



NOVEMBER 30, 2016

This week's program was a chance for Rotarians to meet the co-chairs of the United Way Campaign.

Tom Slager, a United Way director, was introduced by **Rotarian Karen Kirkwood-Whyte**. Tom, in turn, introduced our guest speakers.

Patricia Wright was hit by a car in 2010 and her life changed. She suffered a traumatic brain injury and needed a support worker to help her with everyday chores. She has epilepsy, had post traumatic stress disorder and at the age of 34 suffered a stroke. With the help of New Beginnings and support from her small service dog, Georgia, she is trying to manage with daily chores, such as shopping. In 2016, Patricia won the Gold Medal in Austria in Karate in the para-athletes division. Patricia was thankful that United Way was there for her when she needed help and has agreed to be co-chair this year.

The other co-chair is **Steve Pratt** who was originally from Wallaceburg. He was working as an executive in Toronto when he began to suffer from mental health issues such as depression and addiction. His sister brought him back to this area where he recovered with his sister's help and also with the support that he received from United Way.

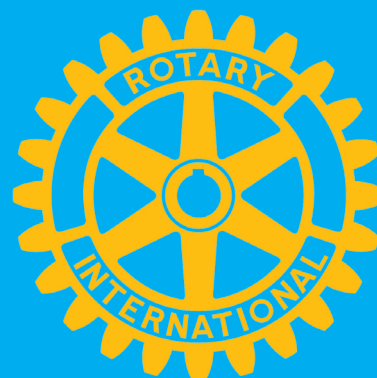
Today, he is healthy, has a job and volunteers. In fact, he was the volunteer of the year recently. Sadly, his sister, who was so instrumental in rescuing him from his addiction, died from cancer recently at age 41.

It is wonderful that Steve and Patricia are able to give back to the United Way in such a special way - by being co-chairs of this year's campaign. The goal this year is \$1.9 million.

Rotarian Les Herman expressed thanks to our guest speakers on behalf of the club.



Tom Slager of United Way





The Rotary Club of Chatham

E-Bulletin

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United Way co-chairs Patricia Wright (left) and Steve Pratt (below) were guest speakers at Rotary this week.

At right, Rotarian Les Herman thanks our guest speakers.

At bottom left is Patricia's epilepsy support dog, Georgia.



Steve Pratt, President Alysson, Patricia Wright and Georgia



UPCOMING BINGO DATES

Dec. 4th, 3:45- 5:45 pm Fannie Vavoulis & Tania Sharpe

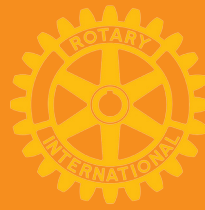
Dec. 12th, 6:15 - 8:15 pm Brad Langford & Jane Fry

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
Sandy Bray on Dec. 15
Denise Spadotto on Dec. 27

We are looking for 2 - 3 volunteers to help with the Meadow Park Nursing Home Rotary TV Bingo on Tuesday, December 6th from 6.45 pm - 8 pm.

Great way for kids to gain their volunteer hours!

Please contact President Alysso if you can help.



PAUL HARRIS AWARDS

Keith Koke, Sparky and Laurie Leonard all received Paul Harris Fellowships today. This is Laurie's first, Sparky's second and Keith's eighth Paul Harris award.

Congratulations to everyone.

NEXT WEEK

Linda And Jay Eastman

Topic: Casa Colibri

a non-profit humanitarian organization helping the Mayan people of Guatemala

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

DECEMBER 14

Club Assembly

DECEMBER 21

Kids and Grandkids

Christmas Party

**NOTE: No meetings on
December 28 and January 4**



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Past President Tom with Past President of Blenheim Rotary Club Dave French

Their firm, Storey Samways Planning, was awarded the Chatham-Kent Chamber of Commerce "Friend of Agriculture Award" for 2016.

Congratulations!

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

We'll need some Christmas elves to help wrap gifts again.

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



Have you taken a look at the Rotary.Org website?

It is an amazing wealth of resources and information about all things Rotary!

You can make changes to your personal information, set-up easy online donations, meet other Rotarians around the world, find funding partners for Rotary projects, and so much more.

Registering is easy - just go to www.Rotary.Org and click on the "My Rotary" button in the top right corner to get started. (website will be down for maintenance Dec 3rd - December 5th for updates).

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact President Alysson or Jenn Jacobson.

ROTARIANS AND CHATHAM GOODFELLOWS

Keith Koke announced that it is that time of year again when we need volunteers for the Goodfellows porchlight drive. Our club traditionally has helped with a team of 7 people. The project takes about 2 hours and sandwiches and soup are supplied.

Meet at St. Joseph's auditorium on Wellington Street on Monday evening, December 5, 2016 at 5 pm. We have the same route again this year - along Cecile St. between Lacroix St. and Queen St. and also streets that start at Cecile St., such as Wyandott and Souriquois.

Great exercise and fun. Remember the goal is to have no child without a Christmas.