



The Rotary Club of Chatham

35 Thames St., Chatham • 519-354-8300

DECEMBER 7, 2016

This week's program featured guest speakers **Linda and Jay Eastman**, members of the Rochester, MI Rotary Club who were introduced by **Rotarian Peter Tanner**. These inspirational Rotarians have been making annual medical mission trips to Northern Guatemala since 2007.

Jay was a medical physician for 40 years and Linda was a teacher and is a translator on the trips. On the first trip to the remote area, they found poverty, 50% infant mortality, contaminated water, no school supplies, and an average life expectancy of 44 years.

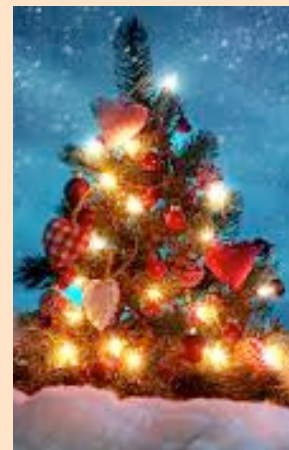
Jay formed an organization called Casa Colibri that operates a clinic. Casa Colibri translates to Hummingbird House. The clinic was originally a former one-room school. It has now replaced by probably the nicest building in the area, with 5 examination rooms, a pharmacy, outhouses and a kitchen. The overall plan of the clinic is to provide medical care, clean water and some literacy. On the various trips, dentistry, cataract surgery and pediatric care is given. One trip resulted in approximately 1,000 teeth extracted.

Primary care, training other health workers, supplying basic equipment and construction of the clinic have been major projects for the group over the years.

When the clinic opens their doors, people start lining up at 4 am for medical care. Families travel for hours to seek care not available at home. Eyeglasses are provided to those with vision problems. Water filters, literacy programs and micro lending are also offered by the volunteers.

The Rochester Club is very supportive of Casa Colibri, as are many other local Rotary clubs.

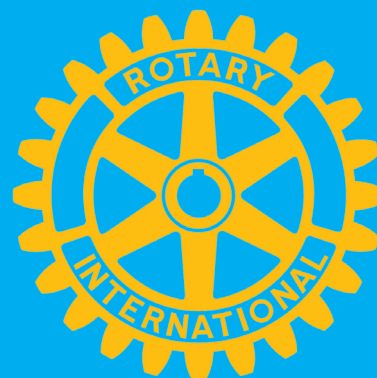
This is an inspiring example of the difference that Rotary makes on people far from home. We are so thankful for the work that Jay and Linda do and wish them success in the future. Our thanks were more formally expressed by **Rotarian Barry Fraser**.



Our Shop with a Cop event in partnership with the Chatham-Kent OPP is the morning of Saturday, December 17th.

We need some Christmas elves to help wrap gifts again.

Please let President Alysson or Jenn J know if you are able to help - all are welcome!





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E-Bulletin

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Above: Rochester Rotarian Jay Eastman addressing the Chatham Rotary Club this week



Top Right: Rochester Rotarian Linda Eastman talking about the Casa Colibri clinic in Guatemala

Right: Rotarian Peter Tanner introducing our guest speakers this week



UPCOMING BINGO DATES

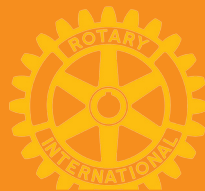
Dec. 12th, 6:15 - 8:15 pm
Brad Langford & Jane Fry

Dec. 19th, 8:15 - 10:15 pm.
Fannie Vavoulis & Tania Sharpe

ANNIVERSARIES

Keith Koke
44 years on Dec. 12

Brad Langford
22 years on Dec. 28



Happy Notices

BIRTHDAYS

Jennifer Hill on Dec 4
Chris Taylor on Dec 7
Sandy Bray on Dec. 15
Denise Spadotto on Dec. 27

ROTARIANS AND CHATHAM GOODFELLOWS

Keith Koke announced that Rotarians collected over \$2200 in the recent porchlight campaign.

He also announced that it is that time of year again when we need volunteers for the Goodfellows street locations on Friday, December 16th.

This year, the locations are the Beer Store on Richmond St. and at Schinkel's Meats across the street.

If you can work for a shift (or part of a shift), please contact Keith Koke.

VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to Keith Koke who assisted at the Meadow Park Nursing Home Rotary TV Bingo on Tuesday, December 6th.

Also, thanks to the Rotarians who helped with the Goodfellows Porchlight Campaign.

NEXT WEEK CLUB ASSEMBLY

President Alysson writes ...



I forgot to mention Chris Taylor's birthday! My apologies!

So we took a celebratory selfie instead and he got his Rotary chocolate.

Thanks Chris for helping record Rotary!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

DECEMBER 21
Kids and Grandkids
Christmas Party

NOTE: No meetings
on December 28
and January 4

Paul Mayrand received this email from exchange student Rachel Bultje.

Hi Paul,

Just sending an update about what's been happening so far!

My first host family has been having some troubles, the father has been admitted to the hospital and they found a tumour completely blocking his large intestine. They've done some operations and tests, and because of all the stress in the family, my host mom thought it best for me to live with my councilor for a month. The results are about to come in about if it's cancer and if it's treatable but the doctors already told my host mom that it won't be good. As for where I'll be staying for Christmas, that's a little up in the air.

I will be going to the south of France with my second host family for a week December 26. The French people are incredibly nice, completely opposite of the stereotype, when I told my friends here about my situation, two people offered me a place to stay if I don't have a family and my English teacher also offered!

People seem really interested in rotary and hosting exchange students, so that's a huge improvement because for the last 4 or 5 years, it's always been the same families hosting the exchange student.

I have visited so many places already in France such as, Strasbourg, Nancy, Saint Tropez and the surrounding area, Belfort, and Paris! My French is really improving, yesterday, I understood the philosophy class and even participated in the discussion because we were talking about culture and being cultured. I was asked lots of questions about the difference between Canadian and French culture and it felt so nice to actually be part of the class!

In the other classes, however, it's difficult to understand, French economics isn't an easy topic. I did have to do a presentation on the Canadian government all in French for 20 mins, and another project on the economy of Canada. It's almost been 3 months already and it feels so much longer yet so much shorter all at once. Thank you, Chatham Kent Rotary Club for giving me such an amazing opportunity. It really is incredible. Here are a few pictures.

I only spent one day in Paris with my club president and her husband, the whole morning we went to the world car show, and then in the afternoon we did some shopping and a little touring before our train at 7pm

If you want to see more pictures, I have a whole album on Facebook!

A bientôt, Rachel



Me, Carmen from Penticton B.C, and Olivia from Niagara Falls, all in Strasbourg in front of the famous cathedral

Here I am (with a drastic haircut) in Saint Tropez!

