



Rotary Club of West Ottawa Paul Harris Fellow Award¹

Conferred on M. T. (Mike) Traub, June 30, 2015

(The following text was read at the awards presentation ceremony)

This West Ottawa Rotarian is a successful corporate executive with all the knowledge, skills and talents that this implies. Amongst his skills, is the ability to fly well below the radar, especially when “doing good” in the community. However, like the rest of us, this member is not infallible. On rare occasions he does get caught, inadvertently of course, by the radar. The last time that occurred within the context of our club was 14 years ago when his good works were exposed and evaluated. That evaluation led the club to bestow its Paul Harris Fellow Award on this member.

Tonight, the club is conferring a second Paul Harris Fellow on this member. Yes, after 14 years, his contributions have again been detected. Not one to bask in the glory of honours bestowed, this member continued working quietly and diligently, year-in, year-out, in support of our club’s mandate. For example, he has given effective leadership to the *Music for Humanity* Committee for 5 years (one year as Vice-Chair; 4 years, as Chair). Earlier, he co-chaired the *Mums for Thanksgiving* Committee for 3 years; it was during his tenure in this position that Postal Codes were first applied in planning the plant delivery routes. But his service has not been restricted to the leadership function. Time and time again, and often on short notice, he has provided support to club activities, notably fundraising events, by arranging donations of an array of goods and services; e.g., printing of programs and forms, supplying floral arrangements and food services. He has also provided venues for numerous committee and board meetings, and club events. The scope and scale of these contributions clearly represent “noteworthy volunteer service in the club over the years.” His executive skills have also been applied to gain a higher public profile for the club, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and the club’s annual Music for Humanity concerts. Finally, this member has played important volunteer roles external to Rotary. One example of this is his work as a member on the Champlain Regional Geriatric Advisory Committee, which fosters cooperation and coordination amongst organizations that serve seniors in eastern Ontario.

By now, many of you will have guessed the name of this Rotarian; of course, it’s Mike Traub. Mike has worked his way up the corporate ladder by treating people well and through good old-fashioned hard work. He lives the 4-Way Test each day. He’s one of those people who truly seems to have found his calling. He is such a natural fit for working with seniors. And Mike is an honest and caring leader for his staff as well. He is a committed family man who gives incredible time, love and devotion to his wife and two children. He has always been a popular club member, available on short notice to lend a hand or offer advice.

Mike, it is indeed a pleasure for our Club to recognize your most recent contributions to our club and your community. Please come forward to receive your second well-deserved *Paul Harris Fellow Award*.

¹ Named after the founder of Rotary International, the Paul Harris Fellow 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 Club’s *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 \$1,000 US 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 be a recipient of a PHF Award: 1) served a minimum of two years on the Club’s board of directors; 2) chaired two 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 a period of years; 6) enhanced the Club’s reputation or public profile; 7) been active on a Rotary district committee; or 8) performed outstanding volunteer service for the community, external to Rotary.