



**ROTARY DISTRICT 7090
CLUB BEST PRACTICES –
2012 -2015
COMPILED BY THE DISTRICT
ASSISTANT GOVERNORS**

Every Rotary Club in District 7090 has its own personality and way of operating. Each club has come up with new and very effective approaches to club operation, fund raising, service projects and Rotary recognition. This Best Practices Document is a way for clubs to benefit from the ideas and successes of other clubs. It is a living document that will be shared with all Assistant Governors, the District Leadership Team and Clubs that highlights the Best Practices that our district clubs have developed over the years. It is hoped that by sharing this document, clubs will discover ways to bring efficiencies into club operations, increasing membership and club fellowship, as well as new community service projects.

If you see something done by a club, which you want to emulate, contact one of the current officers of that club for more information. To look up the club leadership go to www.clubrunner.ca/clubname.

If your club's best practices aren't listed here, please contact Assistant Governor Area 14, Marlee Diehl, DG 2017- 2018 at marlee@D7090.org and she will pass the information on to your fellow club leaders in the next update of the Rotary 7090 Best Practices.

July 1, 2015, the Keeper of District 7090's Best Practices will be transferred to Valerie Phillips, Caledonia email contributions to valeriephillips@rogers.com.



Club Service

Hamilton AM – This club now has an Executive Committee instead of a Board of Directors.

Albion – They keep their long-time traditions such as being a singing club. Other singing clubs are Lockport and Niagara Falls, ON

Lockport - *Monthly Happy Hour/ Membership/Make-Up Event* - The first Thursday of the month is set aside for Rotarians of Lockport to fellowship, make up a meeting, and/or bring a potential new member to a casual, relaxed social event. Their social events chair arranges the happy hour at different restaurants each month. The location of the month's event is announced in advance at meetings, in their Spokes weekly newsletter, and on Clubrunner website and Facebook pages. It's a fun, regular opportunity for their club to connect with each other, make up a meeting, and invite potential new members.

Hamilton Mountain – They now, instead of having separate board meetings, take one meeting a month to be their board meeting and all are encouraged to attend.

Amherst East – They invite speakers from various areas of need who present and educate them on vital topics.

Medina – *Happy Dollars* - They changed from paying fines to celebrating Happy Dollars. They are getting much better participation as everyone wants to join in and brag about what is going well in their lives. Medina's coffers are growing.

Albion – *Happy Dollars* – This club keeps their dues low by encouraging everyone participate in Happy Dollars, there are times a member will pay because the sun is shining or he/she didn't have to scrap the windshield that morning. Some other excuses for paying are ordering a special meal. Some really big ones are a new car or a vacation, those costs "lots of cash". All of these Happy Dollars off set the administration portion of the annual dues.

Orchard Park – Their President is doing a very good job of keeping the club unified.

Holley – They implemented a speaker's program, an idea they gleaned from the District Assembly... to great success! They have a speaker scheduled to address the club about the County Nursing Home, and answer any questions the club has come up with beforehand. The members know before the meeting who is speaking at and have an opportunity to submit questions. This plan seems to have been embraced by the club!

Lancaster-Depew – They took DG Rick at his word to have fun. They visited with a club from outside of our District 7210 – **Geneva**, NY because they meet at the lovely Bellhurst Castle. It was worth the 2-hour drive as they all had a terrific time.

Simcoe – Club has an annual work plan, which is a detailed action plan for their club.

LeRoy - Has a spreadsheet called the Totem which tracks the activity of every member, it is updated weekly and verified by two people. If they see that a member is not attending, not paying a fine, etc. then the President or designate calls upon the member. It keeps members engaged. It makes for fun as they are called on not attending or having not been fined in the last six weeks. FUN!

Holley – They have members who have done the same jobs every week for years and the club encourages them to continue this tradition, as they don't miss deadlines and have fewer errors

Norfolk Sunrise – *Operation Eyesight* – They support this international program. Guest speakers are presented with "Gift of Vision" certificates which help support this Operation Eyesight program.

Albion, Hamilton AM and LeRoy – These clubs thank their speakers with a certificate acknowledging that the club is donating to PolioPlus to vaccinate 25 children against polio in honor of them speaking. The speakers seem very touched.

Dunnville – Their two-member Program Committee strives to have interesting and informative programs at every meeting that is not conducting club business.

SOCIAL/FELLOWSHIP

Batavia - In 2012 they held their 92nd Annual Christmas Party for the Genesee County Nursing Home. Over the years, this event has been chaired by only three people, three generations of the same family, all Rotarians.

Dundas – They held a Holiday Wine and Cheese Party for club members, spouses and friends. They had an auction to raise funds for community groups and raised \$200.00 for Salvation Army Food Bank, as well as, donations of food. They presented cheques totaling \$1928.50 to both Dundas Community Services and Dundas Routes Youth Centre.

Lancaster – Depew – *Steak Dinner* – One of their members opens his home for a fellowship steak roast dinner to be held in his back yard. Everyone brought food, though the hosts provide all the beverages. Additionally, they have an Annual Christmas party for all club members. All members enjoy these fellowship events!

Fort Erie – They held a fellowship meeting at the Fort Erie Rack Track. All had a good time, but, no big winners.

LeRoy – *Euchre Tournament* – They have a euchre tournament as a social for members and their guests to help build relationships.

Fort Erie – They are sponsoring *a fellowship meeting* and have invited Niagara-on-the- Lake/Queenston and Grand Island to participate, as the entire meeting will be online everyone can attend to hear Madiha (Toronto area), a very dynamic speaker who they had heard at the District Conference 2012.

Welland – In keeping with having fun at Rotary, they have socials every 2 months. This has greatly increased the fellowship and the invitation is open to Rotarians in South Niagara.

Amherst South – They hold a holiday dinner party for members and spouses at the Park Country Club in December.

Dundas Valley Sunrise – They held their annual Christmas Party at the Carnegie Gallery for all members and spouses, which was well-attended.

Social With Other Area Clubs -

Niagara-on-the-Lake – They are planning for an afternoon soccer game, swim and evening BBQ dinner and dance in 2013.

Le Roy - They send out donor letters to corporations and businesses for sponsorships for their fundraisers. At their meetings they seek out a member who has a connection with each corporation or business and have that member sign the personalized letter. With the letter being signed by the “known person” to the corporation or business it makes it harder for the addressee to say no to ‘the ask’.

Hamilton East Wentworth – They have a fundraiser called *“Hamiltons of the World”*. This is a coffee table book that they are selling. **Fonthill - *Fundraising Pelham Mudfest Challenge*** – Thinking outside the box, a recommendation was made to Board to launch a new, exciting fundraiser. They had the perfect venue at Bissell’s Hideaway resort with 120 acres of rolling hills, forest, fields, two ponds and creeks and the owners were eager to participate. Bissell’s worked with the club to create obstacles and giving the use of the facility at

no cost. With Board approval and after a presentation to the full club - Mudfest was born. Thirteen of their 29 club members sit on the planning committee and the rest volunteer on the event day. They had 60+ volunteers including a contingent of 25 paramedic students from the local college. This year, the second, they expanded the course to 6 kilometres from five and added obstacles. They decided to market it to Rotary Clubs, primarily on the Canadian side of the border and six clubs jumped on board with teams. Ft. Erie paid to sponsor a student team. Over 200 people participated including an Interact Team from their high school. They raised approximately \$12,000 for End Polio Now and a local cancer support agency-Wellspring Niagara.

Lancaster-Depew – They had a very successful golf outing/tournament in August with nearly 100 golfers playing. The entire club membership helped with the work. And best of all, they netted a profit of \$7,400.



Holley - Their annual golf tournament has turned from a so-so fund raiser into a super fund raiser for them. The money for this event comes from “hole” sponsorships. We started charging a modest amount for each “hole” sponsorship and asked only their local businesses, which were small in number. A few years ago the chairs sent out letters to business in a nearby county and city. They were surprised by the response. Many of them sent in checks after reading of the projects that our tournament funded. Many of these businesses did not deal directly with local residents but elected to

support them. They suddenly went from a tournament that raised around \$1500 to one that raised around \$5000 just by investing in some stamps. A couple of years ago (2012) they started to have two levels of hole sponsorships, a silver and a gold. The gold sponsorship donation was \$25 more than the silver. This raised some \$2000 more for the club. The secret is to let people know what you are doing and to keep the sponsorship level affordable. They go for quantity, not expensive.

Amherst – Sproctoberfest – They held this Mix and Mingle in 2013.

Batavia – Corvette Raffle - They have an annual Corvette Raffle at the end of September. In 2012, they deposited \$63,000.00. This raffle has been their major fundraiser for many years.



Clarence – This club has a August Porsche raffle for the last four years.

Orchard Park – As a club they sell coupon book as a fundraiser.

Dundas – Home and Lifestyle Fair - This club has an annual Home and Lifestyle Fair held in April at the Dundas Community Centre with the theme of “Taste of Dundas” with local restaurants serving gourmet samples and providing live cooking shows.

Lancaster-Depew – They run the varsity and junior varsity football concession stand at Lancaster High School football games. The final numbers are still being tabulated with an expected profit of \$7,000 to \$8,000.

West Seneca – They have developed a fundraising committee to look at options.



LeRoy – Appliance Raffle – Each fall they run an appliance raffle by selling tickets throughout the community. The day of the raffle is also the day they have local restaurants set up food stations and it is a great fun time. It is a huge fundraiser for LeRoy. 2012 was their highest grossing event in its 24 year history. They had 100% club participation!

Hamburg Sunrise – Trivia Night- They do a fundraiser all about Trivia.

Medina –Progressive Dinner - This club has a Progressive Dinner planned for the fall. This is a great annual event for them and they hope to include the Middleport NY Rotary Club in this event next year.



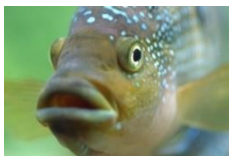
Albion – Strawberry Festival – This two-day Rotary event is a tremendous hit with the community. They have parades, food stands and music. Also the club has a **Hot Dog Stand** during this event as an additional fundraiser (about \$2000). It is a great opportunity for members to work together.

Batavia – Each September, they do a Brewfest. Lots and lots of different brews and because it is held at Batavia Downs there is some winners at the slots.

Kenmore – They are involved with 4 elementary schools in the Kenmore, Town of Tonawanda School District 2013 performed the Purple Pinkie project fundraiser for polio eradication. The Kenmore West High School Interact Club painted the pinkies. Their goal was \$1,500.

Amherst South – Bowl-a-thon – This fundraiser in February is a joint project with their Rotaract Club at Buffalo State College.

Hamilton – They have their two big fundraisers in the spring, **Spring Uncorked** (April) and their **Golf Tournament**.



Waterdown – The following are fundraisers that Waterdown is continuing, **Robbie Burns Dinner**, **Pasta Dinner**, and their **Golf Tournament**

Albion – Fishing Derby has been chaired by the same Rotarian for 25 years. It is a 365 day/year project; and the team just goes from one year to planning next year's derby.



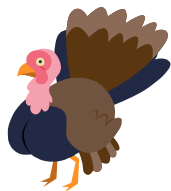
Batavia – In November 2012, Batavia did their final Broadway show, Guys and Dolls with a three-day attendance of 1500. This was their 64th annual Broadway performance. Many of the actors were Rotarians. It had been a real moneymaker.

Dundas Valley Sunrise – At a meeting before Christmas, they had an in-meeting live auction and raised \$5,000.00 for St. Matthews House.

Lockport – This club has a Valentine Raffle as a fundraiser.

Orchard Park – Fish Fry – One of their fundraisers is a Fish Fry in February.

Amherst South – Their funds go to Amherst High School and the Amherst Youth Band.



Hamilton Mountain – Turkey Roll – They have a fundraiser just before Christmas where they raffle off turkeys. Great fun is had by all!

Dundas – This club's budget for 2013 was \$96,000 for the year.

Simcoe – Hosts a Friendship Festival; it is a community service project and a major fundraiser.



Clarence – One of this club's fundraisers is a June LobsterFest.

Dundas Valley Sunrise and Dundas – These clubs are planning for their joint Lobster/Rib Fest to be held in June. This will be a major fundraiser for both clubs.

Dundas Valley Sunrise – Their fundraising budget for 2013 was \$45,000.00.

Lancaster – Depew – BB&B – They are developing a winter fundraiser called BB & B (Beer, Beef & Blackjack).



Holley – Beefeater's Dinner – Yummy!! They have an annual Beefeaters Dinner. The last couple of year's attendance had been declining. In 2014, a week before the event, they had an event attached to their Facebook page including the times and cost. They, also, shared that all the money was being spent for local projects. They asked people reading the posting to like it and



share it, even if they couldn't attend this year. THEY RAN OUT OF MEAT 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE LISTED CLOSING TIME. *There is social media in action!*

East Aurora – Trivia Night & Bunny Hop - They have upcoming fund-raisers including a Trivia Night and a Bunny Hop.

Hamilton Mountain – They host bingos and it is a great fellowship evening.

Hamilton East Wentworth - They have a big May fundraiser that supports the local food bank.

Delhi – The Health Center (major community health facility) is an on-going Rotary project.

Flamborough AM- Octoberfest – This annual fundraiser, Octoberfest, is a big fundraiser for them.

Hamilton Mountain – Their major fundraiser is an April gala funds going to Camp Marydale.

Niagara-on-the-Lake. They have a **Holiday House Tour** as a major fundraiser. Busloads of people from all over Southern Ontario and Western New York attend.

Simcoe – They do a **House Tour** as a major fundraiser.

Dundas Valley Sunrise - Rotary Stars of Dundas event raised \$7K.

Waterdown & Flamborough AM – Rib Fest- These clubs host a big fundraiser on Canada Day. It is now a major fundraiser for both clubs.

Delhi - Rotary Seniors' Home has Rotarian participation on its board.

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Ongoing Projects – Ice Wine Cocktail Night, and A Christmas Carole

Dehli – Has a 50/50 community draw. This is a new fundraiser.

Norfolk Sunrise – Smokin' Wild Game Night (Hot off the Grill). This is a "high roller" fundraiser.



Medina – Raffle for a Condo - They have a new fundraising event, which will be starting next week and going through November. It is a raffle for a 1-week stay in North Myrtle beach at one of our member's condo.

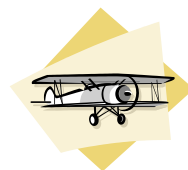


Norfolk Sunrise – This is a **Spellin' Bee** is a major fundraiser.

Albion – The proceeds from their **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** in March exceeded expectations. The proceeds will be used for a well digging project in Guatemala, in association with their Interact Club. In 2015, the proceeds go to the Interact's Southern Sudan project.

Norfolk Sunrise – Bargains, Bling & Blarney – This is a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser.

Batavia - Fly-In Breakfast- On Father's Day at the Batavia Airport 1,500 breakfasts were sold last year. This is one of their major fundraisers and is a great event for getting all club members working together.



Area-Wide Events



Area 1 has a **Multi-Club Holiday Party**. Gail Catherwood.

Area 14 has held an **Annual Holiday Party** for all Area 14 Rotarians and partners for a number of years. In recent years, it is held at Terry Hill Country Club and is getting bigger every year with nearly 100 members and partners at the January 2014 gala. There has been a holiday party in this area (in its different configurations) holiday party for over 60 years).

Area 14 – The Area 14 President-elects hosted a joint **Membership Introduction and** Tillman's Village Inn for the first time in 2013. It was a big success for all who attended.

Area 4 clubs combined for a **Membership Recruitment Rotary School** – for new members as an area social.

Area 3 – Orientation Night - Has an Orientation Night for potential and new members.

Area 4 – Paul Harris Dinner - These five clubs hold a Paul Harris Dinner in February where they recognize community leaders. All clubs nominate worthy people and the Area 4 President-elects organize and host the event and choose the winners. This is great team building exercise for the President-elects.



Area 13 – The six clubs are working together on *Peace Forums*. There are four in the series.

Lancaster – Depew – They hosted a **Mix-N-Mingle** event for all clubs in Area 11 in January.

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Hamilton – This club celebrated its **100th Anniversary** on November 2nd, 2013. What a party!

Amherst South – In September, they held a formal dinner at Park Country Club in recognition of their **75th anniversary** of the club.

Dundas – They hold a Paul Harris Night in the spring and in 2013 they combined it with their **65th Anniversary celebrations**.

St. Catharines & St. Catharines Lakeshore Clubs – They have jointly planned a **Paul Harris Night** for February 23, 2012.

The Rotary Foundation

Sustaining Members:

Dundas Valley Sunrise – This club makes the Foundation a high priority and ended this past year with givings third in the District and support of Polio Plus, and 100% sustaining membership. They plan on repeating this in the upcoming year. Four club members and partners attended the Foundation Dinner at Salvatore's on November 16/2012 where they received the award for the 3rd highest in per capita contribution and were recognized as an EREY club.



Welland - As a Club, they have contributed \$1,000 US to the Rotary Foundation as a thank you to an 18-year Board Member Cheryl Slattery. This Club is one of 5 in the District that is a sustaining club.

Dundas- Their Foundation goal is to continue to support the Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus as a \$100 sustaining member. They will continue to support District and RI International projects.

Flamborough AM- They are planning on continuing to be a sustaining member club and to support Polio Plus.

St. Catharines – They are EREY and \$100 per capita and contribute to Polio Plus.

Waterdown – They will continue to support the Foundation with contributions of \$120.00 per member plus personal donations. They raised \$2,510 in November, 2012.

Welland – They work towards attaining a minimum US \$100 contribution per member to the Rotary Foundation.

Hamilton – *Sunshine Fund* - is a unique fundraising tactic of the Rotary Club of Hamilton. It is a club tradition. When the club had over 200+ members, it was decided that the Rotarians were not interested in selling raffle tickets or running bingos. They wanted to be known as the club that wrote personal cheques in order to raise funds. To this day, the Sunshine Fund raises about \$15,000 to fund club activities – even though the membership is closer to 90 members today. When you donate, a sun is added to your name badge. While difficult to achieve, the goal is to have 100% of Rotarians participate and the requested donation is \$100 but all gifts are welcome.

EREY:

St. Catharines – They are an EREY club.

Amherst South – They encourage all members to participate in EREY by supporting the Rotary Foundation.

Niagara-on-the-Lake – They are *working towards being a sustaining club & an Every Rotarian Every Year club.*

St. Catharines Lakeshore - *They are an EREY club.*

Waterdown – They will be an EREY Club this year.

Polio Plus



Welland - As a Club, they have contributed \$2,000 US to Polio Plus.

St. Catharines Lakeshore – They are EREY and \$100 per capita club. They contribute to Polio Plus.

RI Presidential Citation –

Flamborough AM – They focused on attaining the Presidential Citation & Lighthouse Awards.

St. Catharines – They are working toward attaining the Presidential Citation.

Welland - The Club has set its goals in accordance with the RI President's Citation. At the half way point in the Rotary year, they had met all of those goals with two outstanding ones.

St. Catharines Lakeshore - They are working towards attaining the Presidential Citation.

Dundas Valley Sunrise – They plan to focus on and attain the Presidential Citation and the Lighthouse Award this year.

STRATEGIC PLAN/VISIONING

Welland - They completed and adopted a 3-year strategic plan.

St. Catharines Lakeshore – They have a 3-year strategic plan.

Dundas Valley Sunrise – They will continue with Visioning to develop their long range plan.

Hamilton Mountain – They are continuing their visioning.

Albion – had a great turn-out for their Visioning with the District Visioning Team leading the process. Their Visioning Committee is proceeding with implementing their plans. Well Done!

MEMBERSHIP

Hamilton – This club has 117 members. They have a good membership committee and they have grown by 5 since July 1st and have 3 in line. After having a turnover of 20% over the past 3 years they now are getting everyone involved in membership recruitment.



Welland - Developed an innovative approach to attracting and retaining members.

St. Catharines Lakeshore – They attract younger members and are achieving membership growth and satisfactory retention. They had 6 attend the District Conference in Brantford.

Hamilton AM – This club has 55 members and are up by 6 since July 1st and the new members are all younger. They do find the cost of joining and the cost of breakfasts a hindrance for younger members.

Albion – 2014-2015, in the first 6 months have inducted five new members.

Kenmore – They just inducted two new members.

St. Catharines – They do a good job of attracting younger members. They had 6 members attend the 2012 District Conference.

West Seneca – They are a nice-sized club with an active membership.

Lockport - Holiday Party/Membership Drive - In the weeks leading up to the Christmas/Hanukah season, the membership committee asks each club member for 3-5 names and contact info for potential new members. These individuals are sent an invitation to their annual holiday party, which is held at one of Lockport's beautifully decorated, historic venues. The club pays for their ticket, and they are introduced to Rotarians at a fun, festive, holiday celebration. They give them their Lockport Rotary Club brochure, answer any questions they may have, and invite them to the next meeting. This Rotary year's (2014-2015) event resulted in three new members joining their club.

LeRoy – Friends of Rotary – This is a program where those who share the ideals and objectives of the Rotary Club of LeRoy can participate in their activities without the responsibility of a full membership. This is a perfect way for individuals whose schedules preclude regular attendance at their weekly lunch meeting to contribute to their community by participating in Rotary fundraisers and fellowship events.



Dundas – Dundas has 39 members. They started the year with a goal of 5 new members and as of January they had 3 and another to be inducted in February.

Buffalo Sunrise – Bring'em Back! - They recently just reinstated a member who had left Rotary for a number of years. Buffalo Sunrise has a strong sense of camaraderie.

Norfolk Sunrise – Rotary School – They have “guest professors” teach Rotary classes to prospective members and to new Rotarians.

Hamilton East Wentworth - They are a club of 22 members and are seeing better attendance due to more fun and decent speakers.

Waterdown – Currently they have 39 or 40 members and are adding two new members soon. Their aim is to have 3 new members in the year.

Welland – Initiate new member welcome and mentoring plan.

Dundas Valley Sunrise- They started the year at 45 members and have added 3 and lost 3. They still have a five year goal of reaching 60 members.

Flamborough AM – Their membership is holding at 19 members though they are working towards net 2. They have a **club open house** that is to generate membership interest.

Lancaster - Depew – While only 5-months into the year they have inducted 2 and now have 22 members. They have another potential member in the wings.

Welland – They had a new membership drive and have inducted 5 new Members this Rotary Year. They still have approximately 4 considering membership.

Hamilton Mountain – This club of 19 members is finding it difficult to recruit new members since they are a small club. However they remain very active and vibrant.

Dunnville - They have inducted 4 new members and two more have expressed interest in joining. Unfortunately, one of the new members had to resign after he lost his job when the weekly newspaper abruptly closed after serving Dunnville for 116 years.

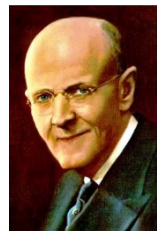
Welland – This Club took the lead in a **South Niagara Fireside Chat**.



Albion - They revamped their Fireside Chat, as their historian who had initiated all new members into the club by regaling them with tales of their 90+ year history, transferred for his career. The club, back in the good ole days even had rum runners....or so goes the folklore; sound good because of their locale (near the southern shore of Lake Ontario. The new style is all about Rotary factoids and some history. We had 3 potential members attend the first Fire Side Chat and 2 have joined and 1 is still considering joining.

SERVICE PROJECTS

Batavia - Awards Night. At this event they present Paul Harris’ Fellowship Awards to deserving club members and community. They also present scholarships to the students from three high schools. They make a special effort to have attendance from long-time members who may not attend regularly anymore and also Rotary widows whose husbands were active members. (I know it sounds sexist, but at this point they are all women). They have special awards for 50+ year members. They invite the host families of their exchange students.



Dundas Valley Sunrise – They are planning a Paul Harris Dinner for April.

Waterdown – They will be hosting their annual Paul Harris Dinner in May.

Dunnville - Roy Schofield led a successful project to raise money to rubberize the indoor walking track at the Dunnville Arena. Roughly half the cost of \$57,800 was covered by a Trillium Grant; and the remainder by corporate and individual donations. As the Arena is owned by Haldimand County, the project required

negotiating a lease. Now that the concrete track is covered by rubber cushion, the use of the track has increased.

Dunnville - For the second year, the Dunnville Rotary Club ran the BBQ at the Salvation Army “Sleep in the Park” event to raise awareness of homelessness in our community,

Grand Island - Undie Sunday - About 8 years ago, the Pastor in charge of Buffalo’s City Mission, spoke to Grand Island Rotary, of course he ‘wanted’ a \$ donation, but he also challenged us to ‘do practical things’ for the city’s homeless. He had some donated floor tiles, they scraped off the old ones, laid new (sort of ‘professionally’). In talking to the Pastor and others during that work, it came out that underwear and socks were always a desperate need there. People donate lots of usable clothing / coats, but never underwear. It sounded catchy – schedule an **UNDIE SUNDAY**, where we would position barrels at Island churches, also ‘man’ a barrel at the one large Island supermarket, after putting advance ads in local paper, slingers in mailboxes and sign board at town center advertising: **Bring in a package or two of NEW underwear (male or female) or socks**. Afterward they sort the collection (by types, size & sex) into large bags at the next Rotary meeting, then take the collected bags downtown; and take pictures of filled boxes, our sorting session and delivery! The project does provide simple, but expressive ‘photo ops’ of understandable community service.



Hamilton Mountain – This club has adopted a park and they all get together to keep it clean.



Niagara-on-the-Lake. Money donated locally to the Community Centre, New Cancer Centre Hospital and Red Roof Retreat.

Holley – They partnered with a community group to raise money for an injured soldier from Holley.

Kenmore, East Aurora, and Dundas Sunrise - Several clubs hold annual shredding and recycling days,

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Planning in 2012/13 - Fashion Show, Trivia Pursuit Night, Micro Brewery Festival & Antique weekend.



COMMUNICATIONS & PR

Norfolk Sunrise – They do a weekly newsletter to members and friends of Rotary, Facebook and an electronic sign.

Amherst South – They are initiating a club Facebook page.

St. Catharines - They use social network to promote the club.

Flamborough AM – Facebook- They will continue to use and expand the use of Facebook.

Albion –Each month a member is in charge of taking club minutes and creating their newsletter, which is emailed to members and some former members. Additionally, they are redeveloping their web site. Facebook is maintained by another member.

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Public Relations – They have a float in the Christmas Parade.

Cheektowaga – Let the Cameras Roll. They are presently preparing for the annual Christmas party they hold for developmentally disabled children and adults (Cheektowaga Senior Centre). A year ago they had cameras from

channels 2, 4 and 7 at the party to celebrate the day. If they have potential members in the wings they invite them to attend the afternoon to help or just observe. Great PR for the club!

LeRoy - Their marketing efforts include local news media & radio shows, and establishing succession with our board through our 3-year strategic plan as this year's top 3 best practices.

St, Catharines Lakeshore – They use social network to promote themselves.

Holley - They made efforts to increase our Club's visibility in the community by actively participating in the annual **JUNEFEST** parade.

Amherst South – They donated school supplies for student in need at Amherst Central High School. They received recognition in the Amherst Bee for these efforts.

SOCIAL MEDIA SUCCESSES

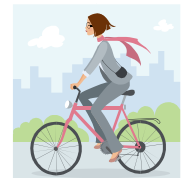
Holley – Beefeaters Dinner – Yummy!! They have an annual Beefeaters Dinner. By posting the event information on Facebook and seeking likes and shares they reversed the decline in attendance. THEY RAN OUT OF MEAT BEFORE THE CLOCK RAN DOWN ON SERVING TIME.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Buffalo – Service above Self Day– They do a day where members volunteer to work in the morning at one of four community service agencies in November.

Niagara-on the-Lake. Lights 4 Bikes 4 Migrant Workers – This project will be completed over the next 2 years to put a bicycle light on over 1,000 bikes used by migrant workers in the Niagara Region. The lights are given to the farmers for the workers to use.



Batavia - This Rotary club has a joint meeting with the Kiwanis in early January.



Grand Island Rotary - In 2012, a few parents on Grand Island, with children who were handicapped or developmentally challenged, approach Grand Island (G I) Rotary, and other Island organizations, for sponsorship toward building a special baseball (really T Ball) field that would be safe for handicapped. Major cost of \$250K or more, made them hesitant until Buffalo Sabres Alumni group (Larry Playfair on GI being a leader) committed over \$150K. Two of their members became board members of the '501c3' organization formed for this Miracle League

Field. G I Rotary advertised the Miracle League as a prime destination of profits from two successive LobsterFests to raise \$25K contribution to building field, then they committed ourselves to \$2500 yearly operating contribution, and to also operate their Concession Stand with all profits going directly to Miracle League. Support of this unique handicapped accessible field continues to be 'useful' to G I Rotary as example of their community service, and as long as they are careful and considerate in photography. Contact: Henry Kammerer



Dundas - Travelogue Series -This club had the fourth in a series of six Travelogue events on Wales in February, 2013.

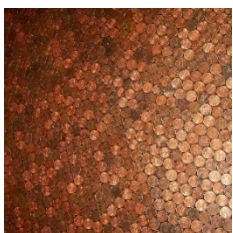
Holley – Their community contacts and their club member's willingness to donate their time pays dividends, as Dennis Peidimonte took it upon himself to re-paint their mural project after he coordinated with the Village DPW to assist in paving around it. It looks great, and has been remarkably trouble free; graffiti or other vandalism.



St. Catharines, St. Catharines Lakeshore – The St. Catharines Clubs will participate jointly at the **Remembrance Day Ceremony**.

Amherst South – They did a special collection to help those effected by **Hurricane Sandy**.

LeRoy – This club in 10 days rallied the community, Rotary clubs and District to fill a 53' trailer with donations and took it to Hurricane Sandy disaster zone. It was the trip of a lifetime for 5 of their members.



Niagara-on-the-Lake - Pennies from Heaven – The project is to collect 1 million pennies over the next 2 years. This club has put a penny container in every store and winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Canada no longer uses the penny as legal tender.

LeRoy - Their club sponsored a **free community dinner** at a local church and provided over 250 free meals to people in the community.

Amherst South – They partner with the Lions Club to successfully host the 3rd **Annual Health Fair** at Windemere Elementary School.

Batavia & Albion – Annually these clubs do bell ringing for Salvation Army.



Dundas Valley Sunrise – Winterlude - On February 16, 2013 they held Winterlude in the Park to focus on the Rotary Rink with free hot cider, music and horse and buggy rides for the kids and had free skating.

Hamilton AM – They had a partnership with Siemen and other local companies to provide used **laptops to teens**. They refurbished them and loaded applicable software and donated them to students starting high school. Hamilton Sunset surrendered their charter at the end of 2012-2013.



Amherst, Amherst South & Albion– These clubs independently have Adopt- a-Highway where they clean up the roadsides.

Hamburg- Warm the Children - Another successful year for the “Warm the Children” programs



Dundas Valley Sunrise – They give to the following local organizations “Hamilton Out of the Cold” (\$1,000), Salvation Army (\$1,000), The Ripple Effect (\$4,000) and Little Hats (\$500).

Amherst South - Donate warm clothing to families in need at Christmas.

Flamborough AM – Donor Appreciation Dinner - They have a Donor Appreciation Night to honour all who help the club.

Medina – Popcorn Sales – They sell popcorn for the Medina Car Shows. This is a great way for them out in the community.



Niagara-on-the-Lake - Canada Day BBQ. They served the community food and refreshments.

Orchard Park – They supplied a generous amount of presents and gift card for an extended family in need at Christmas.

Hamburg Sunrise – They are very involved with veterans.



Niagara-on-the Lake - Sponsors local hockey and basketball team. Supply game shirts
Lockport – This Rotary club has a Tip-Off Basketball Tournament.

Batavia – For 24 years Batavia has hosted a successful girl's high school basketball tournament.

Delhi & Caledonia - Walking Trails – These clubs have developed trails that are maintained by the club members.

Norfolk Sunrise – Walking Trails – They developed and operate the Sunrise Trail



Welland- This club is conducting a community needs assessment and establishing a new community service project.

Norfolk Sunrise – Hosts and manages a Community Garden as a community service project.

Welland – They held an Annual Paul Harris/Christmas Fellowship evening with over 60 Rotarians and community members.

Delhi – Bicycle Rodeo – This is a fun bicycle safety program for youth.



Buffalo – They made four grants to Read to Succeed Buffalo, Gateway Longview, Salvation Army and Goodwill Industries totaling \$42,950.00 in January.



Norfolk Sunrise - Soap Box Derby – This club hosts this event for youth as a community service project.

Simcoe, Delhi, - Three Area 1 clubs do a 4 week “food fight” donating food and funds to local food banks. It is a fun project with other Area Rotary clubs and other service clubs (Lions). The event is called the **Food Fight**.



Delhi - Home Meetings – This is a unique and effective approach to club meetings with a fund raising element.

Albion – Quarrymen Mural - Their quarrymen’s mural project was funded through their Club and matching District grant. It is mounted in a downtown parkette. Albion’s history is the stone cutting of the Medina Sandstone.

Delhi – Loonie Auction – A popular and fun community fundraiser.

East Aurora – Electronics Recycling (E-recycling) – Despite January weather the East Aurora Rotarians are on the job! In early January (first or second Saturday), they collect old electronics. They understand that over the holidays many people update their gadgets and toss the old ones. Collaborating with a recycling company, Sunnking, who provides trucks and staff to assist in the collection event and processes the e-waste we collect. The past 3 years Sunnking helped coordinate the event advertising using postcard mailers, news outlets, and TV spots sponsored by local business/politician. A club member, manager of a local church, arranges the use of its parking lot. On the day of the event, the members direct traffic, unload the TV's, computers, etc. from the arriving vehicles; sort the e-waste. The event hours are 10AM – 3PM. In 2014, the East Aurora diverted 100,000 pounds of electronic waste from the local landfill. The event began as a community service project however; it evolved into a fundraiser, as they seek a free will donation to their club from arriving drivers. Their communities appreciate the hard work of members and are pleased their landfill’s integrity is protected. There is a monetary factor attached to the pounds of e-recycled goods, which goes to the club’s coffers.

Welland – This club participates in a sustainable service related to at least one of the Rotary’s areas of focus.

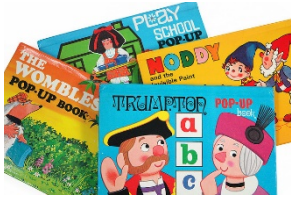


Norfolk Sunrise – Solar Powered Electronic Rotary sign – This is a sign promoting area Rotary programs and projects.

Norfolk Sunrise – Coats for Kids – Is an annual program that collects cleans and distributes 400+ winter coats with scarves and mittens.

LITERACY PROGRAMS

Dunnville - Literacy Project, They are discussing participating in a district World Community Service project that is being spearheaded by the Brantford Club.



Hamilton – *Telling Tales* Telling Tales is a community wide event to celebrate and promote literacy. The Rotary Club of Hamilton is a key sponsor and driver of this event along with the Hamilton Public Library and the Hamilton Conservation Authority. Over 20 Rotary Clubs (from two districts) help promote the event; collect books for the book swap and provide volunteers. Over 7000 people attended last year's free event. They came to hear over 20 authors and illustrators talk about their books – speaking from 8 different stages. It is a magical day. The event helps to promote literacy that day and throughout the year. In addition, it is a modest fundraiser. Each year, approximately \$10,000 is raised and a group of Rotary Clubs determine literacy projects in the community who will be the recipient of the funds raised.

Buffalo – *Mentoring*, They just celebrated 25 years of mentoring disadvantaged children at Lorraine Academy

Hamilton East Wentworth – They support Hillview School.

Cheektowaga – *Literacy Fair* – Annually they hold a very successful Literacy Fair in September.

Hamilton- They sponsor a number of programs at Cathy Wever School, an inner city school.

VOCATIONAL

Welland –They celebrate excellence in business with the ***Pride of Workmanship*** Awards.

Hamilton AM & Albion - *Rotary at Work* – These clubs tour local industries and member businesses in lieu of holding a regular meeting. The aim for 4 off-site meetings/tours a year.

Welland – This club champions the ***Rotary at Work*** initiative.

Buffalo - *Vocational Trade Show*: They host a trade show and invite members of other clubs to have tables that explain/promote their businesses. The show begins about 45 minutes prior to lunch and members and guests are encouraged to arrive early to interact with businesses.

Hamilton East Wentworth – They had an off-site meeting at the ***Ronald McDonald House***.

Area 1- Has a ***business mentoring*** program.

Dunnville – *Business Mentoring Program* – They are exploring organizing a business mentoring program to help both existing businesses and start-ups to improve their probability of success. Roy Schofield is a proponent, and a new recruit is anxious to make it happen.

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Philippines. This club hosted the group from the Philippines for 3 nights and took them to the Shaw Theatre. Project Champion – Ralph Tallman

Amherst South – They hosted Mix and Mingle Dinner in November 2012 in recognition of the International GSE Team from the Philippines.

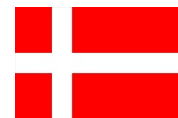
YOUTH SERVICES



Dunnville - We were prominent participants and sponsors of the Grand River Conservation Authority water festival, which is an event for public school students regarding water conservation and related matters that was held for the first time this year in Haldimand County (similar events are held in other more populous areas) and was very successful. We are partnering with the GRCA on a Trillium grant application for sustainability funding for the next three years.

Dunnville - Social Media Speakers for Youth –They hired special speakers to give a seminar on the proper use of Facebook, and the pitfalls to avoid for students and faculty for grades 7 through 12 in Dunnville schools.

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Youth Exchange – This club has one outgoing exchange student who is going to Denmark and one incoming exchange student from France. Project Champion – Jeannie Manning



Welland - They are supporting a Youth Exchange Student, Liam, in France.



Welland – They are hosting Marisol, an exchange student from Mexico.

Simcoe, Delhi, Norfolk Sunrise– These clubs do a multi-club youth exchange.

Norfolk Sunrise – Welshpool Exchange. This is an annual youth exchange between Wales and Norfolk operated by Twinned Rotary Clubs of Welshpool and Norfolk Sunrise.



Dunnville – Student Exchange Program -They have set aside funds in their budget for this year that could be used for a student exchange next Rotary year if the challenge of getting host families willing to meet the requirements of our “Abuse, Neglect and Harassment Abuse Protocol” is overcome.

Clarence & Lockport – On March 24/13 they hosted a conference at the Clarence High School to integrate peace initiatives.

Kenmore – This club organized a **peace program** for the late spring 2013 in a Kenmore school and they had the participation of the two Buffalo Clubs.

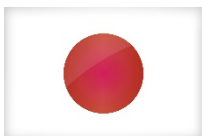


Niagara-on-the-Lake, Hike Trek – They host a weekend event in early June for all exchange students in District 7090. In the past, this has been a Bike Trek to Niagara Falls and back with an afternoon BBQ and evening dinner and dance, however now it will be a Hike Trek.

Dunnville – Dream Program – They continue their financial support for the **DREAM program** (http://www.dreamfwb.com/about_us/) started by former Rotarian Dr. Reza Kazemi.

AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR:

Welland - The District's Ambassadorial Scholar, S. Weston, was nominated by the Welland Club. They maintain constant contact with her in Manchester, England.



Amherst South – They sponsored an Ambassadorial Scholar from Japan.

ROTARACT

Welland - They sponsored the new Brock University/Niagara Rotaract Club and continue to mentor the members.

Batavia – They are currently recruiting to start a Rotaract Club at Genesee Community College.

INTERACT CLUBS

Waterdown – They are attempting to restart their Interact Club at the Waterdown High School.

LeRoy - Fall Fest - Their Interact Club hosted its first annual Fall Fest, and it was a huge success. It was attended by several hundred people and they provided free food & entertainment. It was a safe and fun day for their community.

Amherst South – They have initiated contact with the Sweethome High School to see about setting up an Interact Club.

Cheektowaga – They are looking to start an Interact Club.

EARLYACT CLUBS

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Our first **Early Act Club** in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Project Champion – Jeannie Manning and Ruth Delaat.

LeRoy – This club has started two EarlyAct Clubs at the same time. The youth in LeRoy are really enjoying learning about Service above Self.



SLAPSHOT

St. Catharines & St. Catharines Lakeshore Both these clubs send teens to SLAPSHOT.

Holley - Their SLAPSHOT students (4) all reported having a wonderful time, and these students are interested in helping the club to establish an Interact club at the high school. The search continues for an in-school advisor, but it appears promising.

Welland – They will be sponsoring 5 participants at SLAPSHOT in April and one participant at Adventure in Citizenship in Ottawa.

LeRoy – They sent 6 of their high school student to SLAPSHOT, and they had an incredible time. They came back and did programs for our Interact Club and our Rotary Club on their experiences.

RYLA:

St. Catharines – They send young adults to RYLA.

Welland – They send several young adults to RYLA in June.

ABUSE & HARASSMENT POLICY

Waterdown – This club is asking their members to update their police checks to ensure they are in compliance with Rotary's Abuse, Harassment policy.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Simcoe does an arts scholarship named for Gord Watts.

LeRoy, Medina, Holley Each of these clubs gives several college scholarships to deserving students.

Albion - They just fully endowed the Dick Eddy Scholarship and are working on the Ed Archbald Scholarship. Each 5 students are honored with scholarships. They are currently working to endow the Ed Archbald Scholarship with Ed's family contributing to it.

Batavia – The scholarships were awarded to three local high school students of \$1,500 for each year up to four years.

Orchard Park – This clubs gives a \$5000 college scholarship every year to a worthy local student.

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) – is working toward holding 4 RLI events a year. Graduates are ready to take on club and district leadership roles.

LeRoy – 5 members participated in RLI and they have 4 graduates.

Albion – They had 3 attend with 2 graduating.



INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Buffalo Sunrise – They are preparing a proposal for a matching grant involving a second water well in conjunction with its Tanzanian water initiative in the Mara region.

Niagara-on-the-Lake - Wells of Hope Village Water Supply – This club pays for drilling wells in Guatemala.



West Seneca – This club is financially supporting a program that is drilling wells in Ghana. Coordinated by a Rotary club in North Carolina, every dollar West Seneca contributes is matched by \$14 in matching grants from corporate sponsors.

Dundas Valley Sunrise – They will donate \$1,000.00 to **Water for Life**.

Hamilton - They contributed to a well project in Kenya.



Niagara-on-the-Lake. Rift Valley Water & Sanitation Program – They are paying for building **Rainwater Harvesting Tanks in Kenya**. Project Champions - John Boot and Patrick MacNeil



Welland – They have contributed \$3,000 to two elementary schools in the Philippines for the purchase of scientific and educational supplies.

Amherst South – They hosted a Thai Rotarian and spouse for two weeks, as the last half of a reciprocal visit for the Club President's visit to the Bangkok International Convention. They arranged visits to meet the Buffalo Mayor, other service clubs and the tourist areas of WNY. This was a joint hosting with a Clarence Rotarian and the Clarence Rotary.



Welland – They have donated \$1,000 to the Iguazu project in Brazil.

Hamilton Mountain – They undertook providing water filters to Cambodia however project got stalled at customs and will cost an additional \$3000.00.

Welland – This club is working on getting fire equipment and fire pump engine donated and delivered to a partner Rotary Club in South America.



Norfolk Sunrise - Micro banks in Mexico – creating micro banks in northern border towns. Jim Peter

Waterdown – This club is very active with numerous matching grant projects for the Philippines.



Albion - We are working with Arcie Mallari (GSE 1212) to develop an e-library in a school with 8,153 students and no computers. Installation was early 2015. BIG SMILES!!

Welland – They are working on a water drilling operation in Candelaria, Philippines.





Ancaster – This club with the leadership of Roy Sheldrick has drilled over 250 water wells in Haiti. They now also build cisterns and latrines.

Niagara-on the-Lake - *Adries' House of Hope*.Children's orphanage in South Africa.



Niagara-on the-Lake - *Cornerstone Community Church Clinic Project* in Burundi. This club is supplying over \$1,000.00 of medical supplies.

Niagara Falls - Rotary club of Niagara Falls, Ontario was approved for \$10,000 for the rabies inoculation project in Uganda.