



ROTARY WHEEL

Rotary Club of Oshawa

PO Box 91, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 7K8



Report on the Meeting of April 24th, 2017

Head table

Clive Waugh

Mike McDonnell – Guest Speaker

Ron Dick, Acting President

Jay Cannings

Lori Perkin Sgt@Arms

President's Introductions - Guests

Acting President Ron Dick introduced the following guests:

Mike McDonnell

Margaret Perkin

Gabriel Kakamoto, Exchange student

Announcements:

Acting President Ron Dick announced the following:

1. Next regular meeting of Rotary to be held on Monday, May 1st, 2017;
2. Next Meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on Monday May 1st, 2017 at home of Geoff Lloyd. Geoff's new address is 14 Salmon Way, Whitby L1N 9M8;
3. Ron Worboy reminded Rotarians of lunch meeting to be held at Robert McLaughlin Gallery on May 8th to celebrate the 60th Anniversary. Signup sheets are available at each table and encouraged all Rotarians to attend;
4. Geoff Lloyd thanked everyone for support to Shelter Box for disaster relief. Geoff also advised that at the request of the Board of Directors he had taken over the role that Anita Preston had performed so well for years in making arrangements to send flowers when needed and communicating to fellow Rotarians when a Rotarian was ill or in need of assistance. With sadness, Geoff advised Rotarians that Anita Preston was gravely ill at this time and that thoughts and prayers of Rotarians are with Anita. At this

time, Anita is not able to see any visitors. However, anyone wishing to pass along communications to Anita should do so through Geoff. In addition, Geoff advised that Rotarian Al Snider was now living at Thortonview Nursing Home and that thoughts and prayers from Rotarians for Al would be appreciated.

5. Ron Dick thanked Clive Waugh for his work on World Community Service Committee.

Happy Bucks

Tom Maxwell, Geoff Lloyd and Bill Stirling all participated in Happy Bucks.

Speaker – Mike McDonnell

Clive Waugh introduced Mike McDonnell from Waterford, Ontario. Mike is a historian with a profound interest in the American Civil War.

Mike McDonnell provided Rotarians with an interesting and informative presentation on Canadian participation in the American Civil War. He advised that 50,000 to 60,000 Canadians fought in the Civil War, primarily for the Union from 1861 to 1865. Twenty-nine Canadians were awarded the Congress Medal of Honour. Mike explained that many Canadians were motivated to join the Civil War because of family connections, an opportunity to fight against slavery, and for what they believed in. In addition, for young men that were working on farms, it was an opportunity to join the Union army and earn some money and while earning money participate in an adventure.

Mike then focused on a book written by him entitled Four Soldiers and an Entrepreneur.

The Soldiers:

1. Sara Emma Edmonds, a young Canadian woman that fled to the United States to escape an abusive father. Sara took on the persona of Franklin Thompson and in 1861 worked as a hospital attendant and stretcher bearer until she became ill with malaria. Afraid that her identity would be discovered, she left the militia however remained in the United States.
2. William Winer Cooke, born in Mount Pleasant Ontario. At the age of 14, he moved to Buffalo to attend school and joined the New York Calvary in New

York at the age of 16. In 1871, he was killed alongside Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer at the Battle of Little Bighorn. He was buried in Hamilton.

3. Lieutenant Edward P. Doherty, an Irish Canadian/American was a United States Civil War officer who formed and led the detachment of soldiers that captured and killed John Wilkes Booth, (the assassin of President Abraham Lincoln) in a Virginia barn on April 26th, 1865.
4. Rev. Dr. James Beach Moore, born in Waterford, Ontario into a Canadian Quaker family. He expressed an interest in becoming a Baptist Minister, and although he was opposed by his father, he moved to the United States and enrolled in theological school outside of New York, to further the Gospel Ministry at the age of 17 years. He enlisted in the Civil War as an aide de camp to General Philip Kearny with the army in Virginia. His father obtained his discharge and he returned home to enter Woodstock Baptist College. He was ordained to the Baptist Ministry and became a pastor of a small Church in Whitevale, Ontario. Rev. Moore started Baptist congregations and founded churches in Green River, Pickering, Markham and Stouffville. At the age of 85, McMaster University conferred on Moore the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He returned to Waterford and died as the oldest minister in a Baptist denomination in Canada and is buried in Waterford.

The Entrepreneur

Thomas Conant travelled to the United States during the Civil War to determine if there were business opportunities in the United States. He met with President Abraham Lincoln and toured camps and hospitals. More soldiers were dying in hospitals from disease and the poor conditions than from injuries from the War. Mr. Conant returned home to the Village of Cedar Dale. Thomas had a son, Gordon Daniel Conant that became the Mayor of Oshawa, a Member of Provincial Parliament, the 12th Premier of Ontario and a member of the Supreme Court of Ontario. And, last but not least, a former President of the Oshawa Rotary Club!

Jay Cannings thanked Mike McDonnell for coming to speak to our Club and provide his informative and interesting presentation on Canadian participation in the American Civil War.

Lucky Draw

George McCormack was the lucky ticket holder however was not successful in picking the lucky card.

Changes to directory, PLEASE contact Tom Hodgson

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting – Monday, May 1st, 2017

All regular meetings held at:

12:10 at the Jubilee Pavilion Banquet & Conference Centre
