

The Rotary Club of Chatham

### 35 Thames St., Chatham • 519-354-8300

#### **NOVEMBER 13, 2019**

Last summer, a group of Rotarians from our club travelled to Guatemala under the leadership of Rotarian Peter Tanner from our club. Peter has submitted the following report.

Denise spoke about how the trip to Guatemala, gave her the opportunity to see how Rotary projects addressed Rotary's areas of focus such as providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education and growing local economies.

After a few days in Antigua Guatemala - a lovely tourist town - the group, including nine people (all members of our club or family members), left for Nuevo Edén - the home of Casa Colibrí, where the Eastman's have established their clinic. The group experienced the roads that could only be described as horrible, the terrible lack of water - which had to be carried into town from an old cistern in jugs and 2L 7Up bottles. During the week on the road, the group visited six schools, four supplied with RACHELs and laptops from our project, one from a different project (to observe the different approach), and another that is part of a program to supply soy milk and toilet facilities to impoverished schools.

In all cases, we were welcomed extremely warmly and the students and teachers truly appreciated the help provided by Rotary. It was clear that the RACHEL systems were making a huge difference in the students' interest levels and the teachers' abilities to teach.

We also made great friendships with members of the Barillas club - despite the different in language

It was a hard trip - but one that the participants would like to repeat.



Rotarians and friends from our club who visited Guatamala earlier this year



President Paul presenting Gioia Greco with certificate





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Denise Spadotto talking about the Guatemala trip



# Happy Notices

# BIRTHDAYS

None

## GLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Denise Spadotto 17 years November 6, 2002

Karen Kirkwood-Whyte 28 years November 13, 1991

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

November 20, 2019 Kennedy Burm Rotary Exchange (Germany)

December 11, 2019 Lais Morandin Youth Exchange Student From Brazil

The Rotary Club of Chatham gratefully acknowledges the support of Riverview Gaming Centre

For suggestions or submissions, please email Keith Dawson: kdawson@sympatico.ca