



THE ROTARY CLUB OF OSHAWA

## Bulletin

2017.2.13

It was easy to see as soon as you stepped in the door that this was the annual Valentine's Day celebration for members and spouses. Donna Doherty had done a superb job setting the mood of elegance and romance with the decorations, place settings, candles and candy. The spouses were in awe as much as the members.

The buffet featuring chicken breasts in vegetable and tomato sauce along with all the trimmings and salads was appreciated by the head table of President Margaret, Frank Murphy, Donna Doherty, Kevin Harding and speaker Chad Tyson every bit as much as by the crowd.

Kevin called the meeting to order with Rotary Grace, O Canada and a joyous toast to the Queen. President Margaret introduced the visiting spouses, the guest speaker and a potential member Martin Parker.

She then called for a moments silence in honour of long time club supporter Nancy Diamond who passed away the previous day.

Several upcoming meetings were announced by Margaret including club committees, District gatherings and RI in Toronto next year. With respect to the big international meeting in 2018 the club will need a liaison person to coordinate our role with the organizing committee. Volunteers are sought

For Happy Bucks, Frank Murphy threw in two. The first was because Donna's packages of sweets at each place meant he did not have to buy his wife a gift since this would do. His second delight was that Tom and Marie Hodgson had signed on to take Gabrielle while Emmy is away. Nothing on the Canadiens.

Gordon Dowsley paid tribute to Nancy Diamond beside whom he was placed by the greeter on his very first visit to the club.

Margaret was happy her daughter has been accepted into the performing arts program at O'Neill Collegiate next year.

Frank Murphy then introduced our guest speaker, Chad Tyson. Chad owns the Paint Store on Bond Street. He is a master of the new art form graffiti or street art. His passion for this form of expression goes back over ten years and he strives for a redirection of youth from vandalism to artistic expression.



Figure 1 Some early arriving members and spouses enjoy the ambience



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Figure 2 Chad's work on the side of his store on Bond Street

Chad explained how he had transformed his hobby of street art into a business. Many young people come into his store containing a similar fondness for street art. His store is an art gallery, an art studio where art is made and a school for young people. Among the output are art pieces for events such as birthdays.

Graffiti is very much an accepted art form now. For instance the police cars had graffiti painted on them as part of the anti-bullying campaign.

The effort is to move graffiti from places where it is illegal to places where it is accepted. As a youth he was arrested for painting a bridge. Today that record prevents him from getting certain full time jobs. Walls are needed for such art in the city. Photos were shown of an area in Pickering where artists worked on walls



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provided by the city. Artists of this type divide up the wall and each does his own thing. There is no overall plan. Artists jump in and help each other. They also agree that their paintings will be painted over in the future by other artists.



**Figure 3** Donna Doherty quizzes guest speaker Chad Tyson while potential member Martin Parker looks at a slide show of his work

His passion for the art form came out in discussion of such art transforming the downtown. People go to the mall to shop not downtown. Such vibrant art would transform this area into a destination area for many people. He mentioned the alley in Toronto where Rick Mercer does his rant. It is even now called graffiti alley and has transformed that section of the city.

His store ran an auction of donated works of graffiti to raise funds for Grandview. Toyota Motors this year is putting up \$10,000 for

a graffiti park where walls would be built for the artists.

This is the only art form where artists work together and one invented in North America. Artists when they do sign their works

use a nick name since so much of this work was illegal. Today it is a welcome addition in many cities.

In Q&A members showed an enormous interest in what he was doing and recognized the passion he had.

Carol Henry thanked Chad for a wonderful speech.

After lunch a slide show was shown of many of his works.

Frank Murphy had the lucky number but drew the ace of clubs from a pack produced by Dave Perkin while Bill Stirling lazes in the Florida sun.

**No meeting next week – Family Day**



**Figure 4** 2 stalwarts