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***Conferred on Gaye Moffett June 27, 2023***

As a Rotarian, the next Awardee, fits the criteria of a Paul Harris Fellow by distinguishing herself as a role model for “Service Above Self”. Whether her active work was within or outside of Rotary, she shared her talent, time and resources without hesitation. This person selflessly served on the Board of Directors from July 2007 to June 2009 at the same time she led the Membership Committee which reached out to recruit new members.

As well, she has actively served on other significant committees. She served on the Mums Committee from 2013-2017 co-chairing it in 2014 with Rotarian Andrew Young when this vital fundraiser was revived with the introduction of informatics to replace the manpower dependency. Mums is one of the main sources of funds for the International Service Committee.

She also served on the Program Committee from 2011 as an active member writing up the meetings notes, ensuring that speakers were briefed before their appearances. Since 2017 until the present, she has co-chaired the meetings with Rotarian Larry Chop so the executive work is now shared. With her enthusiasm, the Club members have received many motivational speakers! Moreover, she is a “go-to-person when action is needed. From 2011 – 2022, she devoted significant time to committee meetings (many of them in her office’s board room) ensuring the proper drafting of the citations. She nominated several awardees writing up their citations and reading them at the Awards’ Night. She has served on many other committees such as Music for Humanity, Rotary at Work, and Future Directions.

Finally, she is an outstanding volunteer, external to Rotary. As an active member of the nursing organization and an association of long term care providers, she has provided input on policy advice to the Ontario Government. This is done by zoom meetings and regular flights to Toronto for in person meetings. As the founder and President of her company, GEM Health Care Services, she has not only created a successful company but also she believes in having an all inclusive staff. To that end, her recruitment procedure includes the hiring of skilled immigrants. In 2008, GEM received the Employer Excellence Award from Hire Immigrants Ottawa.

***Gaye Moffett, come forward to receive your Paul Harris Award.***

The Paul Harris Fellow Award

The Paul Harris Fellow Award is named after Paul Harris, a Chicago Attorney who in 1905 founded Rotary, a group of friends that became a service club. Rotary has since evolved to become Rotary International, a service organization of some 34 000 Rotary clubs. The Paul Harris Recognition Program was introduced by the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation in 1957 to encourage donations to the Foundation. The Rotary Club of West Ottawa adopted the program to create the Paul Harris Fellow Award. The Award recognizes individuals who have given distinguished service that exemplifies the ideals and objectives of Rotary. To bestow the Award, the Club makes a contribution of US $1000 to The Rotary Foundation in the name of the individual to be honoured; that individual is then named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Foundation.

For individuals who are members of the Rotary Club of West Ottawa, a nominee should meet at least three of the following criteria to become a recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow Award:

1. Served a minimum of two (2) years on the Club’s board of Directors;
2. Chaired two (2) or more of the Club’s standing committees;
3. Performed noteworthy volunteer service in the Club over the years;
4. Provided extraordinary support or leadership in Club fundraising;
5. Performed a unique role, or provided a special service for the Club over the years;
6. Enhanced the Club’s reputation or public profile;
7. Been active on a Rotary District committee;
8. Performed outstanding volunteer service for the community, external to Rotary.

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