with whole-hearted approval from the chair, voted for a change of scene. The U.A.W. hall was chartered, the Bingo went on, and a good time was had by all, in such luxuriant surroundings as only Big Labour could afford. Soon however, the brilliant economists, heretofore mentioned, drew our attention (in the bar) to a sobering fact. We weren't making any money. So the Great Weekly St. Catharines South Rotary Bingo and Happy Hour drew to its untimely close. Various alternatives, like a one-shot truly gargantuan bingo, were given very careful consideration, and not attempted.

**Remember problem two?** That too, had been the subject of years of dedicated planning and work by



Rotarians and others. It was not easy to find an unmet need (though a colleague, informed that we were financing a Remand Home in Tobago, commented: "That's nice, when are you building one in St. Catharines?") Casting about, we had found in 1972 that the Association for the Mentally Retarded had land and some plans, and a desperate need, but no money. And we learned many interesting things about government. For instance, if you have no money, they won't give you any. But, if you put up a few thousand (twenty-five in this instance) they will be more than generous. Out of this insight sprang Barnsdale, a thirty-two bed residence for mentally retarded children.

I shall leave the definite history of Barnsdale to tougher hands. Suffice it to say that kicking off with a lump contribution was the simplest part of the job. As practically the first thing of its kind, anywhere, the new residence ran into a variety of large and small, foreseen and unforeseen difficulties. Various members of our Club have been instrumental in coping with these as they arose. Of many who attempted the overwhelming task of directing Barnsdale: one, Roy Adams, went on to become a member of this Club and Mayor of St. Catharines. Analogies suggest themselves. I shall content myself with one. Mentally retarded children are people and so, whatever you may say, are Roy's present constituents.

-Barnsdale has continued to involve this Club, as members of the board. Paul Meehan, a most able administrator and Labour Relations man, served as Chairman of the board, while Paul Kannegieter, Abel Kluwer, Wayne Hobbs and others have contributed their time, wisdom and work.

-A four person rowing shell, then worth about \$4,500, was donated to the St. Catharines Rowing Club, with an appropriate ceremony. Henley water was poured over the prow.

-Valerie Celuszk, returned from a year in Sweden, spoke to our Club at a ladies' day early in the year. Andrea Bynkowski visited, prior to leaving for Belgium. Poles apart? Hardly. Valerie fell in love with Sweden and has returned there. Andrea has gone on to become Miss C.N.E. Birgitta Akerllund, from Sweden, came to stay with different members during the school year and conveyed an impression of quiet, studious charm. It was in this year that our Student Exchange Committee stole a good idea, assigning each member and family a weekend with Birgitta. We all benefited. Mimi Tyborn of Dennis Morris was chosen to represent us next year.

-The bulletin, in 1974, discovered the talents of a promising youth named T.R. (Bob) McBride. John Kerr, briefly with us on his way up the ladder, took on an exchange program with students from Quebec and Ontario. Howard Etherington, Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee, masterminded Bingo and researched other means of Club enrichment. John Bergsma, now lost to us, organized the distribution of Rotary Medals. Peter Partington chaired Charitable Donations. In this year, we sponsored Canadian Cross Country Championships at Brock. Tolly Upson pioneered efforts to establish a Rotaract Club in South St. Catharines. George Fitzpatrick kept in touch with Tobago, on behalf of the World Community Service.

-The Rotary Foundation sent a group of five young men from the Philippines to study our area and others under Group Study Exchange. One commented, in visiting the Shaver Hospital: "Ah, you get your razors fixed here?" But he was kidding. Jack Bailey and his Committee handled the logistics and the men billeted in members homes.

-In conjunction with the huge, active and talented Niagara Falls Cub, a Presidents' Roast was held. My object, of course, was to insult our respective presidents, humorously, if possible. I was touched by the boys' gentleness.

-Matt Taylor hosted a corn roast at his country estate in the fall – September 22.

-Exchange meetings were held with Cambridge North.

-Susan Upper, a runner-up for Exchange Student, was hosted to Adventure in Citizenship, a Rotary sponsored tour of Ottawa and the government. She spoke to the Club of this experience on October 21.



-Programs, ably organized by Bob Hayden, covered a wide range of subjects – Sports, the Arts (including painting, heraldry and opera), business, politics, history, classification talks, even a guided tour of a paper company, emphasizing new methods of pollution control. A generally high level of interest was maintained.

-George Campbell inaugurated our Annual Steel Band Jump-up at the Grape and Wine Festival. The rest is history.

Not enough can be said to thank all the members who attended, contributed, suggested, and encouraged and endured throughout this year. Vice- President Gary George, Secretary Paul Meehan, Treasurer Frank Barton, Past. President Ed Telenko, Sgt. At Arms Keith Guiltinan, and Directors Peter McDowell, Howard Etherington and George Campbell, all worked long and hard, with their respective chairmen and committees, to make Rotary interesting and productive. Thanks to you all for these opportunities and examples.

*P.M. Grant*

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## 1975-1976      PRESIDENT: GARY GEORGE

In July, 1975 Gary George, charter Secretary of the Club, took the reigns of power. Gary, a stationery engineer (manager of Grand & Toy at the Pen Centre) did not let the Club stand still. Having no genuinely bad characteristics, he taxed the ingenuity of his roasters at the Henley. He has done time with the Forces in Egypt, where he met his wife, Bunny. She antedates Hugh Hefner by some years.

This was the year when the South Club became a corporation, or at least incorporated, and a property owner. No 4 Tasker St. is ours. To get it, at the advice of Peter Partington, our legal brain, we became incorporated. Paul Kannegieter forked over a deposit from his own pocket, and the Club bought the property. Tasker House is a residence for the Adult Mentally Retarded. Like the Barnesdale residence, it is a somewhat revolutionary move toward normal living for the retarded. Unlike Barnesdale, it is a thoroughly average house on a very ordinary street, close to traffic, stores and the general public. "Normalization", a current buzz-word, was achieved. The residents, male and female, go to and from work, usually ARC Industries, and have the run of the town. The neighbours don't notice, let alone complain. The Association for the Mentally Retarded leases the house from the Rotary Club, and is subsidized by the Ministry of Community and Social Services. House parents are salaried. We do not profit on the rent, and contribute to the maintenance, which is kept to exacting standards by city regulations. We continued heavy investment of time, skill, and energy, mainly Paul Meehan's to Barnesdale. staff, unions, Governments at every level, and even occasionally, the residents, continued to raise problems for Paul and the paid administrators. This made it difficult for Paul to perform as Club Secretary, and Matt Taylor took over, officially in July 1976.

Mainly through the efforts of Ed Telenko, a new Rotary Club was sparked into life in Grimsby. Hal Snow, who was also answers to Hank, was the Charter President of the Club. Hal is Bob McBrides' right hand man at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School. Principal Bob's only Vice. Harold Treble, a charter member and senior active, passed on this year, after a prolonged illness. Harold is survived by his wife Kay, and sorely missed by his fellow members. He is our second loss: Spencer Williams, of Brock University was the first. Innovations include a Jump-up, held at the Legion Hall on Church Street. September 23, as part of the annual Grape and Wine Festival. Rotarians are noted patrons of the grape, the one subject on which they can be found in concord. Starting modestly, the Jump-up has become an annual fixture and a source of revenue. A less fortunate, and grandiose plan, in conjunction with the Downtown Club, to host massive Steel Band, and Bavarian Nights at the Garden City Arena, fell flat on its attendance. A great idea, it has yet

to be done successfully.

An arrangement with Press Theatre to sell tickets was mutually adventurous. Bob Hayden managed this cooperative venture.

A resolution was passed to have an annual President's Ball in February. These have been unexceptionably successful and enjoyable.

Our incoming exchange student was Yoko Shilbasoki from Japan. Tall, beautiful and gracious, Yoko really didn't need English to change all within sight. But she learned it anyway. Mimi Tryborn went to Belgium for us, and represented Canada well. David Slocum, son of Frank, was picked for next year.

Ron Markulin, a dentist, was successfully sponsored to the Group Study exchange program. A family exchange program, with Fredonia, New York, was inaugurated. High school students from Fredonia, were hosted for one week by St. Catharines families. With others from St. Catharines visited there.

Efforts to find a big fund raiser continued.

*Gary George*

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## 1976-1977    PRESIDENT: HOWARD ETHERINGTON

### Board of Directors:

- PRESIDENT: Howard Etherington
- Past PRESIDENT: Gary George
- Secretary: Matt Taylor
- Treasurer: Jack Smith
- Director of Club Services: Bob McBride
- Director of Community Service: Bob Hayden
- Director of Vocational Service: Bill Towill
- Director of International Service: Paul Meehan
- District Governor: John Morris

### Club Activities and Participations:

- Hosted exchange student from South Africa by the name of Kami Brodie;
- Exchanged visits with Rotary Club of South Shore;
- Hosted students of the National Debating Team and participated in judging 7th District Institute in Peterborough attended by Ed Telenko;
- Interact activity resulted in chartering of Interact Club in year 1977-78;
- Held children's Christmas party at Mountainview United Church;
- Held series of garage sales to fulfill Centennial Library Pledge (\$3,000.00);
- Increased from 34 to 40 in membership;
- Sponsored exchange student in Australia;
- Sponsored the "Tribute to Joe Reid Night" – proceeds to Library Fund;
- Unsuccessfully tried to form Rotary Club in Thorold;
- Set up hospitality suite at District 709 Conference;



- Sponsored annual Grape & Wine Festival dance;
- Held Rotary Picnic in form of "Gary George Day";
- Held golf tournament at Beechwood;
- Joined Rotary Club of St. Catharines for a special "RYLA" meeting.
- Co-sponsored unsuccessfully Centennial Dances at Garden City Arena:
- Presented Secretary's award to Junior Achievement;
- Presented Rotary Medals to area schools;
- Attended International Conference in New Orleans.

### *Howard Etherington*

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## JULY - DECEMBER 1977      PRESIDENT: PAUL MEEHAN

Paul Meehan, during his regrettably brief term of office, was administrator of the Community Health Centre on Pelham Road. This facility, originally conceived as a service provided by the U.A.W. for its members, was overtaken by the government health insurance. Paul was heavily involved in the re-organization. Despite these demands on this time and expertise, he brought his hard won skills as a manager and negotiator to his job as president, introducing an unaccustomed organization to board meetings, without losing their traditional conviviality.

He does not mention, in his short note, the hours spent in building, organizing, re-organizing, arbitrating, and communicating with government (all levels) employees, directors, and unions on behalf of the Barnsedale Residence. Without his unique skill and hard, unpaid work, this pioneering effort might not have gotten off the ground.

Paul's year began much of the work summed up in the report of Bob McBride, who stepped into the president's chair (a mixed metaphor?) at a moment's notice, and presided for a year and a half.

Paul writes: "Regarding my term as President of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South which commenced July 1, 1977, I had the misfortune of having to leave St. Catharines to accept a management position in Toronto commencing December 1, 1977."

"Mary and I did have the opportunity to attend the World Conference, in San Francisco, for Rotary International in 1977. The main theme of that conference was the youth and how to solve their unemployment problems."

"In the area of fund-raising, the garage sales produce some excellent results and I believe that the members of the Club enjoyed the experience."

The Club's sponsorship of a group home for the adult mentally retarded was another successful project and plans were in place for a second group home.

"I will be forever grateful to president-elect Bob McBride who stepped in and took over my responsibilities when I was unable to finish my term."

### *Paul Meehan*

This year in Rotary was the most exciting for your President. It was a long “year”. It actually began in early 1978 when, prior to his term ending, President Paul Meehan was transferred to Toronto, Ontario. As Vice-President it was necessary for me to wind up Paul’s year for him. A busy time it was, but the dividends were plentiful. I learned about Rotary as rapidly and as suddenly as any President could. I experienced the true spirit of Rotary cooperation, responsibility and service above self. I experienced how important team work was and would always be in reaching the Club’s objectives. Many jobs were completed and many tasks begun. The month of May 1978 was the highlight of my apprenticeship for President. The Rotary International Convention in Tokyo, Japan- what an experience- what a thrill. Every Rotarian should attend at least one International Convention-at that time, in my opinion everyone would sense and experience what Rotary “International” really means. However, let’s look at 1978-79. I would like to do this in the future to isolate those areas that are of interest to them.

Executive: The 1978-79 executive was originally comprised of the following members:  
Past President-Howard Etherington for Paul Meehan who had moved.

- President-Bob McBride
- Vice-president-Bob Hayden
- Secretary- Mike Hansen
- Treasurer-Jim Shannon
- Directors-Dave Farley (Club)
- Dave Cooperman (Community)
- Nick Cannon (Vocational)
- Matt Taylor (International)

One important change was made this year in that the Vice-President now became the co-ordinator of the four areas of service and no longer was a Club Director. This in essence increased our executive by one and gave our Vice-President additional learning experiences for his upcoming role as president.

As the year progressed there were some changes. Jim Shannon suffered a heart attack and was unable to continue as Treasurer. Paul Unrah replaced him. Nick Cannon resigned and was replaced by George Fitzpatrick. Matt Taylor wished to continue as a member but, due to hockey and business commitments, asked to be replaced on the executive. Peter Partington accepted this position but shortly afterwards resigned from the Club and was replaced on the executive by Rich Cavers.

In December the Nominating Committee nominated a 1979-80 executive which was subsequently approved by the membership. This executive was essentially the 1978-79 executive with Bob Hayden becoming President; Bob McBride, Past President; Paul Unrau, Treasurer; Brian Bancroft, Secretary; and George Fitzpatrick, David Cooperman, Dave Farley and Rich Cavers as Directors.

**Membership:** It was a year of decision-making as far as membership was concerned and their attendance. The executive decided that our low attendance percentage was due, in a large part, to a certain number of members who attended too infrequently. Hence, we encouraged regular attendance or resignations. The results are impressive. As I write this (November 1979) we have moved to number 16 of 65 clubs in attendance percentages. Our resignations were John Bergsma (business), Iain Crichton (attendance), John Knight (attendance), Jim McMurray (business), Ron Worth (attendance), Jay Hanna (attendance). Indeed, to be fair, most of the above attendance resignations were indirectly due to business commitments. Also lost were Paul Meehan (business), Nick Cannon (business), and Arnold Van Der Kley (attendance). New members welcomed into the Club were Don Ashdown, Jan Cook, Paul Cameron, Soren Harrison, Bud Walsh, Bill Waksley, and Clare Banks.



**Events and Functions:**

It was certainly a busy year. Some of the highlights of 1978-79 were:

- Bob and Nancy Hayden preparing to attend the Rotary International Convention in Rome.
- Attendance at the J.A. Banquet to present the Secretary of the Year Award and a \$200.00 scholarship.
- Attendance of a Gold team of four at the Hamilton East Golf Tournament as invited to by Ray Collins of that Club.
- The summer picnic in August at Dr. John Grehan's on Glendale Avenue. There was swimming, Bar-B-Que, Horse shoes, Volleyball, and general socializing.
- The Barnesdale Thanksgiving dinner, hosted by the Barnesdale residence.
- The always enjoyable Club exchange with South Shore Buffalo.
- The successful Grape & Wine Jump-up at the Legion Hall, where a good time was had by all and some \$600.00 profit made for Club use.
- The Garage Sales which raised some \$700.00. These were held in April at Howard Etherington's and George Fitzpatrick's garages.
- The Spring Fling held at the Victoria Park Commissionaires' Room in Niagara Falls. A great buffet, and music supplied by Mike Hanson and CHSC.
- The opening of the Crippled Children's Center on Merrittville Highway.
- The firesides at George Fitzpatrick's and Bob Hayden's homes.
- The assemblies and the fine Chinese Food at the Rice Bowl.

**Projects:**

Of course our most successful project of 1977-78 was continued in 1978-79. That was the Skate-a-thon chaired by that most diligent worker, Howard Etherington. The results were outstanding, such that in two years, we turned over \$41,500.00 to the Crippled Children's Centre, \$10,000 to participating hockey groups and the payment of less than \$3000 in expenditures.

A satisfying project completed this year was the Chartering of our first Interact Club under President, Peter Wadsworth.

**Students:**

Our support of the Student Exchange programme continued although with less success than in other years. Miss Colleen Kelly went to Australia on our behalf and conducted herself with maturity and dignity. Our exchange student from Mexico, Miss Martha Menendes was less successful as she was unable to adjust and was sent home in November. We supported the RYLA programme held at Ridley College and hosted, along with the Downtown Club, a luncheon to honour the RYLARIANS.

We continued to award Rotary Medals to one boy and one girl at each of the high schools in our area. These schools are Thorold High School, West Park, Merritton High School, Denis Morris, and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School.

**At the Club Level:** We renamed and revamped our Bulletin from "The Kookaburra gossip sheet" to "the South Mouth"; needless to say there was some heavy discussion.

We re-discovered that we had \$2,000.00 in trust at Brock University, the interest from which is given to

a worthy student as a "Spencer Williams" Scholarship in memory of a former member of our Club. Our programmes ranged from excellent to fair and included such topics as: voting machines; York Hannover Development; Cable TV; Tommy Garrick, F.A.C.S., Terry Williams, our District Governor, Hal Snow, our area 6 Representative; and some classification talks.

**District Level:** The District agreed to area Hospitality rooms at the District Conference where Clubs would be assessed \$1.60 per member to finance this.

Hal Snow, Past President of Grimsby Club became the Governor's representative. Terry Williams of Kitchener became the District Governor and did an outstanding job. Bert Boone of Kitchener was nominated the next Canadian District Governor.

We initiated the enjoyed "Reach Out" correspondence with Japan and your President received several interesting letters from Japan. Our District fees were raised from \$6.00 to \$7.00.

1978-79- A most rewarding and challenging year. Rotary is not what it gives you but what you give to it. My service to Rotary this year was more than compensated by the friendships and the satisfaction received in just being involved in Rotary.

**Bob McBride**

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## 1979-1980      PRESIDENT: BOB HAYDEN

Thank you for the privilege of being the president of this club. This has been an enriching and gratifying experience that I will never forget. Thank you for sending me and my wife, Nancy to represent this club at the 75th International Convention in Rome, Italy- again an experience that we will never forget. 1979-80 year was, I feel, a year of accomplishments as this report will unfold.

Your executive made things happen. Brian Bancroft as Secretary and Paul Unrau as Treasurer really held the ends together. The four areas of service were covered by Rich Cavers, David Cooperman, David Farley and George Fitzpatrick, while Mike Hansen, Vice-President and now president-elect was a real help. Bob McBride was Past President and a guiding force appreciated by all.

Howard Etherington was recognized by our club as a Paul Harris Fellow because of his outstanding efforts over the years. This was a first and the presentation, which was a surprise, was made by District-Governor Orv Johnston.

The thrust of Rotary activities towards youth over the year certainly can be highlighted by the activity in this Club. Eva Fishbeck was our incoming exchange student this year, a Swedish girl who won the hearts of all who came in contact with her. Eric Huhar, our outgoing student will spend next year in Australia. Don Hillis was selected and sent to Ottawa for the Adventure in Citizenship program and Jean Bancroft was our candidate for the Rotary Youth Leadership Award program held at Ridley College. Once again, ten students were selected as Rotary Medalists from five local high schools, a selection made by their peers. Their names are permanently recorded on the "Rotary Board" in their respective schools. Junior Achievement again received the financial support of this club. Interact Club had faltered and really is not active at this time. Doug Junke was selected as one of two Canadians from District 709 for the Group Study Exchange Team to France. This team left in May and this is the second time our Club had successfully nominated a candidate, frankly, a real feather in our cap!



With an average attendance of 81.6% there was a marked improvement. Directors meetings averaged 89%. We welcomed four new members in the persons of George Chadwick, Jack Corbett, John Davis, Jim Kinary and, at the time of this writing, Jim McMurray is returning to the club. This will bring our membership numbers up to 35.

Financially, we are in good shape. Our general account is about \$3,000.00, and our Charitable Account is just about nil, a position we try to maintain. Our investments amount to \$17,000.00, plus our equity in the Tasker House building. Last year our net disbursements to charity were about \$12,000.00. I think that it is important to remember that all interest earned on investments should be dispersed annually in answer to charitable requests before undertaking new projects. This has been the wish of previous boards.

Past Presidents' Night (again a first) was held in conjunction with our annual spring dance in the Commissioners' Quarters, Niagara Falls. It attracted 72 people to welcome Ron Butson and Gary George who traveled from out of town to be with us. Our family picnic was held at John Grehan's home, a perfect setting. Last fall, Joan McBride and her assistant Bob organized a shopping spree bus tour to Kitchener, to cover factory outlets. Inter-club activities included two enjoyable exchange visits with Grand Island Rotary Club.

Our special 75th project from a service point of view was "Operation Aware". This project stands out in my mind as the highlight of the year. This is an educational program dealing with peer pressure among children. George Brooks, Vice-Principal of Prince Phillip School was selected and trained in Fargo, N.D. to administer the first "pilot project" to his grade 5 class. At the time of this writing, George had completed the first program and is returning to Duluth, Minn. (headquarters) to be certified as an instructor (teacher of teachers). It is hoped that our club's efforts to this point will firmly anchor a successful program that will spread throughout the Lincoln County School System. It will take perhaps five years to notice the effects.

When it came to fund raising and donations there was activity. This club moved up to a 100% Club in Rotary Foundation. We forwarded \$15.00 per member to Rotary International for the 3H appeal and \$10.00 per member to the Woodstock Disaster Fund. \$9,000.00 was given to the Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre. This money was raised by the Skate-a-thon and brings our three year total up to \$50,000.00. Garage sales produced about \$1,000.00 and our Grape and Wine dance raised \$950.00. Both activities appear to becoming annual events. Research into a "Casino Night" concept revealed a questionable degree of public acceptance when compared to bingo gambling. A lottery is now being investigated.

In closing, I would like to thank your wives for their sometimes silent efforts in making things happen. It is difficult to single out people but I want to mention the efforts of Bud Walsh, our program chairman, and Don Ashdown on bulletin. These men did an outstanding job, making mine so enjoyable. These two functions are the real glue in a vital and active club.

Bulletin + Program = Attendance Attendance = Activity Activity = Accomplishment Accomplishment = Satisfaction. Isn't it a wonderful chain, and that is what Rotary is all about.

**Bob Hayden**

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## 1980-1981      PRESIDENT: MIKE HANSON

"Take Time to Serve", Rotary International's clarion to its more than 18,000 clubs worldwide, was enthusiastically embraced by the South Club's 34 members as this year began July 1, 1980. Almost every member spent considerable time over and above regular weekly meeting attendance in a variety of worthy projects in the four avenues of service. As President, and in consultation with the director in charge of each

avenue, I set goals compatible with my aspirations for the club this year an R.I. President, Rolph Klarich's theme.

#### Club Service Dave Cooperman, Director

...is critical to the health of this club and key to success in this regard are at least three elements:

- Attendance and membership growth;
- Programs and education;
- Communication.

Improving attendance is a project in which every club member may participate. I proposed to seek and stay among the top 20 of District 709's 66 clubs this year. We did so in all but 4 months (never dropping below number 26), climaxed by a number 2 finish in May.

I sought a net increase of 6 members of 17.6% in membership over last year through the induction of 8 new men.

We attracted that many new people but lost one more active member than anticipated this year, (Paul Unrau due to a career change that took him to Vancouver). By June 30, with 2 more prospective members awaiting induction, we were up a net 5 new Rotarians or 14.7% over one year ago.

The challenge of presenting informative and entertaining programs 44 or more weeks a year is awesome. But the 5-man committee chaired by Bud Walsh was equal to it.

This year's fare varied from eminent political figures (Deputy Premier Robert Welch and M.P. Joe Reid) to attractive young people (exchange students Kim Blumquist and Colleen Kelley and RYLA student Jean Bancroft), to educators (George Brooks and Bruce Knicely, on our own "Operation Aware") to the arts (Arnold Edinborough) to business (Joe West and Doug Geddie on the auto industry campaign, Brian Leyden and Keith Milne from the Chamber of Commerce plus many excellent classification talks), to social services (Doug Rapelje on senior citizens and Paul Reeves on the Mentally retarded services in the area) and of course, to Rotary Subjects (D.G. Bert Boone, District Director Bob McBride and area rep, Tom Newton).

Probably the most important element in a thriving club is good communication at meetings, assemblies, firesides and through our bulletin, **The Southmouth**.

While employing a firm agenda at 44 meetings and 5 assemblies to assure business at hand was dealt with, I encouraged a free, relaxed "fun" atmosphere. Under the very capable chairmanship of Bill Wakely, our five firesides were extraordinarily successful. All attending learned much more about Rotary, this club, and asked questions that have led to further worthwhile improvements. **The Southmouth**, again edited well by Don Ashdown, continued to keep us all informed and reflect the busy life of this club.

-The successful interaction of these three elements set the stage for a good year in the other avenues of service.

#### Community Service (Bud Walsh, Director)

... continued to be the most important raison d'être of this club. To augment our charitable fund treasury, we undertook two new projects in addition to the successful skate-a-thon of the past three years.

A lottery called "**Club 300**" headed by Howard Etherington and Bob Hayden was launched last fall and realized approximately \$36,000 in gross receipts. \$8,000 is pledged to the Terry Fox "Marathon of Hope". We also took on a once monthly bingo in association with Club 47. These projects plus the skate-a-thon, garage sale and Wine Festival jump-up combined to gross about \$60,000 this year.

As of June 30 we have paid or committed more than \$26,500 to various charitable organizations in the area, and to ten Rotary Medalists, to Rotary candidates, one incoming and one outgoing exchange student and raised our status with Rotary Foundation this past year to **1,200%**.



Several of our members, notably Wayne Hobbs, George Woodburn, Peter Grant and more recently Brian Radford kept involved in the affairs of Barnsedale and Tasker House residences for the Mentally handicapped.

**International Services (Soren Harrison, Director)**

... continued to involve virtually every club member as a regular or weekend host of this year's guest, exchange student, Kim Blumquist from Finland. As noted, we continued to increase our support of Rotary Foundation and its worldwide activities.

**Vocational Service (George Fitzpatrick, Director)**

... by our club continued to emphasize our commitment to youth. A number of programs discussed our youth activities others reviewed applications of the 4- Way test and effective employee relations. The firesides this year were perhaps the best ever and the major achievement of this directorate.

As Rich Carvers assumed the chair, I was confident he inherited a club with a positive common purpose to Rotary ideals and a healthy esprit de corp.

I look back on the year as one tremendously rewarding to me as a learning and growth experience and as an opportunity to more fully understand and appreciate the goals and accomplishments of Rotary.

Every member of this club should aspire to the Presidency. Each would be better for it.

***Mike Hanson***

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1981- 1982    **PRESIDENT: RICH CARVERS**

Executive for the year:

Vice-President: Bud Walsh

Secretary: Brian Bancroft

Treasurer: Ross Elliott.

Directors: Don Ashdown, Jack Corbett, David Cooperman, Soren Harrison.

My year as President could be best summed up as a year of growth, a year of activity, and a year of communications and cooperation.

**Highlights of Club Activities and Accomplishments:**

My year began with a fabulous 2 week trip to Brazil to the International Convention and to see the sights of Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Iguassu Falls Area. Shortly thereafter we held a successful club exchange with the Buffalo South Shore club at Dalhousie Yacht Club in September. A group attended an Inter-city meeting in Rochester to hear R.I. Pres. Stan McCaffery speak on this theme of "World Understanding and Peace Through Rotary".

We saw the expansion of Operation Aware to 6 schools after starting in one in 1979. A highlight of this year was accepting a Significant Achievement Award for Operation Aware, at the conference in April at Niagara Falls.

Also at the conference we received a District Award for our service to sponsoring both an incoming and an outgoing exchange student. Leontina Junges From Argentina spent a year in St. Catharines and Louise Engel was our outgoing student who spent a year in Denmark. We sponsored a participant, Sonia Carr, to



the Adventure in Citizenship in Ottawa. Rob Welch was our representative on the Group Study Exchange team which went to Israel in June, and we awarded 10 Rotary Medals in 5 are High Schools. We sent 2 students, Karen Perry and Brian Ashdown, to the highly successful RYLA in June.

In February we hosted many of our wives at a club luncheon as Leontina spoke. We had excellent attendance and participation at the District Conference in April.

Our Spring Fling will stand out as a highlight of my year because of the high attendance and because we recognized Bob Hayden as only our second Paul Harris Fellow. This award was presented by District Governor Ernie Notar.

I don't suppose any of us will ever forget the Mike Hanson roast. Mike, our Past President, accepted a business challenge in Calgary. We have 11 members with us now who were inducted in my year. These members are: Leo Bonomi, John Chotka, Keith Clarke, Wally Dodington, Charlie Hazan, Vic Kuraitis, Frank Mills, Gerry Nazar, Paul Reeve, Jim Shields, and Jim Ward.

Monthly bingo provided an opportunity for fellowship, to raise funds and to get red, bleary eyes from all the smoke. Our club assemblies provided great fun and fellowship while conducting club business.

On top of this, 2 golf tournaments and our club picnic were enjoyed by those who participated and will surely be repeated next year.

Skate-a-thon was a smashing success again this year due to the efforts of a group of members. It raised a total of \$18,800, with expenses of \$2,560, and turned \$16,207 over to participating groups. We can look forward to this again. Club 300, our super fund-raising effort should produce a net income of approximately \$15,000. The final total will not be known until October. Our excellent programs were varied in nature, sometimes informative, inspiring and sometimes entertaining. We had an excellent bulletin. It was newsy, humorous and educational.

In the past our projects have tended to look inward to our own community. This year we looked outward to a world community service project. We supported a new hospital in Dominican Republic with a donation of \$3,000.

#### Review of Goals and Objectives 81 – 82

**Membership:** We targeted to build a stronger club that is more easily able to work at our various projects. I set a goal of 50 members this year. We presently stand at 49 good, solid, interested members- the numbers are not too important, if the jobs get done. **Activities:** We hoped to strengthen the results of our activities by improving and building on them. An improved Grape and Wine dance, better run at bingo, Skate-a-thon 82 and Club 300. Yet we would not ignore new and worthwhile projects as they arise. Unfortunately because of the increased events and decrease in support, we have decided to discontinue our sponsorship of the Grape and Wine Jump-up. Bingo has raised \$12,700.00, skate-a-thon has raised \$16,207.00, and Club 300 will raise approximately \$15,000.00.

<b>-Total Money Raised-</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
<b>-Total Donations Made-</b>	<b>\$35,358.00</b>

**Fellowship:** I hoped we would have some fun, and hoped to improve fellowship and camaraderie. I suggested we quickly get to know and welcome new members. "Let's not sit together in our comfortable, familiar chairs week after week, but go out to meet our new members and guests", I said. I thank the veteran members for helping make the new members feel welcome. I know that long term, professional friendships will develop, but at the same time I feel that no cliques have developed- that everyone is in fellowship with each other.



**Hospitality:** I issued a challenge to our Public Relations committee to let the community know we are here, and what, we have done. This has been moderately well accomplished, hindered somewhat by our club being referred to as the Rotary Club of St. Catharines, by the press.

**Attendance:** I asked that we do as well as we did for Mike Hanson and aim for the top 10 in the district each month and to aim for two 100% months. We achieved the top club in the district twice with 100% and 96.1% months in a row. However, we made the top 10 only 2 months and the rest of the months were rather poor. (Oh well, you win some and lose some).

**Membership Involvement:** I hoped to rekindle the spirit of Rotary in our long-term members; and to re-involve them in the club. They are our strength and backbone. In addition to this, I tried to make new members involved early, and get to feeling comfortable in Rotary. In most cases this occurred and I am satisfied with this area.

**Communications:** My original survey indicated that the members wished to know more of this “business” conducted at Director’s meetings, and we promised to pass the highlights on to you monthly. We have tried to keep our membership better informed about club business and especially club finances including extensive lists of our charitable donations and treasurer’s reports. The excellent series of firesides also provided much information to the members. Another area of communications that has shown considerable success is the areas of direct communication with the downtown club. A liaison committee was formed to include; their president and members, and our president and members. We achieved great success and cooperation in sharing boundaries- and we will include other areas of common interest in the future. Larry Ross as past president, and I, will continue to sit on that committee and carry the cooperation between the 2 clubs ever closer.

**Special Thanks:** I have tried not to name names, or to single out individuals today, because the success of the past year has been a true team effort. However, there is one individual that I wish to recognize for his outstanding effort. That is Brian Bancroft, our Secretary. Brian is leaving the board of directors after years of devoted and able service. Brian performed a fantastic job. He always said, “sure, no problem” when asked to do a job. You could count on him and he always came through. He made my job so much easier by attending to the tedious paperwork without fail and without complaint. I, and the entire club owe him a tremendous thanks and look forward to possibly having him back on the board in the future.

I think it will be difficult to assemble a team as cohesive as our board of directors. We had 12 director’s meetings without a serious argument or a raised voice. These men were all ready to do a job without hesitation and to do it properly. The guidance and assistance they provided was unerring, consistent and mature, and we couldn’t have had a year like we did, without them.

TO ALL OF THE DIRECTORS, A HUGE THANKS AND, TO ALL OUR MEMBERS TOO, THANK YOU FOR ONE OF THE BEST YEARS OF MY LIFE!

*Rich Cavers*

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1982-1983      **PRESIDENT: MARTIN “BUD” WALSH**

A Rotary Year is really months. Six months of planning till the day comes when you are inducted as President. I was inducted June 28th, 1982. I was blessed with a superb Board of Directors.

PAST PRESIDENT- Rich Cavers

VICE PRESIDENT- Soren Harrison

SECRETARY- Jack Corbett

TREASURER- Ross Elliott

DIRECTORS- Dave Cooperman, Don Ashdown, Brian Radford, Norris Brown

It was a year of many pleasant, personal experiences that will always be a part of my year, 1982-1983.

During my year, the following Members were inducted into our club: John Klassen, Allan Carr, Dave Jones, Gary Comish, Perry Stover.

### **International Convention- Dallas, Texas- June 6 – 9, 1982**

Meeting President Hiroji MUKASA for the first time and hearing his theme:

**“Mankind is One”**

“Build Bridges of Friendship Throughout The World” Attending an International Convention stimulates your appetite for Rotary. You can never stop with just one.

### **The Governor’s Visit- August 18, 1982**

District Governor Charles COMPLIN’s first official visit to our club. We set a goal of 55 Members for the year. We did not achieve that objective but in a year of economic restraint and budget cuts we have maintained the status quo. We end the year with 49 Members. We have quality if not quantity.

### **Our Principal Objectives for 1982-1983 Tasker House**

As of July 1, 1983, we will be transferring ownership of Tasker House to the St. Catharines and District Association for the Mentally Retarded for the sum of \$1.00. It was an objective we set and achieved- we are no longer landlords.

### **Camp Enterprise**

In cooperation with the St. Catharines Rotary Club, we have sent 10 Students, from the area, to Camp Enterprise, at Bolton. They arrived June 19, 1983, and hopefully will be the first of a new, successful venture, for our Club.

### **Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation program**

I challenged every Member to take a C.P.R. Course during my Rotary Year and to support the Community effort in promoting C.P.R. training for all adults. On Wednesday February 16 1983, several of our Members and their Wives, attended a three hour Heart Saver Program at Mack School of Nursing. We did not get 100% but we have not given up yet. We will continue our efforts into 1983-1984.

### **Rotary Park**

Another joint effort with the St. Catharines Club. The conversion of the sanitary landfill site on Pelham Road, St. Catharines, to an “INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP GARDEN” culminated by the visit of President Hiroji MUKASA and his Wife, to open the Park on June 9, 1983.

It was a privilege to be President when the President of Rotary International takes time to visit your City and participate in such an event.

### **Spring Fling**

Friday April 22, 1983 was the date of our Spring Fling, the Annual Ladies Night, at the Refectory, Niagara Parks. Two surprised and happy fellows were presented with their Paul Harris Medals by Governor Charles Complin.

Wilfred Smith- Charter President, Bob McBride Past President both well deserved for their contribution to Rotary over the years.

### **District Conference**

The District Conference was held April 29 to May 1, 1983 at Hamilton Place. It was an excellent Conference. Our Club acted as co-host and did themselves proud in making it a success. To be Chairman of the Friday Night Dinner was a great personal thrill and a most memorable experience.



### **Rotary International Convention**

Toronto was the place to be in '83. Three Members of our club attended this year- Soren Harrison, Jack Corbett and Bud Walsh. I was honored to act as Assistant Sergeant at Arms. It was an exhilarating experience to be part of 16,000 Rotarians in Maple Leaf Gardens.

Home Hospitality Night on June 7, 1983 was great. Our Members pitched in, worked like a "well oiled" machine to make the visit of 47 visitors to the homes of our Members a resounding success. Everybody involved gained from the experience.

### **RYLA Night**

To Host the Rotary Meeting at Ridley College, St. Catharines, for the RYLANS on Thursday, June 16, 1983, was another pleasant experience. When John Frid approached me to ask for help, I did not hesitate. With a Committee working with Brian Bancroft, it went off as smooth as silk. It was a night to remember.

### **Youth Exchange**

Our Exchange Student for the year was Chris Jensen, from Denmark. Everyone was pleased with Chris. He made many friends during his year in St. Catharines.

### **Skate-A-Thon**

Chairman Jim Bagozzi put a lot of effort into our Skate-A-Thon in 1983.

We collected:

\$4,680.42 for Participating Groups \$7,186.63 for Crippled Children for a total of \$11, 867.05 to Community Projects, by this one endeavour.

### **Fund Raising**

Fund Raising means people working together and this Club does it well. Club 300 Bob Hayden - Chairman Bingo Howard Etherington – Chairman Garage Sales Keith Clarke – Chairman. The combined efforts of this group, with the Skate-A-Thon, raised in excess of \$40, 000.00, for Community work, during my year. I'm proud to be a part of that.

### **In Conclusion**

It has been a year I shall always treasure. There is a responsibility on the President of a Club to improve the Club during his year. It is difficult to improve what I consider to be the best.

It has been an honour to have served as President during 1982-1983.

*Martin "Bud" Walsh*

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1983-1984      **PRESIDENT: SOREN HARRISON**

### **CLUB ASSEMBLIES**

Four this year,

1. DG Sampson's visit in July
2. October at Jordan, St. Michelles
3. The Rice Bowl in January
4. The Esquire in April

All assemblies were well attended; we had excellent discussions, sometimes heated, but always friendly. The assemblies play a very important part of Rotary, best time for giving your opinion and the fellowship is hard to beat.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

**GOLF TOURNAMENT-** was held this year at the Willow-Dell Golf Course in July with an excellent turn-out from our club as well as from the Downtown Club. Unfortunately, the bigger club picked up the trophy for the best 4 players- but our turn will come.

**CORN ROAST AND PICNIC-** for Rotarians and their families was held at the Radford's residence. Good attendance, good food etc., made this a super Sunday afternoon.

**SPRING FLING-** this year we switched to the Queenston Heights Restaurant. DG Hugh Sampson with wife Mae were in attendance.

**INTER-CLUB VISIT-** from Buffalo South Shore and to Buffalo South Shore. As usual, our visits with Buffalo South Shore are events to look forward to.

## **PAUL HARRIS FELLOW**

This year Jack Bailey was presented with the Paul Harris Fellow award at one of our meetings. DG Hugh Sampson presented Jack with the award. It was a special pleasure for me as it was Jack who sponsored me to Rotary.

## **FUND RAISING**

Bingo- Club 300 – Skate-A-Thon are the major fund-raising events. Total raised approximately \$58,000.00 (over \$1,000.00 per member).

- \$18,000.00 to prizes for Club 300

- \$4,000.00 to clubs associated with Skate-A-Thon

- Approx \$35,000.00 remained for Charitable Donations.

## **DONATIONS**

A reminder of some of the donations:

- \$15,000.00 to Cat. Scan

- \$7,000.00 Crippled Children

- \$4,000.00 Rotary Park

- \$2,500.00 Care Line

- \$1,000.00 Brock University

- \$1,000.00 St. Catharines

- \$726.00 Mentally Retarded

- \$500.00 Library

- \$500.00 Malawi-Ed Blair

- \$500.00 Participation

There were other donations, all worthwhile causes, all in need of financial support. Without the help of ALL members it would be impossible to raise such amounts as we do in our club, thanks to all of you, a tremendous effort!

## **COMMITTEES**

More committee meetings are necessary. I did try to promote more meetings over the year and feel that not as many committees met as I had hoped for. However, everything that had to be done somehow got done, so no complaints.

## **FIRESIDES**

More firesides should have taken place. Only 2 this year, we should have had 4 or 5. Yes, there was one planned for the night of the big snowstorm!! Do yourself a favour, when invited to a Fireside- attend. Great camaraderie, Good information!





A big thank you to the Directors and the Executive, and a special thank you to Secretary Norris Brown, for the help and assistance this past year. Rotary is a team effort. Without a “behind the scenes” team working with the President for the good of the Club and Rotary as a whole, our year would not have been the success I hope you feel it has been.

For me it has been an honour to be President of the St. Catharines South Rotary Club and I wish Jack Corbett much success during his year as President.

***Soren Harrison***

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## 1984-1985      **PRESIDENT: JACK CORBETT**

I would like to begin by thanking the members for the privilege of being the President of the club. It has been an interesting and rewarding experience that I will always remember. It began early in the spring of 1984 when I attended the Spring Conference and Assembly in Buffalo and shortly thereafter Pat and I attended the International Convention in Birmingham, England, along with Anne and Brian Bancroft, Helen and Bud Walsh, and thousands of other Rotarians and their wives.

In reviewing the year, I feel it was a year of many varied accomplishments. The work and support of your executive, committee chairmen and all the members made this happen.

The Executive for the year was:

Past President- Soren Harrison

Vice President- Norris Brown

Secretary- Ross Elliot

Treasurer- Brian Radford

Director, Community Service Keith Clarke

Director, Club Service Steve Campbell

Director, Vocational Service- Jim Bagozzi

Director, International Service- Matt Taylor

During the year we welcomed four new members, Art Adams, Mike Flynn, Ron Kozub and Rob Welch. Unfortunately in June, Bill Marshall and Gerry Nazar both resigned due to business pressures which made it impossible for them to continue. Our membership at year-end was 54, one short of our objective. In addition, Steve Campbell was transferred to Vancouver but still remains a member and gets back for meetings about once a month.

The Club was involved in many activities of various nature during the year.

### **Youth Exchange;**

Yeh Jang Kim, our incoming student from South Korea was with us until late July. Claudia Christina Toesca Espinhosa, our incoming student from Brazil joined us on a very wintery day in January. Mary Ann Summers our outgoing student, left in August for her year in Japan. Nancy Clifford and Yan McCloskey have been chosen as our outgoing students for 85/86 and both will be leaving for Japan in August 1985.

Rotary Medalist:- Ten students, 2 each from five area high schools, were chosen as recipients at our June 3rd meeting.

Junior Achievement:

A recipient was chosen to receive the “Vice-president of Administration” award sponsored by our club.

**RYLA:**

Three students, Karen Ashdown, Lesley Corbett, and Andrew Grant were sponsored by our Club. The dinner meeting of June 13th was hosted by our Club.

**Camp Enterprise:**

In conjunction with the downtown Club we began our own programme for forty area students at "Cave Springs". A special thanks to John Klassen and his committee for getting this project off the ground. This is a very worthwhile programme for teaching students the free enterprise system, and I hope it continues for many years to come.

**Tributes:**

Ed Telenko and Peter Grant were honoured for their years of dedicated and sustained service to Rotary by being awarded Paul Harris Fellowships by the members of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South.

- In International service we contributed \$1,100 to the "Miracle Fund" for inoculation against polio for children in the Philippines, a pledge of \$750 U.S. per year for 3 years to the Malawi Orthopedic Project, \$500 to the Salvation Army Hostel in Port of Spain and \$100 U.S. to the District 709 Antigua Sports Complex.
- Our main fund raising projects were the "Club 300" draw of which profit was \$13,000, Bingo profit \$15,000, the Skate-A-Thon \$5,000, and along with the club sponsored Car Rally, Christmas Draw and Grape & Wine Dance, we raised a total of \$35,000.
- As a major project the Club had agreed to purchase one Dialysis machine at a cost of \$25,000-for use by residents of the Niagara Region and undertaken to head up a committee to raise funds in the region to purchase up to five other units at a total cost of \$150,000. In addition, donations to various Community Services totaled \$17,000.
- On a social note, the club was very active starting with our Picnic at the Radford's, the Golf tournament at Willow-Dell, the Grape & Wine Dance and of course, the Spring Fling.
- Return Inter-Club meetings were held with the South Shore Club with the wives in attendance. Bud Walsh showed us that his many talents included "Belly Dancing". Four Firesides were held during the year with all members having the opportunity to participate.

In conclusion, I feel it was a very successful year which I enjoyed very much and I thank all the members for giving me the opportunity.

*Jack Corbett*

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## 1985-1986      PRESIDENT: NORRIS BROWN

Executive for the year:

- Past President Jack Corbett
- Vice-President Ross Elliott
- Secretary Brian Radford
- Treasurer Keith Clarke

Director International Service- John Chotka

Director Vocational Service- Jim Bagozzi

Director Community Service- Jim Shannon

District Governor Curtis McKown



Rotary Club of Clarence District Representation:  
D.G. Area Rep Soren Harrison  
District Director Bob McBride  
District W.C.S. Committee Rich Cavers  
District G.S.E. Committee Bob Hayden

As I reflect on the year, I must thank each and every member for the honour and opportunity to lead the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South as Club President. It was a year filled with fond memories of hard work by members of the club, copious meetings and fantastic fellowship.

My first official function was to represent the club at the Rotary International Convention in Kansas City. I thank the club for sending Patti and myself as the club's representatives. We were fortunate that Jody and Jim Bagozzi and Claudia Espinhosa, our Youth Exchange Student from Brazil, accompanied us. I will always remember R.I. President Carlos Canseco signaling out the Rotary Club of Winnipeg. He called the admittance of Winnipeg the first milestone in making Rotary International truly International. I urge all Rotarians to attend at least one International Convention. The experience will always be with you.

### **Highlights of Rotary year 85-86**

-Membership: July 1/85 was 54

-During the year we lost Paul Reeve, Bill Barker and Mike Flynn to business moves. These were all good Rotarians and contributed much to the club. I hope that they will continue their Rotary life with other Rotary Clubs.

-With Bob McBride's guidance as membership Chairman, the following men were introduced into the club: Frank Ercul, Joe Petruzelia, Peter Marett, John McKenzie, Brian McMullen, Peter Bibbings and Ron McMillan. Peter and Ron were admitted in the week of R.I.'s anniversary and are part of the select 1,000,000 club. The club now has 58 members.

### **Fellowship:**

-Golf Tournament in July

-Family Picnic in August at the Radford Estate

-Rotary Day at Canada's Wonderland

-Rochester Intercity Visit with six members attending

-Interclub Visit with Buffalo South Shore visiting us

-Press Theatre Night when 20 members and wives attended

-Annual Christmas Program, Claudia Espinhosa, Youth Exchange

-Student from Brazil and the Grantham High School Choir entertained a packed house

-Lobster Night in February was a first for the club with hopes to continue

-District Conference was well attended by 20 Rotarians and their wives

-Spring Fling was held on May 9th and was an excellent night

-R.Y.L.A. meeting was hosted the evening of June 12/86

-Fireside was an excellent evening for a good fellowship and Rotary information

-Garage Sale was held at John Chotka's establishment and not only provided funds for the general account, but also good Rotary fun.

-Many thanks to those Rotarians, wives and guests who participated in the club's social and fellowship activities. It is these Rotarians who make the social programs such a success.

### **Fund Raising:**

Goal \$35,000.00

Amount Raised \$43,744.11

Bingo Chairman Howard Etherington - \$23,869.72

Club 300 Chairman Perry Stover - \$2,744.46

Interest on Investment \$2,377.25

An excellent job well done by all.



### **Rotary Donations:**

Dialysis Machine: This was our major donation. The club donated one dialysis unit and agreed to the purchase of another unit with the proceeds of Club 300 and Skate-A-Thon. The club received a significant award at the District Conference for this project. Each unit cost \$25,000.00.

Rotary Foundation: District Governor Curtis McKown, on behalf of the club, presented to Roy Adams a Paul Harris Fellowship in appreciation of Roy's contributions to Rotary and the community.

Brock University - \$1,000.00

Malawi Project - \$1,041.75

Exchange Students - \$1,210.81

R.Y.L.A. - \$1,424.12

Camp Enterprise - \$1,986.47

Rotary Park - \$595.99

In addition, the Rotary Donations Committee, under the Chairmanship of Gerry Ashfield recommended financial support to various worthy causes. This hard working committee did a superb job.

Total Donations for 1985-86: \$43,744.11

### **Youth Program:**

Youth Exchange:

Hosted Claudia Espinbosa from Brazil

Hosted Nataisha Goulding from Australia

Sent Nany Clifford and Jan Michalskito to Japan

These students were four excellent ambassadors of Peace and Goodwill.

Letters for Peace: The club participated in this new R.I. program in which students composed letters to world leaders stressing peace and goodwill.

Camp Enterprise: In cooperation with the Rotary Club of St. Catharines, we ran a four day camp for 35 students. This was the second year in which the two clubs participated in this program which is designed to show students the value of the free enterprise system.

### **New Projects:**

Dialysis Units: One unit was purchased and another unit to be purchased with the proceeds from Club 300 funds.

Skate-A-Thon Crib Project: \$1,500.00 was put aside to purchase Canadian Safety Approved cribs for needy families in the area.

Letters of Peace: The club ran a contest among area high school students and selected a winner.

Lobster-Steak Dinner: The Radford's organized the club's first lobster-steak dinner. Good times were had by all.

### **Program Committee:**

Soren Harrison and his committee provided the club with excellent programs throughout the year that were informative, interesting and humorous.

### **Perfect Attendance:**

I was especially pleased to recognize the following Rotarians for perfect attendance for the Rotary year 1985-86.

John Grehan 1 year

Ravi Khosla 2 years

Allan Carr 3 years

Jim Shannon 4 years

John Chotka 4 years

Ross Elliott 5 years

Norris Brown 6 years

Soren Harrison

Jack Bailey 25 years

I was blessed with an excellent Board of Directors. The time and effort that these Rotarians put into making your club effective and successful was much appreciated.



R.I. President 1985-86, Edward Cadman's theme was, You are the Key. To quote President Cadman "Through Rotary fellowship and service, and your own inspiration and ideals and actions, you can become the key to making significant contributions to the well-being of people in your own community as well as around the world. You can make good things happen."

I thank the club for the opportunity to serve as the President of the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South, 1985-86. It is a year which I will always treasure.

**Norris Brown**

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## 1986- 1987    **PRESIDENT: J. ROSS ELLIOTT**

EXECUTIVES FOR THE YEAR: PAST PRESIDENT – Norris Brown

VICE PRESIDENT – Brian Radford

SECRETARY – Jim Bagozzi

TREASURER – Keith Clarke

DIRECTORS – Jim Shannon

Matt Taylor

John Chotka

John Klassen

This Rotary year is one that I shall never forget which all began June 30th, 1986.

Rose Anne and I thank you for the pleasant and memorable experience of going to the R.I. Convention in Las Vegas June 1st – 4th. There, we met President Mat Caparas who gave us and the Rotary world a theme "ROTARY BRINGS HOPE".

The following committees worked well under their appropriate Directors:

### **CLUB SERVICE – Matt Taylor - Director**

**Attendance-** Wilf Smith and Jim Bagozzi attended to the attendance in outstanding style. We had 12 members earn 100% attendance this year.

**Bulletin** – Art Adams and his committee keep us well informed with a timely bulletin. We congratulate Art in holding the cost to a minimum.

**Membership** – Chairman Bob McBride worked hard to acquire new members with the competition of a new Club in our market area.

**Program Chairman** – Rob Welch and his committee did an outstanding job with providing us with excellent speakers.

**Sergeant at Arms** – Chairman Roy Adams and his committee did a good job providing cash flow and entertainment at each of our meetings.

**Guest Introduction** – Chairman Ron Kozub and his committee did an outstanding job.

**Rotary Information** – Chairman Bud Walsh provided excellent information when we have time on our agenda.

**Garage Sale** – Chairman Peter Bibbings raised \$361.00 with very little club support.

### **VOCATIONAL SERVICES - John Klassen – Director**

**Camp Enterprise** – Chairman Ron McMullen did an excellent job in assisting with the liaison for the two Clubs and keeping the Executives well appraised.

**Sick and Visiting** – Chairman Able Kluwer did an able job again.



**Social** – Chairman Bob McKay did an outstanding job on the picnic, Kitchener October- fest, Spring Fling, ETC.

**Firesides** – Chairman Bob Hayden had two firesides and they were well prepared.

**Roster** – Chairman Jim Bagozzi did an outstanding job in updating our roster five times during the year.

**Music** – Chairman John McEwen provided the music when here and in his absence John Grehan provided us with leadership in song.

**Sports Events** – Chairman Soren Harrison chaired our, Golf Tournament which as well attended with lots of prizes and fun, as well as several curling bonspiels.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES – Jim Shannon – Director**

**Charitable Donations** – Chairman Ravi Khosla was working out of town most of the year and Bob McBride very capably took over the chairmanship.

**Rotary Medalists** – Chairman Ron Williams once again did an outstanding job.

**R.Y.L.A.** – Chairman Brian Ashdown, chaired another highly successful RYLA with three students being sponsored from our Club. We were happy to have Brian and Ann Bancroft as host parents for the first week and be present at the Thursday, June 11th meeting we hosted.

**Environment** – Chairman Dave Farley assisted with one speaker.

**Skate-a-thon** – Chairman John McKenzie worked extremely hard and afforded our Club with \$1,505.00.

**Club 300** – Chairman Rob Kozub did an outstanding job with a profit of \$13,500. The project over subscribed on closing date.

**Bingo** – Chairman Howard Etherington capably chaired our monthly bingos and did an outstanding job with the cooperation of others raising \$20,600.00.

**Dialysis** – Chairman Peter Grant coordinated the giving of a second dialysis unit at a cost of \$25,000.00 September 1987, to Hotel Dieu Hospital.

### **INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORSHIP – John Chotka – Director**

**Group Study Exchange** – Chairman Rich Cavers worked hard to have a Group Study hosted this coming year. Club approval was afforded.

**Rotary Foundation Scholarship** – Chairman John Ponikvar afforded one candidate from Brock to be sponsored by our Club, however, he was not chosen by the District.

**History** – Chairman Bob Hayden has promised to assemble a book which we will all be proud of.

**World Community Services** – Chairman Roy Adams and his committee saw to the shipping of books to Brazil at virtually no cost to the Club.

**Youth Exchange** – Chairman Frank Ercul worked extremely hard having two exchange students in at one time. We enjoyed Javier Ribo from Barcelona, Spain, and Natasha Goulding from Australia.

### **DISAPPOINTMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

We started the year with a membership of 58 and a goal of 62 with a net gain of only 4. We ended with 52 as of June 30th, 1987, with a net loss of 6 or 10 below our plan. We were successful in obtaining 3 good members, namely:

David Leprich

Kevan O'Connor

John Shaler

We lost 3 good members to other Clubs, 2 to Lakeshore and 1 to British Columbia. We asked 3 for their resignations due to lack of attendance etc. Three more were lost due to the personal business reason, for a total of nine, reducing our membership to 52. I believe we can build from this strong base.

The accomplishments were numerous; we raised \$36,000.00 which were made up of the following:

Bingo \$20,610.00

Skate-a-thon \$1,505.00

Club 300 \$13,500.00

Garage Sale \$361.00



We donated a second dialysis machine to the Hotel Dieu in September for \$25,000.00 and Niagara Rehabilitation Centre \$15,000.00 in May, the first half of the \$30,000.00 pledge. \$2,000.00 to Camp Enterprise, \$1,000.00 to Brock University being the final installment, and a sundry of \$6,800.00 to numerous small benefactors. This totals \$51,800.00 given away to improve our community.

Our Club has received a Club citation, this is an award which has been reintroduced by RI and I thank you for your support in making this possible. The new project taken on was an idea brought forward by Bob McBride, by being the sending of English textbooks to South America. This is an outstanding project and I trust that we will continue to do the same in the years to come. I am also pleased to report that the Club Executive approved in principle a means of raising most if not in fact all of the Polioplus assessment. I have volunteered to chair this project affording us a potential \$15,000.00 - \$20,000.00 Canadian. Our suggested goal is \$20,000.00 U.S. Our intention is to sell a book in mass entitled "Images of St.Catharines" and it will be available mid – September for review and sale.

I once again to take this opportunity to thank all of the executive, committee, chairmen and members at large for helping make this a year I shall never forget. You all helped to make it happen.

### EVENTS

**Interclub** – South shore - Blasdell, N.Y. July 15th, 1986, October 28th, 1986 and May 19th, 1987.

**Club Golf Tournament-** August 13th, 1986 – 38 present

**Family Picnic** – August 17th, 1986

**Lakeshore Charter Night-** September 17th, 1986 – we presented them with their gong and gavel

**Governors Visit-** September 22nd, 1986

**Octoberfest Night-** October 14th, 1986 – Waterloo Rotary Club Sponsored

**Rochester Intercity-** October 21st, 1986 – 4 members attended

**Assemblies-** December 2nd, 1986 – Esquire

February 14th, 1986 – Rice Bowl

April 14th, 1986 – Jordan Wines

**Christmas Program-** December 22nd, 1986 – Ladies Day

**Fireside-** April 7th, 1987

**Spring Fling-** April 11th, 1987 – St. Catharines Golf and Country Club

**Shaw Night-** May 8th, 1987- Queenston – Lewiston sponsored

**RYLA Meeting-** June 11th, 1987 – 3 persons sponsored

**Presidents Farewell-** June 29th, 1987

### AWARDS

**Paul Harris-** Richard Cavers- April 11th, 1987

**J.C. Citizen of the Year-** Roy Adams- April 7th, 1987

**Club Citation-** Club received RI Presidents "Club Citation" June 30th, 1987.

"ROTARY BRINGS HOPE" and only you can give and share that hope.

*J. Ross Elliott*

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1987-1988      **PRESIDENT: BRIAN M. RADFORD**

This being the final meeting of Rotary year, it is my happy task to speak to you, I would first like to thank all the officers and directors who have served this year. Many hours have been spent by these people to ensure that our Club will continue to serve not only our community but the world community at large. At

the outset of my term, it was my hope that our Club would reach a number of goals. Some of these goals have been met, others have not.

We did not reach our goal of 5% growth in membership. In fact we have ended our year with approximately a 5% decrease. Although this is disturbing, it is my understanding that our sister clubs in the area are experiencing the same problems. On a very sad note, it is unfortunate that our charter president Wilf Smith, has resigned as of the end of this Rotary year and we therefore are left with only one charter member, being Howard Etherington. We have had a successful start to our "Polio Plus" campaign. I understand to date we have contributed \$9,000.00. Many thanks to Ross Elliott and his committee who have made this worthwhile program such a success. We have also maintained our usual fund-raising vehicles and in particular:

Club 300 has again been a success and should net the Club \$13,000.00 plus. Needless to say the success is as a result of the great work of Ron Kozub and his committee.

The Bingo committee, under the capable direction of Howard Etherington has again had a banner year. Approximately \$20,000.00 has been raised. Every member of this Club owes a personal debt to all those who have donated their time and efforts to reach this goal. I do know that from time to time volunteers are hard to come by, so I would ask that each member of the Club re-think their commitment and if at all possible volunteer for this most worthy fun-raiser.

Our club again has excelled in our outreach to Youth not only of our community, but of the world. Our Youth Exchange was again successful this year with hosting Harcon Riverra, who has been a delight and many thanks to those who have hosted him, in particular Pat and Norris Brown, Cheryl and Frank Ercul and Arnold Pattimore.

Our R.Y.L.A. committee under the leadership of Don Ashdown has been very active this year. We again sent three students to the R.Y.L.A. program and for those of us who attended the Rotary meeting held on June 23rd, it was not secret that this program is a continuing success. Many thanks to Don Ashdown for all his efforts in this area.

Camp Enterprise- a super program was held again at Brock this year. Lots of effort was put into this by Ron McGraw and John Klassen of our club. Special thanks to Jim Bagozzi for coordinating the business game. Thanks for a job well done. 1987/88 has again seen our Club make a number of charitable donations:

Our club met a \$15,000.00 commitment to The Niagara Rehabilitation Centre early in this Rotary year.

Our club has also made a number of smaller donations to various worthwhile community projects.

Also of note is our financial involvement with the district bug project in the amount of \$642.50.

It appears that our club will continue to make its presence felt, not only in our community but also in the world at large.

We again ran our skate-a-thon program this year. Although we continue to make money, it appears to be through the efforts of a very few. I wonder where this program would be- without the likes of Bob McBride or John McKenzie. Perhaps this vehicle needs a little oiling in the future. It would be a shame to forego what could very easily be a very lucrative project.

Every Rotary year has a number of highlights and this year was no exception. Our Club presented a "Paul Harris" award to a member who has contributed greatly to our Club. Congratulations to Soren Harrison.



Our Club was honoured by having appointed by the District Governor a number of our members to various duties at the District level. It seems those appointed being Bob McBride, Soren Harrison, Norris Brown, Rich Cavers and Bob Hayden, not only have time for the District, but these members also expend a lot of time to promote club projects as well. Thanks for a job well done.

Another highlight of this Rotary year was hosting of the Group Study Exchange from Australia. From all accounts, this program was a standout and a big thank-you goes out to Bob Hayden and Rich Cavers who orchestrated their stay with us.

I know that this short report will overlook many who have promoted Rotary this year. Any oversight is unintentional and please accept my heartfelt thanks for your support and efforts.

On a more personal note, I and my wife, Danuta, would like to thank the St. Catharines South Rotary Club for a trip of a lifetime. The convention in Munich was outstanding, to say the least I am happy to report that President Keller's three simple truths have been part of this Club's ongoing commitment. In the area of service to others, I think our club is second to none and that our long list of donations and programs such as books to Columbia show that we are a caring club.

The second simple truth that unity is stronger than the enormous diversity that surrounds us. Again the teamwork exhibited throughout this Rotary year by St. Catharines South shows that this club is second to none.

And the third simple truth that peace is the single greatest imperative of our time seems to be dear to our own experience. Our in depth work with Youth and Group Study exchanges exemplifies our commitment to this goal.

As a result of this trip, Danuta and I were able to visit Poland. Danuta will forever be thankful for Rotary's help in re-uniting her with relatives she may never have otherwise met.

Again, very special thanks to each and every member of the Club for making this such a successful year.

***Brian M. Radford***

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## 1988-1989 PRESIDENT: JIM BAGOZZI

A year ago I introduced a program for this club that I hoped would have a significant impact on the club direction over the next few years. As all new Presidents know, we look at our year as one of continuous improvement, of opportunity, of putting the name of the club in lights. Unfortunately, a year later we all look back and see missed opportunities and, hopefully a few bright spots and accomplishments.

I look at this past year 1988-89 just that way. We have a few bright spots and introduced some significant changes, but we could have done more. One obvious bright spot was starting the year at our new meeting location. Dominec's Yorkshire House has certainly proven to be a big improvement. Comments from members and visitors are all very positive.

Before I review some of the highlights for the year, it is important that I publicly thank the Board of Directors for their assistance, dedication and encouragement throughout the year. Past President Brian Radford, Vice- President John Chotka, Secretary Jim Shannon, Treasurer Keith Clarke and Directors Art Adams, Frank Ercul, John Klassen and Ron Kozub deserve a big round of applause. Without their efforts nothing would have been accomplished or possible. Thank you, gentlemen! This time last year I outlined my major objectives for the year.

They read as follows:

- To encourage Membership Development
- To improve Communications within the Club
- To form a Probus Club in St. Catharines
- To continue to build on the successful programs of the past.

Throughout the year we worked hard at Membership Development and under the leadership of Ross Elliott added 9 new members. At the same time we lost 3 members and ended the year with a net gain of 6. At this time we have 54 members in the Club. This is 2 short of my goal of 56. Our attendance has been both encouraging and discouraging.

We continually rank in the top 20 clubs in the District, but to go with 10 to 12 perfect attendance members we have 10 or 11 with potential attendance problems. This means the good are really good and the bad are horrible. We should not let down and encourage you to all look for business and professional people in the community who would become good Rotarians if given a chance.

Improved communications is a tough task for any group. Getting people involved, delegating tasks, encouraging ideas and active participation all sound easy, but in reality takes a lot of work and effort on everyone's part. I feel we made some progress in this area. We did spruce up the "Southmouth" making it more informative and meaningful. I also tried hard to keep the membership informed of what was happening in the Club, both from the podium and through the "Southmouth".

As you all know we did form a Probus Club, which is now operating on its own. Even though, I don't like to mention names for fear of missing some, I must congratulate Bob McBride. He did one heck of a job in organizing, promoting and hand-feeding this club. He is the person most responsible for the success of the Probus Club. Thank you Bob, and thanks to the others who participated in the program and helped with the effort.

Throughout the year we continued with the fund raising programs that were successful in the past. Our Club 300 and BINGO have been great money makers and continue to do so. During the year we investigated several new major programs and one will be introduced this fall. We will have an art auction in November and I am looking forward to the success of that event. Thanks to John Chotka we also had an opportunity to raise about \$2,000.00 selling beer at the Blue Jay games. An interesting variation to our normal fund raising activity. To the end of May we actually raised in excess of \$32,000.00 in donations income.

On the other side of the ledger we approved donations of \$20,287.00 in local and District fund raising projects. We also contributed \$3000.00 to the Rotary Foundation. Our major donations included \$10,000.00 to the Niagara Child Development Centre, \$1800.00 to the St. Catharines Historical Museum, \$1,000.00 to Operation Eyesight Universal, \$750.00 to the Jamaican Relief Fund, and \$2000.00 to the St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation.

In addition to direct financial donations, our youth programs need to be mentioned again. Youth Exchange, Camp Enterprise, RYLA, Rotary Medals, Junior Achievement Awards and others are worth more than money. They are the real life-blood of this Club. We should all be very proud of what we accomplish in this area of service. We are second to none – no matter how big or small.

Thank you all for your support and service. I've enjoyed the experience tremendously. I also wish John and his executive all the best in the coming year. There is much left to be done, but this Club has potential to be the best anywhere and on any measuring stick.

Thank you

***D.J. (Jim) Bagozzi***





When I reflect back on the time that has past, I have only thoughts of challenges which came before our club and how we seized those challenges and turned them into numerous opportunities. Opportunities of which we can be extremely proud.

You see it is very easy to be President of the St. Catharines South Rotary. It is easy because you are dealing with a group of individuals who are second to none in terms of fellowship, integrity, drive and a group who live by Rotary's ideals and the four way test.

In my inaugural address to the club, I challenged the older members to become more active and participate more by taking younger members and teaching them what being a Rotarian is really like. I associated you with deadwood and said we would need to revitalize this group or begin to fail as a club.

You rose to this challenge and surpassed my every expectation. Bob Hayden, chairing of the Club 300 once again sold out this major project with help from Dave Cooperman, Ron Kozub, Wayne Hobbs and Rod Gillen. Ed Telenko, chairman of our new Fellowship committee brought to us so many outstanding events. They had the largest gathering ever at our Golf Tournament last July, our picnic at the Kozub's in September, the introduction of a Hockey trip and social occasion in Buffalo.

The largest gathering in the history of the club attended our Spring Ball which this committee has decided to call the President's Ball. It was here we presented 3 new Paul Harris fellows and where we honored our twenty Past Presidents. Ed accomplished this with the help of a large group but one mixed with many new and old members like Don Hetherington, Robin Singh, Pete Mitchell, Ron Hansell while utilizing the talents of Bob McBride, Peter Grant, John Grehen, Roy Adams and Bob McKay. Brian Radford chaired our Camp Enterprise committee using people like Frank Ercul, Soren Harrison, Kim Martin, Leo Bonomi, Ernest Villaroya, Steve King, Rick Mauro, Rod Gillen and Ron Kozub to help. Ron Williams designed a new manual for our Rotary Medalist Program and turned this over to Rick Mauro to head up. Al Carr and his sergeant group were always entertaining and helpful in the set up for each meeting. Rob Welch was able to build upon our base of 53 members to grow as high as 58, but changes in daily situations bring us back to 54, but his is still a step forward.

Greg Bird led our first successful Art Auction while chairing our Donations committee. Ron McGraw and his committee provided us with many exciting controversial and interesting programs, while Pete Mitchell headed our Youth Exchange Program and was a member of the Fellowship Committee, participated in the program committee and got even as a sergeant at arms.

To my board of director's Past President Jim Bagozzi, VP Jim Shannon, Secretary Ron Kozub and the secretary's Secretary Donna Kozub, Treasurer Joe Petruzella, Directors Art Adams, John Klassen, Frank Ercul and Ron McMillan a special thank you for your locality to the jobs you accepted and the efforts which you made to fulfill the tasks given.

I enjoyed Rotary more than ever this year, I was able to complete our \$20,000 goal to Polio Plus, induct our first of many outstanding women members to come such as Kim Martin, watch our club succeed in it's first ever Art Auction (\$3000.00 contribution), have a Rotary Foundation scholarship applicant be chosen as first alternate in the district, complete my goal of four club assemblies and three club firesides, introduce "Kerb". "Know every Rotarian Better" to our Club a social program which should foster improved membership relations within the club. Traveling on a trip of a lifetime to Seoul Korea and experience the true feeling of participating in an international conference as your representative.

My most memorable highlight would be the presentation of the Paul Harris fellowship awards to Past Presidents, Ross Elliott, Jack Corbett and the first non Rotarian of our club ever to be presented a Paul Harris fellowship and the man I respect most in the world, my father John, a very gratifying experience.

To Bob McBride I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude for being asked to join such an auspicious group

of men and women when he sponsored me so many years ago. I extend my best wishes to you and Joan in your new found retirement.

Thank you all again for making this a memory of a lifetime and one which I will cherish forever. God Bless and best wishes for the future.

*John Chotka*

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## 1990-1991      PRESIDENT: JIM SHANNON

This Rotary year is one that I felt I learned more about Rotary International.

This came out when I attended the Rotary International Conference in Portland, Oregon. It was there that I realized the scope and size of Rotary. Pat and I had a great trip to the conference and we thank you sincerely. It was at this conference that the flags of Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia were paraded onto the stage as these countries rejoined Rotary after an absence of about 50 years. They were joined by the hammer and sickle of the USSR for the first time in Rotary. This was a very moving experience,

The executive for this Rotary year 1990-91 were;

Past President- John Chotka, Vice President- Ron Kozub, Secretary- Frank Ercul, Treasurer-Joe Petruzella, Directors- Wayne Hobbs, Community Service- Ron McMillan, Club Service- George Fitzpatrick, International Service- Ron Hansell, Vocational Service- Alan Carr joined us as Assistant Treasurer in mid year.

The year started with a membership of 53 and a goal to reach 60. While we added 5 new members:

PAUL CROWLEY  
JIM HOWES  
KEN COLLINGWOOD  
FRASER STEWART  
JOHN TEIBERT

We unfortunately lost 6 members, two of which we were very sorry to lose: Pete Mitchell and Steve King. Both transferred to out of town clubs as their jobs took them away from our city. 4 Others left because of attendance problems.

Fundraising activities;

Club 300            (approx. \$13000.00)  
Bingo                (approx. \$24000.00)  
Art Auction        (approx. \$3000.00)

We added the travelogue and the sweater sales this year, and while the travelogue has cost money, I hope we will continue with it and give it time to be successful. Our Youth Exchange has been very busy. We welcomed back Diane Wright from Belgium, we sent Richard Zugic to Brazil, we received Luciane Pedersini from Brazil and Rita Lammers was selected to go to South Africa.

We also had Keiko Uchino, a Rotary foundation scholar, with us while, she attended Brock University.

Camp Enterprise was another success with 28 students attending at Brock for a weekend in May.



We hosted the Thursday Night Dinner at Ridley College for the RYLA students who attended for a week in June. Another great program.

This year we awarded three Paul Harris fellow awards:

- Leah Etherington at Ladies Christmas Luncheon
- Brian Bancroft at President's Ball in April.
- Jim Wilson (Kiwanis) at Ladies Luncheon in June

We had three club assemblies:

- OCT. RICE BOWL
- FEB. THOMPSON PRODUCTS
- MAY PARKWAY SUITES

Two firesides were held:

- OCT. NORRIS BROWN
- FEB. GEORGE FITZPATRICK

A baby girl was delivered to one of our members, Kimberly Martin on 23/6/91.

The major donations made this year were;

Alzheimer Society	\$6000.00
Nepal Hospital	\$6000.00
Head Injury Association	\$1000.00
Hotel Dieu Hospital	\$1000.00
United Way	\$1000.00
Historical Museum	\$4000.00
Club Rotario San Pedro	\$1060.00

We pledged \$25000.00 over 2 years to the YMCA building fund with another \$5000.00 pledged to the Red Cross building fund.

Several other programs that we support both financially and physically are:

- YOUTH EXCHANGE
- RYLA
- ADVENTURES IN CITIZENSHIP
- ROTARY MEDALS
- JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT
- CAMP ENTERPRISE
- TEMAGAMI WILDERNESS SOCIETY

I think you will agree that our presence is felt in the community!!

Social events we enjoyed were;

- CLUB PICNIC SEPT/90
- FOOTBALL TRIP OCT/90
- DIST. CONFERENCE OCT/90
- HOCKEY TRIP FEB/91
- PRESIDENT'S BALL APRIL/91
- INTERCLUB APRIL/91
- CAR RALLY MAY/91

I want to thank the board of directors for their support and efforts and I thank the membership at large for the honor of serving as their President for the year 1990-91.

I wish Ron Kozub and his executive the very best for their year.

Thank you

*Jim Shannon*

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## 1991-1992    **PRESIDENT: RON KOZUB**

Rotary Club of St. Catharines South  
President's Summation Speech for Rotary Year 1991-1992

I feel that our club has gone through a very challenging but successful period with many accomplishments and few disappointments. I would like to outline some of these for you now.

The first challenge faced by us was the demise of our regular meeting place and the immediate need to find a suitable alternative. Through the efforts of Alan Carr and the rest of the Board, we re-located to the Parkway Inn. We have never regretted the move.

This now brings me to what I consider to be our crowning achievement over the past year. I am now speaking of the induction of 15 new members to our club. Thanks to a well conducted membership drive from Ron Hansel and his Membership Committee, our objective of 60 active members by year end was surpassed by 5. in this program we welcomed the following new members to our ranks:

In August:	B. Simpson, A. Reynolds and W. Farrow
September:	T. Hiller and F. Rizzuto
October:	M. Hiwkes and J. Inman
November:	S. Carr and D. Macmaster
January:	J. Kernahan and H. Zwandenburg
February:	D. Lepritch (returning)
March:	P. Mete
April:	N. Repchull
May:	J. Slipp

Cheap- Thrills, under the direction of D. Hetherington and the Social Committee, was also a highlight I reflect back on with a smile on my face.

The Picnic, Interclub, Gold Tournament, President's Ball and Car Rally all made our year together an enjoyable one.

Our year was not all fun and no work however. On the fund raising side of things we were very successful in raising over \$37,000.00 in support of our charitable programs.

Al Carr and his Bingo Buddies were able to bring in 2/3 of this and at the same time provided another social activity for us to enjoy.

J. Howes was in charge of Club 300. Through his direction we oversold our tickets by the largest margin that my memory can recall.

We made cash donations of \$12,500.00 to the local YMCA and \$2500.00 to the H. Etherington Award Program. This was established through the efforts of E. Telenko and friends of Howard. We also saw \$23,000.00 go to various other charitable causes that came to our attention.



E. Villaroya did an exceptional job in running our Youth Exchange program. The time I and my family spent with Lucianni Petercini will be cherished forever. Our newest student Yvonne Sheehan is a real charmer.

K. Collingwood, through his hard work and dedication made the Camp Enterprise Program a resounding success.

B. Bancroft made my visit to RYLA enjoyable and the dinner that I had the privilege of chairing will long be cherished.

F. Stewart ran Rotary Medals and Junior Achievement so well that there was very little involvement for myself or the rest of the Board of Directors.

Paul Harris Fellows were given to  
Gary George was our President for 1975-1976  
Brian Radford for his year 1987-1988  
Jim Bagozzi for 1988-1989

Finally Bob McBride with his second award continued accomplishments after his term as President was finished.

It is inline with this that I am pleased to note that the St. Catharines AM Club will be chartered early in the new year. This is due primarily to the efforts of Bob.

The final group of individuals I would like to recognize and thank are your Board of Directors for the past year:

F. Ercul	President Elect
R. Hansel	Secretary
A. Carr	Treasurer
D. Hetherington	Club Service
R. McMillan	Community Service
R. McGraw	Inter Service
R. Welch	Vocational Service
J. Shannon	Past President

If it were not for this person, we would not have been able to accomplish a half of what we did. I am not just speaking of this past year, but the last 7 years I have been a member of the South Club. As you have probably guessed, I am referring to my best friend, business partner and wife of 23 years... Donna. In closing, let me leave you with a thought.

You are all members of the greatest service organization in the world. As Rotarians, you also represent the cream of leadership of our community, our social, commercial and our financial institutions. It is your job to lead by example and set the standard for others to follow.

***Ron Kozub***



Today being the end of that Rotary year, I wish to reflect on the events, objectives and achievements that have taken place.

The R.I. theme for the year was "Real Happiness is Helping Others". This was achieved through Volunteerism. The more that one contributes, the happier that person becomes. As for this club there were always volunteers to take care of tasks at hand.

The clubs this year were asked to have balanced club achievements among the four avenues of service and I will now show you how we achieve this balance. Let's remember the August 24th, 1992 when the District Governor, Rob McLeod visited our club and left us with the message that our plans were well balanced and that The Rotary Club of St. Catharines was in good standing at the District level.

With CLUB SERVICE under the skilful direction of Don Hetherington we had a choice of a multitude of different programs and events. We set out to maintain our club membership by getting everyone involved in some social event. We had an extremely successful car rally, only to be outdone by this year's picnic at the Kozub Ranch that recorded the highest attendance in recent years.

Tracey Hillier spearheaded a new Xmas venue by inviting Santa to distribute the gifts to the young family members of all club Rotarians. This is sure to be an annual event.

This year also saw the culmination of a great deal of effort on Bob McBride's part to charter the St. Catharines A.M. Club on October 26, 1992. And we cannot forget our own 25th anniversary celebration that saw a record breaking attendance at the President's Ball. I thank Jack Bailey in gathering together the former charter members of the club, and John Chotka and his committee for their fine efforts.

Robin Singh and his hot chili pepper followers organized a Halloween night that was superb. They then managed to pull off an excellent Valentines Day celebration at Joe Feta's Greek belly dancing emporium.

At the District level we had a tram of cyclists raise money for the District in what is to be the annual Bike-a-thon. We also had an excellent attendance of our members at the District Conference. A very special thanks to Jim Shannon for undertaking the running of Area 3's hospitality suite and making it the best hospitality suite at the convention. He even arranged to have the Blue Jays win the World Series that night.

Ron Hansel was charged with retaining our membership. For the most part we were successful; we even increased our numbers until very recently.

Ernesto Villaroya was director of Vocational Services. He was to implement CRYISIS or Canadian Rotary Stay in School program. Undertaken by Dan McMaster there are now students in St. Catharines who can interact with fellow students almost as councilors to slow the rate of students not finishing school.

Ken Collingwood and his committee undertook the running of Camp Enterprise which resulted in another excellent program and more enthusiastic students wanting to make their mark in a competitive free enterprise system.

Ron Hansell saw that all Rotary members received an update on Rotary Information through a number of compulsory Firesides. This in fact led to a new format for committee structure for the 1993-1994 year.

We also supported achievers in the high schools through the Rotary Medalists and this past week hosted three students at RYLA.

Jim Howes and his COMMUNITY SERVICES area saw us follow through on our commitments and donations.



We fulfilled our commitment to the YMCA FOR \$12,500. We donated money to Operation Eyesight, United Way and 1st Night Celebration, Niagara Childrens Association, Arthritis Society, Junior Achievement and many others.

I also made a case that we support two key areas in society today, the Aids epidemic and the Environment.

We donated \$2000 to Aids Niagara for educational materials. The coming year will see the continued support in this area with possible implementation as a district project.

The final avenue of service is that of International Service under the direction of Ron McGraw. We were fortunate to be able to host two exchange students for one half of the year. Many members and their families participated in interacting with these exchange students. We also had an outgoing student to Brazil. Operation Eyesight was a World Community Service project this year.

I would like to thank every single member for your effort and support this past year.

I'm really sorry that I have to move to Toronto, because I'll really miss being a member of such a great Rotary Club as the St. Catharines South Club.

*Frank Ercul<sup>1</sup>*

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1993-1994

## PRESIDENT: RON HANSELL

The accomplishments for this club and hence its greatness is not a result of one individual or even ten, but of everyone one of you. For you see, the actions of this club were determined by your wishes.

As you recall, planning starts early February 1993 with firesides each week for five weeks. Education coming from each of the directors in their avenues of service. They know their directorship, they know about Rotary, they know what had gone on and a sense of the future. They were looking for some able bodies to fill their directorships.

Valuable input was provided by our club veterans. Many are past presidents or former directors.

Surveys were completed, in fact 52. The results:

\*average years of service, 9.16 years;

\*active PHF (Paul Harris Fellows), 11 members;

\* Perfect attendance, 14 members;

\*what do you like best about Rotary? The top three answers were (a) fellowship-30 members, (b) service-15. (c) exchange-3;

\*What do you like least? Selling tickets and Rotarians in name only.

\*Where were you born? Nova Scotia, Ireland, England, Netherlands, India, Sweden, Trinidad.

\*Average age? 48 years old.

\*Hobbies, Interest, Sports?

#1 Sport- golf

#1 spectator sport- baseball

#1 hobby- gardening

#1 interest- travel

Since this survey we have welcomed the following new members: Jamie Almos, Paul Doyle, Kim Dhaliwal, Cort Day Jr., Ian Forbes, Rick Mauro, and Kathy Desjardin.

Jim Shannon has acted as past president for the past three years. Once in the normal course and two following years he stepped in for Presidents called out of town to work.

For most clubs, that in itself would be enough. But not for St. Catharines South. Over \$50,000.00 rose through fund raising. Over \$50,000.00 were donated:

*Environmental Project	\$2,000.00
*Youth Exchange	\$1,900.00
*CRYSIS	\$2,000.00
*Camp Enterprise	\$3,800.00
*Rotary Medals	\$1,400.00
*Howard Etherington Award	\$2,600.00
*RYLA	\$1,900.00
*Junior Achievement	\$1,500.00
*AIDS Awareness	\$8,000.00
*Childrens Centre	\$12,000.00
*Rotary Foundation	\$3,900.00
*FYI Year to date	
29 Paul Harris Fellows since 1979	\$48,000.00 US
*World Community Service	\$1,000.00
*RI Bosnia Project	\$900.00
*Operation Eyesight, Canadian Diabetes, CNIB, YMCA, Carousel Players St. Catharines Hospital Foundation	\$50,000.00

*Did we make a difference?*  
Ask Operation EYESIGHT.

*Can we make a difference?*  
Ask Niagara College.

But we also reached out and touched groups of people and individuals in not just monetary ways.

### **Did we make a difference!**

Just ask the students at Kernahan Park who participated in Canadian Rotary Youth Stay In School Program, CRYSIS and the Job Shadowing program at Consumers Gas,

or Ask Melanie Sampson recipient of the Rotary Foundation Scholarship Award.

Did we make a difference to each other, to a spirit of cooperation, to the four St. Catharines Rotary Clubs Joint Meeting. For the first time, all four Rotary clubs came together for a joint meeting at the St. Catharines Golf Club hosted and chaired by your club. The feature guest speaker was vice president of Rotary International, Wilf Wilkinson. Attendance included the current District Governor John Rydcyk, 5 past District Governors and over 140 Rotarians. Our Club presented Paul Kannegieter with a Paul Harris Fellow.

For me personally, you have made life lasting differences.

To my wife and sons who shared me with Rotary these 1 ½ years, who themselves deserve my special recognition but who gave even more and honoured me as a Paul Harris Fellow.

To the Executive Directors who were always prepared:



\*challenged each other

\*who were committed to excellence

Most business are not run with the efficiency and dedication of this club.

This club has been run by the following directors:

Jim Howes- Community Service,  
Dan McMaster- International Service,  
Art Adams- Vocation Service,  
Archie Reynolds- Club Service.

Executives:

Don Hetherington- V.P.,

Al Carr- Secretary,

John Teibert- Treasurer,

Jim Shannon- Past President.

Please join with me in publicly thanking these Rotarians for a job well done.

Yours in Rotary,

***Ron Hansell***

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1994-95

## PRESIDENT: DON HETHERINGTON

### **International Theme: Be a Friend**

First off, I'd like to dedicate this past year to all those whoever wanted to paint outside the lines. I hope it felt like you had the chance!

A year ago, I gave an outline of how I saw the year unfolding, and I asked just one thing: not to take yourselves too seriously! I asked that because I'm a firm believer that you can get just as much, if not more, accomplished by incorporating some fun into it. It was an interesting year, one that I will think about often.

The international theme this year was "Be a Friend." On a local level, we certainly did a lot to develop fellowship- some old and some new.

Last July we enjoyed golf at Rockway Glen for our annual scramble tourney. Jack Hoyt made his visit and wished us well for the year. Our first Gr-r-reat Wackin' Woody Award was handed to Ron Hansell for his successful year of sales, thanks to Rich Cavers, Bob McKay and Keith Shaver.

September brought us Youth Activities Month. We talked about mentoring and Rotary Exchange, and Tracey Sacco joined us at a meeting. I played banjo at our annual picnic and most people left early! Anne's quote: Can you take a hint? And of course September brought us Labour Day, when most people out of work take a day off from looking!

October was Vocational Services Month when our buddy Bob McBride raised funds for the Foundation buy riding in the District 7090 bike tour. (His butt was sore until Christmas!) And October as always was Thanksgiving, when families all over get together and give thanks, it only happens once a year! Our annual joint meeting was also held in October, when Gib Parent did a no-show and Police Chief Grant Waddell, with his outrageous accent, stepped in to talk about white collar crime. Thanks to Ron Hansell, we had a

tour of the new Walker Family YMCA in October as well. Club 300, our biggest fundraiser, was at a point in October at which we had a waiting list of about 15. Now that's success!

Rotary Foundation Month was soon upon us. In November, Lloyd Kirkpatrick spoke on that subject- it was really boring! November was the month that we had our Cheap Thrills dinner over the border, thanks to John Chotka. November was also the month that my wife consumed pail-fulls of Baco Noir and single handedly made our Art Auction a success! Seriously though, thanks to Fraser Stewart and his crew; we made a bagful of money! November was also the U.S. Thanksgiving, when people all over get together to ignore each other while watching football.

December soon arrived, along with the election of the New Board for next year. Anne and I hosted a Christmas get-together at Henry of Pelham Estates Winery, where everyone had a chance to try out the effects of Baco Noir and three others. Ron Kozub tried them all and had to be pointed south to get home! We had our annual Christmas meeting for the kids, and Santa Claus made an appearance yelling, "I'm makin' a list and checkin' it twice - and everyone who's naughty is invited to my Christmas Party." Joan was not impressed!

Then it was January and the start of '95. Not a lot of activities for January, but thanks to Alan Carr and Don Beard's crew, bingos were running smoothly and making money. We had a lot of good speakers that month and before we knew it –

February was upon us: World Understanding Month and Rotary's 90th birthday. In February, we toured Chateau Des Charmes Winery and John Teibert's accounting crew gave us tips on the upcoming tax season. In a nutshell, he said "You're Screwed."

The next number of months included a meeting at which we were joined by Roberto, and Ken Douglas discussed the highlights of our involvement with Youth Exchange, as well as an Interclub meeting that featured Ken's wine-tasting tips.

Our District Conference was held in Buffalo, and because we like consistency, hardly any of us went!

Everything from the Rotary Medalist Luncheon to the President's Ball happened soon after. Although the numbers were low at the dance, those who attended had the chance to see Rob Welch rock on as if he were on Dance Fever. That alone was worth it.

As I mentioned last July, success and failure are not based on just one person- it takes the whole club. Particular thanks to Board members Jim Howes, Art Adams, Dan McMaster, Alan Carr, Bob McKay, John Teibert, Fraser Stewart, and Ron Hansell.

Overall, I think the year was kind of a neat experience, from poking fun at Soren Harrison to Monday Music Trivia. The club was subjected to a great deal of stupid information about everything from cow chip throwing contests to National Popcorn Month... our Sergeants were very entertaining this year...we had 12:45 editorial headlines...numerous Gr-r-reat Wackin' Woodies...and a lot of groans. We also experienced Rotary Info Bits, thanks to Jack Bailey. "Is it the right bloody thing to do?" was short-loved, but fun, as was the Top 5 List from our Home Office in Thorold South!

We heard laughs and we heard complaints. Basically, it was just another year- and no one lost an eye! We are the Rotary club of St. Catharines South.

***Don Hetherington***





## The Executive and Directors:

President	Alan Carr
Vice President	Jim Howes
Secretary	Fraser Stewart
Treasurer	John Teibert
Directors	Keith Shaver
	Ian Forbes- Vocational Service
	Bob McKay-Club Service
	Tracy Hillier- Community Service
	Jim Bagozzi- International Service

Alan Carr passed away suddenly in 1998. He was a Chartered Accountant (C.A.) operating a successful accounting practice for many years. Unfortunately his notes summarizing the "Clubs Activities" during the year in the Chair were lost. The activities of the club under Alan's guidance are not written here in the first person. As our incoming president, Alan attended the Rotary International convention in France.

Our club joined with the Lewiston Queenston Club in a special evening at Shaw Theatre in June. The Noel Coward play "Cavalcade" was the feature of the evening.

The Club once again was involved with Camp Enterprise.

Our major fund raiser again was Club 300.

Bingo continued on a weekly basis as in previous years and was another source of raising funds.

An Art Auction Gala in November raised \$5102.00.

The Club as in previous years was active in R.Y.L.A., the Youth Exchange, and the awarding of Rotary Medals.

Paul Harris Fellows were awarded this year to:

Linda Crabtree  
Robert Welch Sr.  
Archie Katzman  
Don Hetherington

Bob Hayden introduced a successful fund raiser and the club sold five hundred books, "4001 Food Facts & Chef's Secrets."

In summary, our Club enjoyed an active social calendar, we enjoyed many interesting presentations at our noon luncheons and in total we had an active program with fund raising events.

*Alan Carr*

Past President	Alan Carr
Vice President	Fraser Stewart
Secretary	John Teibert
Treasurer	Don Beard
Directors	Michael Ramsey (Club Service)
	Ian Forbes & Rob Welch (Community Service)
	Kim Dhaliwal (Vocational Service)
	Paul Massuet (International Service)

### **Goals and Accomplishments**

I had set a goal to add 10 new members to the Club in 1996/1997 with 50% of the new additions being female members. We fell short of the target. We brought in 7 new members with only 2 being female and 6 resignations to put greater focus on membership in the future.

Revenues from traditional fund-raisers such as Bingo, Club 300 and the Art Auction were below expectations. The less than expected revenues had an impact on funds available to local and international donations. The Board established an Ad hoc Committee co-led by Rob Welch and Wayne Hobbs to explore new fund-raising opportunities.

Our weekly meetings this past year were excellent through the leadership of Program Chair Matt Taylor. We had a series of first-rate speakers such as Susan Reid (Regional Director of Social Services), Past District Governor Lloyd Kirkpatrick, Dr. Brian Kerley (Palliative Care Unit of the Hotel Dieu), Michael Reason (Musical Director of the Niagara Symphony, Jennifer Lockyer (our returning Youth Exchange Student from Japan) and our own Rob Welch who spoke to us about the challenges of Hospital Re-structuring in Niagara.

For members who missed meetings they could read all the details of past meetings in "The Southmouth" skillfully written by Don Ashdown and Guy Bridgstock with clarity and wit.

Vice President, Fraser Stewart, did a wonderful job in the area of membership development. Fraser arranged to have "Rotary Information" presentations included on the agenda of most meetings throughout the Rotary year. In addition, he organized two "Firesides" to increase the knowledge of newer members about the Club and Rotary.

Thanks to Don Hetherington and his zany "Cheap Thrills" committee and Alan Carr's "Vocational Tour" committee, 1996/97 was a banner year for fun and fellowship. We had the Car Rally in August, organized by Don Hetherington, which was a hoot. A great Family Picnic in September at Bissell's Hideaway thanks to the Kozubs. The Fall Classic Golf Tournament with the Downtown Club also in September organized by Bob McKay. Alan Carr's fascinating and educational backstage tour of the Shaw Festival in October. The Club's traditional Christmas Party in December featured the Salvation Army Band and a surprise visit from a very French Pere Noel. We had a well attended tour of Casino Niagara in March and the Club visited a Buffalo Sabres' game in April.

Finally, through the organizational magic of Ron Williams, "A Celebration of Rotary South" was held on April 26th at the Golf Club. The evening was truly a celebration of the accomplishments of the South Club since it received its charter in April 1968. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship to Alan Carr.

This past year raised sufficient funds to support all of the Club's important youth oriented programs and to donate over \$20,000. That will benefit local and international organizations.



Youth programs supported were Youth Exchange which was capably managed by John Teibert. John made all the arrangements for our inbound student, Caroline Grayet from Belgium, so she would feel at home in our community. As well, we bid farewell to our two outbound students, Blayne Tooley and Julie Naftulin.

Don Ashdown and Bill Towill did an outstanding job in carrying out their responsibilities for Rotary Medals and Junior Achievement.

Dan McMaster expanded the CRYISIS program at Kernahan Park and we are on the threshold of establishing the CRYISIS program at West Park Secondary School.

Marty Mellville provided able leadership to Camp Enterprise.

Elliston Bridger made all the required arrangements for RYLA at Ridley College and Jim and Pat Shannon lived on campus to assist the young people so their stay at Ridley would be more comfortable.

Major donations approved during the year included:

- \$3,000 to the St. Catharines and District United Way
- \$5,000 to Linhaven Home for the Aged
- \$4,500 to the Henley Rowing Project
- \$2,000 to RAFT
- \$3,200 to the Rotary Foundation
- \$2,500 to the Warehouse of Hope
- \$2,000 to the Brain Injury Re-entry Committee

The South Club played an important role in helping establish the first Inner Wheel Club in the Niagara Peninsula. The major force behind the organizational efforts was Paul Massuet and his wife Mimi. The Inner Wheel's inaugural meeting was on March 4th and their membership has since grown to over 30 members. The Club will receive its charter later this year.

The Board of Directors decided to publicly tell the South Club's history of service to the community with a special supplement in the Standard. Our promotional effort was recognized by the District 709 at the District Conference in May and I was pleased to accept on your behalf, the "District Governor's Citation for Honouring our Past". I also received the Rotary International "Presidential Citation to Build the Future" in recognition of our Club's outstanding leadership in the four avenues of service.

*Jim Howes*

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## 1997-1998    PRESIDENT: FRASER STEWART

### Executive Officers

President	Fraser Stewart
Vice President	John Teibert
Secretary	Ian Forbes
Treasurer	Don Beard
Past President	Jim Howes

**Show Rotary Cares.** We were at the ready.

The plans for 1997/1998 were ambitious – born of a commitment to articulate our theme, get all members involved and grow the club. Not all were accomplished, but our reach was definitely exceeded.

## **International Service**

Internationally, we honoured our commitments to the Rotary Foundation, Paul Harris recognitions, Rotary Youth leadership, our twinning commitment to Blaisdell-South Shore; Youth Exchange, and the chartering of the new Inner Wheel Club. Thanks to Paul Massuet and his team.

## **Vocational Service**

C.R.Y.S.I.S. was expanded to a second school and our leadership was duly recognized at the recent district conference. Junior Achievement, Youth Exchange, Camp Enterprise, Adventure in Citizenship, Rotary Medals, and 'Touching Video' will have a major impact throughout the district. Mike Ramsey, to you and your chairmen, Dan McMaster, Alan Carr, Don Beard, and Gay Douglas, thank you for a significant year.

**Club Service** was the glue that brought us together. Hospitality, our diverse program of speakers, a redesigned Southmouth, new software applications, innovations to Rotary Information were but a few of the many strides. Families were involved at our President's Christmas Party- a Winter Western theme and at our Christmas Lunch. Our club spirit was very strong thanks to Rick Mauro, Roy Adams, Ian Forbes, Jay Tober, Elizabeth Spann, Bill Towill, Bob McBride, and Hans Ambachtsheer.

Our **Community Service** initiatives from Howie Vant, Mike Grifa, Rick Mauro helped push us to new limits – our goal - \$1,000/ net member, our target raised \$850, - our unaudited reconciliation from both direct and in-kind fundraising – from all sources – places us at \$960.98/ per member or \$52,854. When you include fines we have achieved \$55,554 or \$1,000 per member.

Our **Fundraiser** mix was innovative, as we capitalized on a variety of opportunities – Poor Boys Luncheon, Bike Trek, Buffalo Sabres, Zehrs BBQS – all supplementing the core of Bingo, Club 300 and the new event on the block- The Gala.

Further, we were able to release our resources in support of a variety of community projects – Warehouse of Hope, Niagara College, Henley Rowing, Winnipeg Flood Relief, Montreal Ice Storm, Community Care, FACS, Hotel Dieu / Kidney Foundation – to name but a few.

My personal thanks go out to Bob Welch, Norris Brown, Jim Shannon. Mike Grifa, Howie Vant, Richard Cavers, Bob McBride, Bob Hayden and their crews in sourcing both our acquisitions and allocations.

**Membership Development:** We had net growth of 5.7% to 55 members with 7 new members. Had we not had to say farewell to 3 members – we would have reached 97% (58) of our 1997 / 98 objective of 60.

**Special recognitions included:** Perfect Attendance for Ian Forbes – 1 year, Bob McBride – 4 years, Guy Bridgstock – 8 years, Roy Adams – 11 years, Alan Carr (accepted by Miriam Carr) – 15 years, Jim Shannon – 16 years, Soren Harrison – 20 years, Jack Bailey – 40 years; the District Governor's GEARS Award presented to Don Beard, John Chotka, Ian Forbes, Mike Grifa, Jim Howes, Paul Massuet and John Teibert. The Distinguished Service plaque went to Ron Kozub (Give of Yourself), the Rotarian of the Year Award to Mike Grifa (The Gala).

**Our partners-** Consumers Gas and Zehrs Markets were recognized in their efforts for 1997 / 98 along with individual achievements to Roy Adams, Jim Howes, Miriam Carr, Keith Shaver, John Teibert, Ian Forbes and to Guy Bridgstock and Don Ashdown for their work on the bulletin.

Probably the most significant witness of our year was in how we spontaneously applied out theme- **Show Rotary Cares.**

We reached out to the Community Care, Citizens of Winnipeg and recipients of the Howard Etherington Award- we indirectly and collectively responded to support Rotarians Wayne Hobbs, Ron Kozub, the Carr family, Ron Kozub took it further by providing personal support to the District- Give of Yourself program. These are only a few of the personal stories that touched our lives.



Lastly- our objective was to have fun. I had fun! – I hope you did too! I look forward to my new role with relish- for I can get on with other stuff!

I would like to thank you all for giving me the opportunity and privilege of serving you. As mentioned in my inaugural address, a special thanks goes (posthumously) to Alan Carr who set me up (as only Alan could do) affording me this great opportunity.

My thanks go out to the Board for their consistent support, advice, encouragement and 'reality check'. Thanks to President-elect John Teibert and past President Jim Howes for assisting with the pulse taking, Ian Forbes for his consistent drive and mentorship and Don Beard as Treasurer (just don't navigate with him on a road rally).

Thank you one and all. Yours in Rotary

*Fraser Stewart*

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## 1998-1999      **PRESIDENT: JOHN TEIBERT**

It has been an interesting Rotary year, one that I will remember for many years to come. I thought I was well prepared for the year to come, then I went to the Rotary International convention. It was there that I caught a glimpse of what Rotary does through the efforts of Rotarians like ourselves. It was awe inspiring and humbling at the same time, and after months of preparation, it gave me the enthusiasm I needed to start the year.

But when I got back I learned that Alan Carr had passed away, and I was very quickly brought I back to earth. Later in the year another good friend, Wayne Hobbs, passed away.

The year itself went off without a hitch, in fact I think we continue to accomplish a great deal. If you look at our budget we raise about \$45,000 a year through a lot of hard work. Of that amount about \$25,000 this year was turned back to our local community through our club's youth programs such as Camp Enterprise, CRYISIS, RYLA, Junior Achievement, Rotary Medals and Youth Exchange, and through large donations to Niagara College and Henley Rowing. In addition to these programs and donations we make smaller donations to a large number of local groups and agencies. \$2,000 is set aside to honour Howard Etherington and make a special donation in his memory, and \$4,500 is sent to Rotary International annually to help world community needs. This year we also completed our \$15,000 commitment to FACS and our \$2,500 commitment to the Warehouse of Hope. We've committed ourselves to \$2,000 to assist a school for the mentally handicapped in Cambatoire, India.

In all of this hard work that we do, the one thing that I wanted to accomplish was to have fun while doing it and hope that all of you had fun as well. Not every Rotarian can attend every function, but we can enjoy each others company when we do attend. Bingo, the Picnic, the Christmas Party, the Gala, Corporate Cup are examples of where while working hard for Rotary we do have fun. I had fun when ever we got together and I hope you did.

Through your efforts we added excellent members to our club.  
I want to thank you all for a very memorable year.

*John Teibert*



The process of becoming your President actually began over five years ago when I was asked to sit on Alan Carr's board as a director. Through two directorships, Secretary, Vice President and then President I have come to know most of you in the room fairly well and enjoyed literally several hundred Rotary events or encounters- in fact approximately one hundred in the last year alone.

The last number includes appearances at two President Elect Training sessions, 44 actual regular meetings, 12 board meeting, 6 Area 4a Presidents' meetings, 11 days of Rotary curling, 3 of Rotary golf, 7 Bingos, an Inner wheel Dance, a Buffalo Bills football game, a Buffalo Sabers hockey game, a wonderful RYLA dinner at Ridley, an introduction to the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, a teaching session at Kernahan Park, at least ten meetings with board or executive members dealing with special issues or making plans, MC at the Gala in my new Tux, MC at a most pleasant interclub at the Queenston Heights with our friends from Blaisdell, four poker nights, unfortunately with no tax receipts for my donations!, two appearances at the District Conference, five incredible days at the RI Convention in Singapore. If anyone is adding that up, I think it comes to 114 and it doesn't include the behind the scenes legwork required to give some appearance of preparation or control. On Friday Doug Geddie of the downtown club offered me a make up card for attending their Easter seals event. What's a make up card?

The greatest challenge is to preside over the regular meetings and last May, Karin Matthews and I met with Mike Simpson in his old office at the former Merritton High School. Karin had assembled and had ready to pass on, an incredible document including all of the parameters for the new program chair, Mike. Unfortunately the other three members listed on the committee all dropped out of Rotary and Mike carried on all year as a committee of one. All this in a year of change and challenge for him personally as he was transferred to a new position in Welland. I can't tell you how much Mike did for this club in the last year!

Before I leave Karin, I must tell you that with Roy Adams' help, she is responsible for getting us a new TV, which should be easier for the next presenter of a video. Karin like others has done so much more but to me she is special because I introduced her to the club and therefore I can take some pride in her many contributions.

Throughout the year we have four key fundraisers and several people in the room did service above self that went beyond. Howie Vant, with Club 300 and Hockey Tickets and Mike Grifa with the Gala were leaders that I leaned on heavily and they came through. They share a disappointment with me in that we fell short of targets in net earnings but I must say that these shortcomings were the result of membership concerns not of poor planning or broken concepts. I believe that we are back on track in membership and shouldn't give upon these efforts. I also know others helped in these programs but thanks again to Mike and Howie. Both Mike and Howie are involved in new employment pressures with either mergers or the like in a changing corporate environment yet find the time to contribute.

Three other members also fit into a special category in that respect. John Teibert, Don Beard and Jim Howes all helped with advice in club matters, some involving delicate issues. These three were genuine friends this year. I hope I can assist Don next year in the ways that John was able to help me. As many of you know Jim Howes and I curled together for a week against teams from Scotland and Canada. This was our second trip to the Rotary worlds albeit in the friendship event this time but nonetheless it was a true friendship event and was very special.

Eighteen months ago Frank Strathearn relieved me of the onerous task of the Southmouth publication and distribution. He and his key employee at work, Betty, have done an admirable job and have recently agreed to continue for another year. Thanks Frank for your ongoing help and cooperative attitude. Thanks to John Teibert and Peter for their journalistic efforts. I only wish more people would read it!

Ross Elliott and his sidekick Bob McBride deserve mentioning together not only because they did the Paul Harris program together but because they always came through with good advice from the “old guard”, the experienced part of our club. Bob also gave me special encouragement to attend the International convention in Singapore last summer. He was right in everything he said and I can’t imagine not having gone as we did, both from a Rotary point of view and also from a personal point of view.

The Convention that I attended last summer was as a result of the encouragement of Bob and the club. The club provided the airline tickets to Singapore. I cannot tell you enough as to how special this trip was to my family and myself. It coincided with our 25th anniversary and to show our age we chose to take Ashley and Tyler along on the pretext of our last family vacation together. They were all accredited convention goers and attended some functions with me. They did get to see more of Singapore than I did as I attended every minute of the convention that I could and I can still visualize the likes of Moira Kelly and Mohamed Unus as speakers to the convention. Their messages will never leave me... ever!

Another special Rotary friend this year was Jim Shannon. We seemed to cross paths so often this year on so many different projects or issues. Another sage advisor in the ranks of this club. Thanks Jim.

I’d like to take a moment to mention David Cooperman and Rob Welch for the planning of the April dinner with Blaisdell club, John Chotka for arranging the Bill’s game and tailgate party, John Klassen for filling in when the guest speakers don’t quite get us to 1:30.

Meetings would not be the same without our Sergeant at Arms. Over the years several “volunteers” have been recruited by Roy Adams to assist in entertaining us, prodding us, raising a few dollars, and generally rescuing our meetings from our presidents. The list of standby included John Chotka, Norris Brown, Peter Grant, Matt Taylor, Bob McBride, and George Fitzpatrick. They are all colourful personalities in their own way and have contributed so much to the meetings this year. Thanks also to Roy Adams for the preparations for every meeting. Thanks to Christine Popelas and her team at the hospitality desk which included Norris, Guy, Jim and Ron Kielstra. Thanks to Ron Kozub for his energy this year especially with attendance reports. Another person doing so much despite a full lifestyle.

An aspect of my year that grew out of the convention was the international aspect of Rotary and through the leadership of George Fitzpatrick and the energy and effort of Paul Massuet and Bob McKay, we have seen three successful international efforts that we can be very proud of. Only one was funded by club funds yet three are either complete or well on their way. We are helping people in need in Mexico, Jamaica and Trinidad, because we do care. I think I speak for the whole club when I say that this is what it is all about. Friends getting together to have a little fun but helping others along the way.

I do want to say that words cannot express my gratitude for the privilege of leading this group throughout the past year. It has been a challenge, a challenge possibly understood best by those who have gone before me. I understand now more than ever what it means to be a Rotarian and for that I am thankful. Thank you all.

*Ian Forbes*

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## 2000-2001 PRESIDENT: DON BEARD

It doesn’t seem like a whole year ago I had just returned from Buenos Aires and was getting ready for my term as president.

Reflecting back over the past year brings a lot of warm feelings. I feel we had another successful year, thanks to your participation, involvement and commitment.

I had hoped that I would have been sitting here today with Howie Vant entertaining you by having our heads shaved. That would have meant we were successful in all of our three goals of selling out Club 300, achieving our membership goal and having a successful Gala event. Unfortunately, we didn't achieve totally the first two, but the Gala was a huge success.

We have gained 6 really good members this year. Tom Schulz, Kimberly Martin, Barry Sessoms, Elisabeth Cornet, Cynthia Cunningham and Martha Gleddie. Let's make them feel welcome.

I would like to thank the executive and the board of directors for their efforts and support. Without their work, things would not run as smoothly as they do.

Our Rotary theme this year was "Create Awareness and Take Action." I had a new awareness starting with the international convention. It was one of the high points of the year. It is a great way to begin the president's term.

It is a truly amazing event and the atmosphere is incredible - meeting with the same goal of helping those who are less fortunate than ourselves. In spite of our own problems, we have a lot to be thankful for living in Canada especially when you hear of the circumstances and situations many others face on a daily basis in other parts of the world.

I hope we have been able to create more awareness in our club and also in our community. Many thanks to Roy Adams, Elliston Bridger and Matt Taylor for an interesting and informative year of weekly programs. Not an easy feat! I am not sure if this is a first but we never had one meeting where we had to find someone as a fill in at the last minute. These programs were interesting and informative. They helped to create more awareness of our community and the challenges we face and we also learned more about Rotary initiatives. A couple of meetings come to mind Iridology - where we learned about our digestive track. I won't go into details but it was well reported in the South Mouth. On the lighter side we had an old fashioned Hoedown.

We did accomplish a lot this year and I would like to thank John Teibert and Matt Taylor for getting the Youth Exchange program back on track. Our Exchange student from Holland, Ben Hahlen, arrives in August.

We had a first this year with the declaration of Rotary month in April and the cooperation in this endeavor of the four Rotary clubs in St. Catharines, Fonthill and Niagara on the Lake. We had two informative advertising supplements in the St. Catharines Standard. The newspaper advertising gives you the opportunity to promote your business while promoting Rotary. I hope more of you will take advantage of this occasion next year. The presidents of the clubs were interviewed on Cable 10 TV, there were community announcements on CHRE radio and a banner was placed over Ontario Street. This banner is available for use by any club. We will be able to build on these occurrences and increase our visibility in the community. All of the clubs received a recognition award at the district conference for the promotion. In addition, we received press coverage for the installation of our board of directors and our Paul Harris recipients.

We established a Christmas basket program through the Salvation Army and we were able to help 8 families have a better Christmas. Thanks to Roy Hardman for suggesting this.

I would like to take a moment to recognize Roy Adams for his contributions. He was very helpful in the setting up of the weekly meetings. He comes in before the meeting and gets all of the things out of the cupboard and sets them up and at the end of the meeting puts them away. I don't know how many years he has been doing the set ups but I was well aware of the responsibility of this job when he was under the weather and I had to do it! Over the years Roy has been very helpful to the club and I would like to present him with the Distinguished Service Citation to recognize and thank him for all that he has done.



We had a successful and fun night at our Gala in April. Next year I'm told it is going to be even better. This is now our major fund raising event. I would like to recognize Mike Grifa for all of his work in establishing the Gala Event in its present format and present him with our Certificate of Appreciation.

Although the Gala was successful, we have to be mindful that our total fund raising has been gradually declining. In 1999, our revenue was \$46,000 and dropped to \$38,000 in 2000 and it looks like we may end up with \$35,000 this year. The main reasons are a continuing decline in bingo revenue and our inability to sell out Club 300.

We had another outstanding Rotarian who gave of his time and talent to help people in another country. This is truly service above self. I would like to thank Matt Taylor for his special contribution in Guatemala and award him with a Distinguished Service Citation for his efforts. He says he is going to Africa next year.

John Teibert, Ian Forbes and Jim Howes were always there to give me help and support when I needed it. Thank you, fellows, for being there.

We had a number of challenges that occurred during the year. We were contacted by Larry Wright of the Rotary Yachting Fellowship and asked to approach the Trillium Foundation on behalf of the OWLS group to secure a grant to purchase a boat for the disabled. One of the reasons we were asked to do this was the fact we were incorporated. During the application process, we became aware that we were no longer incorporated. Somewhere in the past, around 1994, we did not re-register and lost our standing. Now some of you might be wondering, why should we be incorporated? The main reason is for liability. If we have a lawsuit arising from one of our events, for example someone getting hurt, and we are not incorporated, everyone in the club would be named in the suit and be held liable. With incorporation, the club is sued, not the members.

We reached a milestone with the Howard Etherington award. The club has given \$20,000 to the community over the last ten years. Thanks to Ed Telenko who was instrumental in establishing the award and has chaired the committee since its inception.

I hope I have helped to create awareness with our weekly history lessons. I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve as your president. It has been a truly rewarding experience. Thank you.

***Don Beard***

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## 2001 — 2002 PRESIDENT: GEORGE FITZPATRICK

The Rotary International Convention in San Antonio provided a "kickstart" to my goals, aspirations and objectives for this club. During the convention we spent a lot of time with Dave and Connie Haddow. Therefore, I have to thank them for energizing us, by us I am including Valerie, because when we left the Convention, we were bubbling with ideas and plans.

My main Goal for the year included having a major project that would energize the members; giving a sense and purpose to the club. Hospice Niagara seemed to be a worthwhile cause even though there are still a few unresolved problems. My ambition is to follow through on this as our major fund-raiser for the coming years provided of course that this meets with the blessing of the members of our club.

Our summer started off with fun and fellowship. In July – RYLA at Brock University. The chair was Matt Taylor.

In August, we also had an enjoyable barbecue at Frank's. Thanks to Frank and Carol who provided their home along with organizing games for adults and children.

The cycling tour in Niagara-on-the-Lake and the visit to the various wineries- this to my mind was a great idea. I do hope that we can repeat this again this summer.

The christening of the boat for the handicapped. Here we showed our continued support for the OWLS program. That was an enjoyable afternoon.

By the end of October, we had our wine and dine buffet meeting with our spouses at Stone Church winery.

Then we had a golfing day organized by Frank Strathearn.  
The Buffalo Bills football game was organized by John Chotka.

In November, we had the big Hospice Gala at Queens Landing organized in conjunction with the MayCourt Club. It was definitely the biggest event our club has had for years raising \$96,000. This put our Rotary Club in the news by creating awareness in the community. It showed "Action".

I would like to single out June Manning and John Teibert. These two members did a tremendous job in devoting their effort, time and most of all, their expertise, to make this fund-raiser an outstanding success, also Jim Howes for his wise counsel.

In December, there was the Roy Adams Appreciation Night at Ridley College. I must say that I felt proud to be in the same club as Roy. Also, I realized what an outstanding human being and Rotarian he was. People like Roy, only come once in a lifetime.

The Christmas party at our home in December provided another opportunity for more fellowship.

In February, we had the Mardi Gras dance. This was directed and produced by Dan Toppari. Thanks to Dan and his committee. Dan put in a lot of effort to make it a success. It was the first time that our club held such an event. This has future potential to provide great fun and at the same time it could be another fund-raising event.

April brought our club to the Annual Spring Gala. This year it surpassed other years reaching \$28,000. Thanks, Frank, on behalf of our club. This fund-raiser, in my opinion, does the most to bring the club together. What an outstanding party!

I would like to now touch on the different avenues of service.

### **CLUB SERVICE**

Our Rotary theme for this year is "mankind is our business". Community service has epitomized this and Matt Taylor has done an outstanding job representing Rotary and in particular this club overseas in Guatemala and Kenya in espousing "service above self". Matt, on behalf of this club, I would like to thank you for the fine work that you are doing overseas.

Club 300 has had better days. It is time to find a new fund-raiser. Again, the club must thank Norris Brown. We still realized a net gain of \$10,000.

Bingo, as well, netted us a small profit. Again, thanks to Tom Schulz and his committee.

### **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**

Val and I were lucky enough to visit the schools and the Tobago Rotary Club with whom we jointly sponsored the breakfast program. We were there last December. The schools were already on Christmas





vacation but we were able to view the kitchen gardens planted by the children. With Paul Massuet's help, we sent \$750US to Guatemala for wheelchairs.

Paul is also negotiating to send neonatal respirators to Mexico.

### **Youth Exchange**

Ben Hahlen, a very nice young man from Holland, has been amongst us since last August. He is a joy to have as a guest student. I suspect that he will get very far.

We also have our outgoing student in Belgium, Samantha Green. Thanks must go to John Teibert and his committee for doing such a sterling job.

Many thanks to Elisabeth Cornett, Cyndi Cunningham and Matt Taylor for helping to put together a very interesting, thoughtful and entertaining year of weekly programs.

### **Interclub**

The Blaisdell Rotary Club visited with us on April 22nd this year at the Queenston Heights Restaurant. Again it was a very enjoyable evening. Thanks to Dave Cooperman for arranging this event.

The bulletin was exceedingly well run by John Teibert, Peter Grant, Elisabeth Cornett and Frank Strathearn and well reported by everyone involved. Thus, the "Southmouth" has continued to serve as a great means of communication as well as an up-to-date calendar of events.

We donated \$3,000 to Kernahan Park High School through the CRYISIS Program. Thanks to Ian Forbes for arranging this.

### **Camp Enterprise**

This was ably run by Ron Kozub and Cyndi Cunningham.

### **Executive**

At this point, I would like to specially thank my executive and all the directors including Keith Shaver, Don Beard for his advice and guidance during the year, Howie Vant and of course Peter Grant.

Peter Grant, our secretary, where would we have been without him. He did an exceptional job. Many thanks to Peter.

I want to thank the club for allowing me the privilege of being President. I have enjoyed it immensely. I would also like to thank Valerie without whom I would and could not have achieved half of the ideas and projects we worked on. She was always ready, and able to help.

### ***George Fitzpatrick***

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## 2002-2003      **PRESIDENT: KEITH SHAVER**

The planning to become president started two years ago with getting together a new board and their committees, attending pre PETS and then PETS, and then traveling to Barcelona for Rotary's international convention. It was at the convention that I came to understand the depth and breadth of Rotary.

RYLA was my first official meeting as President, fresh off the plane from Barcelona.

Joe DePaola was our District Governor for 2002-2003. He visited our club on July 22nd. His goals mirrored our goals for our club, membership publicity for Rotary, and put the fun back in Rotary.

### **Goals & Objectives:**

Encourage Fellowship

BBQ at Frank Strathearn's home.

75% member participation at the Roy Adams Poor Boy Lunch.

The Mardis Gras Dance

The Diamond Gala

The Hospice Niagara Gala

All of these injected fun and fellowship into the club.

### **Attendance**

With the help of the attendance committee we achieved a 75% meeting attendance for the year

### **Membership**

The goal was to get to 45 members by year's end. WE GOT THERE! We have a very active membership. New members for the year are Vince Mattei, Paul Hicks, Laetitia de Witt, Len Perry and Rob Young. We had to say a premature good-bye to Peter Grant.

### **Firesides**

We had one and with the number of recent members it's timing could not have been better. It was a very informative meeting.

### **Programs**

The goal was to have excellent speakers, and we did.

They include Joe DePaolo-District Governor, Jay Allen-Inner Power, Simon Hall Double cohort, Bob Hay & Nancy Ferris- the Alzheimer Society's Therapeutic Garden, Keith Shaver-RI International Convention, Ed Gillis-Kids can free the Children, Dwight Alguire & Jennifer Gollet-Classification, Matt & Georgette Taylor-March of Dimes, Mayor Brian Doucette-Remembrance day, Wendel Wilkes-TVN, Linda Glazier-Niagara Grape & Wine Festival, Dawn McGuinness-Meals and More Niagara, Mayor Tim Rigby, Santa Claus, Kevin Fitzpatrick-Gold, Peter Grant-Depression, Judith Barker-Hospice Niagara, Mark Ewert -Guatemala, Ken & Denise-Classification, Janet Allen-Camp Enterprise, Julia Cugl-Pettipeice-Ambassador Scholar, Don Hetherington and Patrick Robson-Niagara in Bloom, Stan Lapinski-Rowing in Niagara, Dr. Lorne Adams-Brock Sports, Steve Butz-YMCA of Niagara, Kathy Malloy-RAFT, Julia Kamula-The Standard, Paul Massuet-Mexico, Heather Cairnie-Classification, John Klassen-Car Restoration.

### **Donations**

Our goal was to make larger significant donations and to make official presentations of those checks.

During the year we made the following donations:

Matt Taylor – Guatemala	\$1,000
CRYSIS	\$3,000
Woman's Place	\$5,000
VON adopt a car	\$3,500
Alzheimer's therapeutic garden	\$2,500
Roy Adams Alzheimer's bldg.	\$2,500
Howard Etherington award	\$2,000 for Brain Injury
Hospice Niagara	\$1,000
St. John's Ambulance	\$1,000
Polio Eradication	\$4,200 100/member
Rotary Foundation	\$4,725 75US/member
14 Donations under \$1,000	

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**TOTAL DONATIONS** **\$39,775**



## **Fundraising**

Club 300 was deferred, while it raised good revenues selling tickets to non-Rotarians was difficult. We started the Aunnal Roy Adams Poor Boy Lunch. Bingo revenues improved. The spring Gala and the Hospice Gala were huge success.

## **Vocational Services**

We sponsored Rotary Medals, supported CRYISIS at Kernahan Park, we were involved in Camp Enterprise and RYLA.

Youth Exchange

The goal was to continue to support Matt and Georgette with their Rotary/Dentistry work abroad, sponsor Neo-Natal Units in Mexico and meet our foundation commitment. All were accomplished.

As you can tell from the above we had a very busy club and a successful year. Thanks to everyone for their help in making this a successful year.

***Keith Shaver***

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2003-2004      **PRESIDENT: ROB WELCH**

"In thinking what to say as a brief closing comment I decided to take a look at what I said last year when the 2003-2004 year started. As I am sure many of you could tell, I did take on the presidency of this great club with "trepidation", as I call it.

I talked about our executive and we've been well served by it. I asked for their help and they gave it. Dan, Frances, Howie, June, Barry, Matt, and Tom, along with Vince Mattei. I wish Dan a great year, and I hope I can offer the same help to you that Keith Shaver has offered to me.

I also talked about our membership stepping up to the plate with their talents to help us through the year. I can say without fear of contradiction that no one who was asked for help failed to offer it. The Gala was a great illustration of this, when veteran members stepped up to co-ordinate the event, and new members took on important roles.

I really want to thank all members for their help. Things just happened this year whether it was hospitality at the front desk, the Roy Adams lunch, Camp Enterprise, RYLA, Bingo, Bulletin or whatever, people pitched in.

*Now what about our goals?*

I talked about a net gain of 5 members, with today's inductions we had a net gain of 7. I said that I'd be thrilled it we were active internationally and thanks to Matt Taylor and Georgette for the dentistry clinic in Guatemala and Paul Massuet for getting us involved with a World Community Service project in Mexico for hearing aids, and the club for supporting them. I am thrilled.

Programs- I hoped for interesting programs. Ed Telenko contributed to one of our great successes.

I remembered last year that our theme "Lend a Hand", lent to our involvement locally as well. Through Bob McKay and his donations committee, we did that.

There are a few things we still have to do (and I promise as Past President to listen to what Bob McBride will tell me- to step back and only offer advice when asked, but I'm still President for 3 more days so I can take liberties.)

- 1) New projects- we got started talking about them but I hope Dan will ask me to be a part of this group so we can move forward.
- 2) Group Study Exchange- pet project of mine
- 3) Centennial Year

Last year I said to all of you that we have a great club and that you are all great members making important contributions in your own right. If any of you needed any proof of this, 2003-2004 gave it. Our Presidential Citation honoured all of you.

Thank you for your support."

**Rob Welch**

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## Centennial Celebration

2004-2005    **PRESIDENT: DAN TOPPARI**

As I think back to all that has happened since the time when I agreed to be President, I am grateful in so many ways. I am grateful that I was asked to serve as President, an experience that I will never forget. I am grateful for all of the Club's accomplishments that we have succeeded in through this past year. And I am a little grateful that my year is over.

Becoming President, began with training sessions organized by Governor elect Charlotte Herlong, many months before my term began. Charlotte's charm and friendliness sparked the energies of many Presidents in the District, I am sure, including my own, and kept our engines running through to the end.

The best way to appreciate Rotary, is to attend Rotary International's Annual Convention, and our District Conference. I was so very fortunate to be able to go to Osaka, Japan as your President-Elect, in May 2004. A year later, as President, I was honoured on behalf of Rotary South, to accept the Lighthouse Award at the District Conference under Governor Charlotte's direction. The Lighthouse Award came as a bit of a surprise, since our Club did not increase our membership, however we did excel in so many other areas that qualified for this prestigious award.

Osaka, Japan, was a profound experience. The Convention boasted the largest registration ever, some 44,000 Rotarians, and a fabulous line-up of guest speakers, award presentations, House of Friendship booths, lunch meetings, scenic tours, and world class entertainment. During the closing plenary session on Wednesday night, our Japanese hosts mesmerized everyone at the Osakadome with performances by the Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra, Hideki Togi playing his Japanese flute, and vocals supplied by tenor Tsutomu Hragaki and Ahora Shada (think Andrea Bocelli and Sara Brightman, singing with a 100-piece orchestra back up.) The people of Japan, the City of Osaka, and the sights surrounding Osaka, including Hiroshima, Kyoto, and Nara, completed this overwhelming experience.

While I prepared for my first meeting as President, my attention was directed to another cause for concern,



namely, problems with some of the members being unable to carry through with tasks that they had initially accepted or had been assigned. The first month or two felt a bit like a slow start to a long year. We were fortunate that two members in particular, Ron Kozub and John Teibert, stepped forward to take on the positions of secretary and bulletin editor, respectively. Ron's Secretarial acceptance speech was a great motivator to our members. As a result of Ron's leadership, we were able to resolve certain technicalities, concerning attendance at meetings and develop a policy to help with this problem.

A continuing highlight of the year, was the Centennial Theme. The Centennial Project Committee began early in the year to investigate the best Centennial Project for our Club to participate in. We eventually recommended, and the Club approved, a donation to the Children's Discovery Centre, in conjunction with the St. Catharines A.M. Club. The cheques were presented on April 13, 2005, and the following is the press release:

"Rotary International started as the inspiration of one man, Paul Harris, in 1905. His pioneering vision gave rise to the concept of volunteerism at a time when there was little concern for the "common man". This small group consisting of a young lawyer and his three business associates grew and expanded across borders to form an international organization dedicated to humanitarian service and peace.

2005 marks the 100th Anniversary of Rotary. The theme for this year is "Celebrate Rotary". Many of Rotary's 1,200,000 members around the world are actively involved in special centennial year projects. The Rotary Clubs of St. Catharines A.M. and St. Catharines South, are thrilled to have chosen the Children's Discovery Centre Wetland "Teaching Hut" for their Centennial project. Each Club has donated \$6,000.00, which will pay for much of the cost of the construction of the Hut. The entire Wetland Project is recognized by Rotary as a perfect extension of the programs offered by the Children's Discovery Centre for our youth.

A hundred years is an important milestone --- one that few organizations reach. They are many secrets to Rotary's success --- the fellowship derived from weekly meetings and a shared cause, our internationality that opens doors and hearts throughout the world, and the structure that allows us to accomplish so much more as a group than any of us could achieve on our own.

St. Catharines Rotary President, Dan Toppari and St. Catharines A.M. President, Tammy Morden, urge everyone to support our projects so that we can continue to assist local organizations like the Children's Discovery Centre and help others in need around the world as Rotary enters it's second 100 years. Let's "Celebrate Rotary together".

Our Monday meetings were quite busy, however whenever there was an opportunity, I reviewed bits of Rotary history taken from Rotary International's Centennial Book, "A Century of Service", which I purchased in Japan directly from the author who autographed my copy.

We were so very fortunate to have our own Club's History Book updated, for the Centennial year, thanks to the efforts of Bob Hayden, Matt Taylor and Rich Cavers. A quiz based on some of the information contained in our Club History Book produced accurate responses from a number of our members whose memory of past events proved quite remarkable.

We should all be very proud of the South Club's response to the needs of others, and in particular from natural disasters. The entire world was in a state of shock following the Tsunami that hit South East Asia on December 26th, killing over 200,000. Our Club moved quickly to donate a total of \$11,000.00. When hurricanes trashed Haiti, we gave \$2,000.00 to the District 7090 relief efforts. Our Howard Etherington donation provided another \$2,000.00 for water wells in Haiti. We supported Matt Taylor on his dental project in Mexico. We also met the Rotary International target of U.S. \$100 per member donation to the Rotary Foundation.



Our support of local community projects has been just as impressive. In conjunction with the May Court Club, Winter Dreams IV raised \$19,000.00 for Hospice. We provided financial support for many local organizations, including the Children's Discovery Centre. We did donate \$1,500.00 to Kernahan School for the CRYISIS Program which we initiated many years ago.

Speaking about youth, we were delighted to host Bastien Nael from France as our exchange student. Many of our members took the time to introduce Bastien to our families, and life in Canada. Bastien actively participated with the other exchange students in the Grape and Wine Parade, the Temagami Winter Camping Experience, the District Conference at the Chatauquau Institute, and Bike Trek.

We again supported Junior Achievement, and provided Rotary Medals to 8 students at the four high schools we sponsor. Jason Pollock organized our Club's contribution to Camp Enterprise.

This was a very busy year. With Jim Howes and June Manning providing the lead, we organized and produced a very successful Diamond Gala #8. This sold out event raised over \$22,000.00, much of which will be used to assist our Tsunami relief efforts. Club Roma never looked so glamorous as it did the night of our Gala, thanks to the decorations by Laetitia deWitt, not to mention her beautiful dancing that completed this happy occasion. The success of this year's Gala is a tribute to the efforts of very many of our members, real team work and a professional organization. We had fun, too.

Our other major fundraiser was Bingo, the second Tuesday of every month. Revenues were up this year, close to \$10,000.00. Congratulations to Chair Greg McDonald and the members who helped him. I encourage all members to volunteer for Bingo; we need your help for this important money-maker.

The program for our meetings was organized by Don Hetherington, who successfully arranged a steady stream of interesting and timely speakers. In September, Governor Charlotte Herlong presented Paul Harris Fellowships to Rob Welch, Joe O'Brien and George Darte. Guest speakers at other meetings ranged from police officers, to a professional gambler, and many others involved in local issues.

Most of all, I think we had a fun year. We had fun attending Ribfest, The Bicycle Winery Tour, the Hospice Gala, Christmas parties, Fireside at Keith Shaver's, the Centennial Dinner Dance, the May Gala, and Bike Fest. I particularly enjoyed the day that Doug Foss and I participated in the Ellicottville Rotary Club's Ski Day at Hollimont, and the Chicago Centennial R.I. Convention with Bob McKay and Don Hetherington and our wives.

Bob McKay will take over as your President on July 1st. I have no doubt that he will have a very successful year. He too will find this work to be a labour of love. I urge all members to support Bob as your President. Make honest contributions of your time to the community work of Rotary South. Do not promise what you cannot provide, but don't underestimate yourself, or what you can accomplish for Rotary, with the assistance and encouragement of your fellow Rotarians. Thank you, and Good Luck Bob, you'll need it.

*Dan Toppari*



PRESIDENT:	BOB MCKAY
PRESIDENT ELECT:	MATT TAYLOR
PAST PRESIDENT:	DAN TOPPARI
TREASURER:	JOHN TEIBERT
SECRETARY:	RON KOZUB

**DIRECTORS**

CLUB:	DON HETHERINGTON
COMMUNITY:	JUNE MANNING
VOCATIONAL:	LAETITIA DE WITT
INTERNATIONAL:	DOUG FOSS
MEMBERSHIP & PUBLICITY:	ED TELENKO
DIRECTOR AT LARGE:	TOM SCHULTZ

Our Rotary year began officially on July 1, 2005, after celebrating the First Hundred Years Celebration of Rotary International in Chicago on June 18-22, 2005. Over 45,000 Rotarians attended this Centennial Convention, held at McCormick Place, Chicago. My official Rotary manual was called "The New Century Presidents Manual 2005-2006".

**PETS:**

Before this year began, there were the traditional organizational meetings, referred to as PETS and COTS. The first session, PETS 1 was held in Kenmore, NY on Feb. 5, 2005, in which all the President-Elects were encouraged by our incoming District Governor, Art Wing, of the downtown St. Catharines Club to begin our organizational plans for our club. Having the District Governor here in St. Catharines was a large advantage for our club, as I would soon learn. Governor Art was a great help during my year, and source of inspiration for our club, along with his wife Jackie Herman-Wing. Art had the suggestion that clubs form a Presidential Advisory Committee composed of the President, Past President, Incoming President and the two preceding Presidents to select future candidates for the Board of Directors and to discuss important strategic Rotary Club matters. This we accomplished.

**PETS 2:**

This training session was held at The Bank of Montreal Training Centre on April 1st & 2nd in Toronto. It was the first time that 3 Rotary Districts were combined for a joint planning session and was very successful. The Districts were 7070, 7080 and 7090. I also held two club organizational meetings on April 20/05 and May 17/05 with our incoming Board of Directors.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

One of the main goals of the year was to rebuild our membership to the past levels, while maintaining our present membership. At the same time, another goal was to increase public awareness of Rotary in our community. This year our club won an unprecedented 5 District Awards through the excellent hard work of all our membership. Under the very capable leadership of Ed Telenko, our club received the Governor's Citation Awards for achieving the Greatest Number of New Inducted Members, the Highest Net Membership Growth and at the same time we received a District 7090 Award for the Highest Membership Attendance. Ron Kozub was our Attendance and Roster chair. Our new members this year were Linda Bianco, Julio Batres, Andrew Boyles, John D'Ambrosio, Debbie Garneau, Jim Hooper, Kim Payne and Dr. Peter Snodgrass, while we lost none of our present membership. We finished our year with 44 active members. The club also received the Lighthouse Award and the Presidential Citation Award. We were also finalists for a Rotary International Award for our Hospice Niagara project. This was in Rochester, NY when the incumbent Rotary International President, Carl Wilhelm Steadhower, visited the Rochester Rotary Club.

### **CLUB SERVICE:**

Don Hetherington organized our Club Service. Our Hospitality Committee re-established the idea of a "Greeter" for the beginning of our meetings. John Chotka, chaired our Sergeant-At-Arms committee with lively action during the year. Our Program Chair was Brian Radford, and we enjoyed many good speakers during the year. The Club enjoyed our Annual Picnic at the home of Paul and Mimi Massuet. Our Club was involved in "RIBFEST", which is run and organized by the Downtown Rotary Club; it was held at Montebello Park. Our Social Committee, under Jason Pollock's leadership, organized a trip to see the Hamilton Tiger Cats play on Labour Day. Bob McBride organized this event; we also had a Tailgate Party at the Buffalo Bills game in October run by John Chotka. Roseanne Morissette did an excellent job of being our "Southmouth" bulletin chair. Her writing abilities and organizational talents gave a fresh new look to our weekly bulletin. Ian Forbes took on the task of looking after "Club Mate" our computer connection for our Rotary membership. David Cooperman and Rob Welch co-chaired our Annual Meeting with the South Shore Club (Blasdell Club) of Western New York, organized at the Niagara Parks Commission on April 26, 2006. This was an excellent meeting; Rob Welch managed to bring in the Deputy American Ambassador to Canada as our speaker. Originally Rob had arranged to have the Ambassador, David Wilkens himself speak to us, but unfortunately he was called to Washington D.C. to deal with the softwood issue between Canada and the United States. His Deputy filled in that evening as the speaker. Bob McBride handled our Club History and Ross Elliott our "Sick and Visiting" Committee.

### **VOCATIONAL SERVICE:**

Laetitia de Witt very capably handled our Vocational Services. We were involved in the "SUCCESS" Program at Kernahan Park Secondary School. This was formerly known at the "CRYSIS PROGRAM". It involved a program to allow students a last opportunity to achieve secondary school credits. John Klassen was our chairman. Jason Pollock and Mike Grifa co-chaired Junior Achievement. Jason Pollock chaired Camp Enterprise, and Ian Forbes chaired our Rotary Medals Program. Tom Schultz chaired RYLA, and we sponsored three students this year. In past years the club was involved in the Rotary Student Exchange Program. Although we did not participate this year, the four St. Catharines Rotary Clubs met and were making plans to join forces and work together in a joint effort to actively promote this program next Rotary year. We organized a "LITERACY PROGRAM COMMITTEE" which was one of the goals of our International President Carol Wilhelm Steadhower. This committee was formed under the leadership of Doug Foss. Our club donated 6000 to 7000 books. We were also partnered with The Canadian Federation of University Women in the program, "THE GIFT OF READING". This resulted in the donation of books to eighteen centres. Ron Kozub, our Secretary, also doubled in his role as our Rotary Liaison and did an excellent job for the club.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

Our Community Service chair was well organized by June Manning. Under her leadership we held a successful Hospice Gala in conjunction with the May Court Club called "Winter Dreams V" in support of raising funds for a Niagara Hospice for the terminally ill. This year we raised \$21,000 for Hospice. Valerie and George Fitzpatrick, along with Cathy Henry of May Court did an exceptional job of organizing the Gala. George, Valerie and Cathy were instrumental in the inception of the project to create a Hospice for the community here in Niagara. Cathy would soon become a new valued member of our club. Greg McDonald did an excellent job as our Bingo chair. It has been one of our main fundraising projects for over 30 years. May 13, 2006 was the date of our highly successful Diamond Gala event, under the co-chairmanship of Bob McBride and June Manning. We sold over 275 tickets to the event and raised over \$14,000 dollars from our auction in the event. As he has done since its inception, Ed Telenko chaired the Howard Etherington Award to honour the memory of Howard, a true Rotarian in every meaning of the word. This year's winner was the Folk Arts Council. Ross Elliott was the chair for our Sick and Visiting committee with Dan Toppari chairing the New Projects committee. Dr. Matt and Georgette Taylor again volunteered for the Emergency Dental Services this year in Mexico. Our Club was involved again in "The Best of Friends" International Bike Trek held in June in NOTL under the guidance of Paul Massuet.



## **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE:**

Doug Foss was our International Director, and was also the chair of our highly successful Community Literacy Program. Polio Plus was chaired by Laetitia de Witt. Matt Taylor was our Youth Exchange Chairman. Laetitia was also a National Co-Chair for Rotary Fellowship on Population Growth and Sustainable Development. Rich Cavers was in charge of Group Study Exchange and Ian Forbes chaired our Paul Harris Committee. Paul Massuet was our Chairman for the Rotary Foundation. Doug Foss, Ron Kozub and Dan Toppari looked after our responsibilities for the District Conference.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:**

As previously mentioned, Ed Telenko did an outstanding job of heading up this Directorship. Ed looked after our Classifications and Mentorship Program while Keith Shaver was our Firesides chairman. Ron Kozub chaired the Attendance and Roster. Ed developed an introductory brochure for the potential new club members. Ed also arranged a full page "Community Profile" of our club for the St. Catharines Standard which was printed during the District Conference, held this year in St. Catharines. This included photos of all our club members and gave our club major exposure for Rotary Awareness. Don Toppari and Julio Batres organized a Hospitality Suite for our District Rotary Conference, held in May. The theme of the conference was "Youth and Literacy".

One of our clubs most rewarding donations was our donation of \$7500 to the St. Catharines Para Transit Commission, to be involved with the other three Rotary Clubs in a new Para Transit bus. We also made a significant donation to Dr. Ken and Denise Taylor for their efforts to supply medical relief supplies to Afghanistan.

Special thanks go to my Treasurer, John Teibert, and my Secretary, Ron Kozub. As well as the excellent job they did during the year, they were a constant source of guidance with their vast knowledge of Rotary, their business sense and their experiences Presidents themselves.

Special acknowledgement must go to Laetitia de Witt; she approached me in April and told me that she had been both a Rotary President and two-time Assistant Governor in Alberta, and that she would help me organize my year as President. She guided me through the year and with her vast Rotary knowledge and excellent organizational abilities. That help began with the beginning organizational meetings, the meeting visitation with the District Governor Art Wing, Assembly venues, the President's Official Christmas Party and all the countless events and meetings throughout the year. Without her help and guidance, I would not have been able to fulfill the task as President. Laetitia taught me the meaning of "Exponential Growth", where the power of two people is greater than the sum of the two. With all the help and hard work of our club this year, we achieved that "Exponential" effect of our 44 members.

Thanks for a great year,

***Bob McKay***

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## 2006-2007      **PRESIDENT: MATT TAYLOR**

Last year about this time I became President of our club. Now the year has passed and I am about to be the Past President. Much has happened during this year and I will try to give a brief summary. First though, I want to give a short report on our recent trip to the R. I. convention in Salt Lake City U.S.A. three weeks ago. After traveling to the R.I. convention in Denmark - Sweden and I returned enthused and proud to be a Rotarian. It was there that we decided to go to the next R.I convention being held in Salt Lake City Utah and we were not disappointed as this convention was even more inspiring! The city went all out



making Rotarians feel welcome and we learned much about what Rotary does in the world: its influence for peace, literacy, hunger relief, understanding, goodwill and concern for the poor. Rotary clubs exist in approximately 167 countries, with over 1.2 million members. According to the International Navigator Rotary is the #1 charitable organization on the planet.

An example of a speaker that touched hearts was a Rotarian engineer from India who spoke passionately about a dam & irrigation system that R.I. helped him build. The project brought water to an impoverished and thirsty rural community. Tears of gratitude rolled down his cheeks as he explained how Rotary's aid had saved his project. He showed a picture of two women at the dam drawing water; one was a Muslim, one a Hindu. Now, both were friends. Another presentation was by Bill Gates Sr. who helps his famous son donate millions of dollars to the poor, including huge contributions to the Rotary Foundation. He gave a special thank you to Rotary for their effort to eliminate polio worldwide. Another Rotarian went to Malaysia to help with bringing clean drinkable water to schools where there was an epidemic of intestinal worms. After acquiring R.I. Foundation grants and help from the Malaysian government a whole school district eventually had clean drinking water and the health and ability to learn of these children and their parents increased amazingly. The wonderful part of this project was that Rotarians taught the local people how to maintain and sustain the project.

One evening a Mormon Rotarian family hosted us. Tom Young Electrics have been in the electric sign business for 4 generations and had the contract to make all the signs for the Winter Olympics held in Salt Lake City. 2002. They provided a sumptuous meal with all the trimmings minus any liquor, tea, or coffee. We heard stories about Rotary projects from Italy, Australia and the U.S. Four District Governors and their spouses also were hosted. The Rotarian from Italy brought his two daughters besides! We plan to go to L.A. next year!

But Rotary's strength starts with each individual club. And that brings us to our club "St. Catharines South" # 4712, District 7090.

We have what Past District Governor Dick Earne called a "High Achievement Club", with hard working members that accomplish a lot. At my office I am known as someone who delegates and since that philosophy worked fine there, I applied the same principle as President. But in order to delegate and be successful, you need excellent people around you. And believe me, the executive, directors and members that helped me this past year were the absolute best. I would like to mention a few highlights and thank some of you, but forgive me if I miss anybody. First thanks to my wife Georgette; although not a Rotarian, she was my sounding board, typist, and greatest supporter, as well as hostess for picnics and meetings. Ron Kozub, our secretary, answered dozens of emails, ordered supplies etc. John Teibert, as treasurer, paid all the bills. Don Hetherington, as Vice President, held meetings at his home, helped guide the club and filled in as President many times in my absence. I bounced many ideas off my Past President Bob McKay who gave me lots of assistance all year long.

#### Highlights:

1. Our South Mouth bulletin with editors Debbie Garneau, John Teibert, Roseanne Morissette & others created an interesting and informative weekly record of events.
2. Our web site organized by Ian Forbes really got rolling this year.
3. Rib Fest – Director Jason Pollock ran this event for our club last year and will do the same this year
4. SLAP SHOT / RYLA was chaired by Tom Schulz and we had 4 candidates for the Slapshot program.
5. Bingo: A fundraiser under Greg McDonald. We netted almost \$6000 for the club and all who volunteered had a great time.





6. Program Chairman Ed Telenko found speakers of top quality week after week, as well as being the club photographer &, on occasion, the guest speaker.
7. Sergeant @ Arms: John Klassen, George Fitz, Bob McBride, Ian Forbes and others all did a great job bringing fun to our noon hour, even if they didn't like my pink tie. I still think it was a perfect match
8. We had our 31st annual exchange with Blasdell, thanks to David Cooperman and Rob Welsh.
9. Winter Dreams VI – Together with the MayCourt Club we hosted our final Black Tie Gala Event for Hospice Niagara at Queens Landing, N.O.T.L. Six years ago, George Fitzpatrick approached Cathy Henry, a PP of the MayCourt Club and a Paul Harris Fellow and asked her if there was some way St. Catharines South Rotary Club and MayCourt could join forces for the betterment of the community. Betty Lou Souter took it from there. George supported her proposals. George took them to Rotary South and Winter Dreams was born. Hospice has always agreed that without MayCourt's initial profile and the teaming of the two clubs a Hospice facility for the Niagara region would never have come to fruition! We have raised over \$400,000 for this worthwhile project. July will see the grand opening of this facility. It was truly a joint project. Thanks go to Cathy Henry, George Fitzpatrick, June Manning, Jim Howes, Laetitia de Witt, Heidi Wilson and many others.
10. We have our Abuse and Harassment policy up and running for 2007-08 with Dan Toppari as chair. Police checks will now be required of all board members and anyone in a position of trust working with youth.
11. At our District Conference in May, our club received 5 awards:
  - a) Lighthouse for being an outstanding club
  - b) Attendance award
  - c) Presidential citation for a well run club
  - d) The Champion award for new projects went to Cathy Henry for her efforts regarding the new Niagara Hospital Catheterization Lab. This will be our major project for the next five years. Cathy also will be the Canadian representative on the District 7090 Community Service committee.
  - e) Laetitia de Witt received a District literacy award on behalf of our club.
  - f) Laetitia was presented with a R.I. Literacy (Fellowship) award for her third world efforts to promote literacy internationally.
12. Ed Telenko, Laetitia de Witt and Bob McKay received Paul Harris Fellows
13. Paul Monaghan, Dan Toppari and I participated in the bike trek that was organized by Paul Massuet.
14. In May 07 our club hosted our 10th Annual Diamond Gala Diner dance and auction. Thanks to Julio Batres as chair, Bob McBride as M.C., Jean Holbert-Leighton, June Manning, Jim Howes, Jim Hooper and many others it was a resounding success. Almost every member of our club participated.
15. During the year we had a Christmas party, barbecues and we held firesides for new and older members.
16. Among other donations we gave \$1000 to CRYISIS, \$1500 to the Rotary Club of Ephrata Literacy project and \$2000 for the Howard Etherington Award.

In conclusion, we have indeed had a good year. It is true that this year has seen its ups and downs. However, if we strive to follow our motto "Service Above Self" and also the ethics, principles and goals of Rotary; we will make our world a better home for all. Thanks for the support, help and guidance of all members in making 2006/07 a successful Rotary Year.

***Matt Taylor***

My year as Rotary South president had many surprises, excitement and opportunities to experience how Rotary Shares

I would like to present the Board of Directors who made my year successful:

Vice President	Greg McDonald
Secretary	John Teibert
Treasurer	Debra Garneau
Past President	Matt Taylor
Club Administration	Jason Pollock
Community Service	Paul Monaghan
International Service	Greg McDonald
Membership	John D'Ambrosio

#### **Review of the Year 2007-2008**

In July, former President George Fitzpatrick (2001) would finally see his dream to completion when Hospice Niagara officially opened the Stabler Centre on the 19th. Through a joint venture with the May Court Club of St. Catharines we helped make this dream come true. Congratulations to the committee members!

The Civic Holiday weekend in August was the time for Rib Fest. This was an opportunity for all the Rotary Clubs in St. Catharines to participate in fundraising for their own clubs. Our club participated in the event and enjoyed the fellowship of our neighbouring clubs.

In October, we were honoured by a visit from the District Governor Bob Leek. His visit was a show of support and congratulations on our continued participation in both community and international programs.

Our "Take It To Heart" Gala in November was another Rotary South and The May Court Club partnered event. This was an evening to raise money for our new hospital in St. Catharines. We would later be honoured to have a new partner Performance Cars join us in our efforts to raise funds for the new hospital.

Our Annual Christmas Party planned by Elizabeth Spaan and Cathy Henry was an enjoyable luncheon for all the members. During the Christmas Party we were able to take up a coat collection from our members, which we later donated to Community Services.

In April, we had the pleasure of listening to CHCH TV Anchor Dan McLean as guest speaker at our Joint Meeting for the Rotary Clubs of St. Catharines. Towards the end of month we hosted an enjoyable evening at Queenston Heights for our friends from the Blasdell Rotary Club. Special thanks to Dave Cooperman and Rob Welch for making this night run smoothly.

May saw our club celebrate our Fortieth Anniversary by holding an evening Gala at Club Roma. Don Fraser, one of the founding members of our club was in attendance that evening. It was a pleasure having him there. He commented to me at the end of the evening how he enjoyed meeting our current members and their guests.

Spring 2008 was another proud moment for us when we were able to partner with Ocho Rios Rotary Club District 7020 and supported the building of a children's playground in Walkers Woods.

I would like to personally thank Rotary South for my trip to the International Rotary Meeting in Los Angeles. I was impressed by the involvement of Rotary throughout the world. Rotary's involvement with

a variety of ongoing projects in different parts of the globe prove that we are making a difference locally and globally. It was nice meeting some of those individuals leading these projects and how much they appreciated our club's support.

Throughout my one year term our club continued their commitment to both international and local community programs such as: Polio Plus, Literacy, RYLA, CRYISIS, Slapshot and Rotaract.

In closing, I would like to take a moment and reflect on my presidential experience. The tremendous support I received from the other members of Rotary South made it an enjoyable experience. I learned a great deal about leadership and what it takes to be an effective leader. I hope that I was able to create an environment where we can utilize each other's strengths to create a more effective club and in turn give back to the community. This is what 'Rotary Shares' meant to me.

*June Manning*

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## 2008-2009    PRESIDENT: GREG McDONALD

Well, another Rotary year has come to an end. Where has the time gone? It seems like yesterday June, Sandie and I were in Los Angeles experiencing Rotary in a way that is literally indescribable unless you have had the good fortune to attend a Rotary International Convention. All three of us came away with a new appreciation for the scope and influence this organization has on the world stage. On behalf of June and Sandie, I want to thank the club for the opportunity to travel to Los Angeles to attend the convention.

So here we are at the end of the Rotary year, the end of my year as your club president. Last July I told you that Rotary International president D.K. Lee asked us to help "Make Dreams Real". He asked us and all Rotarians to find ways to reduce child mortality by focusing on clean water, literacy, health and hunger projects. I stand here today to tell you that our club, the Rotary Club of St. Catharines South, has answered D.K. Lee's challenge. We have helped "Make Dreams Real".

Back in July I told you that the single most important element that has made our club successful is you, the members. And what makes a club president successful is the quality of the board members one has the privilege of serving with. I want to recognize and thank each of the members of my board of directors for their commitment to the club and their support of me over the past year.

Incoming President & Membership Director – Paul Monaghan  
Past President – June Manning  
Club Secretary – John Teibert  
Club Treasurer – Debbie Garneau  
Club Administration Director – Jason Pollock  
Club Community Service Projects Director – John D'Ambrosio  
Club International Service Projects Director - Laetitia de Witt  
Rotary Foundation Director – Sheila Bristo  
Club Public Relations Director – Cathy Henry

I also want to all the members of our club who participated on the various subcommittees.

It was another busy year for our club beginning with the club picnic in July hosted by Paul & Mimi Massuet. Next up was Ribfest in August followed by District Governor Ralph Montessanto's visit in September. During that meeting we bestowed Paul Harris Awards on June Manning as Past President,

John Teibert for his dedicated service as a Rotarian, and Rene Devertuil for humanitarian service within our community.

In October our club submitted a theme basket to the District Conference held in Hamilton. Members from our club enjoyed dinner and keynote speaker Bob McDonald from CBC's Quirks and Quarks. On a social note Rotarian Ron Kozub hosted a beer making seminar which included generous samples of the finished product.

November was a particularly active month. Paul Harris awards went to Matt Taylor for his year as president and to Eric Lefebvre for his humanitarian work in Africa. The Rotary Foundation dinner was held in November at Salvatore's in Buffalo with keynote speaker past RI president Frank Devlin, author of several books on Rotary.

Rotarian Jim Howes was actively involved in organizing the Bill Ford Memorial Rotary Bonspiel with our club participating as a co-sponsor. November also saw the second annual "Take It To Heart Gala" held at the Hilton Hotel in Niagara Falls.

We closed 2008 with our annual Christmas luncheon in December organized by Elizabeth Spaan and Cathy Henry. Club members generously donated socks and underwear for Community Care.

In February incoming president Paul Monaghan attended PETS 1 in Niagara Falls, N.Y. In March Rotarian Matt Taylor travelled to India to provide free dental services to the poor.

April was another active month kicked off with the annual joint club luncheon at Coppola's Restaurant. Ontario Lt. Governor David Onley was the guest speaker. Cathy Henry along with representatives from the other city clubs organized a Rotary flag raising ceremony at City Hall and solicited the co-operation of the St. Catharines Standard to run a full page exposé on Rotary in our city. Paul Monaghan attended PETS 2 in Toronto.

April also saw the dedication of an engraved stone at Hospice Niagara recognizing the contribution made to the construction of that facility by our club and the May Court Club. That was followed by the chartering of the first Early Act Club in St. Catharines at Mother Teresa School.

In May we held our "Celebrate Niagara" gala and club members attended the District Assembly in Niagara Falls, NY. The year concluded with the Niagara Hoedown in support of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab, and incoming president Paul Monaghan travelling to Birmingham, England to attend the 2009 Rotary International Convention.

Our fund raising efforts this year exceeded my expectations. This was due to the extraordinary efforts of our members who chaired the respective committees and the participation of our club members who truly believe in "Service Above Self".

Our club ran four fund raising events this year beginning with Ribfest in August. I want to thank Jason Pollock for organizing the glo-stick sales and the 50/50 draw which raised over \$1,100 for our club. Through the generosity of the Downtown club we have the opportunity to participate in Ribfest again on the Civic holiday weekend with the added bonus of a second 50/50 draw.

Earlier this month the two Pauls, Monaghan and Massuet, along with Bob MacKay and Laetitia deWitt represented our club at Bike Trek. Although we had fewer riders this year, our members once again stepped up with contributions totaling nearly \$2,000 which earned our club the District 7090 trophy for the largest amount of donations. 50% of those donations are returned to our club.

What can I say about Bingo? What an integral part of our club. What an easy way to make ten to fifteen thousand dollars. And who do we have to thank for bingo? Well I guess you could say Ed Telenko for



starting this extraordinary fund raiser way back on May 31st, 1971.

But I want to acknowledge the efforts of three Rotarians, your bingo committee co-chairs Don Beard, Sheila Bristo and Jim Hooper. Thank-you! And thank you to the members who responded to their request to participate in at least two bingos this year. For those members who chose not to participate in bingo, I must say that you missed out on the opportunity to spend some quality time with some great people. I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity during the upcoming year.

And now to our gala. Here is an event which in terms of its complexity and scope requires a very special team of individuals to see it through to fruition. Once again this year we had this team and it was lead by past president June Manning. June and her committee faced many challenges organizing this year's event. Through their commitment and perseverance they made "Celebrate Niagara" another success for our club. Every detail from the programs and tickets, to the décor, the dinner, the music and the quality of the auction items was superb. While our numbers were down from last year, those in attendance gave generously through the live and silent auctions netting our club close to \$15,000.

Unfortunately all good things seem to come to an end at some point and the gala is no exception. The gala in its current format may have run its course and we now face the challenge of replacing or reconstructing our major fund raising event.

Fund raising is only one part of Rotary and our club. The other part is how we put those funds to use to add value to people's lives.

This year our club contributed \$4,300 to the Rotary Foundation's Permanent Fund. We also donated \$1,000 to the Foundation's \$100 million Polio Plus Challenge. This is the first installment of a three year \$3,000 commitment to match the initial \$100 million donated by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. As announced earlier this year, the Gates Foundation increased their donation to \$350 million. Rotary International has now challenged the clubs to raise \$200 million.

At our June assembly Foundation Director Sheila Bristo recognized members of our club who made \$100 donations to the Every Rotarian Every Year program.

This year's international service projects involved a donation of \$1,500 to the Guatemala Literacy Project; \$1,000 to Fog Quest; \$1,000 to support Rotarian Matt Taylor in providing free dental service in India; and \$1,000 to fund Shelter Box #1093 which was deployed to Namibia to shelter flood victims.

Our community service projects involved \$1,500 donation to the Rotary Para-transit vehicle, the fourth of a five year commitment; \$1,000 to the Canadian Federation of University Women's Gift of Reading Program which saw books go to Kernahan Park Secondary School and FACS Niagara; \$500 went to FACS Niagara to send two children to a summer camp; and \$200 to Horse Alternative Therapeutic Service which gives handicapped children the opportunity to experience horseback riding on an ongoing basis as part of their therapy.

Our major community service project is the Cardiac Catheterization Lab for the new hospital in partnership with the MayCourt Club and Performance Cars. I want to acknowledge Rotarian Cathy Henry for her commitment to this project and for honorably representing our club in this endeavor. Thank you! I also want to thank those individual members of our club who supported this project by attending the "Take It To Heart Gala" in November and the recent "Niagara Hoedown". Incoming president Paul Monaghan will be bringing a proposal to the incoming board that our club make ongoing monetary contributions to this project as well.

This year's Howard Etherington Award went to Adolescents Family Support Services of Niagara. The \$2,000 grant included in the award was used to purchase a high quality 3 child Runabout Stroller for use



by staff on outings. Thanks to Ed Telenko and his committee for once again masterfully administering this program dedicated to the memory of a dedicated Rotarian.

Our Youth Services Committee had another busy year sending three high school students to Slap Shot, and sponsoring one university student to attend RYLA. Thank you Rotarian Tom Schulz.

During last week's meeting we met four young women and four young men who are this year's Rotary medalists. These eight individuals are deemed by their peers to have a special gift, the gift of caring about others and the willingness to get involved. Thank you Rotarian, John D'Ambrosio and your team of presenters.

Our crowning achievement in youth services this year has to be the chartering of an Early Act Club at Mother Teresa School in St. Catharines, the first Early Act Club in the city. For those of us who attended the Chartering ceremony on April 29th, this was truly a special event. District governor Ralph Montessanto was in attendance as was District Youth Services Director Chris Lowes and Superintendent of Education Leanne Forsythe-Selles. And it all came about due to the efforts of Rotarian Dan Toppari. It took some time but once again the perseverance of Dan and Vicky Syne from Mother Teresa School won the day.

Finally I want to acknowledge Rotarians Matt Taylor and Jean Holbert-Leighton for their contribution to this year's youth exchange program. Those of us present for Karen Ting's presentation to the club at our last assembly witnessed the blossoming of a fine young lady whose confidence and English skills have increased dramatically. We all look forward to hearing an account of outgoing student Elizabeth Bratton's experiences in Holland at an upcoming meeting.

I feel that this was another positive year for our club. Our revised committee structure created added focus on membership, the Rotary Foundation and Public Relations. Paul Monaghan, Sheila Bristo and Cathy Henry all made outstanding contributions in these areas.

The sole area of disappointment for me was membership. Our club experienced a net decrease of five members this year. On the positive side we welcomed Najeeb Syed and Ken Smith into our club. Unfortunately we lost seven members. Two former members, Ross Elliott and Rich Cavers, were given Honorary Member status in recognition of their long term service to our club and Rotary. I am confident that the membership program initiated by Paul Monaghan will eventually yield positive results for our club.

Remember, without Rotarians there would be no Rotary.

Thank you for the honour of being your President. Each and every one of you helped make it a special year for me. I also want to pass along my best wishes to incoming president Paul Monaghan and his executive. Finally, in my new capacity with the club I want to conclude by saying that I need 4 volunteers to help with bingo on Friday July 10th.

***Greg McDonald***



## 2009 - 2010 PRESIDENT: PAUL MONAGHAN

Thank you to the 2009-10 Board Members for their commitment to our club, to Rotary and to myself as President.

To Past President Greg McDonald and also to Past President June Manning for their leadership and commitment, thank you. They have both been of great assistance with me getting to know this club.

Thank you all for being Rotarians.

I would like to thank all the club members for allowing Janet and myself the opportunity to attend the Rotary International 100th Convention held in Birmingham, England. The experience was truly unforgettable and will be remembered by us both with gratitude. At the convention incoming 2009-10 Rotary International President, John Kenny, announced this year's theme "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands".

Here are a few convention highlights that provided me with answers to the question, "Why am I a Rotarian?"

- Jane Goodall's address and then a by chance meeting with her in the House of Friendship.
- Mia Farrow, a polio survivor, speech about polio and children of Dafar, Africa
- D. K. Lee experience in Africa that changed his life forever.

I want to recognize and thank each of the members of the Board of Directors for their commitment to the club and their support of me over the past year.

President Elect Report – John Teibert  
Past President's Report – Greg McDonald  
Secretary's Report – Sheila Bristo  
Treasurer's Report – Debi Garneau  
Rotary Foundation – Roseanne Morissette  
Public Relations Report – Cathy Henry  
International Report – Laetitia de Witt  
Community Service Report – John D'Ambrosio  
Club Administration Report – Jason Pollack  
Member At Large – Jean Holbert-Leighton

I also want to thank all club members who participated on the various subcommittees.

### 2009-10 Club highlights:

We welcomed new members: Sheree Taillon, Arie Vrugteveen, Elisabeth Zimmerman, Christopher Michael, and Beth Cockcroft.

Along with Classification Talks from the new members we benefited throughout the year from Who's Who talks from:

Sheila Bristo, John Teibert, Laetitia de Witt, Paul Massuet, Jim Hooper, Brian Radford, Matt Taylor, Dan Toppari, Cathy Henry, Keith Shaver, Roseanne Morissette, Debi Garneau, Jean Holbert-Leighton, Rob Kozub, Norris Brown, John Klassen, June Manning, Jim Howes, Jason Pollock, Greg McDonald, Rob Welch and Ed Telenko

District Governor, Pravin Suchak, joined us for a visit on August 10th.

We enjoyed a Club Assembly at Dom's Restaurant downtown on September 28th.

The District Conference held on October 16-18th which included a Foundation Dinner

Our major fund raiser, the Take It To Heart Gala held November 14th held at the Hilton Hotel in Niagara Falls.

Paul Harris Fellows Award presentations to Debi Wiebe, Rose Smith, Melody Cunningham, and club Rotarians; Greg McDonald and Deborah Garneau on November 23rd

Club Christmas Party celebrated on December 21st

Howard Etherington Award presented to Hospice Niagara on March 8th

Club Assembly at Antipastos on March 15th

A Joint St. Catharines clubs Paul Harris evening held on March 23rd in which our club awarded Performance Cars co-founder, John Mann with a Paul Harris Fellowship.

Memorial Rotary Bonspiel with our club participating as a co-sponsor.

A Joint Club Meeting hosted by Lakeshore Club on April 8th with guest speaker, Nick Dixon the CHCH TV nightly news anchor

Annual Blasdel N.Y. Club meeting hosted by our club at the Queenston Heights Restaurant on April 26th with MC – David Cooperman, and Co-Chair Rob Welch

Fun filled Car Rally Fundraiser “Explore Niagara” held on Sunday May 2nd  
District Conference held May 15th at Niagara Falls, N.Y. High School

Best of Friends International Bike Trek on June 5th. We raised \$ 2,020 from the club and Rotarian riders: Paul Massuet, Norris Brown, Laetitia de Witt, Bob McKay, Dan Toppari, and myself.

An evening of fellowship, learning and conversation during a Fireside Chat meeting on June 9th chaired by President Elect, John Teibert, and hosted by Cathy Henry.

RYLA at State University of New York in Fredonia on June 11 to 17th

Club Assembly – June 14th

2010 Rotary International Convention held in Montreal in June attended by President Elect John Teibert along with Rotarian Dan Toppari.

Rotary Medalist Awards on June 21st presented by Rotarian John D’Ambrosio  
Receipents:

Alexander Perrin and Jessie Yusek

- from Thorold Secondary School

Majda Hareri and Sara Hermida

- from Denis Morris High School

Rebecca Hindrichs and Patrick Sprzalkowski

- from Sir Winston Secondary Collegiate

Megan Annis and Steven Comb

- from West Park Secondary School

As President Elect, I attended PETS 1 in Niagara Falls, N.Y. and PETS 2 in Toronto.

Our fund raising efforts this year included:



- Ribfest in August providing assistance to the Rotary Club of St. Catharines
- Explore Niagara Car Rally
- Bike Trek in June
- Bingos throughout the year
- "Take It To Heart Gala" raising proceeds for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab for the new hospital in partnership with the MayCourt Club and Performance Cars.

#### Community Service Projects support:

- Goodwill Stokes Seeds Community Project - \$ 3,000 for 3 years
- Bethlehem Place support for a children's interactive project in St. Catharines - \$ 3,000
- Para Transit – final year of commitment - \$ 1,500
- YMCA Kids Strong school program - \$ 500
- Joint Rotary Clubs of St. Catharines provided elementary schools Thesauri - \$ 500
- Autism Ontario support to send a child to their summer camp - \$ 375
- The Vimy Foundation

#### International Program Project support:

- Guatemala Literacy Project - \$1,500
- Guatemala Dental Project Dr. Matt and Georgette Taylor - \$ 1,500
- Disaster Relief – Shelter Box Canada - \$1,200
- Disaster Relief – Joint Shelter Box Canada Project (Four St. Catharines and NOTL Clubs) - \$ 200
- Water Project "Haiti Water for Life" - \$ 1,500
- Maternal and Child Health – Threefold Effect of Mosquito Nets – Kaduna, Nigeria - \$ 2,000
- Child Healthcare – Noora Project – Kurdistan - \$ 2,000
- Afghanistan School Project – District 7090 Canadian Rotary Centennial Project - \$ 1,500
- Support to the Foundation's \$100 million Polio Plus Challenge.

Finally as we move forward into the 2010-11 Rotary year, remember

"The Future of Rotary is in YOUR Hands."

Thank you for the honour of being your President.

***Paul Monaghan***

## 2010 - 2011 PRESIDENT: JOHN TEIBERT

The last time I was club president (1998-1999), two members passed away during that year. That didn't happen this year, so from that perspective, I think that this year was successful – none of you died!

I would like to start by thanking everyone who helped make this a wonderful, successful and memorable year. I am not going to risk naming names in case I forget someone, - so, on behalf of the Board of Directors, a great big thank-you for all of your help, guidance, support over the course of the year.

I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for all of their contributions during the year. I just sit at the head of the Board table during board meetings and stand at the front of the room at regular Monday meetings, it's our Board members that truly run our club and they deserve a round of applause for their great work this year.

And finally, I would like to thank my wife Evelyn for putting up with me being President for a second time. Her support during the year helped me get through those stressful times.

Pets I and II, help prepare for the year, but in my mind the year officially starts with attending the International Convention. Last June the convention was in Montreal. It was a wonderful experience that got me in the right frame of mind to start my year as President, Dan and Cathy Toppari attending with Evelyn and I made it that much more enjoyable.

I sometimes forget how busy and involved our club is – we do what we do in addition to our “day jobs” and family engagements – and we do a lot. This past year we participated in Bingos, Dragon Boat races, participated in Ribfest, some of us went to a Bison’s baseball game, we helped sell tickets for Hospice’s 5 Car Draw, and the Canadian Tour Championship, we organized our annual Take it to Heart Gala (in partnership with the May Court Club and Performance Cars), we hosted the District Governor, we hosted an in-house Paul Harris Awards Presentation, and a Joint Club Paul Harris Awards Evening, we held firesides we had a Christmas party, we sent cards and best wishes to members, we started planning for a new fundraiser with the help of a Rotary friend, we were asked to give blood, we handed out a Howard Etherington Award, we helped with a furniture drive, we ran a car rally, we visited our friends at the Blasdell Rotary Club, we handed out Rotary Medals, we participated in Slapshot and RYLA, we had committee meetings to discuss donations, strategic planning, budgets, club policies and procedures, fundraising events, interclub events etc, we published a weekly newsletter, we arranged for off site club meetings, we have members who ensure that our club’s financial and administrative records are up to date and accurate, some of us participated in the many District events held through out the year, and some participated on District committees – and I’m certain that I missed something – thank you all for being so generous with your time.

Programs and speakers are a significant part of each Monday meeting. Dan Toppari did an excellent job of ensuring that we had a good slate of speakers.

Programs included Thie Convery, the Rotarian who tried to swim across Lake Ontario for Polio, Mayor McMullan, Matt and Georgette’s trek through the Himalayas, the Group Study Exchange team from South Korea visited our club in September, Dr. Dan Patterson from Niagara College, Dr. Jack Lightstone from Brock University, Peter Partington, Chair of the Niagara Region, and Roseanne Morissette to name a few . We inducted a few new members – Jean Stewart, Ernesto Cirillo, and Derrick Tomlinson and we lost a few – John Chotka, Greg McDonald, and George Fitzpatrick.

Individuals honoured with Paul Harris Fellows this year were, from our club – Paul Monaghan, Najeeb Syed and Roseanne Morissette, from outside our club – Thomas Bailey, Bonnie Prentice and Jan Cook. This past January marked my 20th anniversary as a member of our club.

In May I attended the RI Convention in New Orleans with Sheila and friends Hans and Susan. It was a great experience that is very hard to describe – you had to be there, and it was a great way to help finish off a great Rotary year.

I will fondly remember this year for many years to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

***John Teibert***





Our club's recently approved vision statement says:

We are the service organization of choice providing a friendly forum for members to use their skills and talents to serve the local, national and international communities.

Rotary South truly is a friendly forum where each of us can use our individual's skills to the extent that we choose and it shows in so many ways.

Over the last year we have raised approximately \$98,000 through the car rally, Take It to Heart, Tour du Lac, Bingo, Rib Fest, and 50/50. On the flip side we have supported:

Bethlehem Place, Gillian's Place, Salvation Army, St. George Breakfast Program, the Vimy Foundation, and the Child Advocacy Program. We presented a cheque to Goodwill at Goodwill and had the opportunity to see first hand how our support helps that organization. Internationally we supported Haiti Water for Life, Rotary Mobility Cup, Free the Children, Friends of the Orphans, Trees that Feed, Literacy in Pakistan and SOS Village. Thanks to Keith and Najeeb for their local and international leadership and for all the members who volunteered on these two important committees.

While we will be providing a more recent update, last year at this time in partnership with May court Club and Performance Cars \$512,000 had been raised for the heart investigative unit at the new hospital and we are well on our way to reaching the \$750,000 goal over the next year.

Anyone who has been a Rotary club president will tell you how exciting and a little bit daunting the task is. A year ago I spoke about the coming year and looked forward to Tour du lac, Rib Fest, Take it To Heart, Paul Harris recognitions, the car rally, bingo, membership development, GSE, slapshot and Ryla to name a few. I also spoke about my target of continuing the strategic planning and looking forward to planning for our next project that would help brand our club, similar to what Hospice and TITH has done.

Well we did all of that and more. Kicking the year off with Tour du Lac during record breaking heat showed the determination of several Rotarians lead by Ian Forbes and their friends putting their skills, and determination to the test to support a cause that is very close to them. 50/50 at Rib fest was a success thanks to Jason Pollock and his volunteers. We pondered how we could do something different to raise more money and now we have it. Thanks to our friends at Sunrise we will get to become corn shucking experts!

Take It to Heart was a great success under Cathy and her committee's guidance. We committed to a fifth year to reach our target and November 10 promises to be a wonderful celebration of our partnership and supporting a very important service in our community.

Over the last year our club recognized Maryanne Edwards, Cathy Henry, Ian Forbes, John Tiebert, John Kelly and Jim Hooper with Paul Harris recognitions, the greatest honour we can bestow. Thank you to Rob Welch, who heads our foundation work for leading the Paul Harris events.

The car rally was a great fun and I look forward to hosting Paul and Janet Monaghan, John and Evelyn Teibert and David and Cathy Henry all whom surpassed me in my pledge challenge.

Thank you to John Tiebert and Don Beard for continuing their leadership in Bingo and to every club member who enjoys an evening of fellowship while raising the funds that we put back into our community.

Under Roseanne's leadership as membership chair a membership satisfaction survey was completed.

We welcomed back Ian Forbes as a member and welcomed Colin Sines. David Martineau and Michael Kevorkian as new members and of course today we welcome Jeff Thomas. Unfortunately we also accepted the resignation of some of our Rotarian friends including Beth Cockcroft, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Norris Brown, Ed Tolenko, Derek Tomlinson, Ernesto Carillo and Brian Radford. We know while not active club members they will continue to be Rotarians in the true sense of the word. Of our course we were saddened to hear of the passing of Christopher Michael almost a year ago.

Tom Shultz continued to lead our club's involvement in Ryla and Slap shot and engaged the membership in nominating worthy recipients. These are life altering events for our future leaders and Tom's commitment over the years ensures that our club is front and centre in identifying and supporting these amazing young people.

Jim Hooper led our involvement with GSE and was able to benefit from Roseanne's experience as a past team lead.

And boy did we do more....

Dan Toparri organized our speakers with informative and fun topics. I will always remember our Halloween meeting. I can honestly say that after every Rotary meeting I left the meeting having learned or heard about something new that's going on in our world or in our community and Dan does it effortlessly and with great enthusiasm and fun.

We enjoyed an end of summer event at DYC and celebrated the Tour du Lac riders along with May court and Performance Cars. We had a great turn out and stories were shared.

In December we had an open house at my home and celebrated the holiday season at one of our regular meetings with a visit from Santa himself. In lieu of payment a donation was made to Linhaven homes.

We received a cheque from Gary Waters for Take It o Heart and our naming rights were confirmed for the Heart Investigative unit.

Our joint Rotary Club meeting celebrated 200 years of peace as we looked back on the war of 1812. Unfortunately the meeting with Blasdell did not occur after 35 years but perhaps can happen next year.

Recognizing the spirit of Howard Etherington under Ed Tolenko's leadership we presented a cheque to Carousel Players. And we most recently awarded Rotary medals to students from Denis Morris, Thorold Secondary, Westpark and Sir Winston Churchill secondary schools. These students are chosen by their peers in recognition of their leadership and service within the school community. Thanks to John D'Ambrosio for his continued work in leading this important community event. We also continued to support the Spensor William's Scholarship at Brock University.

We continued to support Rotary at the District and International level. Our club was well represented at the District Conference in the fall and the District Assembly held this past spring. Our district Governor launched our year with his annual visit and we currently have two graduates from the Rotary Leadership Institute with one member a third of the way through. We supported the Polio challenge and Roseanne Morissette represented our club at the Rotary International Conference that was held in Bangkok. Several of our members as you know use their skills and talents at the district level in addition to their commitment to our club. John Teibert, Cathy Henry, Tom Shultz and Roseanne Morissette come to mind.

Under the leadership of Jim Howes, Keith Shaver, John Teibert Roseanne Morissette and I our club completed our strategic planning journey. I am proud of how our club took this on and was engaged in every aspect of the plan. The journey was long a maybe a bit of a different approach to strategic planning but the end product is worth it. The proof in the pudding will be when we implement the objectives we



have identified together as a club.

One of the most exiting things of course that I was able to become involved with is our merger with the Sunrise Club. Having had the opportunity to meet and talk with Wendy Laslo the Sunrise President and hosting our last board meeting at my home as a joint meeting, I know this opportunity will make for an even better club and Rotary experience. We are all being very thoughtful on how we proceed using our motto of "Service Above Self" to guide us. This is a great opportunity for both Sunrise and South. Together we will be stronger.

One of the things I will treasure most about being President of Rotary South is getting to volunteer with such incredible board members. Roseanne, Cathy, Debi, Najeeb, Tom, John D'Ambrosio, Kris, Arie, Colin and John Teibert I have really enjoyed getting to know each of you better. I sincerely appreciated your support when my job required me to miss meetings or events. You helped chair weekly meeting when I couldn't and were always very supportive. John Teibert and Roseanne were both extremely helpful in this area. I knew that balancing my job in Toronto and being Rotary President would be a challenge. I selfishly did not want to give up my Presidency. And I do want to thank every club member for your support over the year.

I also would like to thank Ron Kozub for all he does in keeping our attendance and our roster and organizing the welcoming table. You do all this so quietly but it is so important for the smooth running of our meetings and reporting to RI.

Something else a past President will tell you is how quickly the year goes. And it has gone by in a flash.

Roseanne and Lynn I know you have already begun to get ready for your year as co-presidents and I bet that you are feeling like it's a bit daunting. This will be a year of keeping traditions, blending traditions and trying new things. You will have guessed from my talk today that the club runs on the work and commitment of many. You have wonderful people who want to help and support you—just ask. We are well placed with Cathy Henry and Jim Hooper in our succession plan and there are exciting times ahead as we continue to develop peace through service.

Now is a great time to be a Rotarian and especially a member of Rotary South.

Finally

Thank you for allowing me the honour of being your club's President in 2011/12. It was a pleasure to serve.

***Sheila Bristo***