

Fall Drive 2023-2024 Newsletter



The Rotary Club of St. Marys is Counting on You

The support we receive through this Fall Drive and our other fundraising activities throughout the year is outstanding and we are very grateful.

With your help and help from the community we can fund the many projects and requests you will read about in this letter. We are again asking for your support so we can continue our efforts to enhance life in our local and international communities.



(Brews & Food Festival Guests - Photo courtesy of Kelsey Garner)

Our 2023-2024 Fundraising Campaign has begun!

We're relying on you - our many friends of Rotary throughout the community - to support our efforts.

The Rotary Club of St. Marys is a small but important club in a worldwide organization of 1.4 million Rotarians in more than 200 countries across the globe.

The Rotary Club of St. Marys Fundraising Events:

- Rotary Heritage Calendar
- Rural Urban Event
- Golf Tournament
- Brews and Food Festival
- Fall Drive and Keepsake Totes

Ongoing Community Support

As Rotarians, we support projects in our local community and across the world. Here at home, we continued support this year for:

- Cadzow Park Splash Pad
- Pollinator Garden near Sparling Bush
- Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum
- St. Marys Nourish Equal Access Food Market
- Local Minor Sports including baseball, hockey, soccer, and the St. Marys Lincolns
- Mobility Bus
- Meals on Wheels
- Book donations to the St. Marys Public Library
- Camp Bimini
- Fireworks display
- Rotary Hospice Stratford Perth
- St. Marys Healthcare Foundation
- G.O.A.L.S. Breakfast Program
- Rotary All Wheels Park on James Street South
- Provided winter clothing to the Ukrainian families as they arrived in our community
- Sponsored ESL classes for Ukrainian refugee families living in St. Marys



(Introductory and advanced ESL classes for Ukrainian families)

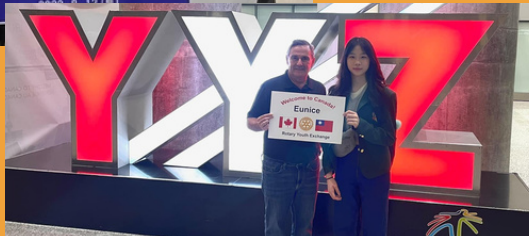
International Efforts

The Rotary Club of St. Marys is involved in several ongoing international initiatives including:

- Polio eradication
- Computer library at the Nile River Skilling Institute in Uganda

Rotary Youth Exchange Program

Since 1972, our club has facilitated more than 125 international exchanges involving youth, aged 15 -17 in more than 30 countries. This year a DCVI student left for a one-year exchange to Korea, and we have welcomed to our community an inbound Youth Exchange student from Taiwan.



Protecting the Environment

- Through the Outside Milk Bag Collection program, our community diverted 15,248 plastic bags from our landfill site. These bags were made into sleeping mats for the homeless.
- Local nature environmental and River Safety programs in partnership with UTRCA.

Enhanced Scholarship Programs

Each year, our club presents awards to two graduating DCVI students:

1. The St. Marys Rotary Club Award in recognition of a student's excellence in math and science.
2. The St. Marys Rotary Club Service-Above-Self Award in recognition of a student's involvement in community and school activities that exemplify Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self".

Our club also sponsored five DCVI students who participated in the 'Seminar for Tomorrow's Leaders', a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Program. In addition, we sponsored a DCVI student who attended the *Global Student Leadership Summit*.

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Rotary
Club of St. Marys



WE NEED YOUR HELP

We're asking you to help us meet our goals so that we can continue to respond to local requests and commitments for community improvement. In order for us to carry on this important work, we rely on you. Rotary members contribute time and funds but much more is needed.

Yes, I want to help the Rotary Club of St. Marys carry on with its important work in the community and across the globe.

Enclosed you will find my donation in the amount of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$ _____

Donations of \$20 or more will receive a tax receipt. *Please send a tax-deductible receipt for my charitable donation to:*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

You can also eTransfer your donation to RotaryClubofStMarys@gmail.com or to make your donation online, scan the QR code or visit rotarystmarys.ca/donate



I would like to be contacted about volunteering for Rotary projects and events (please indicate your selection):

YES

NO

Our important work takes the commitment of Rotarians of all ages. If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a Rotarian, please contact our Membership Chair person at RCSMmembership@gmail.com.



Rev. Jason Richards
1982 - 2023

We sadly lost two wonderful friends this year. Rotarian Jason lost his battle to cancer in April and Peter passed suddenly in August.

Both were taken far too early and will be greatly missed. May they rest in peace.



Peter Quigley
1966 - 2023