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THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON, CANADA

SERVICE ABOVE SELF: THE FIRST 100 YEARS

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SERVICE ABOVE SELF: THE FIRST 100 YEARS

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON

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Published by the Rotary Club of London.

Printed by: Kwik Kopy

Copies available by contacting the Rotary Club of London.

The 100th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of London

Non-fiction

ISBN Number: 978-1-77136-284-9

*you, Savanah
R a gift to
me and many
others. It is a
privilege to know
you. Love, Owen*

*Thanks Jim
Wendy Huth*



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

I am pleased to offer my warmest greetings and sincere congratulations to the members of the Rotary Club of London on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

This milestone provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the important role you play in the community as members of one of the world's foremost voluntary service organizations, Rotary International. For one hundred years, the Rotary Club of London has brought business leaders and professionals together to provide humanitarian service, to encourage high ethical standards in their dealings with one another, and to help build goodwill in the world.

I would like to commend you for fostering the Rotarian vision of a better world through "Service Above Self." Your many good works have raised millions of dollars over the years, creating positive change in your local community and across the globe. These achievements exemplify Canada's strong culture of charitable giving.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I offer my best wishes for a memorable centennial, as well as continued success in the years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Stephen Harper".

The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.

OTTAWA
2015

Rotary



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June 2015

To the Members of the Rotary Club of London,

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Rotary Club of London on its centennial anniversary.

For 100 years, your community has been able to count on Rotary. Each Rotary club that is chartered is a beacon of hope and help; a beacon I know will continue to shine for many years to come.

There is no one model of what a Rotary club should be, and every club finds its own way to enrich its community and the lives of its members. Our strength as an organization lies in our adaptability. In Rotary we find solutions, not excuses. Successful clubs, like yours, have found a model that works for them. They have kept their members engaged by tailoring their practices to the strengths, needs, and passions of their membership.

This milestone represents your commitment and the commitment of the Rotarians before you, a commitment to Service Above Self. By gathering each week to work together, you make your community stronger, and you make Rotary stronger. And you are given a gift in return: a feeling of pride and responsibility that will deepen your connection to your community and to your fellow citizens.

Congratulations on 100 years, and best wishes for many years of joyful service to come. I know London, Ontario will continue to flourish, as we work together to *Light Up Rotary*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gary C.K. Huang".

Gary C.K. Huang
2014-15 President, Rotary International



London
CANADA

OFFICE
OF MAYOR
MATT BROWN

July 3, 2015

Rotary Club of London: Message from Mayor Matt Brown

On behalf of your City Council, congratulations to the Rotary Club of London on the occasion of your 100th year of service to our community.

The work of Rotary Club members can be seen all over our great city and across the world. I commend all members, who volunteer their time, talent and passion to our community.

Thank you for your contributions in making London a compassionate community for all. I wish your club the very best on your 100th anniversary and look forward to seeing the positive impact your service will have on the lives of so many for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Mayor Matt Brown

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Paul Harris started Rotary with a simple goal; to create an opportunity to foster friendship amid a city of strangers, with those who shared similar values. The first club in Chicago was called Rotary because in the early days the members met in rotation in their various places of business so that they might come to know one another better.

In 1915 a group of individuals started the Rotary Club of London with a same goal and it has been a real honour and an exciting adventure to be the 100th president of the Rotary Club of London.

Many celebrations, special programs and projects have taken place and the involvement of all the members of the club has made this a most successful celebratory year.

Our membership remains strong with new members added annually, and many long time members, including John Eberhard and John Stuart with 43 years of perfect attendance, and Keith Lazenby who has been a member for over 53 years!

This history book is full of amazing stories of service above self and outlines ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Our desire to make our community stronger here in London, as well as international projects, are described in the following history. We are especially proud of our Involvement in the funding of Polio vaccinations worldwide, international clean water projects, literacy programs, our strong involvement with International Youth Exchange since 1974, and our downtown London projects, the London Public Library Reading Garden and the Rotary Market Square, Rotary Rink and this year the addition of the Rotary Clock for all to enjoy.

I would like to thank the history committee for their countless hours of time spent to pull this book together.

Enjoy our first 100 years of history and we look forward to the next 100 years of Service above Self!

David J Elliott

David J. Elliott
President

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON, CANADA

SERVICE ABOVE SELF: THE FIRST 100 YEARS

In 2015 the Rotary Club of London, Ontario Canada will celebrate its centenary year. The celebration will include 11 Anniversary Projects: 10 at \$10,000 -- 3 of which will be international projects and 7 within the community -- and one at \$100,000: a Rotary Clock placed in the tower of the Rotary Square at Covent Garden Market in downtown London.

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- The Paul Harris School Project (Selena Cruz11, Mexico) -- a literacy project.
- The Empowerment Project (Honduras) -- a mini loans project.
- The Community Development Project (Haiti) -- a caring community project

COMMUNITY PROJECTS INCLUDE

- Springbank Park Wading Pool. This wading pool was first installed by The Rotary Club of London in 1928. The 2015 project repaired the pool and a new path leading from the 1928 gates to the pool was established.
- St. Joseph's Hospice received funds to enhance the new palliative care terrace for its residents on Windermere Road. The Rotary Club of London aided in purchasing outdoor garden furniture.
- Mission Services' Rotholme Women's Family Centre on Horton Street has a newly renovated area which will include an Internet Cafe.
- Hutton House received iPads to enhance the ability of their clients' learning capabilities.
- Youth For Christ received an indoor skateboard facility for disadvantaged youth to enjoy.
- Fanshawe Pioneer Village received funds to provide a display of District 6330 history for a year and built a new permanent structure for a 1915 Rotary Club of London storefront in its village
- Veteran's Memorial Parkway will be beautified -- with the aid of the Girl Guides -- with trees planted along its route.

In addition to these 11 projects, The Rotary Club of London compiled information for this 100-year history book. This book includes descriptions of "Service Above Self" for 100 years, including accompanying photos.



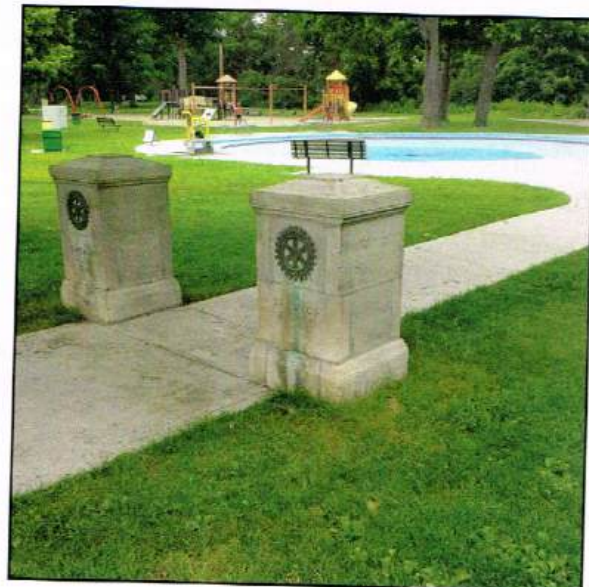
St. Joseph's Hospital
palliative care terrace.

THE PROJECTS

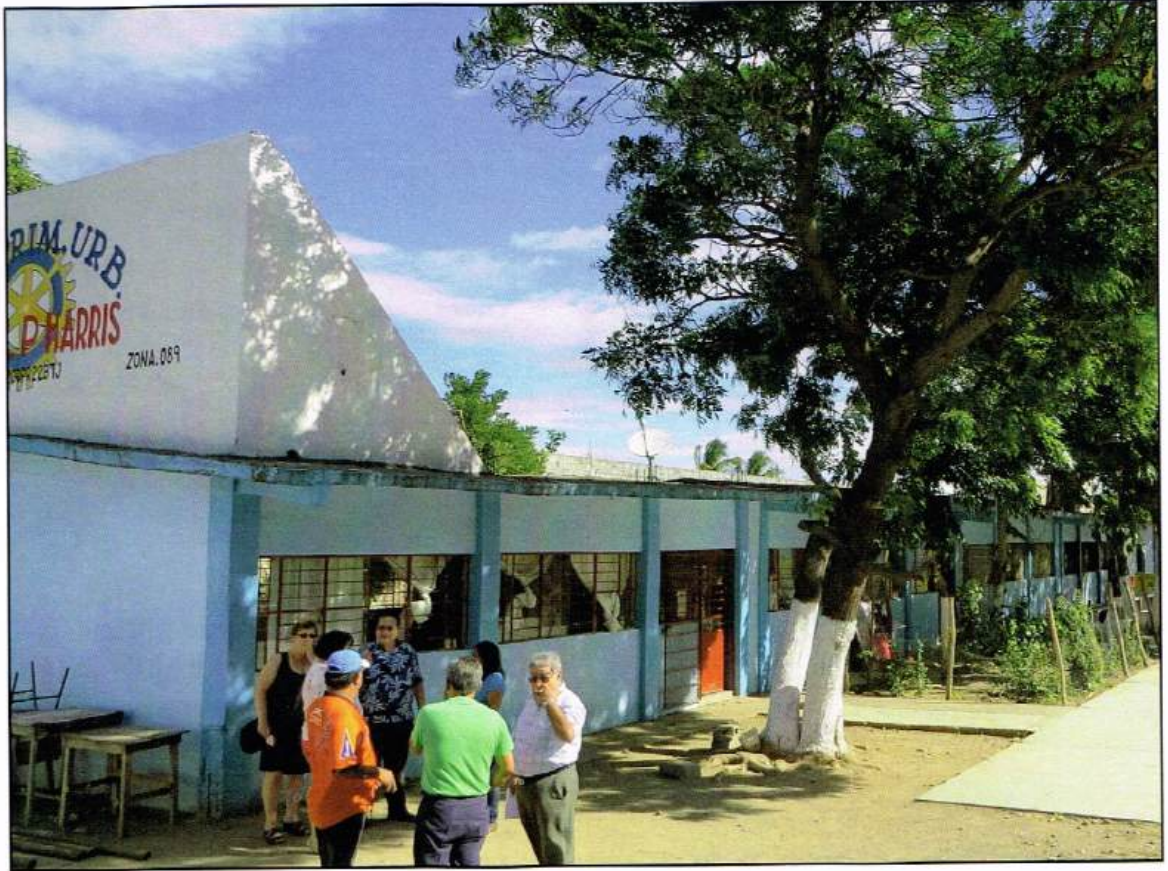


Left: Participants at Hutton House show appreciation for their Ipads.

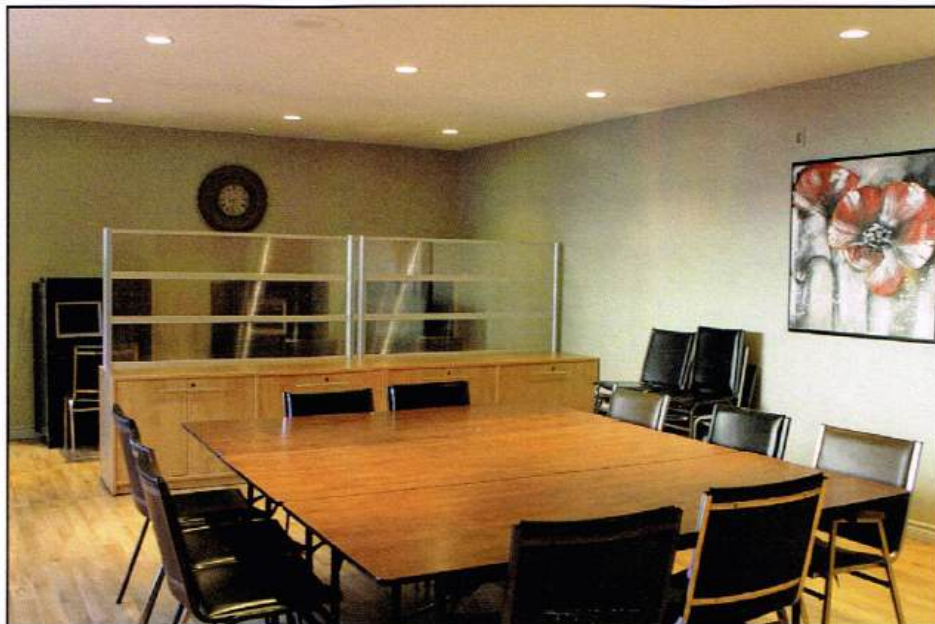
Right: The restructured Springbank Park wading pool entrance and wading pool (The original project by the Rotary Club of London was completed in 1928). In the background the play area The Rotary Club of London constructed can also be seen.



the Paul Harris School
project in Selena Cruz,
Mexico.



Cheque presented to
Cindy Rektor, Partner
Development/Event
Coordinator for Youth
For Christ by President
or the Rotary Club of
London David Elliott. A
youth is seen in the
background enjoying the
indoor skateboard park.



Left: Just a part of the renovated area of Rotholme.

The room at Fanshawe Pioneer Village will be based on this faded black and white image of Paul Harris' original office.



Women in Rotary, along with Girl Guide leaders (as well as a host of other volunteers in the background) gear up to plant trees along Veterans Memorial Parkway. You see the results in the smaller picture, below.



ROTARY DAYS AND ROTARY GALA

A celebration in the form of Rotary Days in London took place on March 20th and March 21st. During these two days The 2014-15 President of Rotary International, Gary C.K. Huang, celebrated with Rotary Club of London Members and their friends and families. The anniversary committee chaired by 2014-15 Rotary Club of London President David J. Elliott consisted of Jack Beedle, Jim Belton, Bob Black, Jan Delaney, John Eberhard, Harry Joosten, Marilyn Neufeld, Greg Schinkel, Don Stevens, Jim Swan and Janet Tufts.

Six events over two days made up the Rotary Clubs celebration of our history, youth, service to the community & the world, leadership and to mark our 100th anniversary.

THURS. MARCH 19, 2015

R. I President Gary C. K. Haung arrived on Thursday night to join us for our celebrations. It is interesting to note that he arrived on March 19th which in 1915 was the date that the first group of businessmen met to form the Rotary Club of London.

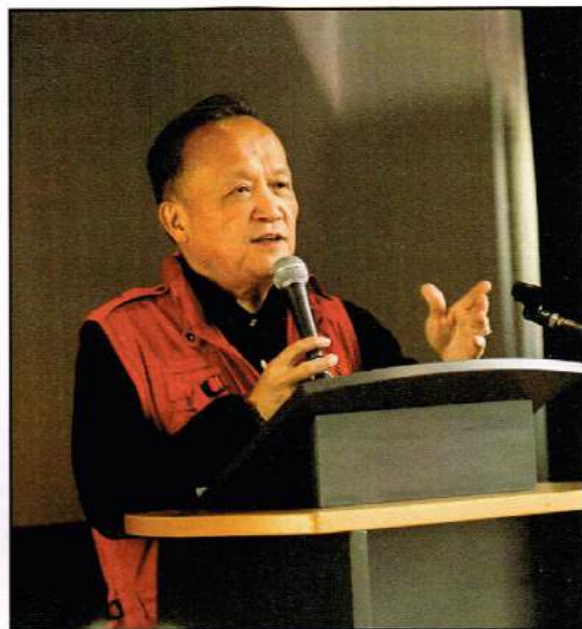
FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2015

CELEBRATION OF SERVICE CLUBS

12 noon -R. I. President Gary spoke to the Canadian Club at their regular March meeting. The subject of the talk was about the importance of volunteers and the services they provide in their community and in the world. Rotarians were there in good numbers along with members of Lions, Kiwanis and Civitan.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE, LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL

5-7 p.m.- A gathering of Rotarians from District 6330 and their families met in the mezzanine at Covent Garden Market to celebrate their service to the community and to dedicate the Tower Clock, which adds to the skating rink (in the winter) and the Rotary Square (gathering place and outdoor market the rest of the year) which are maintained by the Rotary Clubs in London. R. I. President Huang spoke to the assembled families of Rotary, and congratulated them on the service they provide.



At The Covent Garden Market, where the Rotary Clock was installed, the Rotary Club of London presented this commemorative plaque. Pictured with the plaque from left to right, Rotary Club of London past president (2013-2014) Greg Schinkel, Rotary District 6330 Governor Doug Burnard, Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang and General Manager Covent Garden Market, Bob Usher.

CELEBRATION OF YOUTH

Following the reception many of the attendees walked across the street to the Budweiser Gardens and enjoyed the hockey game between London and Saginaw, Michigan. During the first intermission Rotary celebrated youth with Rotoractors, Interactors, and International Youth Exchange students on the ice with the Rotary International President and leaders of the District youth programs.



Rotary Club of London President, David Elliott (2014-15 far left) and Rotary International president Gary Huang (next, right) stand on the ice before a London Knight's game with a host of Rotary Youth.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2015

CELEBRATION OF LEADERSHIP

10:00am DG Doug Burnard and district 6330 Past District Governors met with Rotary International President Gary and Corinna. Gary thanked the group for their on going leadership and commitment to Rotary.

CELEBRATION OF HISTORY

11.a.m. Rotarians and their families gathered at Fanshawe Pioneer Village for the opening of a display of the history of 100 years of Rotary in London and area. The exhibition will be in place until November, and will be followed by a store-front Rotary office (circa 1915) where much of the historical material will be displayed. The office is one of the Rotary Club of London's 100th anniversary projects. A delicious pancake and sausage brunch was provided by the Rotary Club of Grand Bend.



RI president Gary Huang and RCOL president (2014-15) David Elliott take in the Rotary Club of London Display at Fanshawe Pioneer Village. Behind them is an iron lung from earlier times when Polio was a major concern.

Rotary's 100th Anniversary makes the big screen at Budweiser Gardens.



(ABOVE) A SEA OF ROTARY RED IN THE STANDS AT BUDWEISER GARDENS.



Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang with his wife Corrina at the Rotary Club of London Gala.

CELEBRATION OF ROTARY IN DISTRICT 6330

5 – 9.30 p.m. The 100th Anniversary Gala Dinner was held at the London Convention Centre, attended by Rotarians, spouses, partners and friends. Youth, once again, played a prominent part with a jazz quartet from Western's music school entertaining during the reception, 3 members of the Amabile Boys Choir sang three anthems, Taiwanese, United States and Canada and Rotaractors volunteered with the Silent Auction and Raffle. The auction raised \$13,500, the raffle \$2,670 and \$1,184 was raised for polio plus with the traditional singing of Happy Birthday requiring \$5 donation. The Rotary Club of London, to celebrate 100 years of Rotary, and with the assistance of other District Clubs will raise



On the night of the Rotary Gala, Rotarians dressed in period costumes to represent charter members of The Rotary Club of London. Pictured from left to right: Rotarian John Boyne, Rotarian and Rotary Club of London Secretary Jim Belton, Susan Elliott, Rotarian and Club President (2014-2015) David Elliott, Rotary International President Gary C.K. Huang, Corinna Huang, Rotarian and 50+-year member of the Rotary Club of London Keith Lazenby, Rotarian and Rotary Club of London President Elect Michelle Parkin, and Rotarian David Brad



On the night of the Royal Gala, The Rotary Club of London presented a cheque for the 11 projects the club committed to in its centenary year. Representatives of the 8 community projects were on hand to receive the cheque..

\$100,000 to fund 3 International and 7 community projects. Many of the recipients of the \$10,000 were present and participated in the receiving of a \$200,000 cheque.(includes funding for the clock in the tower at Rotary Square)

Over 150 (2014-15) Paul Harris donors were recognized from District 6330, along with Major Donors. President Huang shook hands with each of the recipients and they then had their picture taken with him, and the Paul Harris recipients from their clubs.

A 100 year video history of the Rotary Club of London played during the evening (available on the web site). Rotarian Jim Swan produced the very professional video.

Six Rotarians dressed as original charter members from the clubs rosters, including the 1st President of the Rotary Club of London and the 1st President of the Rotary Anns.

Rotary International President Gary was the guest speaker and spoke of the importance of the Rotary movement to the world.

The evening concluded with the traditional singing of "Let there be Peace on Earth".

Rotary

Club of London



THE ORIGINS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON

Paul P. Harris organized the first Rotary Club in Chicago in 1905. Sixteen clubs came into being during the next five years. In 1910 the National Association of Rotary Clubs was formed. This developed into the International Association of Rotary Clubs in 1912, about two years after the organization of the Winnipeg Rotary Club and the organization of a club in Dublin, Eire. A decade later in 1922, the Association became Rotary International, which is the organization's current name.

New clubs continued to form with and without the association's knowledge or approval. Early conventional wisdom was that Rotary clubs could succeed only in cities with populations greater than 100,000. From 1910 onward that number was gradually lowered as clubs formed in smaller cities, and eventually in towns and villages. In 1915 the population of London was estimated to be 64,500. It had absorbed the areas of Pottersburg, Ealing, Knollwood Park and Chelsea Green in the most recent annexation of 1912.

In 1915 the newspaper headlines were full of reports of the European War – the rout at the Dardenelles, temporary victories in France, and lists of Canadian casualties. The visits of Londoner Billy Martin to the Buffalo Rotary Club or of John Watt's trip to Toronto with a member of Rotary International (probably W. A. Peace who was the vice-president of Rotary International for Canada and the equivalent of today's club

continued on page 3 ...

The London Free Press

March 20, 1915

ROTARY CLUB FORMED

NEW ORGANIZATION TO IMPROVE STANDARD OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE

Mr. W.A. Peace of Toronto, president of the Rotary Club in that city visited London last evening, and at the Tecumseh House inaugurated a local branch of the organization. Members are drawn for every branch of industrial and business life in the city, and the object of the club is the improvement of standards of business and professional life. The Rotary Club is already doing much in scores of Canadian cities to increase the efficiency of members in all lines, and it is believed that London will derive the same benefit from the organization.

Following are the officers elected for the local organization: President, J.K. McDermid; vice-president J.M. Watt; directors E.C. Bowker, R. Lawson, A.H. Purdom; charter members H.P. Elliott, John Bridge, William Martin, Norman Howden, J.E. McConnell, E.R. Dennis, F.S. Ashplant, C.R. Rowntree, D.J. Blackwell, Peter Glenn, C.H. Ivey jr. Weekly meetings will be held on Monday [noon] at the Tecumseh House.

ROTARY CLUB FORMED BY CITY BUSINESSMEN

"An organization to be known as the "Rotary Club" was formed at a meeting of London businessmen in the Tecumseh House last night. The object of the association is cooperation among businessmen for wider and more progressive enterprises and the upbuilding of the city.

Only one member of each business represented in the city is eligible to be a member. Meetings will be held regularly throughout the year, during which time business campaigns of importance to the city will be launched.

W.A. Peace, president of the organization in Toronto inaugurated the society here. Already the new association boasts of sixteen charter members.

The executive chosen last night included the following businessmen: J.K. McDermid, president; John M. Watt, vice-president; E.C. Baker, R. Lawson, and A.H. Purdom directors. H.P. Elliott, John Bridge, William A. Martin, Norman Howden, J.E. McConnell, E.R. Dennis, F.S. Ashplant, C.R. Rowntree, V.J. Blackwell, Peter Glenn and C.H. Ivey Jun., are members.

The object: "To establish, maintain, and conduct, a club to promote harmony and good fellowship amongst its members and to study and communicate to members of the club and to all rotary clubs wheresoever situated, modern, progressive and ethical methods and standards for business and professional men; to increase the efficiency of the several members of the club by the exchange of ideas and business methods and generally to do such things as shall be found necessary and expedient to increase the business of the several members between the members of the club and the members of other Rotary clubs wheresoever situated.

Who were the founders? A review of the Vernon's City Directory of 1915 reveals skeletal information as follows:

- Frank A. Ashplant (Hubert Ashplant & Sons) Boots and Shoes at 146-8 and 648 Dundas Street, residence 458 King St.
- E.C. Bowker, Manager of the Dominion

Bank at Dundas and Richmond, residence, 1161 Richmond.

- Victor J. Blackwell (Watt and Blackwell, Architects) at 365 Richmond, residence 326 Princess.

- John Bridge, Manager Neal London Bread Co. Ltd., at 2 Carlton Ave., residence 84 Kent.

- E.R. Dennis, Managing Director, Dennis Wire and Iron Works Co. Ltd. at 20-28 Dundas, residence 20 Becher.

- Harris P. Elliott, Consulting Engineer, residence 310 Regent.

- Peter Glen, Glen Bros, Sign Painters at 420 Talbot, residence 718 Colborne.

- Norman R. Howden, D.H. Howden and Co. [Hardware], residence Waterloo Apartments, 549 Waterloo.

- Charles H. Ivey Jr., clerk Empire Manufacturing Co., 1 Nightingale, residence 256 Central.

- Ray Lawson, Manager Lawson & Jones, printer at 342-8 Clarence St., residence 191 Cheapside.

- James E. McConnell, McConnell and Ferguson, advertising agency at 7 Market Lane, residence 1165 Richmond.

- J.K. McDermid, President, Somerville Paper Box Co. Ltd. and O-Pee-Chee Gum Co. at 618-630 Dundas, residence 508 William.

- William A. Martin, commercial traveller, residence 460 King.

- Alex H. Purdom, Barrister Richmond and King, Secretary-Treasurer of Purdom Hardware located at 124 Dundas & 123 Carling residence 351 Burwell. Two other members of the family were members of Rotary in 1915, T.H. also a Barrister Richmond and King, and J.W., officers of Northern Life, and the Advertiser, residences at 383 and 429 King.

- Chester R. Rowntree, Assistant Manager, Lawson and Jones Litho and Printing, residence 60 Stanley.

- John M. Watt, Watt and Blackwell, Architects at 365 Richmond, residence 51 Riverview.

extension chairman) received not a word of coverage. But the two men were sold on the idea of starting a service club in London. They began looking for members.

Sixteen London men came together on March 19th, 1915 to start the Rotary Club of London. By May 10 of the founding year there were fifty-seven members when Wallace Laut, Managing Editor of the London Advertiser spoke to club. And by September first, when the charter was received, there were even more. Thus the Rotary Club of London was created in the formative stages of the Rotary movement.

SIXTEEN LONDON MEN CAME TOGETHER ON MARCH
19TH, 1915 TO START THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON.

When the Rotary Club of London formed in 1915 there was no standard constitution. The Rotary Club of London followed the basic constitution of the Rotary Club of Chicago: 1. the promotion of the business interests of its members, and 2. the promotion of good fellowship and other desiderata ordinarily incidental to social clubs. The original clubs were criticized as being too self-serving, and in 1911 a new Rotary “platform” was established at the annual convention in Portland, Oregon. The statement set out the commitment to fair and honest dealings, the idea of service as the basis of all business and the membership classification system. The statement ended with the words “he profits most who serves best”. Originally members of each club represented their vocation and only one of each business classification was allowed per club. A second representative could be added upon permission being granted by the primary classification holder. Today business classification is limited by a percentage of the total membership in the club. At the 1915 convention in San Francisco, California two objectives were added: (a) to quicken the interest of each member in the public welfare of his community and to cooperate with others in civic, social, commercial and industrial development, and (b) to stimulate the desire of each member to be of service to his fellowman and society in general. Thus three avenues of service were included in the program – Club Service, Vocational Service, and Community Service.

-
1. **Club Service** focusses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club. (1915)
 2. **Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards. (1915)
 3. **Community Service** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community. (1915)
- (Later, two more areas of service were added.)
4. **International Service** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary’s humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace. Rotarians can support International Service by sponsoring a project in another country, seeking international project partners to support projects in their own communities, or personally by volunteering at an international project site. (1922)
 5. **New Generation Service** [now called Youth Service] recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities such as Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), Rotaract [university and college student clubs] and Interact [high school clubs], service projects and creating international understanding with Rotary Youth Exchange. (2010)
-

THE STATUS OF THE CITY OF LONDON IN 1915

Here's some perspective in regards to what it meant to form a Rotary Club in the city of London in 1915.

The city had 237 manufacturers producing some seventy-four lines of goods and employing 12,000 people. Manufacturers were being encouraged by City Council to relocate from the downtown to London East. The McClary Company (appliances) was the city's largest employer with 1,500 men. McCormick and Perrin biscuit companies each employed about 650; Charles Hyman & Company employed about 250, and Carling Brewery about 85; cigar manufacturing employed about 1,205 people in several plants making London second only to Montreal in cigar-making in Canada. Somerville, Silverwoods, Kelloggs and Empire Brass were major business units. One of the oldest businesses in the city was already 41-years old by 1915: London Life. Every Canadian bank had branches in London: Northern Life Insurance, Canada Trust and Huron and Erie were going concerns. Small car companies assembled automobiles, and transportation was provided by the London Street Railway (LSR) which had been electrified and expanded to all the populated areas after the creation of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission under Adam Beck's leadership. It was a time when women sought and took greater leadership roles leading to their enfranchisement in the period 1917-19. The University of Western Ontario had not yet moved to its current site on Richmond St. N.

London was the headquarters of the 1st Divisional Area – later Military District No. 1. Wolseley Barracks had been remodelled in 1914 for the headquarters staff to be close to the troops who were trained on Carling Heights. Frame barracks were built and the buildings at the fairgrounds were taken over for recruits. 45,000 troops were raised in the military district, and by 1916 there were 16,000 troops in training on Carling Heights.



Interior and exterior pictures of Tecumseh House, The Rotary Club of London's first meeting place.

Service that assists young people was a priority that was included in all four avenues in some manner. In 2010 it was decided to describe this avenue of service as a separate objective.

In addition to this code of ethics, the Four Way Test, written by Herbert J. Taylor, a Past President of the Rotary Club of Chicago in 1939-1940 and Past President of Rotary International in 1954-1955 was adopted by Rotary International in 1943 as a component of the Vocational Service program. While the four-way test was originally written for Taylor's own business, Rotarians adopted it for the entire international organization. Today it is considered a vital element of all that Rotarians think, say and do.

Those early Rotarians not only sensed that they had an organization in which they could enjoy fun and fellowship but also were beginning to believe that they could make the world a better place. It is into this association that the Rotary Club of London "joined in March 1915".

In 1916 all existing clubs, and new clubs as they were chartered, were required to amend their by-laws to conform to Rotary International standards. The changes also created the position of District Governor as the clubs were divided into ten geographic units called districts. In 1915 Rotary clubs existed only in Canada,

United States, Great Britain and Ireland. The Roster of Rotary International indicates that the Rotary Club of London, Ontario, Canada, is No. 179. While it has always had the same club number, it has been assigned to different Rotary Districts as these have been altered to meet the needs of an expanding Rotary movement. As a matter of fact it has been listed successively in Districts No. 17, 9, 27, 18, 23, 152, 221, 633, and now 6330. These have, for the most part been International Districts and have comprised 42 clubs in South-western Ontario and 19 clubs in the State of Michigan. Through the nature of our International District, our concept of Rotary as an international organization has been sharpened and this has helped us at times to envision challenges faced by the district from a wider and more diverse perspective. Rotary Clubs operate under the direction of and in cooperation with Rotary International and each Rotary Club is a member of Rotary International.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

WOMEN ROTARIANS

"The admission of women members to the Rotary Club of Chicago would appear to be unthinkable," concluded a 1934 University of Chicago study. "Rotarians are family men whose wives are home-makers and mothers."

This general attitude prevailed in Rotary clubs all over the world and it wasn't until changing social attitudes, and recognition of the contribution that their wives had made to the humanitarian projects of the Rotary clubs, that the doors of Rotary were opened to women in 1989.



The first four female members of the Rotary Club of London are, from left: Janice Manders (general manager, London Downtown Business Association); Terry Green (marketing research consultant, president of Insights Inc., past-president of London Women's Network); Jeannette Eberhard (computer services consultant, president of Medcom Solutions Inc.), and Mary Weisman (business consultant and president, Protocol London.)

From the London Free Press, 1989.

WOMEN INVOLVED WITH THE ROTARY CLUBS OF LONDON



Taken at the inaugural meeting in 2014 (by Jim Swan) these are *some* of the women members in the Rotary Clubs of London.

The Constitution on Legislation in that year accepted an enactment of the RI Board to delete the word *male* from RI's Constitutional documents following the proposal at their October 1988 Board of Directors meeting which passed a motion approving the admission of women in Rotary in Canada.

On April 16th, 1989 four London business women joined the Rotary Club of London. They were: Jeannette Eberhard, Terry Green, Janice Manders and Mary Weisman. In the Rotary year 1994-95 Jeannette Eberhard was the first woman president of this club. By the end of 1989 there were seven women members, and in 2015 there are 21.

ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON LEADERS: DISTRICT AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

The Rotary Club of London has made many contributions to the district level through its members serving as chairmen and members of many of the District Committees. As a Club members organized and administered several district conferences. There have been five District Governors (DG) from The Rotary Club of London. The first was elected in 1919: Wm. A. Martin. He was elected DG at the 1919 conference held in London. Subsequent DGs' were elected from our club as follows: 1926 – W. R. Yendall; 1938, Geoffrey A. Wheable; 1994 – John J. Eberhard and in 2001 – Jack Little. Both Geoffrey Wheable (1945-1947) and John Eberhard (2003-2005) went on to serve as Zone Directors of Rotary International.

WILLIAM (BILL) A. MARTIN (1919-1920)

Bill Martin's classification was "wholesale coal, anthracite". He was associated with the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Coal Company. Martin played a key role in bringing Rotary to London. He was an "Associate Member" of the Buffalo Rotary Club and was the first to talk with John M. Watt of London about the possibility of organizing a similar club in London. John Watt was on a business trip to Hamilton and was invited by his friend Bill to an intercity meeting between the Rotary Club of Hamilton and the Rotary Club of Toronto. Watt came back to London full of enthusiasm with the idea of Rotary. Rotarians Bill and John agreed that they should take steps toward the formation of a club in the Forest City.

Bill Martin is the only District Governor who was not a president of the Rotary Club of London before his election to that high office. His term as District Governor started in July of 1919. He undertook extensive travel during his term encouraging the creation of many new Rotary Clubs in Ontario and Quebec. One of the obligations of the District Governor is to host a district conference. This was the first recorded conference sponsored by the Rotary Club of London. It took place in 1919 in the old Tecumseh House situated on the corner of Richmond and York Streets. Our early history also speaks of the elevation of Bill Martin to Governor on that occasion. The elegant memoir entitled, "the first 50 years of the Rotary Club of London" notes the cherished memories of the 'gorgeous Governor's Ball' associated with the London Winter Garden, a popular amusement spot of yesteryear which occupied the property of the former library and art museum at 305 Queens Avenue.

WILLIAM (BILL) R. YENDALL (1925-1926)

Bill Yendall's classification was "hardware manufacturers". He was manager of Richards-Wilcox Manufacturing Company. He was President of the Rotary Club of London in 1921-22. He was elected by the nominating committee of district #23 to become District Governor in 1925-26. Typically District Governors' are appointed to international committees. The R. I. Board of Directors had established what became known as the Canadian Advisory Committee. The basic intention was to encourage extension in Canada and for that committee to advise on administrative issues including districting. Like his predecessor, Bill

was a competent administrator and his reputation was brought to the attention of the international Board of Directors. He was appointed Chairman, Canadian Advisory Committee (1931-32) and member, Credentials Committee (1931-1932) at the international convention. He remained a member of the Canadian Advisory Committee during the years from 1932-1935. Bill's son George was also a long-time member of the Rotary Club of London and was President of the club in 1943-44.

GEOFFREY A WHEABLE (1937-1938)

Geoff Wheable's classification was "education". His final position at the London Public School Board was director of education. He was the President of the Rotary Club of London in 1932-33. Geoff was District Governor of District #152 in 1937-38. He was especially active in the district vocational service committee where the intention was to appeal to the individual Rotarian to make use of his vocation as a means of rendering a worthwhile service to society and of encouraging others in the same vocation to do likewise. He arranged a district panel discussion in 1937-38 in which four past presidents took part. He was the chairman.

After serving as District Governor, Geoff was appointed a member of the RI Board committee called the Canadian Advisory Committee (1939-1940) and later, the Extension Committee for Zone USCB (USA, Canada and Bermuda: 1943-1944). His two-year term as a director of Rotary International was from 1945-1947 where he was recognized by an appointment to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors (1945-1946). He also served on the Redistricting Committee: Western Hemisphere committee (1945-1946), and the committee to consider the supplementary report of the finance committee (1946-1947). He was on the Election Arrangements Committee for the 1950 convention which was held in Detroit with 8,000 Rotarians in attendance and he played an important role in "Rotary is leadership development" with the training of District Governor's. Geoff was a "group discussion leader" in 1945-46. Today leadership development training, one of Rotary's *most* international meetings, is held in San Diego and attracts the 534 District Governors' elect and their spouses. All RI Board members and Trustees of the Rotary Foundation are present with, today, approximately 40 training leaders. While he was a Board member of RI, Geoff was able to persuade the President of Rotary International Ritchard H. Wells from Pocatello, Idaho to visit London, Ontario in July of 1945.

JOHN J. EBERHARD Q. C. (1993-1994)

John Eberhad's classification is "Law - Barrister". He retired from public practice in 1998 but associated as "Counsel" to the law firm: Menear/Worrad Associates, London, Ontario. He has served as judge on the Federal Civil Aviation Tribunal, the Canada Pension Plan/Old Age Security Review Tribunal and Social Security Tribunal.

John joined the club in May 1971 and has had perfect attendance for 44 years. His sponsors were his father - long-time club secretary Rudy Eberhard and Past president Herb Cocker. John was especially active as the club representative to "Quad Club" being the local coordinating committee for the four local Rotary Clubs in the City of London as they were then. He represented the club on the Easter Seal Society (Board of Directors and Executive Committee 1974-76). He is an honorary club Paul Harris Fellow recipient (1983) and recognized as Rotarian of the Year (Honorable Ray Lawson Award - 1988). Both he and his wife Fran are Foundation Benefactors, Multiple Paul Harris Fellows, Major Donors and he is a member of the Paul Harris Society.

John was District Governor for district 6330 in 1993-94. During his



year he received the Zone Director's Citation (most chartered clubs in Zone). In 1994, he received the RI Presidential Recognition Award for Membership Development. The annual district 6330 conference held in John's year was the best attended event of its kind with over 1,500 registrants. Part of the reason why the conference was so well attended was the fulfilment of the theme, "Come to the Fair". A ferris wheel, bumper cars, hot air balloon rides, antique car displays, games of chance and a carnival atmosphere drew not only Rotarians but their spouses and family members. Of course there were the traditional plenary sessions, guest speakers and wonderful meals in addition to all the fun and frivolity. Holding the event at the Western Fair Grounds allowed for the space required to create such a successful conference. People also took pleasure in soaking the District Governor when he sat on the plank above the dunk tank. Co-chairs Terry Green and Past President of the club Don Stevens planned this well-attended event. The Saturday evening dinner included keynote speaker, Richard King who was a future International President of Rotary.



John Eberhard and his Conference Committee: Left to right: John Eberhard, Fran Eberhard, Don Stevens, Terry Green, Bob Earley, Dori Seccareccia, Jan Delaney, Susan Sharpe, Jim Belton and Jim Hales.

In addition to his tenure as District Governor he was the Governor's "Special Representative" in the Formation of six Rotary Clubs and active in the formation of four additional Rotary Clubs as Chair of District Extension Committee or as DG from 1988 – 1996. John was active in over 25 District and International committees from the 1990s until 2012. Two major ones were his appointment as "Delegate-at-Large: Council on Legislation" and as a "Member: Drafting Committee, Council on Legislation" both in Delhi, India in 1998. This work set the tone for new and more modern legislation on the operation of RI for years to come.

After his 1998 work as a delegate in India in regards to Rotary International legislation, District Governor John went on to serve as a Zone Director for the RI board (2003-2005). Another significant contribution came as John was the Chief Administrative Officer for the Canadian Rotary Committee for International Development (CRCID) from 2000-2003, Chair of the CRCID Board of Directors from 2003-2007 and Part-time executive director from 2007-2012. His work with the CRCID matches the escalation of the Rotary Club of London's significant modern era foray into large-scale international aid projects. CRCID was an arm of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in control of matching grants between RI and other organizations including the Canadian Government. At the height of this activity some Rotary Club of London's fundraising activities were matched as high as seven times, allowing the club to work with significantly large projects in Honduras and other parts of the world.

John received six significant awards as a result of his volunteer roles in Rotary International. He received three consecutive Rotary International Presidential Golden Century Citation awards: 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98. In 1995-96 he also received an RI Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. In 2000-01 John accepted an RI Distinguished Service Award. Last, in 2012 John was granted the David Kennedy Award for Excellence in International Development.

JACK LITTLE (2000-2001)

Jack Little's classification was "education-administration". His long and successful teaching career ended in 1991 after service for six years as the director of education for the City of London Public School Board. He joined the club in 1987 and was its president in 1996-97. Prior to his presidential year he served as Chair for the district's World Community Service Committee from 1992 to 1995. Jack is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow Benefactor and Major Donor. He has served on many club committees but migrated to World Community Service and served as its chair and represented the Club as a Board member of the Canadian Rotary Collaboration for International Development. He was District Governor for district clubs from 2000-2001.

In 2003 Jack was honored with the rare presentation of the Rotary Foundation of the "Citation for Meritorious Service". Long interested in the value and efficacy of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, Jack was district TRF Chair from 2001-2004 and District Trainer in 2001-03 and again in 2004-05.

He took pride in helping several clubs in the district to celebrate their anniversaries: Rotary Club of Flint: 85 years and St. Mary's, Crosswell and Clio: 75 years each. He officiated at the opening of the Rotary Rink and Market Square in downtown London in December 2000 with guest performers and future gold and silver medal Olympians, Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir who were approximately 12 years old. During his year as DG, the Group Study Exchange inbound group was from Italy (district 2060). The 6330 outbound team which went to Italy was led by Ginger Virkler of Flint, Michigan Sunrise Club.

For three days in May, over 400 Rotarians and guests met for the district conference at the Hilton Hotel in downtown London. This time the conference was single-handedly chaired by Past President Don Stevens. Other organizing committee members included Jack Little, Bill Gohm, Jan Delaney, Owen Thornton, David Cummins, Murray Wood, Jim Hales, Jim McCabe, John Eberhard, David Brady (club president for that year), London North member Tom Boone and London South member Al Hardy. The Rotary International President's Representative was Paul Santos from California. Paul actively promoted the inspirational theme provided by RI President Frank Devlyn: Create Awareness Take Action. His personal focus was on support of the R. I. Foundation, especially PolioPlus. Other dignitaries attending included PRID Foundation Trustee and future Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson and Past District Governors Virginia Nordby and Terry Palmay. Tours of four local industries were conducted on the Saturday afternoon. The speaker who closed the conference was Walter Gretzky, famous hockey father and stroke survivor who provided a humorous and enlightening speech.

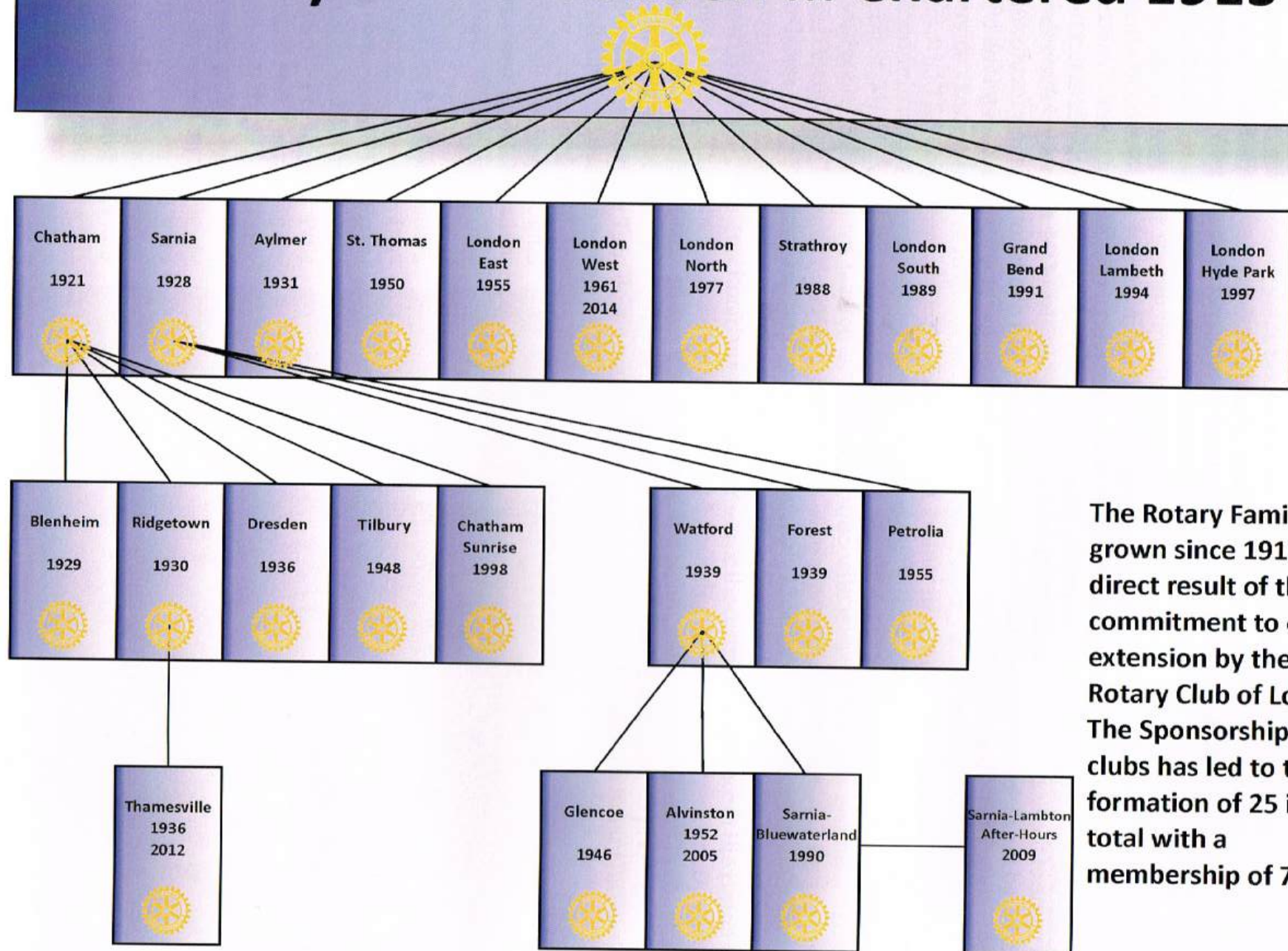


IN CONCLUSION

The District has benefitted from more than just the work of District Governors who originated from the Rotary Club of London. Sponsoring new clubs further promotes Rotary ideals, ideas and principles. Our club has been directly responsible for the establishment of many clubs across southwestern Ontario. Of the 12 clubs London helped to charter, some of these clubs in turn helped to charter still more Rotary Clubs. The total number of clubs across Southwestern Ontario linked to the original or parent London club is 25 clubs or nearly 777 members.

The creation of six more clubs within the growing City of London (East, West, North, South, Lambeth and Hyde Park) did allow many more people to join Rotary because of the different times of meetings and more convenient geographical location making travel to closer meetings more practical. In fact, while the official name of the Rotary Club of London has always existed, because of the six other clubs in the city, we have garnered the nickname of the "Downtown" Club. See the chart of the Rotary family for all of the clubs that have originated through our club or from the clubs that London created. The Rotary Club of London

The Rotary Club of London ... Chartered 1915



The Rotary Family has grown since 1915 as a direct result of the commitment to club extension by the Rotary Club of London. The Sponsorship of 12 clubs has led to the formation of 25 in total with a membership of 777.

West folded in 2014 after 53 years of making significant contributions in the city and around the world via their many community and international service projects.

CLUB PAST PRESIDENTS

J. K. McDermid	1915-16
J. M. Watt	1916-17
A. E. Silverwood	1917-18
Frank Jewell	1918-19
Ray Lawson	1919-20
James Gray	1920-21
W. R. Yendall	1921-22
Jared Vining	1922-23
Dr. W. Sherwood Fox	1923-24

Dr. Alf. Grant	1924-25
Herbert Spittal	1925-26
T. A. Faust	1926-27
B. L. Baulch	1927-28
W. Floyd Marshall	1928-29
Percy Near	1929-30
Walter D. Jackson	1930-31
Dudley T. Thompson	1931-32
Geoffrey A. Wheable	1932-33
L. D. Winder	1933-34
J. F. Maine	1934-35
C. W. Morris	1935-36
J. Harold Gillies	1936-37
Edward B. Flint	1937-38
Ormie R. Burns	1938-39
Alex Harvey	1939-40



This photo of The Rotary Club of London Past Presidents was taken on the 70th anniversary of the club in 1995-96. Front row, from left to right: Jim Waring (1974-75), John Givens (1963-64), Harry Rawson (1971-72), Don Stevens (1995-96), Harold Robinson (1964-65), Dean Charles Brown (1954-55), Norm McBeth (1966-67). Middle row, left to right: John Stuart (1978-79), Peter Wrath (1979-80), Hank Potter (1977-78), Tom Lawson (1989-90), Ken Heard (1986-87), Jeannette Eberhard (1994-95), Jim Belton (1988-89), Bill Young (1976-77), Jim Rowcliffe (1991-92), John Eberhard (1975-76). Back row, from left to right: Murray Wood (1984-85), Bob Gallagher (1987-88), David Cummins (1993-94), Jim Hales (1992-93), Clay Warmuth (1982-83), Del McLellan (1985-86), Keith Lazenby (1980-81).

S. Floyd Maine	1940-41
Edward J. Farley	1941-42
Geo. Yendall and H. G. Logan	1942-43
W. A. McWilliams	1943-44
E. Gordon Silverwood	1944-45
Eric G. Moorhouse	1945-46
Wes. Thompson	1946-47
J. H. Castle Graham and E. S. Knechtel	1947-48
Elmer F. Carson	1948-49
Col. Tom Lawson	1949-50
Newt E. Irwin	1950-51
Tom W. Baker	1951-52
Ian S. Stubbs	1952-53
A. F. McKillop	1953-54
Dean R. C. Brown	1954-55
Wm. G. Trestain	1955-56
Geo. M. Martin	1956-57
John D. Heaman	1957-58
Edward M. Short	1958-59
W. H. Shuttleworth	1959-60
J. A. Sinnott	1960-61
Jack E. Struthers	1961-62
Russ R. Waide	1962-63
John N. Given	1963-64
H. S. Robinson	1964-65
A. R. McIntosh	1965-66
N. McBeth	1966-67
R. S. Green	1967-68
Dean K. B. Keefe	1968-69
H. Cocker	1969-70
Dr. Darrell A. Campbell	1970-71
Harry Rawson	1971-72
J. A. MacPherson	1972-73
W. D. Sutton	1973-74
R. A. Jim Waring	1974-75
John J. Eberhard	1975-76*
Wm. B. Young	1976-77
Henry C. Potter	1977-78
John M. Stuart	1978-79*
F. Peter Wrath	1979-80
Keith Lazenby	1980-81*
George A. Furtney	1981-82
Clayton Warmuth	1982-83
Alex V. Brown	1983-84
F. Murray Wood	1984-85
Del. L. McLennan	1985-86*
Kenneth F. Heard	1986-87*
S. Robert Gallagher	1987-88

James H. Belton	1988-89*
Thomas C. R. Lawson	1989-90
Douglas A. McTavish	1990-91*
James M. Rowcliffe	1991-92
James M. Hales	1992-93
David A. Cummins	1993-94
Jeannette A. Eberhard	1994-95
Donald N. Stevens	1995-96*
Jack Little	1996-97*
Bill Gohm	1997-98
Douglas E. Goodman	1998-99
Bob Earley	1999-00*
Dave Brady	2000-01*
Bruce DeMuy	2001-02*
Warren Granger	2002-03*
Jim McCabe	2003-04*
Jack Scott	2004-05*
Jan Delaney	2005-06*
Rick Coates	2006-07*
John Boyne	2007-08*
Sandi McCabe	2008-09*
Britta Winther	2009-10
Bob Black	2010-11*
Marilyn Neufeld	2011-12*
Harry Joosten	2012-13*
Greg Schinkel	2013-14*
David J. Elliott	2014-15*
Michele Parkin	2015-16*

* Represents Presidents who continue to be members of the club. It is interesting to note that no member has served more than one term as president.

SECRETARIES OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON

Charles H. Ivey Jr.	1915-16
Clarence May	1916-29
Alex Morrison	1929-42
Lou D. Winder	1942-67
Rudolph (Rudy) S. Eberhard	1967-87
Robert Nelson	1987-90
Donald N. Stevens	1990-93
Murray Wood	1993-97
David Palmer	1997-99
Murray Wood	1999-06
James H. Belton	2006-

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THE CLUB

Fern Short	1969 – 1978
Anne Kershaw	1978 – 1996
Sandy Ronson	1996 –

CITATIONS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Recipients receive this award only once. Active Rotarians in good standing may be nominated with the exception of current and incoming district governors, RI Directors and current Foundation Trustees. Nominations for the award must be endorsed by the current district governor and each district is granted only one recipient per year. A citation for Meritorious Service from Rotary International and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation is given to individuals 'in recognition of their devoted efforts for the furthering of better understanding and friendly relations amongst peoples of the world'.

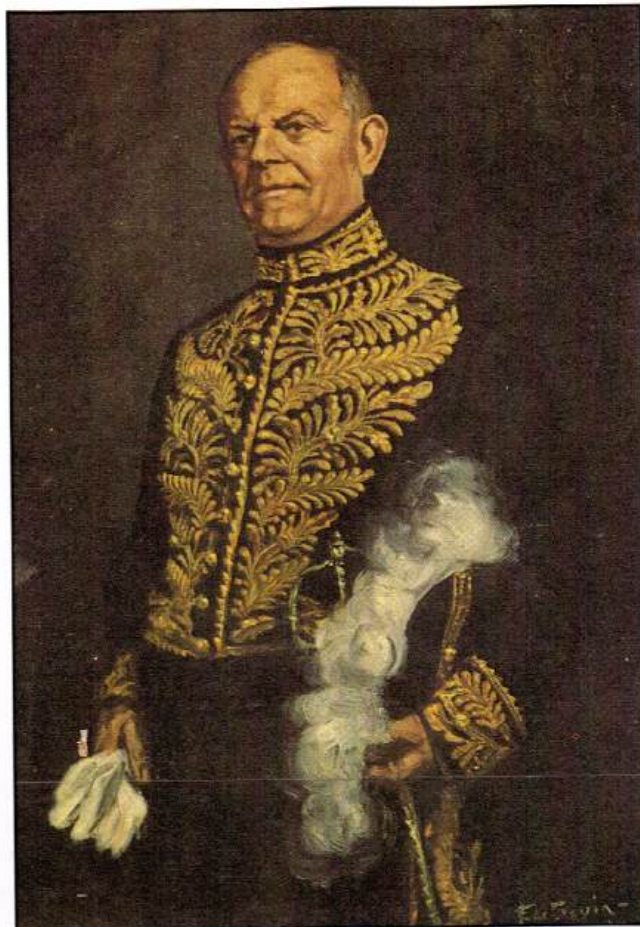
These awards are granted to honor Rotary members who have been actively involved in the service activities related to The Rotary Foundation, such as serving on a Foundation committee, participating in a grant-funded project or supporting a Rotary Peace Fellow. Rotary Club members who have received a Citation for Meritorious Service include:

James H. Belton	1994-95
John J. Eberhard	1995-96
Jack Little	2003-04

RECIPIENTS OF THE HONOURABLE RAY LAWSON AWARD "ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR"

The Honorable Ray Lawson "Rotarian of the Year" Award recognizes a member of the Rotary Club of London who is/has been highly involved in club activities and may have also been active in Rotary District 6330 activities. It was initiated by the Honourable Ray Lawson in 1975 to annually recognize such an individual.

Dick Armstrong	1975-76
Al Sinnot	1976-77
Jack Burghardt	1977-78
Trevor Davies	1978-79



Alex McIntosh	1979-80
Doug Parnell	1980-81
Ernie Martin	1981-82
John Stuart	1982-83
Jim Belton	1983-84
Gord Hume	1984-85
Norman Pizzale	1985-86
Murray Wood	1986-87
Bill Noseworthy	1987-88
John Eberhard	1988-89
Brian Carroll	1989-90
Thomas C.R. Lawson	1990-91
Peter Wrath	1991-92
Ross Strickland	1992-93
Ken Heard	1993-94
Bob Earley	1994-95
Bob Nelson	1995-96
Terry Green	1996-97
Susan J. Sharpe	1997-98
James M. Hales	1998-99
Bob Black	1999-2000
Sandi McCabe	2000-01
Jack Scott	2001-02
Britta Winther	2002-03
Owen Thornton	2003-04

Jack Little	2004-05
Jeannette Eberhard	2005-06
Keith Morrow	2006-07
Bruce McGauley	2007-08
Jan Delaney	2008-09
Don Stevens	2009-10
Rick Coates	2010-11
Warren Granger	2011-12
David Brady	2012-13
Randy Harden	2013-14
Elizabeth Harris	2014-15

RECIPIENTS OF THE JACK BURGHARDT COMMUNITY SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

The Jack Burghardt "Community Service Above Self Award" recognizes a member of the Rotary Club of London who is primarily involved as an active volunteer in "non-Rotarian" activities in the community, and secondarily as an active member with the Rotary Club of London. An award/recognition does not have to be granted each year. No recipients were awarded in 1999-00 or 2000-01.

Doug Parnell	1996-97
Gord Corneil	1997-98
Dave Cummins	1998-99
Susan Sharpe	2001-02
Nick Niro	2002-03
Ed Holder	2003-04
Jim Hales	2004-05
Maj. Neil Lewis	2005-06
Bill Barnett	2006-07
Jim Swan	2007-08
Jeannette Eberhard	2008-09
Heather Broadhead	2009-10
Bruce McGauley	2010-11
Randy Harden	2011-12
Felipe S. Gomes	2012-13
H. Col. Tom Lawson Jr.	2013-14
Jan Delaney	2014-15



CLUB SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

The matter of regularity of attendance was and is a very important factor in the development of good fellowship. Each Board of Directors and each Committee on Attendance continually gave attention to the challenges of regular attendance. You might think that attending meetings regularly is a frivolous endeavour. It is not for two reasons. First, Rotary International sets guidelines and asks clubs to keep records of attendance and clubs can be disciplined and disbanded for poor attendance. Second, and more importantly, much of the on-going fundraising and organizational work of Rotary can take place informally at the tables beforehand at club meetings or formally as part of the scheduled lunch-time program and poor attendance inhibits the club's ability to both do the work and have meaningful fellowship in a general sense. At the Rotary Club of London, attendance has been a challenge. A 1965 writer, cited, "in no year has the attendance record of the London club been deserving of commendation. Of course it should be remembered that a large number of the local Rotarians occupied senior spheres of activity, and of necessity they were frequently out of town or had conflicting engagements. "Furthermore, the possibility of making up attendance by visiting neighboring clubs was more difficult in those earlier years until the foundation of the London East (1955) and London West (1961) clubs. In regards to any top-flight executive who serves in the club today, the reasons for poor attendance still holds and new problems have arisen for small business owners and middle managers: clients and senior managers drive their schedules and so club attendance continues to be a struggle.

Still, it should be noted that in several years a number of members had a record of one hundred percent attendance. Some individuals established an exceptional reputation for faithful attendance. In 1945-46 Norman Smith was presented with a special pin in recognition of his being present at one thousand consecutive meetings of Rotary and at that time Alexander Harvey had a record of 567 meetings in succession. Other Rotarians were noteworthy for their personal efforts in this regard. The plan of giving a diamond pin to members attaining a certain record was carried out for many years. This policy was superseded in 1950 by a policy whereby perfect attendance tabs are now bestowed on persons with one or more perfect year's

"THE 2015 PRESENT LEADERS ARE JOHN EBERHARD AND JOHN STUART, BOTH WITH 40+ YEARS OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE."

attendance. These numbered tabs lie under the traditional Rotary pin worn by members to club meetings. Today a diamond embedded in a Rotarian's pin signifies that the individual is a past president of the club. Many individuals have been recognized over the years. The 2015 present leaders are John Eberhard and John Stuart, both with 40+ years of perfect attendance. One man needs recognition despite not having a

perfect attendance record. Keith Lazenby has been a member since 1961, accumulating 54 years of continued service to the Rotary Club of London. In fact, Keith is the only person who was on the committee to produce a history booklet on the Rotary Club of London in both the club's 50th and 100th anniversary years.

Two other forms of club service come in the form of printed documents. A club roster was created in the club's inaugural year (1915). The various incarnations of club Rosters have assisted club members in, 1. Helping new members recognize people at meetings and 2. Helping everyone to contact one another about Rotary projects outside of club meetings. They are just one more way of helping to create meaningful fellowship and fundraising opportunities. For 12 years, from 1952-64 a picture of each member along with other details like classification, firm name, and telephone numbers were included. In 1964 photographs were discontinued but by the mid 1990s they were reinserted into a printed publication. The exclusion of photos of members may well coincide with whether or not there is a photo buff who is a member of the club. In the mid 90s Clay Warmuth was the club photographer. After Clay, Jim Swan has done yeoman's work in not only taking pictures of members for the Roster, he also is the photographic recorder of many club activities. The last printed version of the Roster ended in 2012 and today, the club Roster is found on the web page. There, on the protected web site, Rotarians can find one another's business and personal contact information as well as their photo.

A second printed document that kept the club abreast of personal birthdays, upcoming meetings and the dates of fundraising events is the Rotary Newsletter. For years boxes of old newsletters were kept and had been a reliable record-keeper of the club's history. Sadly, over time, and over several moves of the Rotary Club of London's office, members either lost the will to tote them or due to space limitations they were discarded. Jack Beedle was the last scribe for the club newsletter. He produced an excellent publication for many years and recently stepped down from this duty which he'd performed since before the turn of the millennia.

One committee that flies under the notice of everyone's radar, but which is vital to the integrity of the club is the Program Committee. Today, we call this The Speaker's Committee, which gives some specific indication of its duties and responsibilities, but this name is too narrow to completely describe its function. Some believe this committee assumes the most serious responsibility of any committees linked to Club Service. The Rotary Club of London has been fortunate during the past 100 years in the caliber of successful and successive



Keith Lazenby, Bob Arner, Wilf Farrance, John Stuart, Murray Wood, Peter Wrath and Ernie Martin. This Rotary Wheel is used at all weekly meetings. It was presented to the club by the Rotary Club of Buffalo shortly after the club formed.

Speakers' Committees and their chairpersons. Space does not permit the listing of the speakers or of the topics discussed in the form of classification talks (Rotarians talking about their own businesses), guest speakers, debates and panel discussions or of the musical and entertainment programs presented (although a few appearances by Salvation Army Bands playing at Christmas meetings may make the list!). The club has been informally affiliated with the Salvation Army for years and has often had members representing this organization. Until 2013 The Rotary Club of London had on and off joint meetings with the Salvation Army to kick off their Red Shield Appeal Campaign. To give you a taste of the types of speakers at the weekly meetings the list includes international, diplomatic, political and governmental including local, provincial and national, scientific and educational groups, dignitaries associated with various religious denominations and racial sects, illustrious Rotarians (and there are many impressive Rotarians both regionally and world-wide) and local civic, business and academic personalities. If you want to learn about your commu-

HORSEPLAY OR BOISTEROUS FUN PLAYED A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FELLOWSHIP IN THE CLUB IN THE EARLY TWENTIES THAN IT DOES TODAY. AT LEAST ONE OF THE CHARTER MEMBERS CONSIDERED THAT THE ROLICKING TYPE OF FUN MIGHT BE OF GREAT VALUE IN LOOSENING UP SOME OF THE STODGY AND STUFFY LONDONERS OF THAT DAY.

nity and the world around you, attending a one-hour Rotary Club of London meeting is a great place to begin!

In addition to these functions joint meetings with other clubs (rural-urban) and other types of service clubs, like the annual meeting with The Forest City Kiwanis Club must be advertised to club members and arranged. One special kind of meeting where the speaker's committee puts in extra effort is around the celebration of anniversaries whether these celebrations are for our own club or Rotary International (RI). These programs have been varied and interesting. Some of them have been unique in character. One of the unusual programs having to do with a Rotary International anniversary was presented on the 24th of February in 1947. The plan adopted involved a broadcast over the local radio station, CFPL, consisting of a one-half hour program under the direction of the Rotary Education Committee. The script, prepared by the committee chairman, outlined the origin and development of the Rotary movement. The participants in the broadcast included the Rotary Education Chairman, Everton Miller as well as club member and Past District Governor Geoffrey Wheable and the Club President, Wesley Thompson. The contribution of CFPL Radio was appreciated.

The development of fellowship has always been and still is the basis of Rotary policy, even though there has been a change in the manner of demonstrating the friendship emanating from it. Earlier reports considered the best Rotarian as one who found ways to exchange business with the largest number of his fellow members. Originally, fellowship was a definite policy and in several clubs Rotarians were expected, wherever possible, to limit their purchases to fellow members. As a matter of fact individuals joined clubs in the hope that certain business or professional advantages would arise from the associations made within the club. Such tendencies gradually disappeared and the emphasis is placed on doing for others rather than getting from others.

Horseplay or boisterous fun played a more important role in the development of fellowship in the club in the early twenties than it does today. At least one of the Charter Members considered that the rollicking

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON FOUNDATION

The amalgamation of the Rotary Club of London Foundation and the Rotary Club of London Capital Foundation (primarily used to Fund Easter Seals Grants) which occurred in May 1990, created the new Rotary Club of London Foundation. The purposes of the Foundation, as set out in Articles of Incorporation are;

To receive and maintain a fund or funds and pay and apply from time to time all or part of the income thereof for the following charitable purposes

i) for the achievement of education through the provision of scholarships, bursaries, tuition, support and prizes for scholastic achievement.

ii) To reduce poverty in third world countries by assisting in development efforts in such countries in fields of health, water treatment, energy supply, agriculture, transportation and communication.

iii) For the provision of food, shelter, and clothing to persons of need;

iv) For the provision of public amenities for the benefit of the community, including parks, picnic areas and playgrounds.

While the members of the Foundation are all the current members of the Rotary Club of London, in order to maintain its charitable status, it must be an independent body. The Board consists of 5 voting Directors who traditionally are the 5 immediate past presidents of the club. There are also a non voting Secretary and Treasurer.

Secretaries have included Ross Imrie, Jack Little, Don Stevens and Warren Granger

Treasurers have included Bob Earley, Warren Granger, Don Stevens, David Brady and Doug Mahon.

The foundation has maintained approximately \$600,000 capital, organized into three Funds: Education, International and Community. The majority of capital endowed in the Education and international funds was donated by Rotarian Col Tom Lawson in 1989 and 1991. The funds in the Community Fund were controlled by the Foundation Board. The Investment committee was charged with the mandate to "preserve capital" and earn 5% net of fees annually.

Over the past 20 years, the Foundation has raised and granted approximately \$105,000 annually (net of expenses for the annual Sports Celebrity Dinner). Annual grants have been awarded to the Thames Valley Children's Center, Kennedy Fowler Clinic, BBB Ross Imrie Scholarship, Salvation Army, Seminar for Tomorrows Leaders, Rudy Eberhard Scholarship, High School Scholarships, and the St. Thomas Music Festival. Significant grants have been awarded to London Public Library Reading garden, London International Children's Festival, Children's Hospital of SW Ontario, Schulich School of Dentistry for a Dental Outreach Program and the Children's Village Fire Hall. Internationally grants have been awarded to Umuezie Nigeria for a major water project, RI international for the Polio Campaign, Honduras water projects in Tegucigalpa and la Ramada and the Market School Project in Danli, Operation Eye Sight and a Delhi India school project. Disaster relief funding has been provided for the Goderich Tornado, the Quebec Ice Storm, Haiti Earthquake, New Orleans Hurricane, and the Cambodia Tsunami. Some of the local organizations who have received grants includes, Juvenile Diabetes, YMCA, Race Against Drugs, Boy Scouts, Memorial Boys and Girls Club, Jessie's Journey, Bereaved Families, Fire Safety Trailer, Med Outreach, Belton House, Original Kids Theatre, Special Olympics, various camp programs, Canada Games 2001, and Junior Achievement as well as many grants in support of Easter Seal Children.



Special Projects like sponsoring Haley Dunn's lift fall into the purview of the RCOL Foundation

continued from page 3 ...

type of fun might be of great value in loosening up some of the stodgy and stuffy Londoners of that day. In those days, where meetings were held at Tecumseh House, horseplay had a place in the initiation ceremonies of new members. However, the old order changed and by the mid-point in the club's history (1965) the Rotary Club of London was possibly regarded by some of the more recently organized service clubs of the city as a group of rather sedate and conservative citizens who had passed the age of frivolous participation.

Previous to our 50th anniversary (1965) there was a sports committee which was appointed annually. It consisted of sports-minded members who realized the relationship of competition of various kinds to the development of good fellowship. Those who participated in the activities as arranged were benefited accordingly. The series of five-pin bowling games conducted for many seasons attracted a large group of enthusiasts and regularly included a Turkey Night. Those successful in achieving the necessary scores on such occasions, whether because of skill, good luck or a favorable handicap, carried home a fowl to an admiring family.

Over the years the devotees to golf were given many opportunities to compete in club tournaments, in occasional contests with the London Kiwanis Club, or of participation in invitational tournaments in Brantford, Guelph, Kitchener or elsewhere. An erstwhile member of the club in



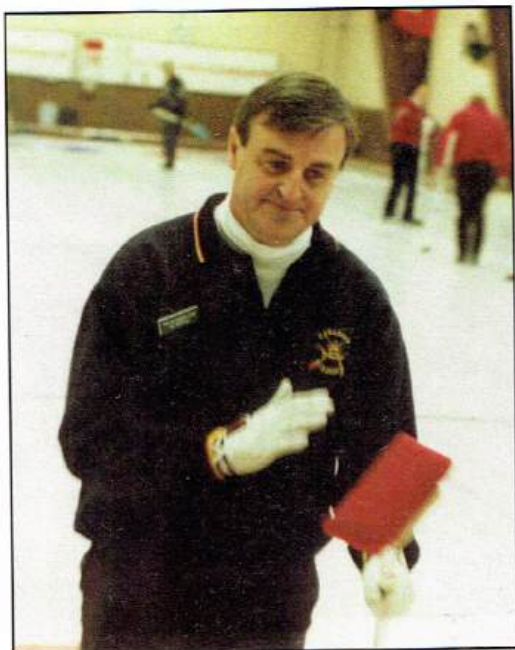
A serious discussion on the links in 1988. "Really? You got an eagle on that hole?"



Celebrations at the 19th hole.



Rotary Club of London member in red, Ken Heard converses with a golfing buddy while member Jim Hales (right) receives someone's scorecard!

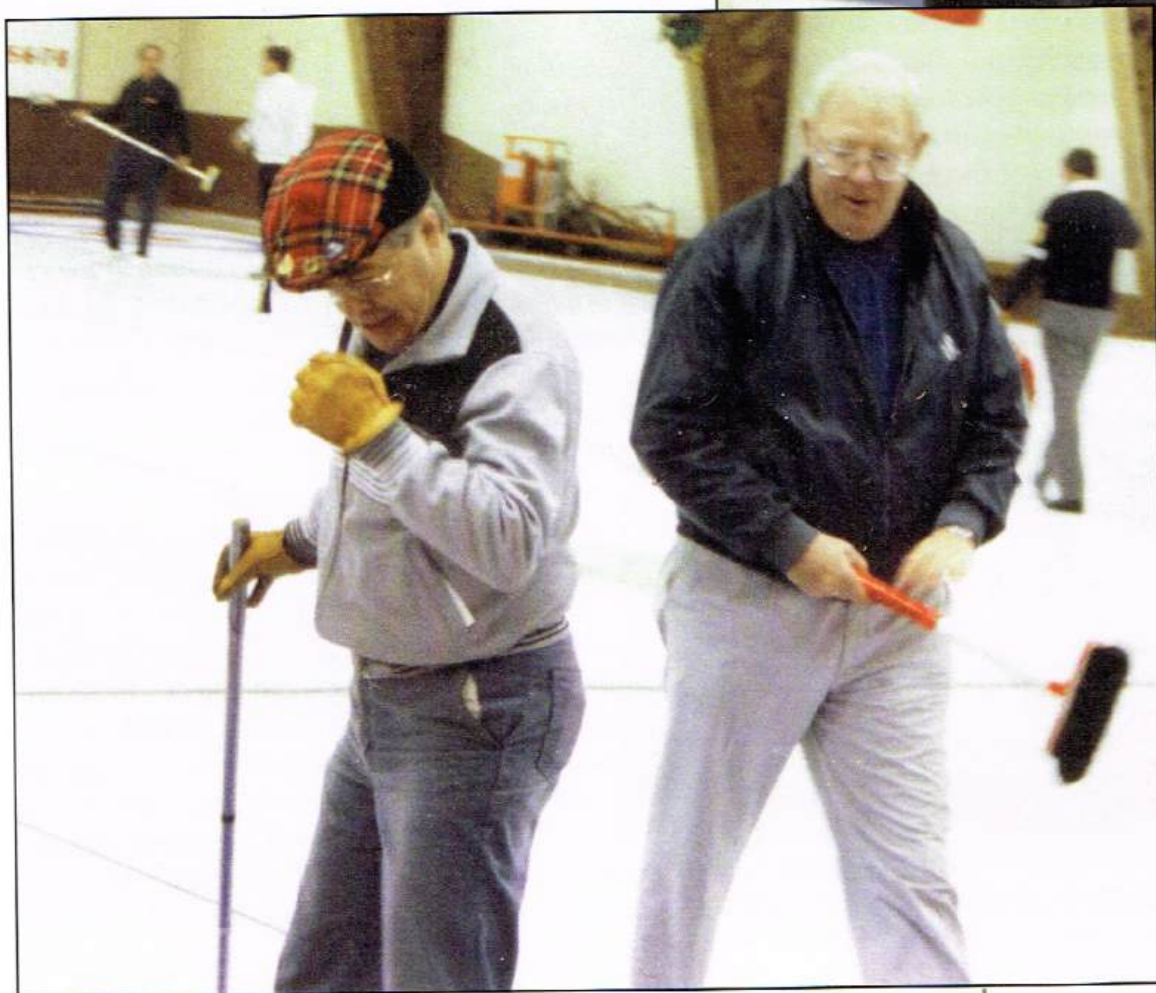


Long-time Rotarian Al Moffat prepares his brush before entering the hack!

CURLING



(Above) Bob Gallagher contemplates the state of the house.



Bob Nelson pumps his fist at a great shot while Jim Hales looks to be wondering how he's going to duplicate it!

the person of Charlie Jones donated the Jones Trophy for the purpose of encouraging the pastime. Our long-running annual club golf tournament and dinner – it later became part of a lunch meeting which was followed by a round of golf – has been a tremendously successful fellowship activity. No one takes their game too seriously and lots of laughs in regards to “the most honest golfer” award complete a satisfying day together. This activity has been extended to the district level where a golf tournament has been organized on the day before the annual District Conference. This tournament started in John Eberhard’s year as governor (1993-94) and it continues to this day. A number of Rotary Club of London members participate.

A curling night, occurring usually once a year, attracted those adept, or at least interested in that grand old winter game. Many bonspiels in competition with other London and area clubs were held either on a one night basis or lasting for a series of nights. These bonspiels operated under different rules and regulations and were the source of pleasurable relaxations for retired and working Rotarians. The annual event

**MEMBERS BELONG TO CLUBS, CLUBS TO AREAS, AREAS TO DISTRICTS
AND DISTRICTS TO ZONES, ALL OF WHICH MAKE UP THE FORMAL
STRUCTURE OF ROTARY.**

was an on-again, off-again activity which finally culminated in the 1990s.

For those who were a little less athletic and a little more cerebral, but who were still interested in competition, there were spelling matches between representatives of the Rotary and the Kiwanis Club. Sadly the Kiwanis Club won that event when a spelling wizard of that club, either as a result of skill, chance or through inspiration, astounded all present by correctly spelling the word “phthisic” after some six or seven members of the Rotary Club, who were still standing, when he alone was representing the Kiwanians, had been vanquished. (Phthisic is defined, by the way, as a wasting disease of the lungs: asthma.) These types of activities are currently organized by either the Program or Fellowship Committees.

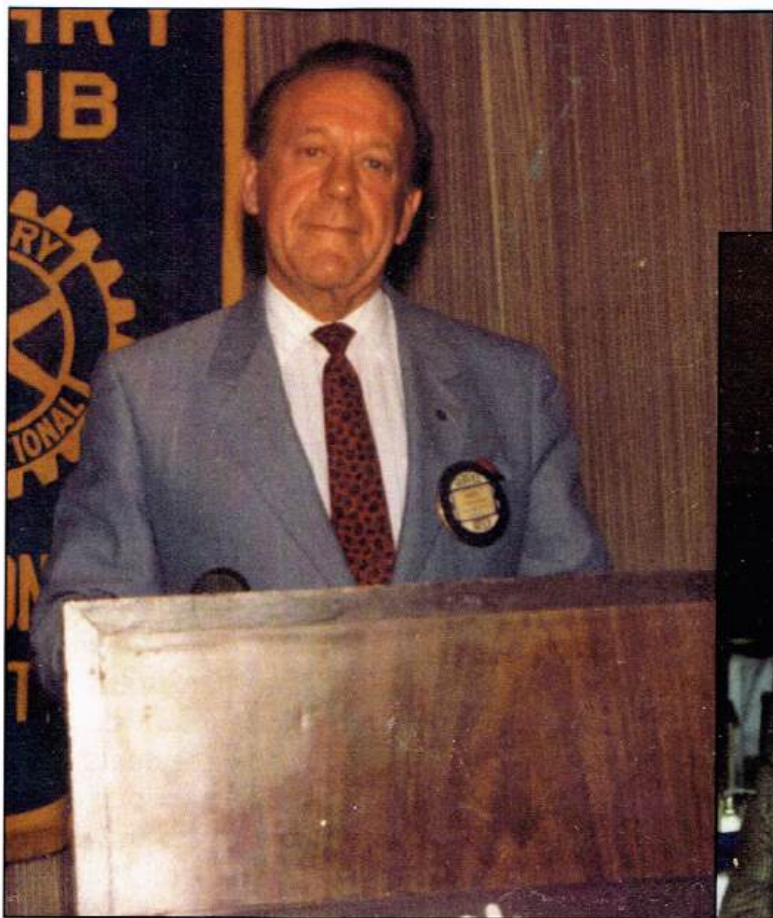
Another aspect of club service is helping new members become familiar with the Rotary Club of London and Rotary International. By now you are getting the sense that understanding Rotary is not easy. Members belong to clubs, clubs to areas, areas to districts and districts to zones, all of which make up the formal structure of Rotary. Individuals are members of the Rotary Club of London (nicknamed the Downtown Club) and the club is part of area four and area four (which includes all London Clubs and the Rotary Club of St. Thomas) is one of seven areas in district 6330, which is an international district. Some avenues of Rotary have regional representation like those involved with International Youth Exchange. Regional groups help build a critical mass for larger and better programming. District 6330 is part of Zone Four which includes Canada, France (St. Pierre and Miquelon Islands off the east coast), the United States and part of the eastern side of Russia. There is a club hierarchy (Past President, President, Vice President, President Elect, secretary, treasurer and eight 2-year board members – half of whom are elected each year), an assistant district governor of area four and a district governor of district 6330 as well as representatives to RI. There is a Rotary International Foundation, comprised of a three-year cyclical foundation that sustains RI offices before the money is released to designated international and local projects. Trainers for the club’s new members must delineate the difference between the RI Foundation and The Rotary Club of London Foundation.

Educating new members in 2014/15, our 100th anniversary year, requires knowing not only the traditional elements of RI and the Rotary Club of London, but also in knowing how they can become involved with the club’s eleven different projects designed to help celebrate our anniversary. Because Rotary is a complex international and local organization there has always been a Rotary Education and Information Committee (of various names) over the history of the club. This committee’s main function is to help new

initiation ceremonies had *baby* members who were dressed and fed as such, but gradually these hazing ceremonies were replaced. Today initiates are introduced and inducted to the club by their sponsor and they immediately become full members. Induction is used to inform the new member and to remind existing Rotarians of an individual's duties and responsibilities. In addition they are presented with their Rotary pin, a copy of the Objects of Rotary and other printed information. Historically initiates then attended Rotary school so they could learn what Rotary is, what it does, what the club does and how to contribute to the club through service in order that they maximize their experience and involvement. Sometime before 1965 prospective members attended Rotary School before being admitted to the club. At one point, in the mid 1990s the Education committee was said to operate "Rotary University" and the chairperson of the committee was jokingly referred to as the Dean of the school. The chairperson is typically someone who is well steeped in all aspects of the Rotary Club of London and Rotary International.

Fellowship can take an interesting turn upon occasion. In 1972 the Rotary Club of London experienced a one-time first. While there have been many generational Rotary families (the Gallagher's, Lawsons, Eberhards, Youngs, Silverwoods and Beltons amongst the longest standing), at a meeting at the old Dufferin

Hall in May of that year three generations of Rotary members from the same family attended the meeting. The Honorable Ray Lawson, who was a charter member in 1915 (and a past president of the club in 1919-20), Col. Tom Lawson who was



Few could look more incredulous than long-time Segeant-at-arms, Jack Burghardt, especially when he thought he was hearing a 'tall tale'. Fewer still could draw more laughs from such a look.



Many people felt the sting of Jack's stare when attempting to get out of a fine. Here, (standing) long-time Rotarian Murray Wood (Rotarian Herb Lovett is in the foreground), appears to be looking up at Jack, wondering how he got into such trouble. Not a Rotarian of Jack's era escaped his psuedo wrath! Many laughs ensued.

club president in 1949-50 and Hon. Col. Tom C. R. Lawson who would be a future club president in 1989-90 were all in attendance. Of a particular sad note, in July of 2014, Rotary London found itself without a Lawson family member as Hon. Col. C. R. Tom Lawson passed away. The family has 99 years of continual service to Rotary in Southwestern Ontario. For a time, before returning to the London Rotary Club, Hon. Col. Tom Lawson was a member of the Grand Bend Club.

In 1975-76 another unprecedented family event occurred at Rotary Club of London meetings. Rudy Eberhard, who was the club secretary at the time attended while his son, John Eberhard QC was the club president. And while the tradition of having Lawson's in Rotary in Southwestern Ontario has come to a close, today a new family threatens to take the Lawson's place as the longest-affiliated family. Current member and club secretary Jim Belton's Great Uncle George H. Belton, while he was not a charter member, did join by the time of the first official club meeting was held in September of 1915 (it takes time for chartered clubs to be acknowledged before the 'group' of members can officially be called a Rotary Club). For a time Jim's great uncle and father, also George Belton, were members of the club simultaneously. Jim joined before his father resigned. Jim continues to be a member to this day (he is the club's secretary and keeper of attendance records). His membership means his family has now outstripped the generations of Lawson's for the longest-running presence by a single family at the Rotary Club of London. The Young family has also sustained a long affiliation with the Rotary Club of London. George Young, while not at the first meeting of the club, was a charter member in 1915 when the club's membership was ratified. George was followed by his son Bill Young Sr. and for a time, Bill Young Jr. was a member of the Rotary Club of London. Today Bill Jr. attends the Rotary Club of London South. Bill Junior's son later became an International Youth Exchange student.

A great variety of factors found their place from time to time in the development of fellowship and the formation of friendships. First, club organizers ensured that different members would sit with different business classifications each week, encouraging everyone to get to know one another. Second, the Sergeant of Arms program was expanded to include that of 'Fines Master'. Fines, which were used to raise funds for club service, stemmed from news and events created within a member's business. There have been many 'fine' fine masters over the years and much jocularly followed their witty banter. While the list of fine masters would be long, we would be remiss if we failed to acknowledge Jack Burghardt for his contribution in this regard. He contributed in this capacity from the 1980s up to the new millennium. His singing of an Irish 'ditty' on or before St. Patrick's Day was an annual highlight. All fine masters used a member's self-promoted good news as a finable transgression but the entire process also helped club members learn about various individual and corporate achievements.

Third, new members were assigned to work 'the badge board'. As members arrived for the lunch meeting, new members welcomed them and acquired the appropriate member's badge and gave it to them. Badges helped guests, often from other clubs, learn and know the names of their tablemates. Assigning three or four to the badge board helped ensure that all visitors were taken to a table by a member or members of the local club. While the format of meetings has evolved over time the Rotary Club of London still has a greeter program. Greeters personally welcome all people to the meeting and one greeter introduces all guests and visiting Rotarians to the club at each meeting.

Fourth, the occasional change of locale for the luncheon meetings was the source of pleasure for many members as well as being an opportunity to learn about organizations the club fundraised for and about fellow club members and their businesses.

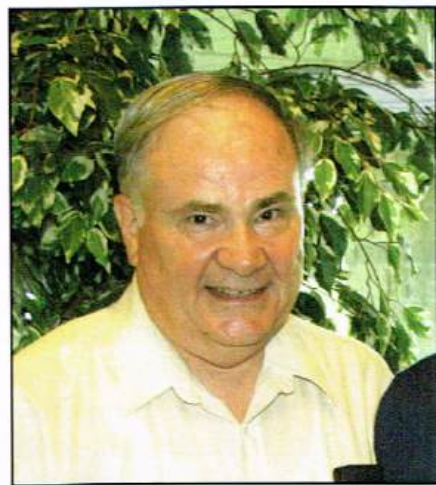
In some cases, luncheons were moved to the location of an organization for which Rotary had raised funds. The strategy was not only to provide a thank-you to the fundraisers, but to give members a chance to see the operation first-hand. These organizations include: Westminster Hospital, The Ontario Hospital, Byron Sanitarium (a facility for tuberculosis patients), the Technical and Commercial High School, The War Memorial Children's Hospital, the Young Men's Christian Association, McCormick Home for the Aged, The London Central Secondary School, Woodeden Camp, Woman's Active Service Club, B'Nai Israel Synagogue, London and District Crippled Children's Treatment Centre (now the Thames Valley Children's Centre), Youth For Christ, St. Josephs Hospice and Fanshawe Pioneer Village. Vocational Fellowship meetings



George Belton



George Belton



Jim Belton



The Honourable Ray Lawson



Col. Tom Ray Lawson



Col. (Honourary) Tom Lawson



George A. Young



William B. Young



Bill Young

THE THREE, THREE-GENERATION FAMILIES WHO HAVE SERVED THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON.

were also hosted by: The Western Fair, City Hall, St. Peter's Seminary, Crumlin Airport (now London Airport), Huron and Erie Mortgage Corporation (Forerunner of Canada Trust and now TD/Canada Trust), Silverwood Dairies Limited, Somerville's Limited, HMCS Prevost, the Ivanhoe Club and The Highland Curling Club. Last, other change of venues came about as a form of exchange with other Rotary Clubs and other service clubs. For years The Rotary Club of London and the Forest City Kiwanis Club have held an annual joint meeting, hosted alternately. The first speaker at this joint meeting was then Premier William Davis. An inter-Rotary exchange in the form of an urban/rural meeting has also been a large part of the Rotary Club of London as it holds a joint meeting with another, rural Rotary Club. This tradition has been more or less active for decades. Clubs with which The Rotary Club of London held these joint meetings include Strathroy and Grand Bend. Events took

place at agricultural businesses of Rotarians in the area such as the farms of George Earley, Harvey Whale, Peter Twynstra's farm "Twilight Acres" which was part of the Great Canadian Bean Company, Bill Young, Albert Delitala and Mac Cuddy's "Cuddy Farms", the global leader in producing and delivering commercial turkey eggs and poults. Gerry Long, owner of Wood Lynn Farms which operated many apple orchards in Middlesex County, arranged for a visit to Jim Shore's dairy operation. Another popular destination at the north end of Boler Road at Southdale was Cornell's Farm. This agribusiness was mixed fruit and vegetables grower and vendor and was popular up until the turn of the century. Today that farm is a subdivision. In 2014, the Club held a joint meeting with the Rotary Clubs of Grand Bend and Strathroy at Fort Rose Maple



A little bit of farming history was also on display at the Rural Urban night in 1991.



ALL ABOARD! Rotarians, friends and family load onto a wagon for a tour at a Rural Urban evening on September 9, 1991. The host was Rotarian Peter Twynstra and his business, The Great Canadian Bean Company was open for business.

Co. in Middlesex County.

The matter of fellowship was extended to a wider circle than just changes of meeting locations. Events have been held to include partners and families of club members. Arrangements were made periodically for a dinner dance, a family party, a father and son or a father and daughter night, a Christmas party, a family picnic, a ladies' night and the Governor's banquet or the Governor's ball held at the time of a District Conference sponsored by the club. Some of the family picnics were held at Port Stanley or Springbank Park and a joint meeting with the St. Thomas Rotary Club was hosted by Frank Sanders at his estate. Many of these events were the result of the kindly spirit of hospitality exhibited by Dr. Hadley Williams, Senator Little, Hon. Ray Lawson, Clarence May, Frank and John White, Clarence Wood and more recently those in charge of Woodeden Camp.

Other social functions took place in the Tecumseh House, the Hotel London, the Huron and Erie Auditorium, the London Life Insurance Co., Goodholme, the Hilton Hotel, and The Boy Scouts of London headquarters. One major social function combined with a fundraiser was the annual Surf and Turf Dinner which were held at Wonderland Gardens from 1982-1991. This event – along with many others – were popular dinner and dancing events where Rotarians and many invited friends and families have attended.

Fellowship has had a curious mix of either being strictly for the excuse of getting together and for the purpose of getting to know one another better along with an opportunity to do some fundraising. Outside of an organizing committee's special events, some fellowship activities have a more informal aspect. The Bridge Club, which originally started in the 1940s was reinvigorated in the 1970s and still continues today. The 1940's group included Don Sutton, Lloyd Gallagher, Rudy Eberhard, Gord Silverwood, Dean Charles Brown, John Given and their spouses. Today, bridge games rotate from home to home amongst loyal members on a monthly basis. By 1984 there were two separate bridge groups, one meeting on Fridays and the other on Saturdays. All players came together for an annual "Christmas Bridge Dinner". The existing bridge group consists of John and Karyn Stuart, John and Fran Eberhard, Herb and Marilyn Lovett, Bruce and Marnie DeMuy, David and Lorna Brady and Doug and Myrna McTavish. The group still gathers together eight times a year for bridge, and fun and fellowship.

In the mid 1990s fellowship became a more recognized function of the club with the establishment of a Fellowship Committee. This original committee was composed of Susan Sharpe (Chair) and Felipe Gomes. Soon thereafter Rotarians Rick Coates and Jan Delaney joined the committee and they later became co-chairs. The objective of this committee was to organize fun and entertaining activities for the Club to enjoy the fellowship of Club members along with their partners. Over the years the committee organized road trips that included live theatre, musicals, museum tours, and special areas of interest. Scavenger hunts, held on at least three separate occasions, normally focused around discovering historical places in and around London: little known places that folks didn't know existed in their own back yards! Destinations further afield included Steve Plunkett's Cadillac collection – which includes dozens of cars, one from 1907; a visit to RM Auto Restoration operation in Chatham (Canada's Classic Car Capital) and picnic lunches and plays at Stratford and the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake which included a wine tour.



Following a car rally and a scavenger hunt, a barbeque dinner was enjoyed at the YMCA's George White Park.

One event deserves special mention if for no other reason than its audacious simplicity and because it was so tremendously successful. Imagine people signing on for a complete mystery tour! Forty-six folks paid the fee and filled a bus and found themselves amongst big felines at the African Lion Safari. Later that day, they attended a Broadway-style show at Milton's dinner theatre. There were other more common events for those not willing to take a risk on a complete mystery, however. Closer to home the committee organized bowling nights, card nights, several scavenger hunts, Valentine's Day dinners and most recently, the Christmas dinner. Most of these events were designed to break even along with the ability to dine and socialize together.

Over the years there has been another fellowship event that took place quite irregularly called "Fireside Chats". Small groups of members would meet in the private homes of individuals. Following Fireside Chats significant changes in club activities occurred or these meetings were precursors to determining new club direction. One such occasion for a fireside chat was a short time after the club ceased raising funds for the Ontario Society of Crippled Children. Previous to this date the club had slowly intertwined with this body and when the severance came, a new direction was required. Fireside chats offer club members the chance to meet in personal homes, elevating relationships to a new level and giving members the opportunity to speak forthrightly about new goals for the club. They may come at auspicious occasions, but their ability to bond club members together as even closer friendships evolve cannot be ignored.

Before moving on to discuss a hi-bred of fellowship which combines with fundraising there has long been a completely different type of fellowship in Rotary. In 1928 Rotary International established international fellowship groups. Rotary recreation and vocational fellowships have found purpose in uniting Rotarians who have common recreational or vocational pursuits. All Rotarians who are members may assist in the planning of club and district activities to promote fellowship within the group. For a complete list of these activities Rotarians can check the world wide web at www.rotaryinternational/fellowship.

Members of the Rotary Club of London who have participated in international fellowship include: Lou Winder, Esperanto 1933-34; Bob Gallagher, International Yachting Fellowship; John Eberhard, Fellowship of Canoeing Group, Flying Fellowship, Internet (ROTI) Computer Users, Rotary Global History, Rotary Home Exchange, Wine Tasting, Motorcycling, and a vocational fellowship group – Lawyers.

Other fundraising projects not only included getting to know one another, but became opportunities to raise funds for ongoing charitable projects. In 1937 a great deal of effort was displayed in the raising of funds for crippled children's work at the War Memorial Children's Hospital. A very successful Keno party was staged on two occasions at the Hotel London, which raised \$350. A program under the caption of "1937 Follies", presented by Miss Norma Good and nine other North London girls of Tudor Hall under the auspices of the Rotary Club produced a sum of \$215. A "Garden Frolic", for which Mr. and Mrs. James Good loaned the spacious lawns of their home, introduced some novel features of entertainment. The host secured talent from several American sources for a fine variety show and individual Rotarians were in charge of a midway of unusual attractions. This venture added over \$650 to the amount already raised by other affairs for crippled children linked with the hospital.

In more recent times, the Rotary Club of London has had fundraisers take on the 'feeling' of a fellowship activity. One of the more inventive events was Winter Golf and Chili Open at Fanshawe Pioneer Village. Participants paid a fee to whack tennis balls with a tennis racket across a planned, nine-hole, snow-covered golf course. After Rotarians, spouses and friends played winter golf, with all the traditional golf 'prizes' you can imagine, participants came inside and had a meal of homemade Chili. Money raised from the event went to the general fund for distribution to the Rotary Club of London's local projects.

There was another very clever event where funds were raised, this time, for international projects. "Guess Who Is Coming to Dinner?" had known hosts who prepared a meal for six to eight mystery dinner companions. Participants of the dinner paid a fee to the club in the form of a donation for the privilege of receiving last-minute instructions on whose home they were attending. While a fun night of fellowship was enjoyed in the homes of several different Rotarians, the reason behind the festivities was to raise money for a water project in Honduras after the devastation of Hurricane Mitch (October-November 1998). Building a well of fresh, clean water in the hills, and delivering that water to standing pipes in the front of people's homes was

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Previous to 1965, vocational service was the particular object of Rotary that was the cause of worry and anxiety to many Program Committees and to the general membership. Yet in no field of service may there be found a more exacting criterion of the qualities essential in the individual who may be correctly rated as a Rotarian rather than as a mere member of the Rotary Club. The changing concept of the ideal of service in our industrial business and professional spheres of activity in recent years, constitutes a challenge to all service clubs to review continually the standards of ethical behaviour. It may be fairly stated that the Vocational Service Committees of the London club has endeavoured to emphasize this Rotary motive for the consideration and favorable reaction of the members. The recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations is a comparatively simple matter. The manner of placing an emphasis on high ethical standards in business and professional life has been varied. The appeal to the individual Rotarian to make use of his or her vocation as a means of rendering a worthwhile service to society and of encouraging others in the same vocation to do likewise has been stressed.

Early in the Rotary Club of London, one of the most interesting programs was a Panel Discussion in 1937-38, in which four Past presidents took part. The District-Governor, Geoffrey Wheable, acted as chairman. Dudley Thompson was a merchant who sold a fur coat to J.F. Maine for the latter's wife. Bert Spittal represented a manufacturer of fur coats. The animated discussion directed by the chairman brought out the facts that the purchaser evidently expected to obtain a first-class coat at a greatly reduced price; that it might be possible for a manufacturer to produce a coat of a certain size with six fewer pelts by processing

IN THE 1960S THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON UTILIZED THE FOUR WAY TEST AS A CORNERSTONE FOR PANEL DISCUSSIONS. IN THESE DISCUSSIONS OUR OWN MEMBERS TOOK UP THE CHALLENGES OF THE FOUR WAY TEST TO PROVIDE AN ENTERTAINING SERIES OF CLUB MEETINGS ON THIS SUBJECT.

the pelts in a certain way; that such a coat would not stand the strain of wear in a satisfactory manner and that there were ethical and unethical buyers as well as ethical and unethical salespeople, merchants and manufacturers. Naturally, today, the ethical tone would be quite different when discussing furs.

In 1949 an excellent analysis of a new addition to Rotary literature, known as "Service is my Business": was given by Wilson Geddes.

In the first 50 years of Rotary, addresses were given on the following subjects: "The Responsibilities of Management," "Employer-Employee Relations," "Consumer Relations," "Buyer and Seller Relations," and "Competitor Relations."

Historically, Rotary International utilized a Code of Ethics established in 1913 and it continues to this day. In addition to this code of ethics, the Four Way Test, written by Herbert J. Taylor, a Past President of

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The record of Community Service activities carried out by the club over the years has been most praise worthy. Early Community Service activities include those conducted around the time of World War I. Ours was the only service club in existence in the city during World War I and therefore the demand for leadership in the community led to the development of several different types of war-time activities. These activities enlisted the sympathetic support and cooperation of club members. As they were attracted into its membership from the very beginning men possessed of the power of leadership and of the desire to be of service in the broader fields of civic and patriotic endeavor, the Rotarians of those early days gave unstintingly of their time, energy and enthusiasm towards many worthwhile objectives.

Financial contributions during those years included \$3,000 for the Military Y.M.C.A. in London and \$10,000 for the Y.M.C.A. at the front lines. The club was instrumental in raising over \$370,000 for the Red Cross and other war services¹. Assistance was also rendered to other organizations in London in connection with the Red Triangle Club, a gymnasium for convalescent soldiers, rooms for the local Amputation Society, Victory Loans and other campaigns.

It is a matter of record that the club, either by itself or in conjunction with other agencies, furthered the interests of the Children's Aid Society with money and leadership in 1918-1919; of a National Education Conference in Winnipeg, for which it raised \$2,000 in 1919; of the Juvenile Court and its establishment in this city; of the Public Play-grounds on which two Rotarians served each week in the early development of the movement here; of the Thames Valley Golf Course, towards the establishment of which ninety Rotarians

**THE CLUB WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN RAISING OVER \$370,000 FOR THE
RED CROSS AND OTHER WAR SERVICES**

each contributed \$10; of the W.O.S.S.A Track meet in 1921 when thirteen hundred tickets were purchased or underwritten to make possible the staging of the Meet after it had been rained out on the regular date; of a Wading Pool in Springbank Park (1928); of a reorganized Chamber of Commerce; of The Salvation Army's Bethesda Hospital and the Boy Scouts Association. Rotarian Bob Stratton was particularly active in Scout work and was district commissioner for several years prior to his death. The club has had broad representation at the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and on the Western Fair Association. Members of the Western Fair Association board were Herb Cocker, and Bill Young (Sr.). Bill Young served on the board of directors for 15 years. In fact, the Rotary Club of London had a member on the Western Fair Association until a restructuring of that organization's Board in 2011. While members of the club participated in these activities there was another formal but 'unofficial' arm of Rotary that worked simultaneously on its own set of projects. And while "Rotary Anns" weren't formally created in London until 1927-28, they were active in

ROTARY ANNS

A fascinating part of the 'club's history' are the simultaneous efforts not only of Rotarian members but of the wives of Rotarians. "Rotary Anns" as they were known was an unofficial committee of the Club which made significant contributions regionally and internationally. Their will to be of assistance to the world around them found expression in the days of the First World War. They were noteworthy for their participation in the activities of the Red Cross Society in those days. Their program of good works continued after the conclusion of that war. Each year funds were made available for The Rotary Anns' planned projects by the Board of Directors of the Club. Mrs. C.R. May was one who played an outstanding part in the early years of the Rotary Anns.

The formal creation of the Rotary Anns began at a luncheon on October 10th 1927. The wife of the Rotary Club of Toronto's president, Mrs. Burgess spoke at the luncheon. Mrs. Bert Baulch, wife of the Rotary Club of London President, automatically became the head of the new Rotary Ann group in London. The following offices were then elected:

- Vice President - Mrs. Floyd Marshall
- Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. William Martin
- Buyer: Mrs. James Good
- Superintendent of Sewing - Mrs. Harold Gillies
- assistants - Mrs. Lou Winder & Mrs. Jarmain
- Stock-keeper - Mrs. Clarence May
- assistants - Mrs. Walter Kelly & Mrs. C.B. Chapman
- Head of Investigation - Mrs. Frank Harley
- Charge of wool and knitted garments - Mrs. A. Morgan
- Packers - Mrs. Lee Baragar & Mrs. J.B. Goss
- Social Committee - Mrs. Tom Faust & Mrs. Fred Walker

The first formal Rotary Ann meeting was held in the London Life Building. Subsequent meetings were

THE TASK OF MAKING LAYETTES FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS IN NEED WAS INAUGURATED IN 1927-1928 AND BECAME A CORE PROJECT FOR THEIR ORGANIZATION AND THIS WORK LED TO THE CREATION OF THE LAYETTE COMMITTEE.

held weekly in the sewing room of the Y.M.C.A. The Rotary Anns began to make layettes for distribution to needy mothers who had no other way of providing clothing for their infants. The task of making layettes for expectant mothers in need was inaugurated in 1927-1928 and became a core project for their organization and this work led to the creation of the Layette Committee. In an organizational meeting, the Rotary Anns were addressed by W.E. Kelly, a local inspector of The Children's Aid Society. Kelly explained the need in the city for the kind of service proposed by the Rotarians' wives; he commended the project and congratulated the women on their initiative.

On average, the Rotary Anns produced sixty layettes per year. Initially layettes were composed of a blanket, one and a half dozen diapers, two nighties, two barrow coats, two shirts, two pairs of silk and wool stockings, a knitted jacket, bonnet and booties, baby soap and powder, borax, and a mother's night gown, all packed in a box. In addition to layettes, members also made several pairs of curtains and children's articles for the "crippled children's camp at Woodeden." Investigation committees went to homes that re-

requested layettes and reported back at meetings; a driving committee delivered the layettes. In later years, the Family Services Bureau looked after layette requests and investigations.

In 1937, the Rotary Anns sent twelve layettes to the Rotary Club of Memphis, Tennessee to help support the flood-stricken area. Much of the knitting for these layettes was completed in the homes of Rotary Ann members and a great many more by friends of the Rotary Anns. During the Second World War, distribution of layettes was divided between local requirements and urgent needs overseas. The Layette Committee sent much of their work to England to be distributed by The Rotary Club of London, England.

The first official report to be submitted by them to the President of the club was for the year 1949-1950. It indicated that layettes were being provided locally through the Family Service Bureau, to needy families in England through a Rotary Club of London, England and to the War Memorial Children's Hospital in London, Ontario. It was also stated that a large parcel of clothing had been collected for a local destitute family. It is of interest to learn that the Rotary Club of London, England, to which the layettes were forwarded during the war period, sent a donation of money to the Rotary Club of London, Ontario for transmission to the 1954 Toronto Hurricane Fund. This practical expression of gratitude was in addition to several written acknowledgements of appreciation sent in previous years.

The Rotary Anns provided entertainment for the wives of the Rotarians attending the District Conference of 1950. They arranged for everyone to be driven to a tea at Woodeden Camp. They also contributed to the Ladies' Luncheon arranged for the 1954 District Conference, and assisted in providing dinners to guest Rotarians staying in the homes of fellow Rotarians at a conference held before 1965. Rotary Ann work also included raising funds for the Thames Valley District Children's Centre and to this day the TVCC attributes the origins of its Auxiliary to the Rotary Anns from the Rotary Club of London.

The separation of activities between work and home began to merge by the mid-1960s and with both parents of families working, the very hands-on volunteer work of the Rotary Anns such as knitting layettes diminished. Today the club enjoys receiving occasional familial assistance with specific fundraising tasks but the days of informal affiliated groups are over. In 1989 women in the community formally joined the Rotary Club of London as full and active members of the club.

CLUB ACTIVITIES FROM 1938

In regards to regular club activities, The Christmas Cheer Committee, which changed from simply bringing cheer to children strictly at Christmastime, was under the leadership of Walter Kelly and Ford Dapuerto. In 1938 they organized transportation and supervision of one hundred orphan children at a picnic in Port Stanley. Also that year there was a presentation of toys to 150 children at Christmas and over five hundred refurbished Christmas cards. By 1941 the number of toys given to children had escalated to 245 children and in addition, provisions of clothing and shoes were also provided for people of all ages for a number of years.

Work with youth was sometimes interrupted for projects related to the Second World War. A War Emergency Committee consisting of E.J. Farley, Harold Gillies, and R.L. Stephenson was appointed and was represented on the local Citizens' Committee on War Services. Some of the things accomplished by the committee were the frequent solicitation of financial contributions from members of the club; the forwarding to a Rotary Club in London, England of money for Blitz victims (over \$1,000 was sent from the London club in 1941); the giving of financial assistance to the Salvation Army for the Soldiers' Home on Dundas Street; the provision of a ping-pong table and other accessories for the Royal British Army Officer Crops; the donation of cigarettes, and fruit etc., to a Military Hospital at Trafalgar Public School on Rectory Street; the procuring of lamps, chairs, etc., for a Military Hospital at Wolseley Barracks; the furnishing of one section of the dormitory of the Active Service Club (housed in the former London Public Library at 305 Queens Avenue); the raising of over \$1,500 towards the Women's Active Service Hostel and of \$1,000 for Air Cadet Uniforms, of which the latter amount was transferred to Y.M.C.A. and Crippled Children's Funds when the uniforms became available from other sources; and participation in Victory Loan Campaigns. Sometimes the club received formal recognition of our outreach activities. For instance the money sent to

London England for the Blitz was recognized in October of 1941 when the Rotary Club of London England sent The Rotary Club of London a banner as a "token of gratitude" for generous help.

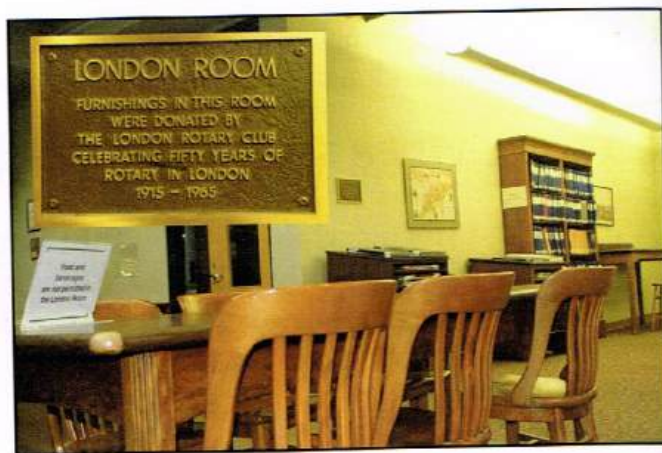
The problem of entertaining service personnel, who were stationed in the city and environs under the direction of Military District No. 1 or who were located at the training bases of the Air Force of Canada and other countries, placed a serious responsibility upon the citizens and organizations of London. The Rotary Club of London undertook the organization and administration of two dances a week as one means of providing entertaining recreational facilities for men and women in uniform. The locale of the Wednesday night dance was the Parish Hall of Cronyn Memorial Church and that of the Saturday dance was the London Central Collegiate Institute Auditorium. Responsibility for the latter was shared with the Knights of Columbus. The presence and assistance of the wives and members of these two clubs at these functions were much appreciated.

Individual Rotarians assisted with the packing of Red Cross parcels for overseas and on one night they established a record of thirty-four hundred boxes in an hour and a half. They also made personal donations to the Red Cross Blood Bank. Mention should be made of the assistance rendered to the Air Cadet Division of the Citizens' Committee on War Services through the contribution of funds.

Direct, individual contributions to the war effort were made during both wars. Only Charlie Ivey is recorded as leaving the club for service overseas during World War I. In the Second World War, however, the following members of the club were given honorary membership during the period of their service in the armed forces or in special government service positions: Eric Davidson, Norman Emory, Tom Lawson Sr., Hugh McKay, Tom McKay, George Robinson, Dr. Harold Wismer, John M. Watt, S. Floyd Maine and Edward J. Farley. More recently Lt. Col Rick Phillips (2007) and Lt. Col. Kevin Doyle (2008-09) were both granted special membership leaves of absence for active military service in Afghanistan.

The Club's Fiftieth Anniversary Project in 1965 helped fund the creation of the London History Room at the Central Branch of the London Public Library at 305 Queens Avenue. While researching material for this 100th anniversary book in the London Room at the current location of the London Public Library Downtown Branch on Dundas Street, it was discovered that the City of London's shortest-term Mayor, William M. Gartshore was on the Rotary Club of London membership list on July 5, 1915. His classification was Stoves (Manufacturers). Rotarian Gartshore won the Mayoral election of 1916 by the narrowest of margins, a year after joining the club. A recount was demanded by incumbent Hugh Allen Stevenson. Strangely enough, the recount came to a tie in votes. The city clerk decided that the incumbent had to be defeated in order to lose his seat and so, after only 15 days in office, Gartshore returned to private life. Gartshore has the distinction of being the City of London Ontario's shortest serving mayor.

A major beautification project happened in 2005-06 when the London Public Library moved from its long-term location on Queens Avenue to the Galleria Mall. On the corner of Wellington and Dundas there was a small parking lot between a bank on the corner and the mall. This area was reconditioned and in its place a \$400,000 London Public Library Rotary Reading Garden was established. The Rotary Reading Garden was designed by former Rotarian, Jim Vafiades of Vafiades Landscaping Architects and the design allows various community groups and youth to utilize the Garden in unique ways. Directly outside the children's section of the library is a 'Reading Tree' where groups can gather for readings or where individuals can relax and read on their own. There are also two performance areas. One is called "The Green" with a raised area to be used as a stage and a large grassed areas for the audience. There is a calming waterfall feature next to the area. The other performance area is used primarily for musical performance which takes place under a pergola adjacent to a paved area where chairs can be set up. Running through the centre of



the garden is a water feature called "The Rill". Children have used this to float paper boats. There is a large diversity of plants throughout the garden, largely Carolinian, which are native to this part of Southern Ontario. This garden situated in the heart of downtown London gives the lie to "tearing down the trees to put up a parking lot" as the Rotary Club of London actually tore down a parking lot and created a refreshing green space. This green jewel has won two awards: the City of London Urban Design Award of Excellence in 2005 and The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Award of Regional Merit in 2008.



The majority of the funds for the Rotary Reading Garden were raised by "The Elegant Rummage Sales" – annual events held from 2002 to 2010. These events were mammoth, hands-on undertakings which involved the majority of club members. The Confederation Building of the Western Fair Association was literally chock full of high-end, lightly-used products and clothing. Chairpersons for these sales included Susan Sharpe, John Boyne, and Keith Morrow and in subsequent years a committee of Greg Schinkel, Heather Broadhead, Warren Granger and Sarah McLennan-Stapleton produced great results. The club earned an average of \$32,000 profit per year. \$74,000 came from Bingo Nights held during this time and "Trip of the Month" Lotteries held from 2005 to 2011 for both this and other community projects. The lottery chairs included Britta Winther, Rick Coates and Jan Delaney. The annual amount of money raised from this project was \$32,500.

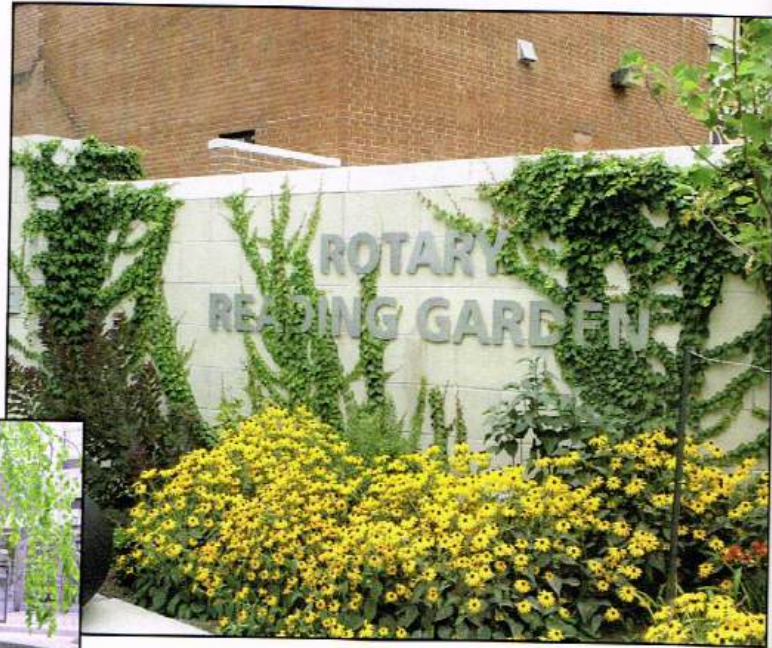
When the London Convent Garden Market was rebuilt Rotary stepped in with another new plan to make the City of London an even more highly desirable place to live. This time the plan, along with other London Rotary Clubs, was to build and maintain a new outdoor ice rink to be established beside the new Covent Garden Market in the downtown. The \$120,000 project was completed in David Brady's presidential year (2000-01) and Jack Little's year as District Governor. It was opened by RI Presidential Representative

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This panoramic picture reveals the size and scope of the Elegant Rummage Sales. The event was held at the Western Fair's Confederation Building.

THE ROTARY READING GARDEN



Santos who also spoke at the District Conference that year. In 2009 Rotary Rink became known as Rotary Square as additional upgrades were completed in 2010 to make it a year-round facility. In the summer and fall the space is used as a local farmers' market twice a week. Local Rotary Clubs promised to contribute \$7,500 annually for ten years and thus far, \$37,500 has been donated to maintain this lovely part of the city. The Rotary Club of London's relationship with the market continues as once again the area received an upgrade. As part of the celebration of the club's 100th anniversary Rotary Clubs installed a \$100,000 clock in the tower to further beautify the square and keep people on time.

In conclusion the Rotary Club of London has made many significant contributions to the community. It is important to note that only some of the projects the Club has conducted over the past 100 years have substantial documentation. Sometimes the living memory of project leaders can only be researched if those members are still with the club or if they have left Rotary but are local *and* still living. Last, it is sometimes difficult to identify which projects match one of the five areas of service. For example, buying a bus for Youth For Christ so that YFC can drive a bus into the heart of the community in order to help displaced youth could be determined as either a youth or a community project. With these challenges identified we add the following list of recent community service projects conducted by the club, but only some of them were highlighted in the body of this chapter in detail.

- Playground equipment, Springbank Park 1978: \$9,000
- Jesse's Journey: 1998
- Ark Aid Mission: \$45,000
- CPRI Park: \$20,000
- Rotary Rink at the Market (with assistance from other London Clubs): 2000: \$120,000.
- Canada 2001 Games: \$13,000
- Children's Safety Village Fire Hall, 2002: \$25,000
- Rotary Reading Garden: 2004: \$400,000
- Fowler Kennedy Sports Medicine Clinic: \$20,000
- Dental Project: 2005: \$12,000
- Rink maintenance at Rotary Square 2010: 7,500/year for five years



This picture was taken at the formal opening of "Rotary Rink". Standing under the Rotary arch: then DG Jack Little (Left), Rotary Club of London President, David Brady (middle). Paul Santos, RI President's delegate is on the right.



Rotary 'Rink' as it is used in the summer. This photo was taken just before lunch on a casual Friday. On Thursday there is a bustling outdoor market on this location. You can see the Rotary Clock in the background.

As a continuing part of community service since 1915, the club has made service to Children and Youth one of its priorities. In 2010 Rotary International added Children and Youth as the fifth Avenue of Service. It is for that reason, and because of the importance Rotary attaches to it, that we present Youth Service as a separate chapter from Community Service.

Footnote:

¹Converted to the value of money in 2014, this donation equates to \$8,537,438.61.



President of the Rotary Club of London, Jim Hales (1992-93) (in suit) cuts the ribbon to officially open Rotary Park on the C.P.R.I. grounds in June of 1993.



The entrance to Rotary Park installed at the C.P.R.I. grounds in June of 1993 in President Jim Hales' year.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

In the early years of the Rotary Club of London International Service was not yet an avenue of service. Still, consideration was given to international understanding, good will and peace. The 'international' aspect of Rotary was more of an educational component than one of service. Several prominent speakers delivered addresses to the Rotary Club of London replete with international implications. Mention is made of only a few. In 1921 the American Consul spoke on "Confederation" and a Canadian spoke on "America". In 1936-37 Arthur Ford gave an address on "American Election" and another one on "The Imperial Conference" while Dr. Sun and Dr. Bruce discussed "Problems of China". The next year Malik Sir Firozkhan Noon made a memorable speech on "Britain in India" and Professor Landon spoke on "The seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg".

In 1939-40 Rosita Forbes, a world-traveler and noted columnist, presented "the Forbidden Road-Kabut to Samarkand". At a later date President Gilmour of McMaster University, who had made an extensive tour

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CLUB DURING WWI TOTALED
\$370,000. THE DONATION WAS GIVEN TO THE
RED CROSS TO DISTRIBUTE TO PROGRAMS FOR THE TROOPS.

of India with President Smith of the University of Toronto, referred at length to some of the problems of that country. Former Rotarian George Goth, after having had the opportunity of making critical observations on conditions in Europe and Asia, gave the club the benefit of his experiences. Many other addresses of like nature and importance have provided mental stimulation and greater knowledge of other countries for members of the club.

The club did also perform international acts of service with contributions being made to aid our service troops and victims in both World War I and World War II. Contributions from the club during WWI totaled \$370,000. The donation was given to the Red Cross to distribute to programs for the troops. By WWII contributions came in the form of targeted projects like helping the Salvation Army with overseas programs for troops and with Red Cross parcels.

The NATO (1950-1954) air school in London, where airmen of NATO countries (including Great Britain, France, Turkey, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Morocco) were trained, provided a unique opportunity for international contacts. For some months airmen attended each Rotary meeting. Rotarians visited the air school as a group. Friendly letters were written to the homes of many of these young men telling their parents of their sons' health and well-being.

After the First World War, Rotary began expanding into Europe, Latin America, Asia, and New Zealand and Australia. International Service wasn't introduced until 1951 even after expansion into these parts of

the world made Rotary an international organization. International Service was created to promote: "The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service".

A bonafide international service initiative of Rotary International which happened before the actual creation of this fourth area of service in 1951, was the launching of what would become the Ambassadorial Scholarship program in 1948. Rotary Foundation Fellowships (as they were then named) were awarded by Rotary International to 18 recipients for one year's university study abroad. In addition to improving their own education out of country, participants are expected to be ambassadors for both Rotary and their home nation. Today The Ambassadorial Scholarship Program is the world's largest privately funded international scholarship program for university studies. Since 1950, District 6330 has sponsored 26 successful applicants for this scholarship program. Nine of these 26 scholars were sponsored by the Rotary Club of London. While not sponsored by the Rotary Club of London, former Mayor of the City of London, Diane Haskett (1994-2000) was an Ambassadorial Scholar. The following Rotary Scholars were sponsored by the Rotary Club of London:

1956-57:	Frederick Edgecombe
1971-72:	Ian Royston
1977-78:	Peter P. Mercer
1980-81:	Christopher Brett
1985-86:	Andrew Grace
1996-97:	Janet Buckingham
2001-02:	Vanessa Martin
2003-04:	Alexandra Martinuik
2010-11:	Ashley Ekelund

Since the mid 1960's students from Africa, Europe and Asia have attended the University of Western Ontario and more recently Fanshawe College under the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program. A number of them were invited to address the club and in doing so they provided valuable information about their respective countries to Rotary Club of London members. Ambassadorial Scholars are now funded under the RI Global Grants Program. The Rotary Club of London has sponsored and provided counsellors for a number of visiting scholars.

The first recorded instance of financial aid for a specified international project from The Rotary Club of London to people of another country occurred when a donation of \$250 was made by the club in 1963 to Dr. Bob McClure to assist his project to vaccinate 25,000 children in India. Individual Rotarians from the Rotary Club of London also made donations. Dr. McClure operated the Ratlam Mission Hospital at Ratlam, India under the auspices of the United Church of Canada. Also, in 1963, a donation from the Rotary Club of London of \$50,000 was made to the Rotary Club of Teheran, Iran, through a fund started by the Rotary Club of Goderich to aid earthquake victims.

A one hundred percent participation rate by members of the Rotary Club of London to the Rotary Foundation to assist in funding international projects was effected in 1951-52 with a total amount of CAN\$1,459 being raised. By 1965 the club approached total contributions of over CAN\$4,000. New members were asked to contribute \$10 each for the Foundation, other members were assessed one dollar a year. Funds have also been provided through "austerity meals" and by the proceeds of a dinner provided by the Ivanhoe Curling Club, through Rotarian Joe Worrall's generosity. More currently sustaining funding for the RI Foundation includes the majority of Rotary Club of London members contributing US\$100/year.

Other various international connections and service projects were conducted. A number of club members attended Rotary International Conventions in the United States, Mexico, South America, England, Switzerland and Japan. Secondary school students were sent to Rotary meetings of an international character in nearby American cities. One student was assisted financially in connection with a conference in England. Others have been taken to Rotary International Conventions. Also in 1921 a financial

contribution was made towards the expenses of two Canadian Rotarians, who established Rotary in Melbourne, Australia.

Two \$500 donations were made as memorial gifts: one by Ray Lawson in honor of Watson Younge, and one as an anonymous gift.

Almost all international projects that The Rotary Club of London contributes to are launched by committees on the club level but one major international project was launched by Rotary International in 1985. Rotary International's PolioPlus campaign to rid the world of the wild polio virus is an on-going one which The Rotary Club of London has fully embraced. The Rotary Club of London responded to this initiative by establishing a Polio Committee. The first chair in 1986 was Rotarian Murray Faulkner. Faulkner was instrumental in creating a tremendous response to PolioPlus. To 2015, in this, the 30th Anniversary Year of the launch of this major world-wide campaign, the Rotary Club of London has contributed a whopping CAN\$284,710.¹ In addition to extraordinary financial contributions, Rotarians are invited to take part in National Immunization Days (NIDs). NIDs consist of teams of Rotarians from around the world working with medical experts. Together, in a specific country and for a day these teams give infants and children the polio vaccine in regions where polio still exists. Five members of the Rotary Club of London have taken part in NIDs. In 1986 Jim Belton was part of a team in India. Jim and Sandi McCabe were part of a team in India in 2005. Harry Joosten was part of a 2010 team that went to Ethiopia. John and Fran Eberhard (Fran is a member of the Rotary Club of Hyde Park) have been part of several NID teams in 1997, 2000, and 2005 covering Ghana, Nigeria, Benin, Togo and India.

Money is also sent to Rotary International to help operate the organization's offices in Chicago. Donated money is held in trust for three years and RI administration operates on the interest from that source. After three years the money is released back to the clubs to help with such things as the International Youth Exchange program and in providing matching grants for international projects. To this point the Rotary Club of London has sent \$437,553 to RI: money which has, in turn, aided with international projects around the world.

International Service is a category which has seen a dynamic increase in activity. Three reasons may well explain this trend. In the early years of our club's history Rotary wasn't as "international" so the capability to comprehend what was required around the world and the ability to work with Rotarians in those countries simply did not exist. Travel to regions where work needed to be conducted is simpler and less expensive today. Today we can fly to a region and investigate matters quickly. In 1915, travel was conducted by rail and ship. In addition connectivity through phones and the internet makes communication nearly instantaneous and international banking in these regions makes the transfer of funds safe and secure. In other words, the world has become smaller and that makes conducting projects easier. In the mid 1990's Rotary International began a matching grant program where club funds for international projects would be



matched by RI. Earlier monetary matching from RI along with a secondary matching process from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) allowed for much larger, meaningful and innovative projects to be undertaken. Because Rotary is truly international, Rotarians are often on the ground in the targeted regions where these projects are conducted. Having reliable Rotarians in place at the site of projects helps guarantee funds, materials and technical know-how reach their destination and that the project is completed as designed. Many of these projects are conducted after natural disasters have devastated a region in countries that lack the financial resources to respond effectively in order to meet the needs of victims.

It wasn't until the 1990s that the club began to raise funds directly for aid projects to help people in other parts of the world. The Club's first major project was Umuezie (pronounced U-MAY-zee), Nigeria which took place in the early 1990s. At that time, Marilyn Neufeld was the chair of The Rotary Club of London's World Community Service Committee. The Umuezie Project was designed to bring fresh water, sanitation and a health facility for people of that village. The project succeeded in more ways than simply reducing water-borne diseases. People of the developed world take clean, reliable water for granted. When potable water does not exist many complications arise for a population without it. Women and children spend hours walking to a water source each day simply so they can perform the simple tasks of cooking and cleaning. Spending time fetching water prevents children from attending school full time and from women doing other necessary work which could bring food and financial resources into the household. A reliable source of water, then, can help with literacy rates as children attend school and can increase productivity to create an overall better life for the entire family. In addition to these benefits the purity of any water source can be suspect and therefore these lengthy trips can bring back disease to the villagers. Disease brings with it even greater hardships than the disease itself as medical treatment can be scarce or a great distance away so more time and resources are spent getting treatment ... if treatment is even available. So the project provided water, time to grow crops and potentially operate a micro-business, reduced starvation, and increased educational opportunities meaning virtually everything in these people's lives changed.

The Umuezie project tapped into the water table where the water was safe, pumped the water into an elevated tank utilizing simple technology and then the elevated tank created water pressure to help support water coming into the village. The Rotary Club of London raised the funds for the project, hired the designers and engineers, and ensured it was built. Lawyer Del McLennan performed much of the legal work required to make the project a success. The active part of the installation took place from October of 1993 and continued until February of the following year. The total budget for the project was \$184,512. Before the end of the project Rotarians Jack Little, Emeka Njoka and Joe Hines traveled to Umuezie to see the region, to experience some of the project's challenges first hand and to build a stronger bridge between The Rotary Club of London members and the people of the village.



Water for the people of Eumezie.

While the stand which supported the reservoir collapsed under the weight of the water, Umuezie was branded a success as the water tank survived and the lives of the villagers were changed in a positive and remarkable way. The villagers were saved from hundreds of hours annually in water-toting. Women had many more hours for other more meaningful pursuits and children could attend school without missing class hours normally spent carrying buckets of water. Following the successful completion of the project a nearby village asked to become part of it. The World Community Service Committee added the people of this village to the contract, and so, two villages ended up receiving the benefits of clean water from this project.

It should be noted that each international project is chaired by an individual who leads a World Community Service Committee which aids in administering the work and in engaging the rest of the club members. Under these traditional circumstances individual recognition is downplayed because it is the entire membership of the club who works towards the goal of completing the individual project.

After Umuezie, a more formalized international project program became available. Projects were outlined in the developing world by International Rotary Clubs in countries of need where these clubs pledged to be the key contact at the work sites. The cost to ensure funds, that resources and expertise arrived at the site in an effective manner, increased the paperwork to ensure everything that was required was in place. In addition the matching grants from RI were also preapproved. Undeterred by the increased administration and hopeful of making meaningful change elsewhere in the world, The Rotary Club of London's World Community Service Committee of that time, headed by Jack Scott (with a great deal of support from Jack Little and Don Stevens), created some of the most amazing and satisfying string of international projects ever conducted by the Rotary Club of London. From 1998 to 2000 several projects were conducted in the region of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Hurricane Mitch dumped more rain in a few hours than many years' worth of annual rainfall. The rain turned hills into mud which turned into slurry that resulted in devastating mudslides virtually eliminating rural infrastructure. The multi-stage water and sanitation projects that the Rotary Club of London initiated in that region totaled \$216,244. The club itself raised over \$41,000 towards these projects. Funds raised were matched several times by Rotary International, the Canadian International Development Agency and CRCID (The Canadian Rotary Committee for International Development). As the work went on, other clubs in the region joined in the fundraising, bringing Rotarians around Area 4 and throughout District 6330 together in aiding the people of Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

The first part of the project was to create a well, holding tank, and water purifier at the height of the land. The holding tank was used to sanitize the ground water (much of which in that region is unsafe). Installed underground water lines with downward pressure allows water to race to standing pipes in the village providing pressurized, safe and clean water. In addition, each house, school and public building was equipped with a sealed pit toilet with a ceramic bowl and flush valve. The cost of the project lay in providing and trucking the resources there and paying for engineering. Local Rotarians in the region insured the various aspects of the project's specific requirements in Tegucigalpa. Once the engineering and equipment was in place the labour was supplied by the local people. In doing the work themselves, they achieved a sense of accomplishment for assisting in their own water and sanitation project. While there was a copious amount of paperwork and



The Rotary and friends work crew stand in front of a filled container!

time spent on-line and over the phone with the local Rotarians the fully-functional and completed project brought great deal of satisfaction to Rotary Club of London members. Due to the matching grant program the projects were much larger than might have been otherwise undertaken. This series of projects generated a high level of positive energy within the club as the members clearly understood the magnificent difference it was making in the lives of people thousands of miles away. In fact projects helping the region of Honduras continue today.



Unloading goods in Haiti.

While clean water remains an important emphasis for international projects, children in the developing world have also remained a concern. In 2010/11 the World Community Service Committee went back to Honduras, this time to Danli. The discussion about this project began in Jack Scott's back yard at a garden party. At that party it was learned that single parent mothers in Danli often spend all day at the market and couldn't afford to send their children to school, so mothers and children were left to roam the streets and dumps looking for food and other goods. While schooling is government provided, the financial barrier is the enforced requirement for uniforms, backpacks, shoes, supplies, and sports gear which the family simply cannot afford. These school packages costs approximately \$100/year/child. As a result, an entire generation was becoming involved with gangs, corresponding violence and prostitution. Once it was decided that the club would undertake this project Susan Sharpe guided it, linked London with a partner club, The Rotary Club of Danli, and the project to help get 'market children' into school began in earnest.

The Rotary Club of London's World Community Service Committee raised the funds along with other area clubs and the result over the past three years is that 550 children who would have roamed the streets are now attending school with the necessary supplies. The local Rotary club in Danli has a small membership of 25 people with five major projects running simultaneously. With their resources drawn thin, The Rotary Club of London has ensured the hiring of an individual to keep track of the youth in this program. Karen Valenka of Danli was hired to track the children in the program, assess eligibility and distribute the needed supplies. She even acts as a truant officer in order to keep the children in school.

The next World Community Service Project takes us from *Trash to Treasure*: at least that was the name of the article which appeared in the Rotary International member's magazine. The program was coordinated with a former Rotary Club of London member, Peter Twynstra, who was implementing it with his fellow members at the Rotary Club of Grand Bend for children in South Africa. For the Rotary Club of London the club's Trash to Treasure program began in 2010 with the devastating earthquake in Haiti. That region lacked much of the natural resources, infrastructure and money to reestablish itself. The project resulted in taking the school equipment and resources from six closing schools in Southwestern Ontario – desks and other items which were redundant and therefore were not needed locally – and sending the goods to help rebuild schools in devastated Haiti. The Rotary Club of London would go to the Thames Valley District School Board schools, load the goods into 40-foot containers and ship the contents to devastated schools in the region of Petion-Ville in Haiti. Haiti has the problem of having only half of their children attending grade school and only 2% graduate from high school. In an area where illiteracy is common, the Rotary Club of London did what it could to improve the quality of life of these children. The true cost of the program lies in shipping the goods. The Rotary Club of London and Petion-Ville started with \$100 donations but that mere \$200 start leapt to a \$163,210 project thanks to John Eberhard who, "utilized his role as chair of the Disaster Relief-Rotarian Action Group ... to help circulate word about the project". The

Rotary Club of London received two grants totaling \$46,000 from the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund as a major part of the total cost of the project. Rotarian Bruce McGauley was in charge of the logistics for the project. He'd arrange for 20-30 Rotarians and friends of Rotary to meet at a closing school and load the containers, completing the work of filling one of them in approximately five to six hours. Over the course of the entire Trash to Treasure program, in which we include Peter Twynstra's Rotary Club of Grand Bend efforts, about 50 containers have been shipped around the world in the hope of increasing global literacy. Rotary Club of London member Bruce McGauley reported that since the Rotary Club of London became involved in the Haiti project that there are a half dozen or so members from the Rotary Club of London who

THE INITIAL (TRASH TO TREASURE) PROJECT WAS TO HELP 600 CHILDREN AND 20 TEACHERS IN TWO SCHOOLS BUT SO MANY SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN SECURED THAT MORE SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE LIST.

continue to partner with The Rotary Club of Grand Bend with this worthwhile program. Currently supplies are being sent to South African schools.

The initial project was to help 600 children and 20 teachers in two schools but so many supplies have been secured that more schools have been added to the list. Fully 15 more schools have been identified for help and the resulting shipments could help upwards of 3,000 children return to school with 'new' equipment. The club has been contacted by another school board looking to scale back operations due to low enrolment and donate the furnishings. The sad part of this story is that the need for these supplies in Haiti is ten times more than the club can supply.

The recent work of the World Community Service Committee revealed in these pages summarizes hours of administrative and hands-on work by specific individual members of the Rotary Club of London. But much of the work to ensure project completion fell to collaboration with other clubs in the area. In addition the work could not have been done without the many family and friends of club members who willingly pitch in when asked. The work the club has conducted on behalf of those who are less fortunate is truly astounding when you realize that the work is often done after a full week's work by the club members. No individual can commit to what appears would require many full-time paid positions to bring about the amount of good works done around the world. While the charge for an individual project may be led by an individual or two, many times the work incorporates dozens of Rotarians who are not afraid of doing a great deal of hands-on labour and reciprocal fundraising. Before moving on to other avenues of work conducted in the name of International Service, we provide a list of activities here, some of which we have not been able to report on in detail.

• 1915-18: Red Cross WW1 efforts	\$370,000
• 1939-45: Victims of the Blitz, Salvation Army, Red Cross Parcels	
• 1991: Tuberculosis medical supplies Roxas City, Phillipines	
• 1993: Eumezie water and sanitation project	\$216,244
• 1996: Dispensary for Lepers in India	
• 1998-2000: Honduras, Tegucigalpa	\$185,000
• 1998: Blood Bank, Ambala, India	\$5,000
• 2005: Hurricane Katrina Relief, New Orleans	\$3,800
• 2011: Japan Tsunami Relief	\$4,500
• 2011-14: Youth literacy project in Haiti	\$162,000 (Combined)
• —: Bicycles for Jamaica Meals on Wheels program	\$1,700
• —: Water for School: Uganda	\$5,000
• —: Wells in Mexico	\$5,000
• —: Cameroon Water project	\$3,800
• —: Moradabad, India water and sanitation for school	\$7,000
• —: Bangladesh Water Project	\$3,800
• —: Adopt-a-Limb, Thailand	\$5,800
• —: Cataract operations, India	\$3,000

Footnote:

From page three: ¹This number represents an actual total of money donated over a 30-year period and is not indexed to inflation.

YOUTH SERVICE

From 1915 to approximately 1936 the club raised more than \$27,000 for the War Memorial Children's Hospital. The Rotary Club of London was part of the support system for the War Memorial Children's hospital and club members provided leg braces, crutches and other assistive devices for specific requests from families with children with disabilities on an individual basis. From this beginning Rotarians from the Rotary Club of London became linked to individual recipients and this link led to decades of direct, hands-on care for children with various disabilities and created hundreds of club fundraising projects as a result.

With their experience and on-going work at the War Memorial Children's Hospital, it was noticed that there was a gap in services for children with disabilities. There were funding challenges related to requirements for specific equipment and health care relating to both the children and their care providers. Inspired visionary leadership led to the creation of the Ontario Society for Crippled Children (OSCC) on November 28, 1922. On that day in Windsor, Ontario representatives from seven Rotary Clubs, including the Rotary Club of London, met to discuss the inadequate resources and support available for the province's children with physical disabilities. Recognizing a need for action, they formed the OSCC. The name was adopted by the American organization of the same name, which had previously been created by Ohio businessman and Rotarian Edgar Allen. The organization was incorporated in 1931.

The Ontario Society for Crippled Children needed financial resources. To solve this problem the Society created the Easter Seals campaign. While the formal name of the organization continued as OSCC, it rapidly became identified with the fundraising arm of the organization: Easter Seals. The first public information

IN 1937 THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TURNED TO EASTER SEALS
FOR ASSISTANCE WITH AN OUTBREAK OF POLIOMYELITIS (POLIO).

campaign Easter Seals conducted was in 1931 advocating for the pasteurization of milk in order to prevent tuberculosis, a debilitating lung disease.

In regards to fundraising, Easter Seals Service Clubs, as they came to be known, were established in many Ontario cities and towns by a variety of different kinds of service clubs including: Rotary, Kiwanis, Kinsmen and Optimists. The Rotary Club of London as well as all Easter Seals Service Clubs were contracted to the provincial corporation. Not only did these clubs raise money, but they directly assisted the society in providing equipment and services for children in need. In London and area, the Rotary Club of London managed the case work for OSCC/Easter Seals. This work would evolve into the Club's direct management of Woodeden Camp (1945-2002) and the London and District Crippled Children's Treatment Centre (1949) which would become the Thames Valley Children's Centre in 1980.

In 1937 the Ontario Government turned to Easter Seals for assistance with an outbreak of poliomyelitis (polio). Polio is a highly contagious, incurable virus which can paralyze individuals and cause severe breathing problems. Today there are some who still remember the need for braces, crutches, wheel chairs and rows of afflicted children lying in iron lungs. It wasn't until 1955 that the disease in Europe and North America met its best protection in the form of Jonas Salk's vaccine. Until then polio killed half a million people annually, worldwide.

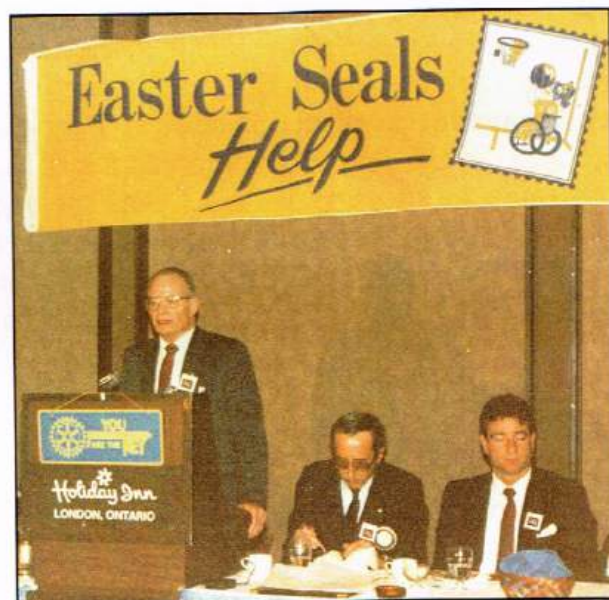
Rotarians working with children with disabilities and their families witnessed not only the physical challenges, but the psychological isolation these children suffered and the exhaustion parents and guardians experienced from providing 24-hour round-the-clock care. Once basic physical challenges were managed with equipment and support services, normalizing the children became a new priority. However children became disabled, camping was deemed a beneficial method to aid normalization. In addition to the camping experience additional treatment was provided during their camp stay. With campers having fun and required treatment, overworked caregivers found complete respite from personally providing extensive care for their children. Easter Seals opened the first Canadian camp for children with physical disabilities in 1937 at Blue Mountain at Collingwood on Georgian Bay. Fifty-five percent of the children who attended the camp that summer had polio.

The task of taking regional disabled children to camp at Collingwood added to club member's responsibilities, and the physical stress that the drive placed on the children, a new fundraising program to make camp possible for disabled children without the travel distance was required. Fundraising for this purpose became a major activity for the Rotary Club of London. The 1937 link between the Rotary Club of London and disabled children with polio would later make a huge impact on the Club's positive response to the four agencies which started the movement to eradicate Polio from the world in 1988: Rotary International, the World Health Organization, The Canadian Development Corporation and UNICEF. In 2015 this campaign continued with fewer than 100 new known cases of polio worldwide.

Many different efforts to raise money came about but in 1947, the first Easter Seals' mail campaign, under the auspices of the OSCC was introduced in Ontario, with the goal of raising \$150,000. The same year, the first "March is Easter Seals Month" campaign was launched including the annual presentation of official seals to the Prime Minister. 'As the Easter Seal Club for London The Rotary Club of London conducted the campaign in the city. Today with the advent of social media and diminishing mail services, 'mail campaigns' utilizing seals may seem outmoded, but in those days, they were highly effective.

While the Rotary Club of London was instrumental in establishing OSCC, further work needed to be conducted and organized at the club level in order to fulfil its obligations. The Rotary Club of London formed its own Easter Seal Campaign Committee which was required in order to manage both the fundraising and the case load for all needs for crippled children in the City of London and the County of Middlesex. The accomplishments of the first committee consisting of John Watt, Dudley Thompson, Robert Stratton, William Goodeve,

Tom Baker, George Young, and Clyde Heaman are particularly praiseworthy. Thousands of dollars a year had been spent to provide an average of about 170 individuals annually with braces, splints, casts, dressings, crutches, shoes, X-rays, physiotherapy and treatment at the War Memorial Children's Hospital, Woodeden Camp or the Woodeden Cerebral Palsy Centre, and later in the London and District Crippled Children's Treatment Centre. This committee sponsored the Saturday morning club which provided recre-



Rotarian Bill Pilsworth stands at the podium. To his right is Rotarian Del McClennan and one of London's Mayor's Tom Gosnell (1991). Bill coordinated stuffing bees for a number of years.

ation and entertainment for crippled children of London and vicinity. Rotarians drove the children to and from their Saturday gatherings. The Rotary Club of London was very much a hands-on organization. Club members worked directly with the children they helped through their fundraising efforts.

WOODEDEN CAMP

Woodeden Camp for crippled children was made possible in 1945 when Clare Wood, a member of the The Rotary Club of London offered his 110-acre estate near Kilworth, Ontario², including a magnificent home, to the Ontario Society for Crippled Children, for a fraction of its value. The Rotary Club of London took a large part of the re-



sponsibility for raising \$100,000 to cover the initial cost of converting the property to a camp with a number of new cabins in addition to the existing main buildings.

London Rotarian John M. Watt, the president of the Ontario Society, became chair-man of a Woodeden Camp Committee, Dudley Thompson was named vice-chairman, Bob Stratton, treasurer and Lou Winder as a director. Other directors were appointed from Aylmer, Brantford, Chatham, Sarnia, Windsor, St. Mary's, Woodstock and Stratford.³ The Rotary Club of London started the fund with a donation of \$3,500 and many Rotarians assisted in the fundraising.

On June 26, 1946, Woodeden Camp began its many years of service to crippled children. At the official opening, then Premier George Drew presented a scroll to John M. Watt for his "foresight, diligence and devotion in preparing, planning and initiating Woodeden. He referred to Woodeden as "Watt's Dream". From the funds raised by The Rotary Club of London in that first 1947 Easter Seals campaign, a portion of the money went directly to Camp Woodeden to support the structure and the needs of specific campers. The Woodeden Camp committee, which was led by committed Rotary Club of London members, were responsible for the upkeep of the camp and for responsibly managing the needs of the youth who attended. "The accommodation at the camp was for forty children – eight per cabin. Two additional campers' cabins were built in 1951". Helen Wood-Young offers an insight into just how involved the Rotary Club of London was in regards to the camp and 'crippled' children: "Early in the plans for Woodeden, it was realized that there should be an overall Advisory medical Committee, which was chaired by the President of the University of Western Ontario Rotarian George Edward Hall (1947-1967).

Camp Woodeden began winter operations for children with cerebral palsy in 1949. Twenty-four in-patients aged three to five stayed there. This new operation commenced the first residential treatment centre for children with Cerebral Palsy in Canada. The camp became the forerunner of the London Crippled Children's Treatment Centre, now known as the Thames Valley Children's Centre. The camp continued to grow and by 1953 had ramped up to serving 80 children. It was later agreed that a more manageable number was in the 65-70 range. Throughout the 1950s various new camper cabins were built as the camp grew to serve more children each year.

Ever since its inception Woodeden Camp has been operated in co-operation with the OSCC, with the assistance of other groups and clubs and with the aid of a committee from The Rotary Club of London. Finances for the operation of Woodeden come from the Ontario Society through funds raised by Easter Seal

service clubs. Clubs sending crippled children to camp paid about half of the cost of their care. The Rotary Club of London's cost in 1965 was \$3,800. A large number of individuals made contributions to allow the camp to operate for crippled children in the summer and for the Cerebral Palsy camp in the winter but by 1965 regular winter operations had ceased. During this period a new pool was installed in 1955 at the cost of \$17,000, with \$5,000 of the total coming from The Rotary Club of London.

The Easter Seal Campaign Committee was responsible for providing the money to operate these programs and was remarkably successful. Receipts from the annual campaign in those years were divided equally between the Club and The OSCC. Gross revenue in 1950 was \$45,000. From 1960 to 1964 revenues from the campaign rose from \$50,139 to \$71,000.

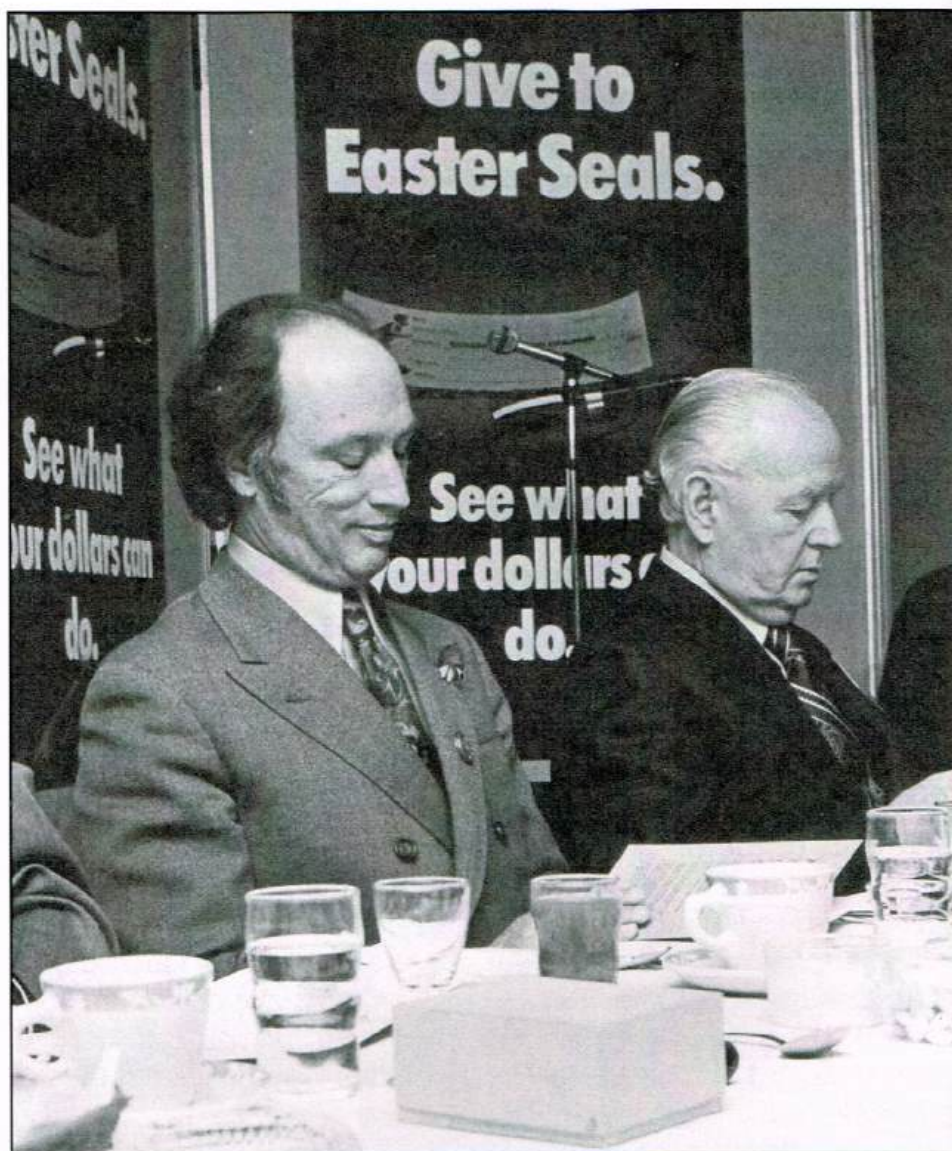
The 1970s and 1980s were a boon time for Woodedden. Former chairperson of the camp Rotarian Doug Parnell (1966-73) and family sponsored a new nature craft building. From 1971-76 support for The OSCC continued to be a major and on-going program of the Rotary Club of

London. A successful fundraising initiative in 1971 generated in excess of \$105,000. At this time fully 58,000 letters of appeal for the annual Easter Seals Campaign were folded, stuffed, addressed and posted by Rotarians, their spouses and children, along with friends of Rotary and with support and help of the families Easter Seals served. While these letters were stuffed and posted in a single day, the efforts to arrange the teams and to receive the donations made this a major annual project for the club.

From 1947 to 1971 Rotarian Wilfred Farrance reported that the club had raised \$1,162,846 for the London Easter Seal Campaigns. In 1971 the annual kickoff dinner for Easter Seals was held at the Ivanhoe Curling Club. Over 370 people attended as Canada's Prime Minister, Pierre Elliott Trudeau made the keynote speech. The Prime Minister's wife, Margaret, was also in attendance.

Rotarian Alex Parsons' estate provided a sheltered barbecue building in 1975. In 1976/77 the second surf and turf fundraising dinner raised \$2,622. Chairman of the event Wilf Farrance organized a well-planned affair at the Western Fair Grounds. Later that year Snowarama, an idea of professional wrestler Whipper Billy Watson, produced \$37,000 for the needs of area crippled children. The club received 25% of the money. John Eberhard and Peter Twynstra raised much of the money through pledges for a 100-mile race.

Other organizations, working in conjunction with the Rotary Club of London's management team contributed as well. In 1978 an Ontario Provincial Police motorcycle club known as the Blue Knights, along



Pictured in this March 1973 Easter Seal kick-off campaign is Prime Minister P. E. Trudeau and Rotarian Jack McPherson.

STUFFING BEES



1986 'Timmy' Chris Felske* and his parents stuff envelopes. Rotarians Jack Stone (left) and Ed Deschaine (right) assist.



Here's a long shot to give you some perspective on the magnitude of a Stuffing Bee (1986).

Below is the 1991 Stuffing Bee. Notable Rotary Club of London members and past presidents Bill Young is standing to the left and Keith Lazenby is in the middle wearing teal.



Above, long-time Rotary Club of London member Bill Pilsworth overlooks (literally as he is standing on a balcony) the 1991 Stuffing Bee. The event happened at Bill's place of work: Fanshawe College. Below Bill is a motivational banner.



with the Rotary Club of London and a Wintario Grant provided funds for a new staff building. In 1980 the Club was responsible for building a workshop and laundry facility. But more was still to come.

The funds raised were distributed towards transportation and lodging at camps, repairs of wheelchairs; purchase of special shoes, braces, hearing aids and other special equipment as required. Funds raised by the Rotary Club of London on behalf of the OSCC did not all stay in London. In 1971, \$40,000 was sent to the Ontario division of OSCC according to contractual stipulations.

1981 brought significant changes to the Ontario Society for Crippled Children and for Wooded Camp. That year the Society changed its name to the Easter Seal Society, Ontario. At Wooded a new challenge arose with a barn fire. Much memorabilia was lost. However, that fire, and the resulting insurance claim resulted in an overall benefit for disabled children. A plan was created and at the close of 1984 camp in August the original five camp buildings constructed in 1946 were demolished. In its place stood, "The Dream Come True For the Special Children Of Wooden Camp". On July 21st 1985, under the Chairmanship of John J. Eberhard QC (1974-1986 and 1998-2002) a quad-building of four, interlinked cabins and dining hall that is fully accessible to campers was opened. The construction of this building marked the future of the new era for the Rotary Club of London's link with disabled children at Camp Wooded. But the building alone was not the only endeavor achieved that year. A network of paved paths were laid out throughout the property making the remote areas of the camp accessible for children with wheel chairs. The historic Japanese Garden had been partially restored, a new outdoor amphitheater where children could watch, and put on performances was created. Access to the river flats allowed children to camp out overnight so they could have a more diverse and fun camp experience. Funds came from different sources.

By 1988 the annual stuffing bee was at Fanshawe College and the number of Easter Seals Envelopes had risen to 90,000. Harry Rawson was in charge of organizing the work bee and the result from that year's efforts was over \$72,000. Over 250 individuals were required to do the work. Brig. Gen. Alex McIntosh completed his second year as the President for the OSCC: the only Rotarian to that time who had served two terms. McIntosh, who represented Beaver Foods in his membership classification, also provided the food for the hungry envelope stuffers. Just a few years later the stuffing bee reached 112,000 envelopes and that

Sports Celebrity Dinner

It was in 1947 that Conn Smythe, owner of the Toronto Maple Leafs, made Maple Leaf Gardens available for the Easter Parade of Stars, which generated much awareness for Easter Seals direct mail campaigns. From this humble beginning Smythe created the annual Sports Celebrity Dinner in Toronto. Smythe was a member of the Rotary Club of Toronto at the time. In 1955 Harry Eisen, the Sports Editor for the London Free Press attended the Toronto Sportsmen's Dinner and was so impressed he thought there should be a similar event in London. Knowing of the club's involvement with Crippled Children, Harry approached The Rotary Club of London with the suggestion that the club work with London sports media in organizing a similar event.

In 1956 the first Sports Celebrity dinner was held at Hotel London. Tickets were \$25 each and the dinner raised several thousand dollars. By the 1960s the dinner was moved to the Ivanhoe Curling Club and in 1979 the event moved to the downtown Holiday Inn location on a trial basis. The event returned to the Ivanhoe the following year.

Previous to 1980 the only revenue generated by the celebrity dinner came from the sale of meal tickets. In 1980 that began to change. That year one head table guest, J.D. Hill of the Detroit Lions spontaneously auctioned a football which had been signed by all the head table celebrities. When Hill was done his presentation he turned to the next speaker, Jamie Boone, The Western Mustang's quarterback and CIS Player of the Year, and challenged him to do better with a second autographed football. Previous to this dinner without a fully planned auction, annual dinners raised close to \$9,000. With a return to the Holiday Inn, in 1981 and with the auction formally added to the program, that year's dinner raised \$20,000! Today Sports Celebrity Dinners raise an average of \$50,000/year and the TVCC thanks Rotary for raising over \$1.4 million over the history of this fundraiser¹.

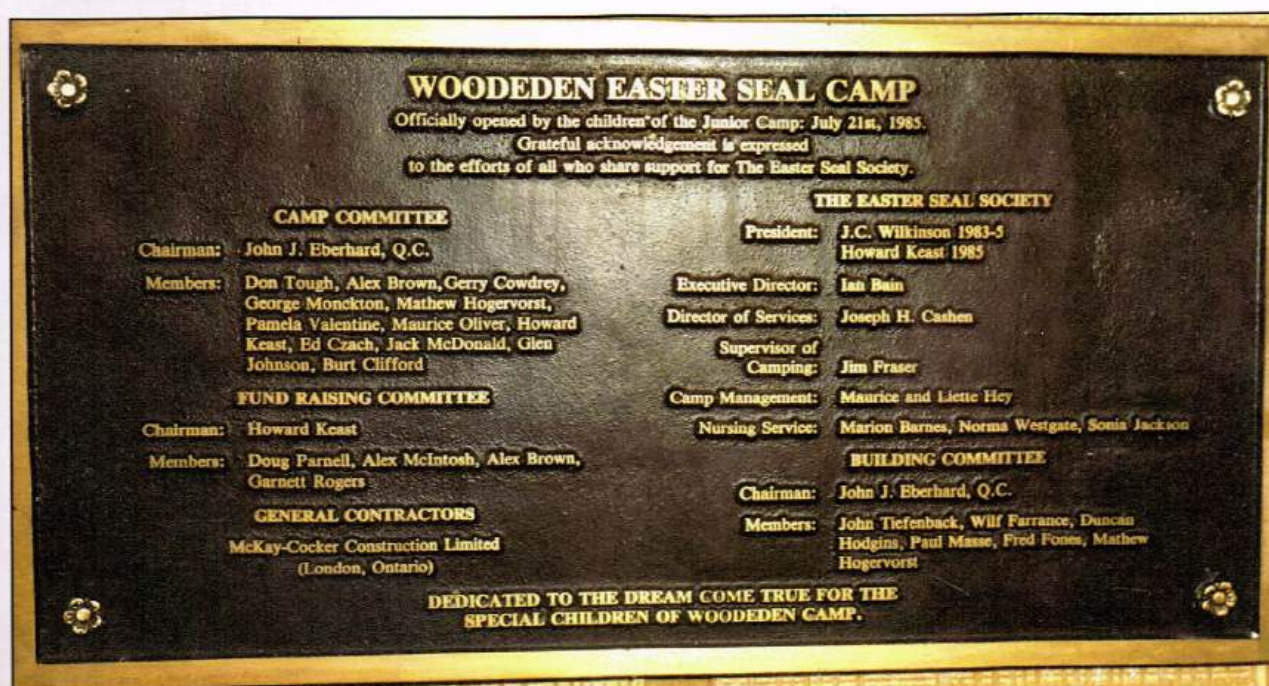
¹It should be noted that this number represents real monetary donations at the time they were made and that if we valued the donations in today's dollars the number would be substantially higher.

raised a record \$91,138, well over the \$86,500 target!

Meanwhile the new quad-building allowed for the restoration of some winter respite camps for children. One of the first Rotary-affiliated groups to make use of this building for winter camps was the University of Western Ontario Rotaract Club. This club of university students is sponsored by the Rotary Club of London and was established under the leadership of the late Bob Nelson in 1985. One of the Rotaract Club's early service projects was a weekend camp at Woodeden for children with Cystic Fibrosis and their families. Rotaract members raised all the required funds, arranged and supervised the activities including the food for the camp. In 1995, they received a Rotary International Presidential Citation for this project. This event changed into a camp for children with Juvenile Diabetes and their families in 2002 and is now held at the Pearce Williams Camp at Iona. More on Rotaract and its activities will follow in a further section of this chapter.

It's important to note that the Rotary Club of London's relationship with Woodeden was more than simply managing the caseload, fundraising and building new facilities. Much of the work that was done to operate the camp on a daily basis was not glamorous, but it was always important. In addition we would be remiss to suggest that the work at Woodeden was only conducted by our club. Many members from other Rotary Clubs and indeed other service clubs helped to make the work at Woodeden possible. For us, as club members we acknowledge that countless hours from hundreds, perhaps thousands of dedicated individuals, went into regular maintenance of the property over the time period our Rotary Club was involved. Creating a list of individual contributions, from people in our club who worked at stuffing bees, running golf tournaments, strategically managing the property, overseeing building construction, to repairing stained glass in the main house would only create the risk of accidentally leaving someone's name out. We include the list of the Chairmen of the Camp Committee from the local Rotary Clubs.

1945-1946 John M. Watt
1947 Bill Goodeve
1948-1949 Tom Baker
1950-1952 George Young



This sign was posted on the new quad building. This is a photo of the sign as the actual sign has been exposed to the elements for 30 years as of the date of The Rotary Club of London's 100th anniversary.

YOUTH

MID 1980



Above is a photo of the opening of the 'new' quad building at Camp Woodeden: July 21, 1985.



Whenever Rotary Club of London members could spread joy to disadvantaged youth, they did so. The club even went so far as to book Santa Claus for the annual Christmas party!

TELETHON

The annual telethon was not one of the Rotary Club of London's primary fundraisers for OSCC and Camp Woodeden, but it was heavily involved. Above you see the Rotary Club of London members operating the phone bank. Rotarians (left to right) here are John Eberhard, Larry Cook, Bill Gohm, Bob Shuttleworth and Jim Hales. Rotarian Tom Johnson from the Rotary Club of London was the principle organizer of the event, however. In the picture to the left you witness some interesting Rotary Club of London History. This is the 'set' for the annual telethon. You can see banks of volunteers in the background answering calls and taking pledges. In the foreground Jim Swan is interviewing 1991-92 Timmy Chris Felske. Jim is working for CFPL Television (channel 10) here. Years later, Jim would go on to become a Rotary Club of London member who is responsible for many of the more modern photos in this book.

The telethon was a vast undertaking requiring dozens and dozens of volunteers. Here you see parents of children in need working the phonebanks alongside Rotary Club of London members. Independent businesses also sent teams to work the phones throughout the duration of the event.



1953-1965	Clyde Heaman
1966-1973	Doug Parnell
1974-1986	John J. Eberhard
1986-1990	Maurice Oliver (Rotary Club of St. Mary's)
1991-1995	Howard Keast (Rotary Club of London East)
1995-1996	Maurice Oliver (Rotary Club of St. Mary's)
1996-1998	Doug Stearns
1998-2002	John J. Eberhard

Direct Rotary Club of London involvement with Camp Woodeden and The Easter Seal Society of Ontario ended in 2002 when the society moved to a corporate governance model. In an instant ties with the organization that the Rotary Club of London had had a hand in creating were severed. Much of the Club's identity was linked to Easter Seals. It was easy for club members to know where to contribute because they only had to think of disabled campers and that there was an important volunteer job to perform. It is difficult to speculate what the club might have looked like if the affiliation had continued after 2002. Matters of individual privacy, personal safety and proper medical procedures make it difficult to envision how a well-meaning but untrained member of a service club could pick up a disabled child in a normal car without assistance or assistive devices and drive them to a camp 20 miles away as had been done from 1937-2002. However, not all ties to disabled children were severed.

The London and District Crippled Children's Treatment Centre was proposed in October 1949 and was sponsored by The Rotary Club of London. It was realized from the start that although some financial assistance for building and operation would be forthcoming from The OSCC, the main burden of raising money for both purposes would fall on the Rotary Club of London as the leading organization. The co-operation of other community organizations was sought within the six counties of Middlesex, Oxford, Perth, Huron, Bruce and Elgin.

At first the Board of Directors of The Centre consisted entirely of Rotarians but as resignations were received representatives of other organizations were appointed to the directorate. Honorary Directors were appointed from all the Easter Seal clubs of the district.

In 1984-85 a new and unique project impacted Becky Hermann, a two-year old child who was given a Ro-Car that was provided by The Rotary Club of London. A Ro-Car was initially a child's toy that enabled a child of up to five years old to sit on it and drive an air-powered vehicle. It was hoped that the Ro-Car could give children mobility and independence. The project was specifically targeted at children suffering from spina bifida. The car was found in Australia and the club paid the \$75 for the car which was shipped to London free by CP Air. The Rotary Club of London gave the car to the Thames Valley Children's Centre so that its effectiveness could be discerned.

The Rotary Club of London continues to assist the Thames Valley Children's Centre in many ways. Interestingly, one unique connection came in the form of the Rotary Anns. The Rotary Anns were an unofficial but highly motivated and organized group of wives of Rotarians who supported many charities locally and abroad. As noted in the section about Rotary Anns, the existing Auxiliary of the TVCC had its origins with the Rotary Anns from the Rotary Club of London. In addition to the work of the Rotary Anns, the Sportsmen's Dinner, sponsored jointly by London Rotary and sports media, raises thousands annually. This dinner program began with the Rotary Club of Toronto and was adopted by the Rotary Club of London some years later. Whipper Billy Watson assisted with the first Sportsmen's Dinner in London. In 1965 the annual per plate dinner cost attendees \$25. Today the tradition continues and attendees pay \$150 per plate to listen to amateur and professional athletes, coaches, media personalities and team owners, spin yarns about training, their sport, Olympic participation and the annual drive to win their sport's highest honors. Fundraising for the Sports Celebrity Dinner has increased by including a large silent auction as well as a selected number of items for a live auction.

The Rotary Club of London created the TVCC in 1955 and remained affiliated with it for years. Today the TVCC is a completely separate entity. Though this is not a history about the TVCC its on-going activities are something Rotary Club of London members ought to take pride in. In 2013, the TVCC served 7,500 children,

making 98,000 individual visits totaling 220,000 service hours with disabled children. The organization serves children from birth to age 21 and helps individuals with various forms of autism, cerebral palsy, cleft palates, Downs Syndrome, developmental delays (both physical and mental) and it does so on an annual operating budget that is approaching \$30 million. The link to the TVCC continues as one Rotarian still sits on the board of TVCC as the club's representative.

Outside of The Rotary Club of London's involvement with The OSCC, Camp Woodeden and The TVCC, there were many, many other contributions to youth service throughout the years and these projects also deserve to be mentioned. Youth service work continued despite the significant community service contributions made to World War II campaigns. The Boys' Work Council, consisting of two representatives from each of several service clubs in the city and later affiliated with the Y. M. C. A., was organized in 1942. The Rotary Club representatives were very active in the formation of that council. Co-operation in the larger coordinated program meant that the Rotary Club assumed responsibility for entertaining the Secondary School students of the city on Halloween night by hosting a dance function, first at the Armouries and later at the London Arena. These functions were

replaced for a while by a London Conference Rugby Night at Labatt Park. The annual Soap Box Derby, sponsored by the Boys' Work Council was a popular event for several years.

At the same time the Youth Service Committee was assigned to the Lord Roberts and Talbot School areas for the direction of athletic and other activities for boys not linked up with any other group or organization. Men like Ernest Brown, Rudy Eberhard, Cappy Rix and many others, gave of their time and energy to further the welfare of young people. Assistance was given to the operation of a Hobby Fair, organized by the Boys' Work Council, in connection with the Y. M. C. A. The cost of a number of boys and girls taking part in Y. M. C. A. -Y. W. C. A. activity programs has been defrayed by the club for many years. By 1965 funds for the Boys' Work Council were provided by the club on a per capita basis. Y. M. C. A. World Service was assisted financially.

The Hobby Fair, which attracted the attention of people within and outside the city, was a major undertaking from 1923 to 1928. It was originated for the purpose of encouraging young people to develop hob-

FULL CIRCLE FOR ONE ROTARACT FAMILY

The Western Rotaract Club, sponsored by the Rotary Club of London, was established under the leadership of the late Bob Nelson in 1985. One of the charter members of Rotaract, Chris Dinsdale, attended the 30th anniversary dinner of Rotaract on March 30, 2015. In his second year as Community Service Chair, Chris proposed a weekend camp for children with cystic fibrosis, based on his experience as a camp counsellor at Merrywood Camp in the Ottawa area. Rotaract members raised all the required funds, arranged and supervised the activities including the food for the camp while the Rotary Club of London secured Woodeden Camp for the weekend. In 1995, the Rotaract Club received a Rotary International Citation for this project. (Incidentally, Chris met his wife at this Camp. His daughter Sarah was camp convener for 2015 and was president for the club in 2015-16.) In 2002, this even changed into a camp for children with Juvenile Diabetes and their families and it is now held at the Pearce Williams Camp in Iona.



bies. Led by Walter Jackson and with the support of practically every member of the club, the event flourished in the Armories.

The Rotary Club of London also became involved with youth in the community on a scholastic basis. In 1922 a Student's Loan Fund was established. Since 1922 the contributions to this Fund have been the source of financial assistance for worthy students at the University of Western Ontario. The policy had been to make loans to senior students only so that the loans may be quickly repaid and the money be made available for other students. The plan worked very satisfactorily. One of the charter members, Chester Rowntree, was associated with the administration of this fund more than any other member of the club. Over the years the method of granting students financial assistance changed several times.

Along the way the pool of money used to create the loans program was placed in the Rotary Club of London Foundation. The Foundation then invested the money. Profits from investments went towards giving students money. The university student loan program was replaced by a high school student awards program. In the years this program operated approximately \$25,000 was given to high achieving students. These awards were in the \$100 range. When this program started the \$100 award was significant but as time passed and inflation diminished its value, a new option was needed. The program changed again in 2009. Today this fund grants a \$500 annual scholarship to a worthy and active student Rotaractor who are current students from each of the Western University and Fanshawe College Rotaract Clubs.

The Sponsorship of the Central Collegiate Institute (now Central Secondary School) was assumed by the Board of Directors for the club in response to a request of the Director of Guidance for the London Board of Education in 1945. This was part of a general policy. Each of the Secondary Schools in the city was adopted by a men's service club. The club concerned was to foster moral support for the staff and students and render financial and other assistance towards academic and extracurricular activities of the institution it sponsored. The club has donated scholarships; raised money for the rugby team uniforms; assisted at fun nights; entertained two boys at the weekly luncheon meetings; sent a student to the Annual "Adventure in Citizenship" conference arranged each year by the Rotary Club of Ottawa, and given general support to the activities of the School. A meeting of Rotary conducted each year by the students who visited the club well into the 1960s was well organized and was considered highly valuable by the membership.

The formation of the Interact Club for students of Central Secondary School was completed and the charter was presented at a meeting of the Rotary Club of London on November 18, 1963, at the time of the District Governor's visit. The club inculcated Rotary principles in the young men of the new school group⁴. The current Interact Club of London meets at the Boys and Girls Club and is cosponsored by the Rotary Club of London and The Rotary Club of London South.

In 1978 \$5,000 was given to the War Memorial Children's Hospital. In 1979, 51 years after building the wading pool in Springbank Park, the club installed \$9,000 worth of playground equipment. In our 100th anniversary year the club is assisting with restoring the wading pool as one of its centennial projects. For years the club sent \$50/child up to a total of \$1,500 to the Salvation Army so that kids who couldn't necessarily afford to go to camp could have the time of their lives. Another single project was the 1992 donation to a sports park at CPRI (The Canadian Psychiatric Research Institute in London (now the Child and Parent Resource Institute). This \$20,000 project included a basketball court. Tribute to the club is marked at one of the sets of gates entering the CPRI grounds.

In addition to unique projects, the club also undertook three-year projects. In the late 1990s the club sponsored a bus, and helped pay for it to be outfitted for Youth For Christ. The bus travelled into the downtown core and helped teens, some of whom were homeless. The ability to drive to where the youth regularly congregated gave this project a unique spin. The program staff listened to them to understand the problems they faced. With the use of the bus, people came to disenfranchised youth. The bus gave the youth a safe place to hang out and gave them an opportunity to make positive changes in their life's direction.

In 2002 Western University's Rotaract Club launched a project of its own in order to make its own difference in the community: The Annual Day of Giving. At the end of January, teams of Rotaractors and Rotarians visit seniors and other shut-ins in their homes to offer assistance with household tasks such as cleaning, moving furniture and snow shoveling.

In addition to this project Rotaract members continue to volunteer in the CIBC Run for the Cure, the United Way, the Food Bank, the Boys and Girls Club, the Rotary TV Auction, and Ronald McDonald House. They helped establish ASAP (Academic, Sports and Art Program) at Wilfred Jury Elementary School to promote physical, social and intellectual development of the students. Each week volunteers under the supervision of the teaching staff work with the students in groups or on individual basis.

Rotaract students have organized several overseas trips to provide medical and school supplies, as well as assistance with building schools and medical clinics, and teaching. The first trip was to Niger in 2006, followed by Thailand, Brazil, New Orleans, Belize, and Tanzania. And for several years, they made a bus trip to New York for Rotary Day at the UN.

Rotaract has worked closely with The Rotary Club of London in establishing and monitoring the Interact Club: a club for pre-university youth, in order that they learn about making meaningful contributions to the community.

There has been a close relationship between Rotaract and Rotary through Rotaract members attending the weekly meetings of Rotary and the Rotary advisory committee members attending Rotaract meetings.

Rotaract has invited Rotarians to attend wine and cheese events as well as joint dinner meetings.

Next, several Rotaract members have become Ambassadorial scholars – utilizing yet another Rotary International program for youth – including Alexandria Martiniuk, Tiffany Vogel and Ashley Ecklund. In



Rotarian Bob Black with the Youth For Christ downtown bus.



Rotarian Ken Wilmott assists Rotaractors on The Annual Day of Giving.

sponsoring the Rotaract Club at Western University, the Rotary Club of London has helped youth in two ways. First university-aged youth learn about Rotary ideals and they learn to give back as they gain experience in operating programs of their own design. Second Western youth have created programs to help other youth in operating CF camps and by giving high school aged students (Interactors) a chance to grow in the Rotary way. The members of the Rotary Club of London celebrate Bob Nelson's initiative and the others who followed in his footsteps. Those who followed Bob include Elizabeth Harris who spent years as a link and guide to the Rotaract Club at Western University and more recently Bruce McGauley.

In 2007 The Rotary Club of London sponsored a Rotaract Club at Fanshawe College. Nearly 100 students paid the \$10 membership fee in the club's first year. In that first year the club cleaned up garbage on Oxford Street during Environmental Week; attended with Rotary Club of London members during their weekly meetings; assisted with the annual Day of Giving; held wine and cheese nights with members of the Western Rotaract Club to raise funds and became involved in Rotary Club of London projects. The Rotary Club of London's current advisor for the Rotaract Club of Fanshawe College is Linna Nguyen.

In October of 2014 a study stated that one of five Londoners was functionally illiterate. The Rotary Club of London has made literacy a special focus since 2009. In 2011 1,047 dictionaries were distributed through the Thames Valley Region as part of the club's literacy initiatives. Janet Tufts, the club member in charge of the first project, presented 45 dictionaries to grade three students in the fall of 2011. Tufts admitted she was, "surprised by the enthusiastic response of the students to receive such a simple and perhaps old-fashioned learning tool. "The Club has now participated in this project for four consecutive years and distributes hundreds of dictionaries annually, including English/French dictionaries to French immersion schools. Deborah Brady now oversees the project and organizes Rotary Club of London members to distribute the dictionaries to public schools. Also in 2010-11 the Rotary Club of London sponsored the \$20,000 Rotary Reading Room project. Established in Sir George Ross Secondary School, the club helped to create a reading space by providing tables, chairs, bookshelves, computers an audio centre and books for students struggling with literacy challenges. An additional part of the project saw Frontier College Students volunteer their time two days a week. These volunteer leaders from Frontier College helped grade nine and ten Sir George Ross students with their literacy skills in order to help high school students with their reading and writing.

To conclude, even a partial list of youth-related projects that The Rotary Club of London has conducted over the past 100 years is substantial. While we do provide a list here, the compilers recognize that we have not outlined all of them simply because some records and details have been lost to us over the decades. To summarize, it is a matter of record that the club, either by itself or in conjunction with other agencies, raised funds for or were actively engaged with the following child or youth projects:

- The Children's Aid Society with money and leadership in 1918-1919
- A National Educational Conference in



Rotarians pictured here at the dedication of the Rotary Reading room, are: Jeannette Eberhard (Holding left side of ribbon), Marilyn Neufeld (centre, above the bow wearing red scarf and Bob Black (left, behind the far side of the ribbon wearing black leather Jacket). Unidentified students and teachers who will enjoy the room are interspersed in the photo (2010).

Winnipeg, for which we raised \$2,000 in 1919

- The establishment of the Juvenile Court in London
- The Public Playgrounds in which two Rotarians served each week in the early development of the movement here
- The W. O. S. S. A Track meet in 1921 when thirteen hundred tickets were purchased or underwritten to make possible the staging of the Meet after it had been rained out on the regular date
- A Wading Pool in Springbank Park in 1928 (which has become part of the 100th anniversary celebration as it is being renovated in 2014-15)
- The Boy Scouts' Association with donations
- A Lounge for foreign students at the University of Western Ontario (Now Western University): \$3,000 from The Rotary Club of London and \$1,000 each from two other London-based Rotary clubs
- A Student Loan Fund (1968) in excess of \$10,000 was dedicated to awarding annual scholarships to needy and worthy secondary school students entering university (The name of the scholarship was later changed to pay tribute to a dedicated member of the Rotary Club of London: The Geoff Wheable Student Aid Fund)
- Building the CPRI Rotary Park: \$20,000
- Buying and renovating a bus for Youth for Christ Streetlight Mobile Youth Centre: \$100,000
- Building the Rotary Fire Hall at Fanshawe Children's Safety Village: \$25,000
- Donating funds to the Children's Hospital of Western Ontario: \$30,000
- Creating an Annual Secondary School Scholarship Award: \$25,000
- Donating 17 child car seats to the Salvation Army's Bethesda Centre: \$4,000
- Ongoing funding of the Thames Valley Children's Centre : \$550,000 to date⁵
- Reading Room – Sir George Ross Secondary School: \$20,000 in 2010
- Doidge Park Renovation: 1993

Furthermore, sponsorship from the Rotary Club of London was also given to the programs of: a Boys' Week; a Father and Son Week; a vocational Guidance Campaign; a newspaper delivery Boys' Week; a Recreational Program; Boys' Camps, Carol Singing in Victoria Park on Christmas Eve; an Old Boys' Week; a Centennial Celebration; an Elementary School Public Speaking Contest and a Boys' Calf Club. The Boys' Work Committee became the Youth Service Committee to create programs including all young people.

Footnote:

¹Easter Seal Society History: <http://www.easterseals.org/about-us/history>

²Previous to the annexation of 1993 Kilworth, Ontario was a hamlet that existed west of the City of London. When the camp was founded, Woodeden Camp would have been many 'miles' from the City Limits. Even after the 1961 annexation which incorporated the Village of Bryon on the West End of the city Woodeden would have been approximately 3.2 kilometers West of City Limits.

³It was assumed by the original authors of the 50th anniversary history that these directors came from the Rotary Clubs that helped create this arm of the charity.

⁴Women, other than Rotary Anns, were not members of Rotary until 1989.

⁵This dollar amount is a simple total of funds raised and has not been adjusted for inflation.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE

In 1927, the International Youth Exchange (IYE) program was created. In that year the clubs of Copenhagen, Denmark and Nice France organized short-term exchanges for youth starting at age 16 through to 18. No one could have envisioned the massive numbers of students involved in such a program nearly 80 years later. Today IYE exchanges thousands of youth from all countries where Rotary exists, for approximately one year.

For the Rotary Club of London the 6330 district-wide International Youth Exchange (IYE) program began in earnest in 1977 when the Club sent out and hosted its first student. Since that time, the Rotary Club of London has sent out as many as 11 students in a single year. The program takes a great deal of administration to make it successful and the Rotary Club of London has significant representation and leadership in this district-wide program. To understand the program requires learning about how RI classifies the students in three ways.

Sixteen to eighteen year old *Outbound students*, those the club send to other countries, are interviewed to ensure suitability. An advanced level of maturity, strong academics, a willing sense of adventure, and a certain degree of level-headedness (to reasonably meet up with unforeseen situations) combine to make the perfect candidate. In addition parents are also interviewed to ensure they understand the full nature of their underage teen spending a year abroad while living in other people's homes and that they un-

derstand the costs and any potential need to fundraise their teen's year abroad. Teens are encouraged to raise as much of the cost for the trip themselves as they can. Nearly a year of preparation is undertaken to ensure the candidate is prepared for their adventure. There are

three weekend-long workshops where future outbounders meet both *inbound students* – those students from around the world who are temporarily living in the area and are actually in the middle of their experience here in Southwestern Ontario and Eastern Michigan – and *rebound students* – those who have had their year away and have come back from their time abroad. Rebound students share tips and tales of their experiences abroad. A rebound student's first-hand experience is often the best way to prepare teens going overseas. Interestingly two rebounds met during the program, married and have had their child complete their own exchange.

Ideal candidates (both in- and out-bound) are in their second-last or last year of high school as they gain the experience in their host country and return for either their final year in preparation for college or university or to attend post-secondary institutions. Students attend weekly Rotary meetings with in-country host parents, often travel with their host fami-



Inbound students attend the 2003 District Conference.

lies and other Rotarians regionally, build life-long friendships with other international students in the program, find avenues to volunteer in their host country and make friends with students in their assigned high school. Experts suggest that an exchange student matures five years in the space of that single year. By the end of their stay IYE students are required to make a presentation in their host country's language about their own country to their host Rotary Club. From the day the host club meets their student when they speak a memorized greeting in a language they do not comprehend, "Hi ... my ... name ... is ...", to the time of the student's talk, the growth in their new language skill is amazing.

The program is run at the District level but has had strong leadership from both London Club members John Stuart and Rick Coates for over 30 years. For John, the length of his contributions to International Youth Exchange represents nearly the entire duration of his membership with the

Rotary Club of London. In addition, John and Rick have had a bevy of reliable volunteers on their club and district committees. Other than preparing students to leave Canada other administrative work means finding host families for inbound students coming from all over the world. Host families must be prepared to care for youth who may not speak a word of English. Volunteer host parents, who often have children of their own, take youth from around the world into their homes. Having other children in the home makes things easier for inbound students to get to know someone their own age relatively quickly. Certainly John and Rick have hosted students too. In that first year of involvement, 1977, John and his wife Karyn hosted a boy from Sweden. However, it certainly is not a criterion that host parents have children of their own. Typically each youth spends four months in three different homes over the course of the year: that takes a great deal of coordination and planning on the part of the committee. While inbound students attend school, they often have the advantage of host parents and other Rotarians who take them on trips around the region. Sometimes their parents fly over for a vacation and the students meet them where they are hosted and they see the sites of the host country together.

Students not only learn another language while outbound, they learn about how people of another culture live. In addition to these gifts those who have participated in this program gain confidence and maturity and have become industry executives, physicians, lawyers, educators, diplomats and leaders in arts and other cultural

activities. Virtually all students who participate in the program will tell you it is a wonderful and positive life-changing experience.

Since that first person stayed with our club members in 1977 nearly 200 students have stayed in homes of Rotarians and friends of Rotarians. That means club volunteers have found 600 host families in that time. Inbound students have come from: Australia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Mexico, Turkey, Japan, Germany and Zimbabwe. John, and Rick, who have really championed the program since 1977 and 1990 respectively

have held a host of positions. John has been a committee member, chair, student counsellor, district inbound chair, district outbound chair, and Area 4 correspondent for Asia Pacific North, Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Rick has held similar positions and is District coordinator for the Central States and is country correspondent for Germany, Netherlands, Spain and Switzerland. As an example of the type of work dedicated Rotarians do on behalf of IYE, look at the role of Outbound Chair. These individuals correspond with other participating Rotary Clubs from around the world who will be



Pictured here: Rotarian Don Bork (RCL D6330 Outbound Coordinator), Kaitlin Wainright (RCL Outbound Student), Carl Wilhelm Stenhammer (RI President 2005-06, and Rotarian Rick Coates (RCL District IYE Chair 2005-06).

available to sponsor and find host families for the students who are outbound for the year. Some of the countries visited by the outbound students include Belgium, Brazil, Finland, Netherlands and Thailand.

While John and Rick have been steady contributors to the RI-IYE program there have been many others who offered dedicated volunteer service to IYE from the Rotary Club of London over the

years. These members include Sandi McCabe, Bob Black, Jan Delaney, Britta Winther, Bryan Vickers, Jeanette and Stu Eberhard, Randy Harden, Michele Parkin, Kirk and Barbara Patterson, Ron Posno, Bruce Demuy, Don and Danielle Bork (Don was a former exchange student who went to Finland), Bill Young (whose son, James went to Turkey in 2003), Harry Joosten, Kathleen Murphy, Shaun Elliott

and Sean McKenzie. In 2015 the Club's committee chairs are Randy Harden and Don Bork. We would be remiss if we failed to include that the work of International Youth Exchange receives vital assistance from many members of other clubs in the district. The efforts we discuss here celebrate our club members' historic contributions.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LONDON

100 YEARS OF SERVICE ABOVE SELF

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In 1936 Castle Graham wrote a history of the club which is the basis of our story of the formative years. Beginning in 1936 Everton Miller wrote the history of each year as it happened, which was added as the material for the 1955 booklet "The First Forty Years of the Rotary Club of London, Canada."

Roy Hamilton took over the annual summary in 1956, and in 1962 Les Gray assumed this responsibility, and with these notes and the ones previously produced, in 1965 the "First Fifty Years of the Rotary Club" was written.

The compiling and writing of this current document has quoted extensively from these histories, as well from written and oral histories from the following 50 years. The History Committee perused the minutes and President's Annual Reports for material, speeches given at significant anniversary Annual Meetings and Dinners. Columns from the London Free Press and The Advertiser, a booklet titled "Woodeden" by Woody Moore, John Eberhard, Doug Parnell, and Helen Wood Young, also provided much of this history, and we are most grateful to all who wrote, archived and saved these documents.

The photos in the book have been mainly taken by Rotarian Jim Swan, and we cannot thank him enough for his contribution in supplying these, and making it possible to reproduce them. We would also like to thank those members who supplied us with the candid shots of events, as well as the History Room of the London Public Library for their contributions.

An attempt has been made to check the sources carefully and we hope errors and omissions have been kept to a minimum.

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