



# ROTARY WHEEL



## Rotary Club of Oshawa

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Let's try this again!!!!

### **Report on the Meeting of June 4, 2018**

The air was cool that day after a very hot spell but filled with anticipation as we all knew it was NEW MEMBERS DAY and no one knew what to expect at this meeting. Everyone filed happily into the golf club to find that facilities a propos to the location had been prepared in the hall outside the dining room. All got a chance to exhibit golfing skills. Dana Hesp and friends had a putting range set up on an uneven floor and members were given three shots to score points by going through a hole in a board or by staying within a marked area on the floor. When Michael Adams later announced the winners he pointed out that indication were that no golf club members tested their skills that day. However for better or for worse, winners were announced as Bert Bicknell, Art Lovell and an astonished Gary Kindree who showed a total lack of knowledge about the whole affair and couldn't understand either how he had any points or, if he did, how they could have been so few.

The buffet was set up but oddly enough there was no cutlery. The head table had cutlery but the rest of us were doomed to eating by hand. Rolls and soup were not a problem but things such as mashed potato presented challenges. Soon a black market developed and some cutlery disappeared off the head table in exchange for five dollar bills which presumably went into the club account.

Looking out form the head table were Marguerite O'Neal, Dana Hesp, Keith Marshall, Martin Parker, Cindy Ruckemann, Michael Adams, Kevin Harding Sr. and Trish Best

Trish Best acted as Sergeant at Arms and after the customary opening to Tom Hodgson's melodic accompaniment she called for the President of the Day and through the grand doorway, to the music of Hail to The Chief, in came Martin Parker to thunderous applause. After working the crowd he took his place behind the lectern.

He introduced the guests: first his own, Jim Van Allen and Jade Calver. (Jade is a past rotary exchanged student to France), then Kalpa Pathak from Diabetes Canada and a lone Rotarian, Beth Selby, from the Cobourg Club. She was later unmasked by Ron Dick as the District Governor elect as of this July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Mic Time**

A highlight of the meeting was the reminder of the work the club does throughout our community by the presentation of a check for \$1,400 to Kalpa Pathak for D-Camp for children with Type 1 Diabetes. The presentation was made by our committee chair, Bob Merry joined by

other members of the committee Gary Kindree, Dave Brooks, Martin Parker, Bob Armstrong. Kalpa graciously thanked the club for helping the children

Ron Dick emerged from the back rows looking like he longed to be at the head table and announced that Jay Canning would become president elect on July 1. This was very well received announcement.



A modest and deeply honoured Jay Canning joins the club in 2009 as President Arnel Schiratti pins him in the room where his new position was announced.

Rhonda Vanderlinde will take part in the Polio Eradication ride from Whitby to Toronto on June 22. She will be followed in the stream of bicycles by a puffing Ron Dick attempting to keep up. Both are looking for sponsors. Contributions will go to the Rotary Foundation and be credited to one's personal accounts as well as the club's account. Ron will send out email information on how to join in.

Another highlight of the day was the gaining of citizenship by Tess Pierce. This came up in the Happy Bucks, prize distributions and various ad libs. Obviously the club feels the country is enriched by its latest gain in personnel, a shy, young girl from Wisconsin.

**Happy Bucks** also included;

Dale Duke suggested that Tess need pay a 15% duty based on President Trump's recent policies and then revealed he had a truck full of books from his church sale that the club could use in its program to send books to northern reserves. (Afterwards Dale, Mike Adams, Bob Alexander, Al Densham and Gordon Dowsley took them to our secret depot.)

Gordon Dowsley announced that the landmines movement, which Rotary supports, has seen two more countries, Sri Lanka and Palestine, sign the Ottawa Treaty and thereby commit their governments to destroy any such weapons they may have.

For a speaker that day the new members turned to one of their own, Kevin Harding Sr., to give his craft talk. He was introduced by Keith Marshall while Kevin Jr fussed with the technology hoping to avoid being embarrassed by Dad.. Kevin Sr. came here from New Brunswick a long time ago. He married an Ontario girl and settled in Oshawa where they had three children. Following a family tradition he worked for the Toronto Transit Committee a job he loved for the people interaction and, he admitted, its pension. The system carries over a million people per day and some days he felt they were all on his bus. He showed slides of the different equipment used over the years and explained some to the fine points/problems/advantages. He then showed slides of a long history of involvement in our community including coaching his son's hockey team. His people friendly attitude and history of community service makes him a very welcome new member. His acceptance was eloquently expressed by Marguerite O'Neal in her thank you.

The new members then awarded prizes for the golf competition and distributed them. Then MC Mike Adams offered them a chance to swap prizes for other gift wrapped prizes. Many did then the prizes floated back and forth around the room under a multitude of excuses.

The pot was stirred by a quiz presented to those tables deemed to be a little slow. In some cases that may have been true; however, the MC miscalculated. Dale Duke correctly answered the origin of the Rotary Wheel. Gordon Dowsley correctly answered: When is Friendship Day at Rotary? – Every day of the year. The MC himself then got the inexact date for the founding of Rotary and somehow connected that to the craft talk by blaming it all on some street cars in northern Ontario.

It was a boisterous melee with prizes going back and forth, much banter and a fun meeting the new members can rightfully be proud of presenting.

Tom Hodgson pitched the upcoming awards and prizes /past presidents meeting at the Jubilee Pavilion on June 18. It will be an evening meeting superseding the usual noon hour meeting.

Bonney Brown won the draw and almost got the grand prize as she drew a black ace but the wrong one. Of course many felt badly for her but she did maintain her composure.

With much pomp and ceremony the President for the Day wielded a mean mallet to ring the bell bringing closure to a wacky and wonderful day.

**NEXT WEEK IS THE PEONY GARDEN PICNIC**

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**Next Meeting – June 11, 2018**

12:10 at the Peony Gardens

**Future Meetings**

June 18<sup>th</sup> - Jubilee Pavilion - Honors and Awards Dinner  
- 5:30pm cocktails, 6:30pm dinner

June 25<sup>th</sup> - No Meeting - Rotary Int'l Convention

July 2<sup>nd</sup> - No Meeting - Canada Day long weekend

July 9<sup>th</sup> - Oshawa Golf Club - Ribfest Media Launch 11am and Turnover  
Ceremonies

**All regular meetings in July at:**

12:10 at the Oshawa Golf Club

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