

Report to the District Governor

September 2013

from



THE ROTARY CLUB
OF
Fonthill
ONTARIO, CANADA

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The Rotary Club of Fonthill 2013-14 Board of Directors

President - Michael Lewis

President Elect - Tia Taylor

Past President - Robert Eamer

Secretary - Frank Solich

Treasurer - Randy Momot

International Service - Geoffrey Maguire

Community Service - Roy Kirkup

Public Relations - Carolyn Mullin

Youth Services / New Generations - Michael Taylor

Club Counsellor - Andrew Larmand

Club Administration - Frank Adamson

Club Structure

Five Avenues of Service Committees

CLUB SERVICE:	Club programming	Frank A.
	Registration/attendance	Gail
CHAIR:	Banking	Gail
Frank Adamson	Membership	Lance
	Media	Carolyn
	Club administration	Frank S.
	E-Club	Annie
COMMUNITY:	Canada Day	Lance
	Golf	Hugh
CHAIR:	Summerfest	Lance
Roy Kirkup	Car Rally	Roy
	TV Auction	Hugh
	Pelham Cares	Carolyn
	Temperanceville Display	Randy
	Family Fun/Run Walk	Michael L.
	Bandshell Service Night	Gail
	Community Clean-up	Randy
VOCATIONAL:	Mayoralty debate	
CHAIR:	Vocational Presentations	Andrew
Carolyn Mullin	Friendship Exchanges	
	Mentorships	
INTERNATIONAL:	Foundation	Geoff
CHAIR: Geoff Maguire	International Projects	Andrew
	Grants	Geoff
NEW GENERATION:	Interact Club	Pat
CHAIR: Mike Taylor	Youth Exchange	Mike
CHAIR:	RYLA	Pat
	Colouring Book	Pat
	Slapshot	Mike
	Early Act (Public School)	Mike

Year-to-date selected highlights

Our club once again sponsored one concert of the Fonthill Bandshell Summer Concert Series (see Event Highlights for more information).



Pictured are Gayle Baltjes-Chataway (left), RC of Fonthill's first president, and current Bandshell Committee Chair, and Fonthill Rotarian Annie Holtby, with some of the sponsorship buttons we have helped support in the past. Annie also serves on the Bandshell committee.

Pictured below are Rotarians Frank S., Hugh and Tove handing out free bottled water during our sponsored concert.





After an exhaustive (some say exhausting) search to meet the discriminating tastes of our Rotarians, we were successful in acquiring new Rotary shirts, and put them to good use at several community events, including Pelham Summerfest. Pictured above are Rotarians Pat, Gail and Carolyn during a break in the action at Summerfest 2013.

Also under the category of increased visibility, two new “Fonthill Rotary Club” banners were acquired. These banners have already been used at several fundraising and community service events in the community.

We had four recipients for the annual **Paul Harris Fellow Awards Night**, including Dr. Richard Taylor, community member; Dorothy Bielby, community member; Tove Bowman, Rotarian; and David Swan, community member.



At the beginning of September we welcomed our inbound exchange student, Rio Tanaka, from Nanao, Japan. Rio has already settled into school well, and is staying with the first of four host families, the Taylors.



Event Highlights to Date - Community Service

The Rotary Year in Fonthill starts off with great fanfare on the very first day of July with four of our major community service events held in the month of July.

July 1 – Pelham’s Annual Canada Day Celebration

Lead by Rotarian Lance Wiebe the Organizing Committee’s year long planning comes together with huge family fun from 10 in the morning until fireworks complete the night at 11 p.m. The Club’s contribution to this excellent celebration is well recognized in the community. Every year the event gets larger and busier.

July 25 – Band Shell Service Club Night

The Club sponsored and presented an evening of reggae and soul in the form of The Sattalites, a Juno award-winning band from Toronto. The Fonthill Rotary Club banner was showcased at the front of the stage and Club members distributed free water to a large crowd gathered to enjoy their evening at the Bandshell.

July 18 to 21 - Third Annual Pelham Summerfest

For the third year in a row, Fonthill Rotarians worked alongside members of three other local service clubs throughout the celebration. Streets were closed to traffic in the downtown of Fonthill for the entire day on Saturday with street vendors and entertainment for all ages. Rotarians volunteered at the beer tent and selling 50/50 raffle tickets. Although Friday’s events were cancelled due to rain, we expect our club will reap the benefits of our Saturday efforts once again.

July 29 - 22nd Annual Golf Tournament - Lookout Point Country Club

Another beautiful weather day treated golfers at one of Niagara’s most prestigious and challenging private course for the Club’s largest solo fundraising effort. We experienced an average attendance with nearly 100 golfers plus friends and family sitting down to dinner. Proceeds totalling \$5,000 will be donated to a local community committee raising funds for a skate park in Pelham, the Isaac Riehl Skate Park, in memory of a 14-year-old boy killed while skateboarding on a rural road a year ago.

The June 26 meeting was an evening club social & barbecue with our spouses and included the induction of the 2013-14 board of directors.

After such a busy July we took a breather with regular scheduled club meetings, waiting to start planning autumn activities, including Pelham’s Amazing Road Rally on Oct. 5, and our participation in the annual Rotary TV Mega Auction, taking place Nov. 21-23 and including the Rotary clubs of Fonthill, St. Catharines, Welland and Niagara Falls.

Rotary Interact Club - E.L. Crossley Secondary School

The Interact Club of E.L Crossley had another great year. From the opening meeting in September, with approximately 32 students the club, to the final gathering in June, the students truly fulfilled the Rotary motto of Service Above Self and the requirements of an Interact Club. The new Board was inducted in June and planned a busy year. The club has a very active Staff Advisor in Karen Chcoski and Rotary liaison, Patricia Duncan, is in regular contact with the club. The events were as follows: participation in the Rankin Run for Cancer for which they raised \$200 for the local hospital; the We Scare Hunger food drive at Halloween in support of Pelham Cares; providing leadership in the school's Christmas Cheer event for 30 local families in Welland/Pelham area, provided by the Salvation Army; supporting the End Polio Now campaign with a BBQ and bake sale on Literacy Day from which they donated \$300; a Vow of Silence campaign which raised \$250 for Free the Children; and collecting and donating two car loads of clothing, toiletries and shoes to RAFT, a local youth shelter serving all of Niagara.

In addition, the Interact members participated in Rotary events such as Canada Day and the TV Auction and are frequently called upon at school to help as ambassadors and guides, with Grade 8 visitations, parents' nights and graduation ceremonies.

International Service Committee

Four members of the club will attend the upcoming District 7090 Foundation Grant Management Seminar. The timing of the grant seminar came at a very opportune time as our International Service committee will be undertaking a strategic review of our clubs past international service projects and our capacity to undertake any new projects.

Please also see: Foundation Committee report, page 17

Planned Involvement 2013-14

The remainder of the 2013-14 Rotary Year will see the members of the club continue their involvement in community and Rotary events including:

- Keep Pelham Beautiful Community Clean Up
- Rotary District 7090 Conference
- Pelham's Volunteer Recognition Social
- Paul Harris Fellow Awards Night
- Remembrance Day Memorial Services
- Rotary Foundation Support (\$100 per member commitment)
- Polio Eradication Campaign
- Rotary TV Mega Auction Multi Club Event
- Golf & Travel Lottery
- continue to be co-sponsors for SOWNY e-club
- engage in the fellowship of our Rotary exchange student from Japan

Report from the President

It is an honour to be the President of the Rotary Club of Fonthill for the year 2013-14. This Rotary club has a proud history of community involvement and fundraising. With the recent work of Immediate Past-President Bob Eamer to solidify the internal framework of the club, we are moving forward with a view to increase our presence in the community and our long-term impact as well.

Our goals for the coming year include:

1. To identify the areas our club would most like to impact in our community and in the world, to help in focusing our efforts to further these goals.
2. To continue the growth of our club through engagement and retention of current club members and attracting new club members.
3. To increase our presence in the community through social and print media

Our club has several yearly commitments that are ongoing (eg., Canada Day celebration, Summerfest, golf tournament, Rotary TV auction). These constitute our major fundraisers and flagship community events. This year the money raised from the golf tournament is to be used as a donation to the Isaac Riehl Memorial Skate Park.

As was noted, the visibility of our club was aided by the purchase of two new Fonthill Rotary Club banners and the purchase of Rotary shirts that convey a very respectable image to the community.

The Fonthill club's Harassment policy titled "A Rotary Response to Preventing and Eliminating Harassment" has gone through several reviews and been adopted by the club with training upcoming this Rotary year.

We were pleased to honour four Paul Harris Award recipients at a dinner held in March of this year and we are planning another gala evening this coming March. We are planning a new member orientation night for this fall/winter that will act as an introduction to Rotary in general, and to our club in particular, for our newer members and as a refresher for our more experienced members.

We are also seeking the re-forming of the district's first Early Act club at A.K. Wigg Elementary School. A partnership with E.L. Crossley Secondary School's Interact Club for the purpose of student mentorship is also in development to help foster a healthy transition between schools and clubs.

As a proud co-sponsor of the first e-club of SOWNY, we look forward to meeting as many of their members as we can and seeing them grow in numbers and influence.

On a sad note, we are mourning the loss of Past-President Maureen Walker who recently passed away from complications from Multiple Sclerosis. We remember her for her contributions to our club and her ready smile. She is missed. Our club will be deciding how to best honour her memory in light of her contributions to the club.

Submitted by Michael Lewis

Report from the Treasurer

Our club financial position coming into the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 year is a net asset balance of \$41,500.

Our budget for the year has been presented to the club directors and reviewed at the club assembly meeting in July.

Our net asset position represents:

- An unrestricted balance for operations of roughly \$21,500
- A balance that is committed to Pelham Cares, our local food bank charitable organization in the amount of \$20,000

Our budget for the June 30, 2014 year sets a revenue budget of \$15,500 and a club expenses and committed program budget of \$15,500.

Our committed program budget includes:

- Our Rotary Foundation contribution of \$ 2,200
- Our commitment to fund High School scholarships at our local High School for \$2,000
- We have a discretionary budget of roughly \$5,000 for local or international project contributions.

We allocated 5,000 of our net proceeds from our golf tournament to a capital project by the Town of Pelham to build a skate park.

The club also considers allocations from this discretionary budget semi annually (Dec and June). Typically, the club will approve to make semi-annual contributions up to the discretionary amount as the clubs commitment to Pelham Cares is financed (\$20,000).

The club has been informed that Pelham Cares will purchase a property with the deal closing in April 2014. Our commitment of \$20,000 will be contributed to them during the fundraising phase.

Our budget for the year ending June 30, 2014 will be to meet our commitment amounts and end the year with an unrestricted fund balance of about \$21,500, that being our opening balance less our Pelham Cares contribution.

We implement controls that are typical for a Rotary club of this size, including two directors' signatures on all disbursements.

Directors review bank balances and reconciliations at directors' meetings.

There is also segregation between handling of meeting dues, deposits and recording of revenues.

Respectfully submitted
Randy Momot, CA
Treasurer

Report from the Secretary

It is my main objective to provide meaningful information to all members to encourage participation, attendance at meetings and events and to acknowledge the contribution individual members make to the success of our club. To help accomplish this I am publishing a weekly meeting bulletin via email to all members. This bulletin includes attendance figures, names of visitors, announcements, a précis of the speaker's presentation and a list of upcoming events and speakers. The bulletin is very much a work in progress, but I believe it is a step forward in keeping members engaged in and aware of club activities.

Additional Activities and Objectives are:

1. Update and maintain Rotary Club of Fonthill information on Club Runner - especially improving the info currently registered for individual members.
2. Maintain information in a current and accurate manner on the Club website and on supporting websites such as the Town of Pelham.
3. Create and maintain an electronic filing system for bulletins, Board Meeting minutes etc., that can be readily accessed when information is required in the future.
4. Order supplies and make sure of availability at events such as Paul Harris Fellow celebrations or New Member Inaugurations.
5. Act as a recorder of discussions and decisions made at Board Meetings and publish the minutes for each meeting in a timely fashion.
6. Provide personal input and participate in club activities as appropriate.
7. Review pertinent correspondence from Rotary International or District, requests for donations, etc. provide input, if appropriate, and bring to the attention of the appropriate Board Member.
8. Strive to be a positive influence and make significant contributions to the club wherever possible.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank Solich

Report from Youth Services /New Generations

It has been a very eventful year for New Generations activity over the past year. Our Interact Club of E.L. Crossley Secondary School continued their vibrant community involvement and continued to provide outstanding leadership for students of their school and youth throughout our community. *(See corresponding Interact Club highlighted earlier in this report).*

Discussions over the course of last year with A.K. Wigg elementary school with intentions of reincarnating the Early Act Club (documented as the first established in Canada) were initiated. In consideration of presenting labour matters within the school system over the year, however, the Club eyed fall 2013 as a more appropriate time to engage in this opportunity. In the meantime and as a means of providing value-added opportunity for A.K. Wigg, we have more recently garnered the support of the Crossley Interact Club to work directly with Early Act providing mentorship and leadership for elementary student and in the establishment of the school's Early Act membership and activity planning over the year. Ideally there would also be one or two joint Early/Interact Club community initiatives.

Through our Interact club we were able to select and sponsor a Slapshot participant who who was also involved in our Interact program. A club member's daughter was also selected and sponsored to attend RYLA conference last June. In her presentation to the Club she talked about the relevancy of her experiences during a two-week Nicaraguan volunteer experience earlier in May along with the many lessons and insights she had gleaned through what she described as an outstanding 'once in a lifetime' RYLA weekend.

Finally, the Club also reconnected with the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and put forward our sponsorship of two outbound students along with our commitment for one inbound. The Fonthill Club jointly sponsored the second outbound student (to Spain) in support of the Grimsby Lunch Club, who were unable to provide commitment for an inbound student themselves. Unfortunately the second candidate put forward for sponsorship withdrew voluntarily following the District interviews. We are very excited to now be supporting our inbound student Rio Tanaka from Nanao, Japan, who having arrived just after Labour Day, is with us until next September and will be attending E.L. Crossley Secondary School. *(see the photo earlier in the report).*

We look forward to continued success in our New Generations efforts in the year ahead in support of Rotary's commitment to the engagement of people of all ages to assist in changing lives in our communities for the better.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Taylor

Chair, New Generations.

Report from Club Counsellor

As we are pleased to welcome Rio Tanaka as our inbound Youth Exchange student, the club counsellor role takes on the additional responsibility of serving the counselling needs of both the club and its members as well as serving as liaison between Rio, the club, the host families ranging from minor health in interpreting the mysteries of Rotary through to assistance dealing with traumatic incidents that the student may encounter (as cited in Rotary International District 9700 Inc., *Youth Exchange Committee Handbook for Rotary Counselor*, Vol. 3)

In preparation of this responsibility the club drafted and adopted an anti-harassment and violence prevention policy essentially based on the four-way test. The policy that was adopted and implemented by the board was made available to all members electronically and a hard copy of the policy is kept in the podium of our weekly meetings. An educational component with respect to the existence of the policy and the procedures contained therein will become an element to our annual programming.

It is important to keep in mind that in the 22-year history of the club such a policy may have only been invoked in one or two occasions involving serious matters. The overall atmosphere and environment of the club is very friendly and welcoming and the adoption of a policy will not interfere with the personality of the club.

As club counsellor, it is also my duty to maintain possession of confidential private information relating to members' police records searches. Our club is very privileged to enjoy the memberships of experienced Rotarians who have served as president, district governor assistants, and leaders in their chosen profession. When required we can call upon the guidance and wisdom of thoughtful Rotarians to facilitate immediately any concern that may arise. In that sense there is a shared duty of the club counsellor role that is assumed by all of our members.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Larmand

Club Counsellor

Report from Public Relations

This portfolio has been part of my regular volunteer work in the community for a number of years (at least 10), and as such, I have developed a close relationship with the local print media, and a new online presence in town (mypelham.com). For the most part, we have coverage of our events, either through news representatives providing the coverage, or through submissions made by our club.

We have set a goal of receiving local press coverage at a minimum of once a month, whether for special events, new member inductions, or to share information with our community regarding district, national or international initiatives.

Examples of recent coverage include several articles (in different media outlets) of our participation in Canada Day and Pelham Summerfest, our sponsorship of the outgoing and incoming exchange students, and the inauguration of our new board.

Plans for 2013-14 include keeping pace with this goal, and increasing it when possible, through both more coverage in the traditional outlets, and a concerted effort to use new and social media opportunities. We have permission to upload submissions to mypelham.com, which means we control the message, and the webmasters then deliver this message in a newsletter once a week to 3,000+ subscribers via email.

At the beginning of 2012, we started a Facebook page. While it has had a slow start, there are currently more than 100 “likes” and several people who redistribute the postings to their walls as well; that is the power of social media; the few share with the many, who share with many more.

I also plan to train/mentor another member of the club, or more than one member, so that we have more involvement from newer members, and so that we have continuity in this portfolio no matter who takes the lead.

Yours in Rotary

Carolyn Mullin

Report from Club Service and Administration

CHAIR OF CLUB SERVICE:

We are privileged to have such a dynamic and strong group of individuals who go above and beyond to promote goodwill in the community, each other and everyone around them. The Rotary Club of Fonthill is blessed to have them and they are instrumental to our club's strength and success. A brief comment on this great team:

- **Registration & Attendance:** Gail Levay: Never misses a beat and always greets each and every member, potential members, guests etc. with a great smile. Accurate & stays up to date.
- **Banking -** Randy Momot: Bang on with the numbers and keeps an accurate detailed account of financials & continues to offer/provide professional input to financial matters affecting our club.
- **Membership -** Lance Wiebe: always on the hunt for potential new members and continues to put out the challenge to fellow Rotarian to invite & look for potential members.
- **Media -** Carolyn Mullin: Always ahead of the game promoting with pride and accuracy Rotary events, and she started the Fonthill Rotary Facebook page that she updates regularly.
- **Vocational & International Services -** Geoffrey McGuire: Has just taken on this task and will be exploring the possibility of working with the Rotary Club of Choluteca, Honduras to develop infrastructure projects related to education, water or electrical enhancements.

ADMINISTRATION:

As each New Year begins, so does forming the Pods, their leaders and responsibilities. Each pod leader is given a schedule of pod responsibilities and asked to finalize their guest speakers well in advance (for the benefit of the president & members) weekly responsibilities are to be delegated and forwarded to the President in advance.

We feel that fellowship within the club is extremely important as a happy supportive group of individuals that know one another, work very well together and thus strengthen the club. Examples of promoting club fellowship:

- CAR RALLY - OCTOBER 2013
- NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION DISTRICT CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 2013
- CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE - DECEMBER 2013

- VALENTINE’S DINNER - FEBRUARY
- PAUL HARRIS DINNER- HERNDER ESTATES - MARCH 2014
- NEW BOARD INDUCTION BBQ - JUNE 2014

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank Adamson

Report from Foundation Committee

There are a number of tasks that 2013-2014 Foundation Committee look to accomplish this year. The implementation of the Future Vision program in 2012-2013, lead to a number of questions our from our club members. In 2013-2014 the committee looks to attain a more detailed understanding of the Future Vision program requirements and processes. Once the committee is comfortable with the program, we look to provide our club members with a clearer understanding of Future Visions program so that they may look for projects that qualify/meet the program requirements. In addition, a clear understanding of the program by all club members will lead to a level of redundancy.

The 2013-2014 Foundations Committee looks to be proactive in identifying specific programs that the club may have an interest in supporting. These programs will be reviewed with the general membership and put into action given a consensus.

The committee also looks to successfully execute the District Grant process during the 2013-2014 year. To support this process, we are completing our Memorandum of Understanding and look to have this submitted in the near future. In addition to the management of the Future Vision program, the committee will also be tasked with re-educating the club members on the significance/importance of the Foundation.

We look to review the 6 areas of focus that the Foundation has including; Peace & conflict prevention/resolution, Disease prevention and treatment, Water and sanitation, Maternal and child health, Basic education/literacy and Economic/Community development. In addition, we will continue to review the “Every Rotarian Every Year” initiative and encourage the membership to make contributions to the Foundation.

Respectfully Submitted

Geoff Maguire

Our Club's History

The Rotary Club of Fonthill was chartered in 1991. It is one of several service groups operating in Pelham. The Club currently has a membership of 21 regular members and two honorary members. Although small in number, the Club has made an impact on the community.

The largest fundraising effort by the Club was the 2005 drive to raise \$100,000 for the provision of new uniforms and instruments for the E. L. Crossley S.S. Marching Band. Other past successes are the construction of the welcome sign for Fonthill and Club participation in the creation of the Steve Bauer Trail, a recreational trail for walking and cycling, which passes through the community and links to Welland. More recently, the Club was involved in securing a Trillium Grant for the sound system for the Fonthill Bandshell. In summer, free music performances of all types are offered on Thursday evenings for the whole community. Rotary also sponsors one of these very successful events. In fact, the Club chose to feature a representation of the bandshell on our Club banner, created in 2010.

The Club is very proud of the annual Canada Day Rotary Event in the Park which has grown since 2005 to be *the* place to bring young children for fun games, "bouncy castles," and simple crafts, both before and after the Canada Day Parade. Since 2008, the Club has committed to providing funds to seek a permanent home and funding for Pelham Cares, a community service organization that includes a local food bank, transportation to medical appointments and subsidy programs for sports and camps for underprivileged children. Project Pelham Cares was spear-headed by the Rotary Club of Fonthill and quickly drew support from many others in the community. After several years without success, the process will kick into high gear later this year with the recent announcement that Pelham Cares has purchased a suitable building.

We continue to support literacy in the community by the donation of funds to the local library, to be used where library staff see the greatest need.



THE ROTARY CLUB
OF
Fonthill

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