



# ROTARY WHEEL



## Rotary Club of Oshawa

PO Box 91  
Oshawa, Ontario  
L1H 7K8

### Report on the Meeting of May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

#### Head table

Margaret Wallace, Acting President  
Gordon Dowsley – Guest Speaker  
Clive Waugh  
Tess Pierce – Sgt-at-Arms  
Emmy Iheme, Past President

#### President's Introductions - Guests

Acting President Margaret Wallace introduced the following guests:  
Ellen Stroud  
Eric Guernsey  
Keith Marshall

#### Announcements:

Acting President Margaret Wallace announced that Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is the last Club meeting to be held at the Jubilee Pavillion. Guest Speaker will be the President of the Canadian Writer's Association.

There will be no Club meeting on Monday May 21<sup>st</sup> as we are celebrating Victoria Day.

**The Club meeting on Monday May 28<sup>th</sup> will be at the RMG and members and guests are encouraged to sign up.**

The first regular Club meeting commencing at the new location of the Oshawa Golf and Curling Club will be held on Monday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

#### Induction of New Member – Keith Marshall

Rotarian Cindy Ruckman introduced Keith Marshall for induction as a Rotarian and Member of our Club. Emmy Iheme and Margaret Wallace assisted in the induction ceremony. We welcome Keith Marshall as a member of our Club and look forward to serving with Keith.

#### Mic Time

Trish Best attended a great event in conjunction with Oshawa Parkwood and Whitby Sunrise Rotary Clubs to support Kids Against Hunger, a not for profit corporation that prepares and provides meals to children worldwide. Oshawa Parkwood and Whitby Sunrise Rotary Clubs

each donated \$2,500 to this cause. Trish appealed to members of our Club to also consider donating to this worthy cause.

Ellen Stroud, Guest of Margaret Wallace, Oshawa Library, advised Rotarians of a new initiative by the Oshawa Library that will involve six series of events entitled "Repair Cafe" to be held at the Oshawa Library commencing in August of 2018. This initiative is designed to engage senior citizens and the community.

### **Happy Bucks**

Tess Pierce, Emmy IHEME, John Henry, Keith Marshall, Geoff Lloyd, Kim Tan and Michael Adams all contributed to Happy Bucks and provided expressions of happiness and gratitude to other Rotarian Members.

### **Speaker – Gordon Dowsley**

Clive Waugh introduced Rotarian Gordon Dowsley as our guest speaker. Gordon has been a Member of our Club since 2007. Gordon is a graduate of Queen's University and the Wharton Business School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Gordon provided Rotarians with an informative and interesting presentation on the eradication of polio throughout the World and the very important role that Rotary has played towards achieving the goal of total eradication of polio in the World.

Early in the twentieth century, polio had reached epidemic proportions while other known childhood diseases were on the decline. Gordon explained the different approaches that the United States and Canada adopted with the goal of eradicating polio.

The United States adopted a philanthropic approach. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a victim of polio, founded the March of Dimes, a not for profit organization in 1938 to combat polio. The name "March of Dimes" was coined by radio star Eddie Cantor and funded the development of the Salk vaccine in 1953. Gordon explained that the Salk vaccine would not have been possible without the input and coordinated response from Canada. "Medium 199" developed at the Connaught Labs at University of Toronto were large bottles that the polio virus was stored in that could be rocked in a machine.

In 1955 the United States announced that a batch of the Salk vaccine made by Cutter Laboratories in California (a for profit organization that had "cut corners") was inadequately inactivated and as a result eleven children died. Albert Sabin, also funded from March of Dimes, developed his own version of the vaccine and trials were carried out in the Soviet Union with contributions made by Mikhail Chumakov. The success in the Soviet Union led to trials in the United States and the licensing of Sabin's vaccine in 1961 and it eventually superseded Salk's vaccine.

The Canadian Government conducted a field trial of the Salk vaccine in 1955 at the Connaught Labs at University of Toronto. Rather than fundraising efforts, in Canada, the Federal and Provincial Governments shared the full cost of the vaccine and the introduction and production of the vaccine was highly regulated.

The Honourable Paul Martin Sr., Minister of Health and Welfare, also a victim of polio, (as was his son, the Right Honourable Paul Martin Jr.) purchased the vaccine produced at the Connaught Labs and conducted scientific research to determine why the vaccine had failed in the United States. As a result of the Government's role and the regulation of the release of the vaccine in Canada the vaccine was a success. In addition, the impact was the commencement of additional programs supporting treatments, physiotherapy and the disabled, all sponsored by

the Government that ultimately resulted in a significant step towards the commencement of OHIP.

In 1979 Rotary began to work towards eradication of polio in the Philippines. In 1980 the Rotary program expanded to Africa. In 1985 Rotary announced the goal of elimination of polio throughout the world by 1985. WHO, UNICEF, Centre of Disease Control and Rotary International (in 2011) joined forces. In 2009 the Gates Foundation gave significant donations to encourage Rotarians to keep working towards their goal and to avoid fundraising fatigue.

Gordon concluded his remarks with "Rotarians should be proud" of the important role they have played in eradicating polio. If the last case was seen today, the program would continue on for three more years. The infrastructure is in place.

Emmy Itheme thanked Gordon for this very informative presentation on a subject that is of great importance to all Rotarians.

### **Lucky Draw**

Sheila Guthrie was the lucky ticket holder however was not successful in picking the lucky card.

Meeting Adjourned.

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**Next Meeting – May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - Final Regular Club Meeting at the Jubilee Pavilion  
Speaker - Dorris Heffron - Novelist

### **As we move to our new luncheon location here are the dates and locations:**

Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> - Holiday-no meeting.

**Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Meeting at Robert McLaughlin Gallery – Please Sign Up**

Monday June 4<sup>th</sup> - First Regular Club meeting at the Oshawa Golf and Curling Club.

All Regular Meetings at at 12:10 pm on Mondays.

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