
Rotary Club of Windsor (1918)

Annual Report 2007-2008

INTRODUCTION

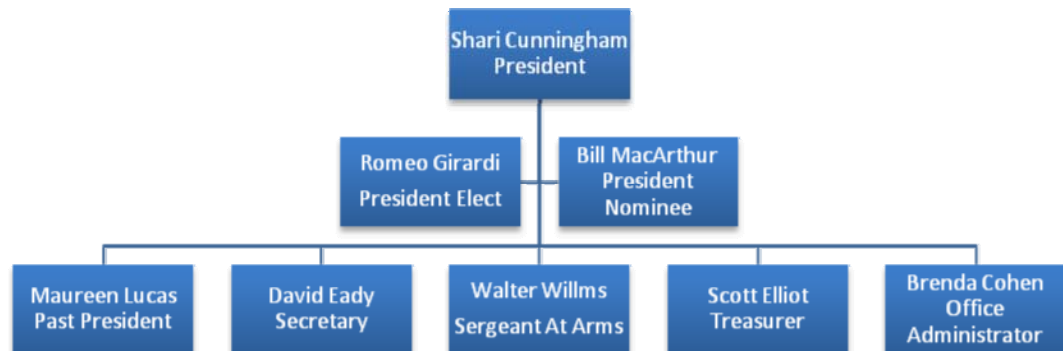


This is the first annual report of the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918). All Committee Chairpersons were invited to provide an overview of their committees' activities from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Some provided a little background to give context for this year's activities. The report is set up according to our club's structure for this past year as outlined in the 2007-2008 Roster on pages 48 to 50.

Our Club does so many good deeds on so many fronts that it is often difficult for our membership to have a comprehensive view of it. It is the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) Board of Directors' desire that this report will provide a synopsis of our many activities that promote international goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Enjoy your Club!

2007/2008
Executive



Group Study Exchange: Chairperson Janet Kelly

Nancy Leavoy and Ken Sherman joined the GSE Committee this year. Our activities included the following:

- ▶ Recruited and sponsored one applicant for the GSE team to Finland. She was not selected but intends to reapply this year for the Hungary trip
- ▶ Planned the itinerary for the Inbound Finland Team during its time in Canada. Members of The Rotary Club of Windsor(1918) hosted 4 of the members.
- ▶ Coordinated the Inbound Team's vocational and recreational time in Essex County and facilitated the involvement of the Rotary Clubs of Leamington and Amherstburg which were pleased to host the team for one day each.
- ▶ Coordinated the efforts of Rotarians in the Rotary Clubs of Windsor, St. Clair, Roseland, and Essex for special events and vocational days for the Team.

We will soon be assisting in recruiting Team Leader and team members for the 2008-09 GSE to Hungary.

Youth Exchange: Chairperson Kay Curtis



Inbound Students

The Youth Exchange Program has 3 students at present. Two came in August and will be returning home in July. The third one came in January.

We have made a commitment for only two students for 2008-2009 who will arrive in August. We made the decision to eliminate the January student for two reasons: we found that the students were finding it difficult to integrate with the students who came in August, and we had difficulty in finding Host Families.

Outbound Students

We presently have 3 students outbound. One had to return early due to illness and the others will return in July and August. Also in July and August we have another 3 students going outbound. Outbound students, who are now called rebound students, will be expected to do a 10-minute presentation to the club by September about their experience.

Youth Exchange has had a successful auction around Valentines Day to raise money for the inbound students. These funds allow the club to provide the students with extra fun activities.

For the last 2 years our inbound students were presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship by the club. The ongoing goal of Youth Exchange is to have 2 inbound students and as many as 5 outbound students. We would also like to see members become more involved with the students, perhaps taking a student on weekends or for a Sunday dinner. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get Host Families; at present most of the Host Families are not members of a Rotary Club.

Rotary International Foundation Fund Committee: Chairperson Don Snyder



- ▶ Paul Harris Fellowship recognitions were presented at six different Club Meetings. President Shari Cunningham and District Governor Jennifer Jones presented the certificates, medallions, pins and crystals.
- ▶ Nine Rotary Members received certificates, medallions and pins for their donations, or donations by others to honour them, to become Paul Harris Fellows. (Cindy Fuerth, Lou Valente, Darren Luck, Curling Ellsworth, Mike Wills, Kay Curtis, Carol Foley, Margurite Reid, Allan Kidd).
- ▶ Rotary members honoured twenty-six others with Fellowships.
- ▶ Twenty-one Rotary Members received sapphires and rubies in recognition of their donations in addition to their Paul Harris Fellowships.
- ▶ Five Rotary Members were recognized as Major Donors, three at Level One, two at Level Two: Hasu Naik, Art Leadley, Bev Lounsbury at Level One, Murray and Fran Elder at Level Two
- ▶ Total contributions to the Rotary International Foundation Fund were just over \$61,000.
- ▶ There are over 100 Paul Harris Fellows listed by our Club and many Sustaining Members.
- ▶ We have undertaken to take part in the "every member every year" program and include a donation of \$25 in each new member's initiation fee and \$5 in each of the two installments of every member's annual dues.
- ▶ No applications were received for Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships or for Peace Scholarships.
- ▶ Promotion of Paul Harris Fellowships was the subject of four presentations, using a concept of matching each one hundred dollar donation with a similar amount of points from the accumulated account of Club Points.
- ▶ Mike Serafimovsky and Don Snyder chaired the committee, made up of Norm Wheeler, Lex McCrindle, Art Leadley, Hy Muroff, Frank Bagatto, Richard Caron, Mark Donlon, Ian Henderson and Ken Sherman.

World Community Service: Chairperson Jim Moore



- ▶ The Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) has continued its multi-faceted involvement in World Community Service with twelve continuing projects and thirteen new initiatives in poverty alleviation in all three of Rotary International's program themes of Health, Education and Water. In most of the countries where we are active, these projects are parts of continuing sustained programs in focussed communities in partnership with Rotary Clubs in the host countries. We are also open to new initiatives in new areas as the opportunities arise and our members rise to these challenges.
- ▶ Our WCS budget of \$12,000 in Club funds has been leveraged, by contributions from individual Rotarians and others, as well as partnering arrangements with other organizations in Canada and overseas, to provide an amazing \$3.3 million in humanitarian assistance, most of it for sustainable development projects.

India



Hasu Naik has completed three projects in his native state of Gujarat in India this past year:

- ▶ A \$20,000 education and literacy project to open two tribal residential schools for children who would otherwise not get any education. This program is for indigenous people not unlike our First Nations in his native state of Gujarat.
- ▶ A \$42,500 micro credit project to help village women to buy heifers and thereby become self-supporting by selling the excess milk from them.
- ▶ A \$37,200 avoidable blindness project for the Rotary Eye Institute in Navsari to perform 1000 cataract surgeries on people who would otherwise lose their sight.

Hasu is now starting a new water and sanitation project to collect and conserve rainwater for later use in the dry season. He is also spearheading avoidable blindness projects in Nigeria, Ghana and possibly Ethiopia.

Other continuing projects in India include:

- ▶ Our support of the Tenali Orphanage and School founded by Tad and the late Uma Venkateswarlu
- ▶ The 4-Way Test Essay Program initiated by Om Chandna to fight the mindset that supports corruption.

Afghanistan

Asmat Naebkhil has recently returned from Kabul where he has been involved in setting up the Rotary Cardiac Centre, the only cardiac care facility in all of Afghanistan, in partnership with the Kabul Rotary Club and the medical school and teaching hospital. This is a \$500,000 project that our Club has facilitated with the support of World Medical Relief in Detroit. As well, the Cardiac Centre in Kabul will be part of the Canadian Connection E-Health network that Anne Snowdon of our Club, Dr. Arnold Noyek of Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto and others are forming. Dr. Noyek arranged for Asmat to spend a month in the cardiac department of Mount Sinai being trained in the very latest concepts for cardiac care before going to Kabul. While in Afghanistan, Asmat also traveled to the Badakhshan province in the north where he planted the seeds for two future projects, clean water supply and a medical clinic.

Ghana

Godfrey Bachevie has spearheaded five new projects in the Upper West Region:

- ▶ The Duori Junior Secondary School renovation, texts and supplies
- ▶ The donation and delivery of clean water sanitizers to rural medical clinics
- ▶ New sewing machines for the Dr. Godfrey S. Bachevie Handicapped Workshop
- ▶ Repairs and furniture for the Art Leadley Library in Jirapa
- ▶ School supplies and tools to the Degri School

He is also planning two major new multi-year programs. One is for water retention systems in the Upper West Region. The other is for nursing training through the Canadian Connection E-Health network, in cooperation with the Rotary Club and Medical School in Tamale and the Rotary Club of Jerusalem and Herzog Hospital in Israel. Our Club also has involvement in the Windsor-St. Clair Rotary Club R.E.L.A.Y. project in Anomabo, Ghana with the participation of Ron Arkell and Karen Durocher.

Kenya

Kay Curtis has initiated significant fundraising for a Literacy & Clean Water Project to take place in Nyeri. She is also the Kenya contact for a new project of our Club in partnership with the Canadian World Education Foundation (Om Chandna and Rick Caron) to assist with the education of children of widows to break the cycle of poverty.

Other Africa

Other projects we have supported in Africa include providing anti-malarial mosquito nets in Tanzania in partnership with the Ridgetown Rotary Club and supporting the work of Save the Children with AIDS orphans in Kenya (Don Snyder and Bill McRae). We are also exploring a new project to provide E-Health training in Ethiopia in partnership with the Rotary Club of Jerusalem and Herzog Hospital in Israel (Gary Katz). Incoming Chair Janet Kelly also arranged for the donation of backpacks with the Rotary Wheel and our Club name imprinted for students in Ghana and Kenya

Americas

Through Ron Arkell, we continued to support the work of Fr. Rene Giroux of Windsor in Haiti, assisting with the construction of the mission orphanage latrine. Joe Greco continued to provide medical equipment to Venezuela in partnership with World Medical Relief in Detroit and the host Venezuela Rotary Club. He is also working to arrange the donation of used fire engines from the Windsor Fire Department to the city in Venezuela. Dianne Moore arranged for the donation of our Club's remaining Windsor Hart Walkers to World Medical Relief in Detroit and to a Rehabilitation Centre in New Jersey for use with needy Cerebral Palsy kids. Marcela Diaz is planning a project for Colombia. Janet Kelly is working with Clubs and Districts in the Upper Amazon Region of Brazil to develop clean water, education and health care projects. Our Club also assisted Windsor City Councillor and Roseland Rotarian Drew Dilkens to salvage hospital beds and other equipment from the old Huron Lodge prior to its demolition for donation to World Medical Relief.

We in Windsor who have so much have been privileged to be able to help in these ways to alleviate poverty in several corners of the world.

Community Avenue of Service:

Director Chair: Elaine Whitmore

Director Secretary: Nick Bibic

Adult Assistance: Chairperson Bob Fields

- ▶ This program was formed in the early eighties to assist those children past their nineteenth birthdays that were no longer covered by Easter Seals. Assistance in the early years was somewhat limited to young adults. In the mid to late eighties the Club had a committee called The Family Life Committee which concentrated on bridging the gap between generations and in particular those children in the early school years and Seniors. It was felt at that time due to the incidence of single parent families many children had limited, if any, contact with the older generation. The committee liased with The Senior Citizens Center and agreed to fund the transportation cost of those Seniors who would be prepared to participate in a school related program to interact with young students. In some cases there were already seniors who were actively interacting with students and assisting teachers with special one-on-one training of some students. This opened a number of opportunities to those teachers who recognized the resources they had with the seniors. After a few years of prodding the school boards they finally agreed to fund the transportation costs. At this point it was determined that it would be practical to merge the Adult Assistance and Family Life Committees. The surviving committee

functions on the basis of the requests we receive from day to day and we cannot predict what type of assistance may be needed. Most of the requests come to us through agencies who deal directly with the end user. However, some of the applicants are aware of Rotary and approach us directly. Due to the limitation of funds we do try to seek partners with many of the requests we receive. Also, we have tended to limit our maximum participation per request and have concentrated our participation to programs involving MOBILITY devices.

- ▶ Our annual budget for the past few years has been in the area of \$18,000. The committee meets approximately eight to ten times a year during which two to four applications will be considered at each meeting. In 2007-08, there were 24 adults assisted for an average of \$600.70. The cheapest item was \$137.28. The most expensive item was \$1,340.
- ▶ In most cases if an assistive device of some form is requested, we will insist that an appropriate assessment is performed by a qualified Occupational Therapist.
- ▶ As indicated previously, our available funds are limited and most Agencies and other service organizations face the same fate. In light of the current circumstances, we are co-funding more and more projects. This cooperative effort has allowed us to participate in programs, which regularly exceed \$ 100,000. yearly

Art in the Park: Chairperson Shari Cunningham



This year was the 30th year of the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918)'s Art in the Park (AIP) – the official start of summer in Windsor. It is held the first full weekend in June. Our agreement with the City of Windsor spells out the financial arrangement between us that provides a donation to the city for the restoration of Willistead Manor. We start work for the June event in October or November of the prior year.

We have Rotarians working on specific portfolios that allow the steering committee to bring the event together. The portfolios are Administration, Website, Food & Beverage, Volunteer Coordinators, Information Booth, Purchasing, Gates & Security, Exhibitors, Set up & Tear Down, Finances, and Marketing. We estimate that it requires over 4,000 volunteer hours to bring this event to fruition. AIP is the biggest fundraiser of the club and thus finances many of the activities that are described in this annual report. Every Rotarian is expected to work as a volunteer on the AIP weekend. Age is no barrier as I discovered when entering the east gate on the Sunday and was greeted by Rotarians who have 53 and 46 years of Rotary Service above Self! Our financial estimates show that we had a net profit of \$45,858.00 – similar to last year but significantly down from 2002 to 2005 events. This year we started a dedicated Art in the Park web page that we anticipate will reduce our marketing expenses over the next few years.

The AIP committee has recommended to the Board of Directors that we do a long-range vision for AIP to look at ways to increase our revenues. We also recommended that we enter into negotiations with the City of Windsor for the next 5-year contract, starting 2010, during the 2008 - 2009 fiscal year.

Children Assistance: Chairperson Randi Glos

The Children Assistance Committee of Windsor (1918) met over the course of the fiscal year numerous times. The Committee primarily met to review requests from families with children who are in need of assistance with the cost of devices or products that improve their physical, medical and health care needs thereby enhancing their quality of life in a meaningful way. The child's need is our focus regardless of the family's ability to support its child in need.

Twenty-one requests from families in Windsor and Essex County communities were approved. These requests ranged from \$50 to \$1,480. The total assistance for the year was \$12,367 which was somewhat down from 2006/2007 fiscal years when the Committee had approved payments up to a total of \$16,963. Although we had fewer requests this year the Committee anticipates receiving even more than we did in 2006/2007 as we move in to the 2008/2009 fiscal year, given our newfound children's needs.

This year our Committee became aware of some children having the need of assistance related to maxillofacial treatments which we had never addressed since we stopped our affiliation with Easter Seals. Easter Seals had always refused to help these cases and we as a Committee had historically followed their lead. The Committee reviewed our mandate in light of the need and found that these requests did meet all of the criteria of our mandate and mission statement. We unanimously approved to assist with the first request for maxillofacial treatments for a child in need of such restorative work. The work is very expensive (\$20 to \$30 K) and our funding is limited to a maximum of \$1,500 / request so our work is to provide hope for these children through this seed money for initial treatments. Our contribution is small but our return on this investment is a children's hopes not only to improve their jaw /mouth to function properly but also their smile and their self-worth.

Children's Fest: Chairperson Maureen Lucas



The Children's Fest Committee is growing! We currently have 20 people participating on this committee and the energy is growing. Although we do not have a succession plan in place, we hope that with the success of this year's event, someone will step up to take on the role of Chair.

Innovation

- ▶ Like all fundraisers, we have had to take a look at the event and how it can grow – not only in size and reputation but also in profitability as that will impact on our club's ability to fund some wonderful projects.
- ▶ A step in the right direction – FENCE SIGNS. Last year we sold 14, which put \$3500 more in our pocket and also contributed \$3500 to the Children's Safety Village. That portion of the event MUST expand. If we sell 30 which is our goal this year, that will add \$7500 to our bottom line and \$7500 to Children's Safety Village's bottom line. But our club will need to step up and help make this happen.
- ▶ We are also adding a Bazaar aspect to the event and we hope to attract 20-30 vendors with kid friendly/family friendly items to sell. This will add \$4000 to our bottom line.

Profitability

- ▶ If the goals of this committee are met this year we will increase the bottom line on the event from net \$6700 to a net of \$25K. This event is a wonderful family activity in our community and if it can contribute to the financial well being of our club it will have achieved all of its goals.

Youth Services Committee: Chairperson Nancy Leavoy



Based on a \$6500 budget, plus a gift of \$500 from the Bank of Montreal (BMO) the following are highlights of the 2007-2008 Youth Services Committee's activities:

RYLA

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. This year the Youth Services Committee was able to sponsor eight high school students to a 2-day workshop emphasizing leadership, citizenship, and personal growth. In addition, our exchange students and one other privately sponsored student attended for a total of eleven representatives from our club. Each one came back excited and energized by what they had learned over the weekend. Many of these students are or became Interact members following the RYLA workshop. One of our RYLA students was so excited about Youth Exchange that she immediately applied and was accepted as an exchange student.

Interact

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Through hard work and dedication by Kay Curtis we were able to initiate the Assumption High School Interact Club. The Club was officially formed in September with a pinning ceremony and presentation of their banner. These students worked very hard at a number of fundraising initiatives aimed at helping the less fortunate both at home and internationally.

A Walkerville High School Interact Club is in the initial stages of development, again with Kay Curtis as mentor.

Clare McLeod Volunteer Awards Program



Clare McLeod, long time member of Rotary 1918, epitomized the meaning of Rotary and was a strong advocate for students. As part of his legacy a special awards program was developed in his name.

This year, through the hard work of Walter Willms, one student from each of the 26 secondary schools in Windsor and Essex County participated. Each student was recognized for the exceptional number of hours they have volunteered in many different areas of need across the community. While the schools require each student to achieve 40 hours of volunteer commitments in order to graduate all of these 26 students literally had 100's of hours each. They are truly an inspiration to all. Each student recognized was awarded with an opportunity for a bursary as described below.

St. Clair College & the University of Windsor

As partners in the future of our youth, the Youth Services Committee of the Rotary Club of Windsor, through the Clare McLeod Volunteer Awards Program, has arranged with the University of Windsor and St. Clair College to offer, to all students who win volunteer awards, bursaries in the amount of \$1,000.00 should they choose to attend one of these schools and meet the entrance qualifications.

Adventures in Citizenship

In the spring of 2008, Cydney Curtis, daughter of Kay Curtis, was one of 220 outstanding senior high school students from across Canada who spent four days in the National Capital in a program designed to develop their potential as leaders in their communities and in our Canadian society. Cydney had an excellent time and reported that the program was interesting and exciting. She was gratified to be chosen as the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) representative just as we were proud to have her represent our Club

Club Operations Avenue of Service:

Director Chair: Bryan Head and Zora Sanson

Director Secretary: Zora Sanson and Don Marsh

Club History: Chairperson Fred Sorrell

There were no meetings of the Club History Committee this year.

Dick Hedke and Other Awards: Chairperson Bill McArthur

Our club applied for a number of awards within Rotary and within the larger community. Within Rotary we applied for, and should receive, a Presidential Citation for exhibiting excellence in all four avenues of service. We also received an award at District Conference 2008 for the Best New Fellowship Event- the St. Patrick's Day Indoor Golf Tournament. We received honourable mention for our Dick Hedke application.

Externally, long-time member John McGivney received a Community Impact Award from the United Way.

Rotary Applications:

Our club applied for all of the major awards: Frank Devlyn (for public relations), Hugh Archer (best new service project), and Dick Hedke (overall club excellence).

Our Frank Devlyn application was problematic in that we did not have a Public Relations committee. While we have been successful on occasion at obtaining excellent PR, we can't show that we have a plan with goals and objectives and measurable results.

The Grand Opening at the Bistro at the River was submitted as our Hugh Archer application. Initially, the plan was to submit the Kenya project but time frames didn't match. To have a reasonable chance at winning this award, we would need to have a project that has a very strong service component to it.

Our Dick Hedke Award showed us to have an excellent club. 500+ points is considered excellent. The application was submitted claiming 544 points and we had 5 more added afterwards. In addition, the committee judging the application has 50 discretionary points. Therefore, it is reasonable to estimate that we had a final score in the 590 range. It is understood that the winners had over 600. Additional details of the Dick Hedke application were submitted in a memo to the Board dated April 6, 2008.

Non-Rotary Applications:

Connie Martin's name was submitted on behalf of the club for a United Way Community Impact Award. While she did not win, Rotarian John McGivney did. An external applicant submitted his name. Several Rotarians' names were submitted for the 'Hearts That Light the Way' awards but without success.



Recommendations:

- 1) Establish an Awards Committee with the President Nominee as Chair and President Elect as Advisor. When the President Nominee Elect is established in December that person would become the Vice Chair. The Committee would fit within the new PR pillar/division.
- 2) The committee would have two responsibilities:
 - a) Within Rotary, to submit our club and its members for all the Rotary awards to which we are entitled to apply with the intent of winning all the awards that we have a reasonable expectation of winning,
 - b) To submit the club and its members for broader community awards where there is a reasonable expectation of winning.
- 3) All application forms should go to the President Nominee as soon as received by the club. There were instances where applications were entered as correspondence at the board meetings before being assigned to the President Nominee. This caused delays on a couple of occasions.

In summary, we have a great club. We had some successes this year with award applications. We can achieve much more. Increased success with awards will be good for the club and good for Rotary.

Finance Committee: Member Romeo Girardi

The past fiscal year was a transition year for the Finance Committee and the club. Our new Treasurer Scott Elliott took over from Karen Durocher and Scott commenced an initiative to streamline reporting and budgeting. He was transferred to Kitchener Waterloo in January and we have had interim Treasurers since his departure. A new Treasurer was appointed in June and we expect him to continue the objectives established by Scott.

Throughout the course of the past year the Finance Committee has continued to provide direction and support to the board on a number of financial concerns and has provided the necessary financial direction needed to the board and the club.

Fundraising:

50/50 Draws: Chairperson Evelyn Slobasky

In reference to our 50/50 draw for the past year, we raised \$4,002.56 for the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918). Equivalent was given to the winners of each draw, which I was happy to have initiated with the super assistance from Allan Kidd Jr. and support from the membership, who purchased ticket every week.

My sincere thanks to everyone involved for his or her co-operation and special thanks to Allan for his help, as this is a great fundraiser for our Rotary Club.

Bingo: Chairperson Walter Willms

In 2007-8 we had 15 Bingo dates with 40 two-hour sessions with net revenue of nearly \$20,000.00. The DREAM TEAM members - Nick Bibic, Sheila Gordon, Ian Henderson, Don Spafford, Ken Wheeldon, Ed Zusko & yours truly - worked a grand total of 43 times with the support of other Club members; 3 of whom worked three times each, 6 of whom worked two times each and 41 of whom worked one time each. 48 of the 61 members who in the Spring 2007 survey stated that they would help occasionally found it possible to deliver on their good intentions! Fortunately, two members who had not responded to the survey also stepped forward. Not once was it necessary to put out an SOS in the eleventh hour to recruit helpers! (I hope this statement does not now come back to haunt me.)

During the year the DREAM TEAM successfully adapted to major changes in duties and procedures for volunteers and in record keeping and reporting. In the spring we began the practice of all volunteers wearing Club golf shirts, Club denim shirts or Club Bingo aprons in an effort to promote our Club at the Bingos.

The constantly changing Bingo environment will bring new challenges and hopefully continued rewards.

In-House Campaign: Walter Willms & Lex McCrindle

In 2007-8 the Foundation Fund has received in excess of \$32,000.00 toward the annual commitment of \$75,000.00 to support the pledges made to the John McGivney Children's Centre (JMCC) and Maryvale. This is in addition to a significant sum that was received late in 2006-7 when the aggressive In-House Campaign was begun.

Currently 29 members are contributing 16,668.00 annually for the Children's Safety Village (CSV), Rotary International Foundation Fund (RI FF) and the Windsor Foundation Fund (Windsor FF) combined via PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance).

- ▶ 9 members contribute \$170.00 monthly for CSV -\$2040.00 annually
- ▶ 19 members contribute \$360.00 monthly for RI FF - \$4320.00 annually
- ▶ 24 members contribute \$859.00 monthly for Windsor FF (JMCC & Maryvale) - \$10,308.00 annually
- ▶ Total - 29 members contribute \$1389.00 monthly - \$16668.00 annually - for the three purposes combined.
 - 8 members contribute for all three purposes
 - 11 members contribute for two purposes
 - 10 members contribute for one purpose

The remaining \$15,000.00 plus in 2007-8 was received in cash donations. It is safe to say that nearly 50% of our members have contributed through the In-House Campaign.

Membership Committee: Chairperson Carl Cohen

Growth and Retention:

As of July 1, 2007, we had 127 members. By June 30/08 we had 125 members. In spite of being down 2 members by the end of the year, we were able to fulfill RI President Wilf Wilkinson's membership mandate. We are proud to say that 11 new members were inducted in 2007/2008 and their sponsors recognized with Sponsorship pins. Unfortunately, for various reasons, we said goodbye to 13 of our members. Of the terminations, 6 resigning members advised that they were joining other clubs, either as a result of relocating (3) or for reason of a more convenient time (3). The most frequent other reason

for resigning was business and family pressures. Sadly, we also mourned the passing of two of our valued members, Bryan Head and Hugh Beattie.

Two of the new members came from other Clubs, and one was a rejoining former member.

Membership Initiatives:

During the 2007/2008 year, the Membership Committee undertook a number of initiatives towards both growth and retention. The Committee was concerned at the number of members whose attendance had slipped below 50%. Letters were sent to these members as well as follow-up calls made to let them know they had been missed.

The Committee began a program to recognize members with perfect attendance and revived its recognition program for members whose term exceeded 25 years. The first Recognition was awarded to Bill McRae for 30 years membership.

As well, the Membership Committee, with the help of Mike Drake, began to publish one paragraph "ads" in professional newsletters targeting doctors, dentists, pharmacists, lawyers, etc. with Rotary info and an invitation to attend a meeting.

Members, especially new Members, were encouraged to attend the District Membership Seminar in October with the club covering the costs.

Vocational Avenue of Service:

Director Chair: Lou Valente

Director Secretary: Om Chandna

Fellowship Committee: Chairperson Bill MacArthur



Every month Rotarians are assigned jobs at meetings by rotation (seems appropriate) as registrar, greeter, and raffle assistant. This is done to promote fellowship. In addition, there have been a number of special Fellowship/Fundraiser events including:

- ▶ The Kenya Tea Party hosted by Kay Curtis in summer 2007
- ▶ The Kay Curtis Roast in summer 2007
- ▶ The Grand Opening of the Bistro at the River to announce the Peace Conference in September 2007
- ▶ President's Night for Maureen Lucas in September 2007
- ▶ Fellowship at President's Shari and Dave's home for the Rotary Board and Committee Chairpersons in October 2007
- ▶ The annual Christmas Party
- ▶ The St. Patrick's Day Indoor Golf Tournament (winner of the best new Fellowship event at Discon 2008) in 2008
- ▶ The Scotch Tasting evening in 2008
- ▶ Easter Monday Family Day with CLarol the CLown in 2008
- ▶ Dianne & Jim Moore's Ping Pong Challenge – many times in 2007 and 2008

Program Committee: Chairperson Charles Clark



- ▶ Prominent speakers: Hon. Sandra Pupatello, Hon. Dwight Duncan, Hon. Ed. Lumley, Dr. Ross Paul and Sam Schwartz of GreenLink.
- ▶ Special events: Salvation Army Annual Meeting, Easter Family Day and Clare McLeod Volunteer Awards.
- ▶ Topical Addresses: Dr. Saad Jasim (Walkerton Water), Bob Gorman (TD Asset Management).
- ▶ Club Programs: Christmas Party, Youth Exchange Auction and World Community Service-Ghana and Kenya.

The Program Committee was very active in seeking quality speakers for our meetings. Of particular significance was the joint meeting with the Windsor Chamber of Commerce. It would be great if this could become an annual joint meeting as it provides the general public an opportunity to hear about the great work and projects undertaken by Rotary. It also raises our profile in the community and helps promote Rotary to potential new members.

Public Relations:

There was no formal committee for Public Relations.

Visiting Committee: Chairperson Carol Foley

- ▶ The Visiting Committee attempted to fulfill its mandate by maintaining contact with our Club members who were in need of additional support and encouragement. This took the form of notes, cards and telephone calls where appropriate.
- ▶ On the occasion of the death of any of our Club members or an immediate family member, contact was made and support offered and provided as requested. A floral arrangement was delivered and fellow Rotarians were present to give support during Funeral Home visitation and at the time of the Funeral.
- ▶ In recent days our Bereavement Policy has been under review and will be updated and revised as appropriate.
- ▶ The Visiting Committee has done an admirable job to ensure that our members who are not well are kept in contact with someone from Rotary. There has been ongoing discussion between the 'Family Matters' group and the 'Visiting' group on where the responsibility should lie. Lou Valente has agreed to be part of the committee going forward.

The 4-Way Test: Co-Chairs - Om Chandna and Lou Valente

The 4 - Way Test in India: Om Chandna



The Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) sponsored a 'Five Year Project' of spreading the Rotary 4-Way Test among school children in India. Rotary year 2005-2006 was its first year. This project invites students of grades VIII to XII from 12,500 schools all over India to participate in annual national essay contest. Past District Governor Yogananda S.R. is its administrator in India.

The Rotary year 2007-2008 was third year of this project. Schools from 23 of 28 RI Districts in India participated in this 4-Way Test contest. 77 District Level winners and 18 National Level winners were declared in May.

A District Level winner will receive cash Award of Rs.1,000 and a certificate of recognition. A National Level winner will receive Rs.2,000 and a certificate of recognition. In the previous 2 years, both District and National Level winners also received silver medals. Ninety-five certificates for District and National Level winners for 2007 - 2008 were prepared in Windsor in June 2008 and were signed by President Shari and PDG Yogananda.

Total cost of this 5-year project is \$50,000. Our Club sponsored this project and contributed \$10,000 toward it. Rotarian J.K. Chandna, a member of the Rotary Club of Bangalore, paid for printing and mailing of mailers to schools in India.

The 4 - Way Test in District 6400: Co Chairs – Om Chandna and Lloyd Morgan

- ▶ Our RI District 6400 organized the 4-Way Test Essay Contest for Rotary year 2007 – 2008 for children in Ontario and Michigan. Om Chandna and the late Lloyd Morgan were asked to lead this initiative.
- ▶ Our Club was one of thirty-five Rotary Clubs that participated in this contest.
- ▶ President Shari Cunningham, Rotarian Walter Willms, Rotarian Gary Champ and Directors of our Club made outstanding contributions by supporting and advising District Co-Chairs of the 4-Way Test Committee at the start of this District project.
- ▶ Rotarians David Eady, Bill McRae and Lou Valente met and discussed this contest with school principals and teachers of schools assigned to our club. Rotarians Gary Champ, David Eady, Bill MacArthur, Bill McRae, Zora Sanson, Lou Valente and Walter Willms served as judges for the School Level contest. Rotarians Rick Caron, Gary Champ and Walter Willms served as judges for the District Level contest.
- ▶ President Shari Cunningham and District Governor Jennifer Jones assisted and advised at every stage of this project for success of this project. District Governor Jennifer Jones, Clubs of our RI District and a Simplified Grant from our RI District financed this project.

The Rotary Club Foundation Fund: Chairperson David Boyd, Treasurer Lex McCrindle

The Rotary Club of Windsor Foundation Fund had an active year dealing with its control of funds entrusted to its care as well as making sure that recommendations received by its lawyers and accountants were considered – especially in the field of fund raising. This latter emphasis seemed to predominate our activities this year. There was a real need for the Club and the Foundation to formalize their respective roles in fund raising in order to meet rules and regulations set by governments at all levels and that, at last, has been done. With regard to our fiduciary role in looking after money that you the members have raised as well as those funds given to us by the public and through estates, we will make a complete report at the annual general meeting. However, suffice it say that we have experienced the same sort of rough ride this year with our investments as other market investors have had – but we keep plugging away at our work. We can report that the Rotarians of our Club have given \$42,877 to projects we support – the Children’s Safety Village (\$1,590), Rotary International (\$25,602) and our own Foundation (\$15,685) to support our commitment to the Maryvale and McGivney Centre additions. Thanks for your continued support! We also acknowledge, with thanks, the work of President Shari as she took on a new role within the Foundation this year. In the past she had been a member and chair. This year, she represented the Club as its President and was very active in our work in addition to the heavy responsibilities of being Club President. Thanks again, Shari!

Congratulations to The Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) on a great year!

