

The Rotary Club of Chatham

35 Thames St., Chatham • 519-354-8300

MARCH 15, 2017

This week's report was submitted by **Rotarian Tania Sharpe**

Our guest speaker this week was **Rotarian Keith Koke** with an update on the polio campaign. He was introduced by **Rotarian Andy Watson** and thanked by **President Alysson Storey.**

The Chatham Rotary club has been involved in the fight to eradicate polio since 1985. The first trip sponsored by Rotary was to the Philippines and was such a success that it was extended to include more countries.

Keith showcased a number of videos created by Rotary including *Rotary's Promise – End polio*. A number of videos and educational materials are available at www.endpolio.org

There have been a number of setbacks in Nigeria in 2016 that underscores the need for vigilance. Koke explained why unfortunately we still have polio in the world. It is partly due to the unrest in our world.

In 2014, nearly a million people were displaced in Pakistan, which increases the risk for polio to spread. While the risk increased, it did provide an opportunity for the vaccination of 850,000 children who previously had not been accessible to health care workers.

The problem is polio must be eradicated everywhere so that it doesn't spread to non-immunized people.

There are now only two countries left, Afghanistan & Pakistan which have known cases of polio.

Rotary's goal is to eradicate polio in the next three years.



Speaker Keith Koke

QUICK FACTS:

- Since 1988 2.5 billion children have been vaccinated
- 60 cents is the costs of protecting one child from Polio
- The majority of children that contract this disease are under the age of 5
- Polio is 99% of the way to being eradicated

What can we as Rotarians do to help?

As a club commit to raising \$2,000 US each year towards the cause! Until 2018 every US dollar committed to UNICEF or WHO will be tripled by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

BIRTHDAYS

Sarah Wagenaar

March 16

Keith Dawson

March 18

Bill Magee

March 20



INVITATION

Join the club at the

Unigasco Lounge

Capitol Theatre

To Watch

THE RETROFEST PARADE

go by!

On May 26th, 2017 5:30 - 9:00 pm

hors d'oeuvres included • cash bar

Tickets: \$30 (approximately)

NEXT WEEK

Citizens Online ReportingCST Ed Rota and CST Brent Milne

ANNIVERSARIES

Mike Pestowka

10 years • March 21

Bill Grin

22 years • March 22

Monica Ramboer

2 years • March 25

Rick Bodnaruk

11 years • March 29



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 29

Terry Smith

Classification Talk