



The Ambassador

The Monthly publication of the Rotary Club of Hamilton, Dec. 6, 2012

A Year of Celebration, A Century of Making a Difference

Our 100th anniversary is in 2013. Few other organizations have reached this landmark achievement. We've survived a century of change, but Rotarians have always been up to the challenge.

Despite two world wars, regional conflicts, uncertain economies and unpredictable politics, Rotarians have been united by the Rotary motto of Service Above Self. For over 100 years, these three words have been our guiding light.

Rotary started as the inspiration of one man, Paul P. Harris. On 23 February 1905, the young lawyer met with three business associates in a small office in downtown Chicago.

The Rotary Club of Hamilton's first meeting was held in the Private Dining Room at Fong Young's Cafe 26 King William Street Hamilton on Thursday June 26th, 1913 at 1.10 p.m. in the afternoon. The Hamilton Club became the 3rd Rotary Club in Canada and the 82nd Club chartered by Rotary International.

Paul Harris is an example of how one person can

change the course of history. His pioneering vision gave rise to the concept of volunteerism at a time when there was little concern for the "common man." The group of four eventually grew and expanded across borders to form an international organization dedicated to humanitarian service and peace. Rotary is historic in that it has transcended geographic, religious, racial, political, social and other barriers.

Our anniversary is a golden opportunity to raise awareness and publicize the good works of Rotary.

Rotary club members are ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary things - sometimes through sheer force of will.

Thanks to The Rotary Foundation of RI, Rotarians

have provided more than \$1.4 billion for service projects in more than 166 countries. Rotary supports the world's largest privately funded international scholarship program and sponsors one of the world's most popular youth exchange programs.

We have been leaders in the global fight against polio, saving millions of children from this crippling disease. It is our birthday gift to the children of the world.

The Rotary Club of Hamilton has made an impact in our local community

- Local literacy projects such as All Star Reading, Telling Tales Festival and the Rotary Summer Literacy Program
- Improving the lives of children and families locally and internationally through

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grants and initiatives such as the Wever Hub and the End Polio Now campaign.

Few organizations reach their 100th anniversary, illustrating the tremendous need for Rotary over the years. But our centennial is not just a time to reflect upon our past accomplishments. It is also a time to look to the future, to set new goals and face new challenges. We must continue to dedicate

1913-2013

1   th ROTARY CLUB of Hamilton

ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating 100 years of service in our community

Hello From Finland

Just wanted to send an update, as I realize I haven't communicated in a little while. So - here's another monthly report!

Finland has been amazing so far. I can't believe I've been here two months! Time is going by so quickly. I've been keeping very busy too. The last week and a half has been a transition from period one to period two in school. I've finished up my exams, and had a few days off in between the periods. This past Thursday, second period started, so now I have a whole new schedule and new classes. Right now, I am taking Latin and French again, as well as another

history course, art and philosophy. I'm really excited about my history class, as it is focussing on history of non-European cultures; as a class, we can decide at the beginning of the period which areas we want to study, and one of the chosen places was North America! Partially because I was in the class, so I was "a living example" and partially because people seem really interested in our continent, mainly United States of America, but even so, there have been a lot of questions about Canada too.

I have also been busy outside of school. A few weeks ago,

I met my second host family, and went berry picking with them. It was so much fun! We drove about 10 minutes away from their house, into a stretch of woods bordering a small lake. Then, we all got out of the car, armed with these red plastic scoops that we used to pick the berries and separate them from the leaves and other debris. We were searching for lingonberries, which are small red berries that grow on bushes low to the ground. I thought we found quite a few - after all, we filled an enormous bucket after about an hour - but apparently there weren't that many compared to other years. My host father, Arto, said that many times the ground itself would look red because there are so many berries present!

I've also had the pleasure of keeping in touch with some of the other exchange students. Just a few weeks ago, around nine of us from District 1400 (which basically covers the northern half of Finland) went bowling on an afternoon and then out for an early supper, along with a few rotex students. And next weekend, we have a district camp with all of the students from Districts 1400 and 1380 I believe, getting together in Seinajoki.

Every other week I attend Rotary meetings. I would go each week, but they are in the middle of the day so I would miss quite a bit of

school. We have lunch at a lovely small restaurant called the Rauhala, and then afterwards a guest speaker gives a presentation. Officially, I believe there are around 80 or so members in the club, but there are only about 20 - 30 that attend on a regular basis. Everyone is quite nice, and we have pretty interesting lunch conversations. Still in English, but I am slowly picking up Finnish. When the guest speaker talks, it is always in Finnish, and while I can't yet understand what he or she usually says, I find myself interested in just listening and picking out the few words I do know. Or I follow along with the Power Point presentation and try and guess how the words are pronounced, and what they are talking about. I'm making baby steps - now, I can distinguish word from word and recognize some of the various endings, and am picking up more and more individual words, so I can sometimes get the gist of the conversation. I'm still pretty lost though, and am working at actually being able to converse in Finnish.

Hopefully everything is going well back home. Thank you both for being there to support me, and the whole club as well, for making this possible.

Jocelyn

PS - The photo is of me with the big pail of lingonberries that we collected as a family.



Anniversary cont'd

ourselves to world peace, promote high ethical standards and seek new opportunities for service.

In 2013 our Rotary Club has set the goal to raise an additional \$100,000 for literacy projects. The additional fundraising goal will be used to support the sustainability and expansion of the Rotary Summer Literacy Program, support international literacy projects and initiatives and an investment into our Rotary Forever Fund. The goal is lofty, but what better way to celebrate 100 years of service than to help improve the lives of thousands.

One hundred years ago, Paul Harris took the first steps on our journey of service. As we enter our second century of service, we must continue to

evolve and grow as an organization. Rotary is truly ageless in that its legacy lives on through millions of people who have benefited from our projects and programs.

Let us Celebrate Rotary by creating a better world and a better future. The next 100 years holds even greater challenges – and greater promise.

Nov. 2, 2013 Gala

Early-bird deadline

Dec. 31, 2012

Contact Lisa or go to our website for tickets.

Forever Fund

In a society where so much is considered disposable – from small things like the container that your breakfast came in, to big things like appliances – the very idea of something that lasts forever is a compelling concept.

The **Rotary Forever Fund** is just that - an endowment fund that is permanently invested through the Hamilton Community Foundation. The principal is never spent. Only the income earned on the invested fund is distributed to selected Rotary projects. In this way, a gift to the Forever Fund lasts forever. Consider the Forever Fund for an in memoriam gift, or recognizing a milestone birthday or anniversary. Or, become part of “*The Broadfoot Circle*” by promising a gift to the Forever Fund through your estate.

From a starting point of just over \$47,000 in December 2006, the fund today sits at slightly more than \$71,000. More than \$5,000 was distributed in summer 2012 to support our club's charitable projects.

To donate, make your cheque out to Hamilton Community Foundation and write “Forever Fund” in the memo field. You can give the cheque to Lisa Legacy, Cynthia Janzen or Randy MacDonald. You'll receive a tax receipt from the Hamilton Community Foundation.

If you're interested in leaving a gift through your estate to help our community in the future, please see either Cynthia or Randy.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, May 30, 2013

Copetown Woods Golf Club

3:00 p.m. Registration

4:00 p.m. Tee-Off (9 holes)

6:30 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner & Silent Auction

Early Bird Registration by April 15th

rotaryclubhamilton.ca
hamiltonchamber.ca



**Whine
Nine &
Dine**
for Charity

Rotary Club of Hamilton

Sunshine Fund Update

The Sunshine Fund Members Appeal is in the final phase.

The Goal is to have 100% of our members participate and to raise \$19,000.

To date we have raised \$10,095 and have engaged 58% of our members.

We will be acknowledging those that have supported the Sunshine Fund over the next few weeks. Thank you to all of those Rotarians that have given!

There is still an opportunity...49 of our members have not given to the Sunshine Fund. We still have about \$9000 to raise to be able to reach our goals.



THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION
OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF
HAMILTON, DEC. 6, 2012

*Rotary Club of Hamilton
at the Art Gallery of Hamilton*

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Hamilton, ON

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**Rotary Board Meetings
2012/2013**
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Monday, Dec. 10, 2012
Monday, Jan. 14, 2013
Monday, Feb. 11, 2013
Monday, Mar. 11, 2013
Monday, Apr. 8, 2013
Monday, May 13, 2013
Monday, June 10, 2013

Location of meetings:

Dodsworth & Brown
Robinson Chapel
15 West Ave. N.,
Hamilton, ON L8L 5B9

Sunshine Fund Cont'd

Please complete your Sunshine Fund Member's Appeal form.

The funds raised (\$19,000) will allow our Rotary Committees to make a difference in the lives of children, families and seniors in our local and international communities.

Let's make sure that our Rotary Club can make those donations to make a difference. We need your support!

Rotary Reading Volunteers 2012-2013

A great big Rotary thank you to the following people who have volunteered to be Reading Buddies at Cathy Wever School for the next year. Your contribution is going to make a difference by helping kids learn to read!

Wendy Brawn, Dave Buckley, Ken Beatty, John Clinton, Paul Gordon, Nancy Harkness, Lucie

Daigle-Lemmond, Allison Liss, Jackie Norton, Glen Norton, Kathleen Swiderski, Joanna Turchin, Larry Woods and Rosemary Knechtel. Many thanks to Rosemary who is also the volunteer coordinator for the reading program. Happy reading all!

Group Study Exchange



A Group Study Exchange Group from the Philippines enjoyed an informal gathering at the home of Mark Mindorf recently.

About the Newsletter

The Ambassador is the monthly newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hamilton. It will be printed the first Thursday of each month.

Deadline for articles is the last Friday of the month prior to publication.

It is distributed by email and printed for distribution the following week.

Editor: Heather J. Scott
(1redsoxfan@live.com)

Advertising in the Ambassador

The cost of distributing the Ambassador is subsidized through business card size ads. The cost of an ad is \$200/year .

Please send your business card as a jpeg file to the email above. The number of times each ad runs will depend on the number of ads received. Each ad will be run a minimum of twice.