



1951-2021

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THE PRESIDENT

I joined Ajax Rotary on April 21, 2016 to help give back to the community and for friendship and camaraderie. When I arrived at my first Rotary meeting as a visitor, I was welcomed by a number of club members who were enthusiastic and very positive about whatever topic they were discussing. I asked questions about Rotary and about their mandate and instantly I knew it was the right place for me. I became President three years ago and again this year and discovered that all Rotarians have and want the same thing as myself, a better world to live in and to help mankind rid the world of sickness and disease.

Ajax Rotary will be celebrating seventy years as a service club this year. Just imagine for a moment the pride of being part of Rotary International, an organization that with the help of Bill and Melina Gates, has donated \$1.6 billion dollars to aid in the eradication of polio worldwide. If you are driving down Harwood Ave in the spring you will see thousands of purple crocus flowers planted by the Club as a post winter pick-me-up and a visual sign of the fight against Polio. It was a great day when we planted them and a constant reminder of the drive and camaraderie of the membership.

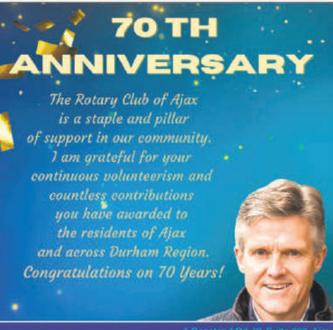
Rotary has accomplished many positive things not only in the community but worldwide. In our Club, we not only help raise funds for different projects but, we do such things as Adopt a section of road to clean up twice yearly. We collect hockey equipment and used books to send to Indigenous communities in Northern Ontario. We help the Salvation Army distribute food boxes each Christmas and are donating to their building fund. The Club provides funds to the Ajax Pickering Hospital to purchase vital equipment for the health of patients. We are helping to fund a new building for Grandview Kids here in Ajax, a much needed facility for the adults of the future. These are just a few things that our Club does to make our world a better place.

I am proud to be an Ajax Rotarian and proud of our accomplishments. If you would like to join us, please contact us. We would be happy to chat.

Bruce Green

President, Ajax Rotary







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From one long standing Ajax business to another, Congratulations on 70 years of community service.

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Contact my

Ajax Community Office:







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GREETINGS FROM THE MAYOR OF AJAX

On behalf of Council and the Town of Ajax, it is with great pleasure that I extend congratulations to the Ajax Rotary Club on the occasion of your 70th Anniversary!

Ajax Rotarians have been giving back to our community and practicing "service above self" for seven decades and have donated over \$1 million to help those in need.

We celebrate your commitment to providing continuous support to the Polio-Plus program to help eradicate polio worldwide as well as your contributions to the Ajax-Pickering Hospital and Herizon House.

The Ajax Rotary Club continues to make a difference in the lives of many people in our community by offering events such as Community BBQs, Annual Golf Tournaments, Silent Auctions and Pancake Breakfasts.

We thank you for your contributions and for the role that Ajax Rotary continues to play in building a caring and vibrant community and creating lasting change.

Congratulations and thank you for your service!

Sincerely,

Shaun Collier

Mayor Town of Ajax





CONGRATULATION FROM

THE SALVATION ARMY

On behalf of The Salvation Army Hope serving Ajax, Pickering and Uxbridge we are pleased to offer congratulations on the celebration of 70 years as a club in Ajax. The dedication and selfless service that has been given to countless causes and organizations over these years is truly remarkable. Your efforts have helped to not only lift burdens and help those dealing with trying times but have also created spaces for inspiration to generations of residents.

The Salvation Army Hope has been fortunate to have benefited numerous times from the help and aid of Rotary Ajax. This has taken the form of time given as volunteers for various food drives, staffing a Christmas kettle or helping to delivery toys for the most vulnerable in our community. Rotary Ajax has also been very generous with financial aid that has been given through proceeds

acquired from fundraising events such as Ribfest. These funds have gone towards projects like a new Community Response Vehicle that will make reaching those struggling in our community easier and more accessible.

Rotary Ajax is also a major contributor to the building campaign for the construction of a new 20,000 sq. ft. facility that will serve the community in many different capacities for many generations to come.

No matter the need Rotary Ajax has been there helping in anyway possible. So again, The Salvation Army Hope offers not only congratulations on your anniversary but a very sincere thank you for all you have done, not only for us as an organization, but for the people that have been helped directly from your contributions and efforts.

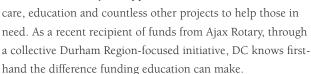




DURHAM COLLEGE CONGRATULATES AJAX ROTARY CLUB FOR 70 YEARS

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

Durham College (DC) is pleased to take this opportunity to congratulate the Rotary Club of Ajax on their 70th anniversary and their 70 years of working with our community to support health-



DC also appreciates all of the contributions made by Rotary and recently announced the re-naming of its Global Classroom. Inspired by Rotary's work, and in honour of local Clubs' (including Ajax) financial support, the space will now be known as Rotary Global Classroom.

The newly named Rotary Global Classroom is used by faculty to expose students to international perspectives. The only one of its kind at an Ontario college, the facility connects students and thought leaders from around the world in real-time to discuss issues of importance and to collaborate on solutions by sharing knowledge and skills. In addition the space is used for



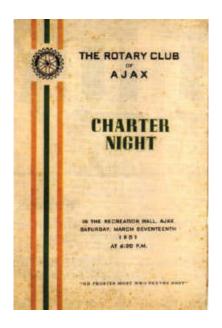
student presentations and competitions, conferences, and collaborations with the community, such as the recent Rotary World Polio Day event.

The Rotary Global Classroom is a land-mark feature of DC's new Centre for Collaborative Education (CFCE) located at the Oshawa campus.

"Internationalization is a key focus at Durham College," says DC President Don Lovisa, "and the Rotary Global Classroom plays an important role in bringing a variety of world views to our campus. Given Rotary's strong focus on making lasting, positive change across the globe, the name is a perfect fit. The Rotary Global Classroom supports the college's strategic goals and enhances the learning experience for our students through innovative and transformative education. We are very grateful for all the Clubs' donations, and pleased to also recognize their financial support through this naming."

DC remains grateful to Ajax Rotary Club's choice to support the Building Something Amazing campaign and extends congratulations on an incredible 70 years in the community.





The following executive members were elected on Charter Night:

President - Cecil Winter Vice President - Bert Hill Secretary - Harold Jenkins Treasurer - Don Kemp

Directors - Bill Scarff, Reg Humphries,

Bob Hunt and Jack Andrews

Additional Charter members included:

Geoff Arnold Pat Bayly
Les Faudell George Finley
Art Fulton Glynn Jones
George Lawrence Bill Laycock
Bill Rideout George Simpson
Clare Turner Roger Conant

SPONSORS:

Rotary Club of Whitby

President, Donald Ruddy, K.C. Committee Chairman, Vern Rowe

Rotary Club of Pickering

President and Committee Chairman, Harry Boyes

Rotary Club of Oshawa

President, Stan Iverson

CLUB BEGINNINGS



Cecil Winter, 1st President, Rotary Club of Ajax.

The first attempt in 1949 to establish a Rotary Club in Ajax was unsuccessful as its application was denied by the District. In 1950 the matter was reintroduced to the District and was supported by Arthur Ferguson of Gravenhurst, the District Governor at the time. He, along with Rotarians Harry Boyes and George Finley of the Pickering Club, recruited a roster of prospective members and in 1951 the Rotary Club of Ajax, sponsored by Clubs from Pickering, Whitby and Oshawa, came into being.

The Club's first meeting of twenty members took place on January 9, 1951 at the Saddle and Bridle Inn located east of

Pickering Beach Road.

A Committee was formed to organize its Charter Night, the occasion at which the Club's Charter would be officially presented to the first Club President, Cecil Winter.

Seventy years ago, on March 17, 1951, with twenty members, the Rotary Club of Ajax was chartered as the 46th club in District 247 (now District 7070). Charter Night was held in the Recreation Hall of the former Defense Industries Limited building. Club essentials, such as its bell, pictures, a clock, flags and name badges, were donated that evening.

Weekly meetings were held at the Saddle and Bridle Inn until 1953 when the property and all of the Club's possession, including its Charter, were destroyed in a fire

Over the years the Club has met at a variety of locations including: the hall of the Church of the Holy Trinity; leased space at the Harwood Mall; the Carousel Inn (now Ballycliffe Lodge); the Ajax Steak House; the Annandale Golf and Curling Club; the Royal Canadian Legion; the Ajax Public Library; and, online via the Zoom application.

The charter of the Rotary Club of Ajax predates the 1955 incorporation of the Town of Ajax. For its entire history residents of the Town of Ajax have benefited from the activities of this club so long ago envisioned by a group of progressive individuals.



CLUB PRESIDENTS

To serve as the President of the Rotary Club of Ajax is an honour. Presidents inspire and lead the club to work to achieve its goals. Currently the President is Bruce Green.

Presidents since 1951:

1951-1952 Cecil Winter

1952-1953 Roger Conant

1953-1954 Bill Scarff

1954-1955 George Lawrence

1955-1956 Bolt Falby

1956-1957 Ken Morley

1957-1958 Don Kemp

1958-1959 Ernie Henry

1959-1960 Pat Bayly

1960-1961 Dave Wordley

1961-1962 Tom Houghton

1962-1963 George Robby Robinson

1963-1964 Burt Watters

1964-1965 Ron Mcgrath

1965-1966 Chuck Walker

1966-1967 Matt Millar

1967-1968 Bruce Gowdy

1968-1969 Allen McLean

1969-1970 Jim Wilson

1970-1971 Glen Snowdon

1971-1972 Russ Sage

1972-1973 Bruce Walker

1973-1974 Norm Adams

1974-1975 Don Uphern

1975-1976 John Jones

1976-1977 Bill Norris

1977-1978 Bob Joel

1978-1979 Jim Forbes

1979-1980 Dave Low

1980-1981 Rene Soetens



1981-1982 Bob Thompson

1982-1983 John Love

1983-1984 Clarence Prins

1984-1985 Ron Ginter

1985-1986 John Salter

1986-1987 Steve Parish

1987-1988 Ken Smith

1988-1989 Ron Mitchell

1989-1990 Larry Guimond

1990-1991 Roy Hubbard

1991-1992 Terry Henry

1992-1993 Steve King

1993-1994 Peter Tollefsen

1994-1995 Val Marshal

1995-1996 Dick Briscoe

1996-1997 John Hansen

1997-1998 Ann Hausdorf

1998-1999 John Maxwell

1999-2000 Warren Hurren

2000-2001 Paul Carew

2001-2002 Myrna Picotte

2002-2003 George Browes

2003-2004 Geoff Nie

2004-2005 Tom Clarkson

2005-2006 Lon Harnish

2006-2007 Lon Harnish

2007-2008 Tom Batchellor

2008-2009 Tom Batchellor

2009-2010 Tony Pelosi

2010-2011 Tony Pelosi

2011-2012 Don Brewer

2012-2013 Donna Bright

2013-2014 Randy Slemin

2014-2015 Rene Soetens

2014-2013 Refle 30eteris

2015-2016 Marsha Jones Dooley

2016-2017 Ken Hurst

2017-2018 Rob MacArthur

2018-2019 Bruce Green

2019-2020 Heather Hebert

2020/2021 Bruce Green

BEING A ROTARIAN



What is Rotary?

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers, in 35,000 clubs, who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Rotary International's priorities are to: promote peace; fight disease; provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene; save mothers and children; support education; and, grow local economies.

Who are Ajax's Rotarians?

The Rotary Club of Ajax is a diverse group of people of action of all ages, genders and backgrounds. Current club members hail

from Romania, England, Uganda, Iran, Egypt and from all parts of Canada. There is even one native-born Ajacian! Hundreds of Ajax Rotarians, over the past 70 years, have used their collective person power to look for opportunities to create lasting change.

Meet Ajax's Rotarians

Until 1989 Rotary membership was limited to men. Early female members were trailblazers.

One such trailblazer was

Past President Myrna Picotte

who first became a Rotarian in Pickering in March of 1989 and later joined the Ajax Club.

Myrna is believed to have been the first female Rotarian in Durham Region. Myrna's membership in Rotary truly exemplifies the model of service.

I applied for membership in both the Ajax and Pickering Rotary clubs in the 1980s. I felt that as a business owner and volunteer in these communities I qualified to be a member. It took these two

clubs several years before they decided to accept a female member.

Pickering Rotary accepted me in 1989 and I became President of the club during the 1991-1992 term. I was sent to the Head Office of Rotary in Evanston, Illinois for the District's Presidents' training program and to my great surprise I was the only woman in a room of 50+ men. I believe I was the first woman President of a Club in the District.

Being in a minority did not deter me from living up to Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self". I have been fortunate to have been a volunteer for many organizations other than Rotary including: 30+ years with the Royal Canadian Legion Br., 606 in Pickering; 16 years as a founding member of the Picotte/Cassidy golf



"I believe that I was the first woman to open the doors into Rotary in the Durham Region."

tournament for local charities; service as the first female President of the Ajax/Pickering Board of Trade; and, founding member of the Touch of Class Gala event for the benefit of Ajax/Pickering Hospital, among many others.

I have been honoured with many awards including the Legionnaire of the Year Award,

the Volunteer of the Year award from the City of Pickering (twice) and the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee medals.

My commitment to 'Service Above Self' has not wavered. Being an Ajax Rotarian continues to afford me opportunities to help others be the best they can be.



Other Long Term Members

The Ajax Rotary Club is lucky to have members who have been with the Club for many years. Their long-term commitment to the Club has been instrumental in the achievement of the its goals.



Warren Hurren (an active member since 1986)

"I always take pride in telling people that I'm a Rotarian."

I am pleased to inform people of the contributions of Rotary International to global peace, polio eradication and the many other initiatives in

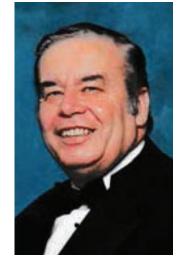
developing countries throughout the world.

Ajax Rotary has also made significant contributions to the town. My family and I are proud that we have participated in many projects of benefit to the community: park clean-ups, Easter Seal campaigns, Pancake Breakfasts, Canada Day celebrations and Ribfests, to name a few.

Rotary isn't just about 'work', we also have fun. As a Rotarian you meet like minded folks from all over the world. One of the highlights of Rotary for me was participating in the Canada/Scotland golf exchange. I had the opportunity to spend almost three weeks in Scotland staying in Rotarians' homes playing golf and enjoying their fellowship.

Also memorable was attending a Rotary international convention in Bangkok, Thailand. During the three day ride on the Orient Express from Singapore to Bangkok I met Rotarians from around the world: Aussies, New Zealanders, Japanese, German, Americans, and Canadians to name a few. Despite our nationalities we had much in common. It was a great experience sharing Rotary stories.

Paul Butler



(an active and Honorary member since 1989) In this time I have seen many

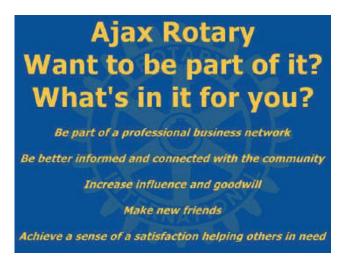
"I have been associated with the Ajax Rotary Club for over 30 years."

changes in membership but the core commitment to the Rotary Motto is still the same

- helping to make a better 'everything' for the community and its people.

The range and scope of Rotary's activities is impressive, for example: Rotary walks to raise money for polio eradication; scholarship presentations; visiting ill and shut-in community members; and raising funds for the local hospital.

I have always been amazed by the worldwide scope of Rotary. Rotarians are welcome to visit any Rotary Club in the world. Every visit to another town, province or even country has good Rotary memories. An outstanding example was my visit to a club in Amsterdam where as soon as I was introduced, the entire meeting continued in English solely for my benefit. Typical Rotary friendship and consideration.



BEING A ROTARIAN



Tom Clarkson (an active member since 1984)

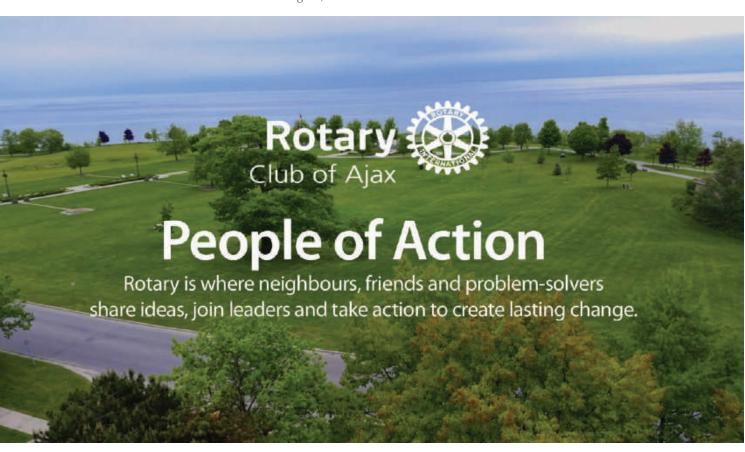
"I have been a member of the Ajax club for more than half of its long life and I've enjoyed every minute of it." It is a working club and you get out of it as much as you put in. The members are great upstanding citizens, both men and, in the last few year's ladies, abiding by what we call "The 4 Way Test" which simply implies good living and treating all people equally and fairly. I have made many wonderful friends in the club.

Fund raising, and dispensing of the money

raised, is our most important task. We have tried many activities over the years ranging from selling Christmas hams and pumpkins, engaging in Bingo assistance, golf tournaments, and Ribfests. Funds have been provided to area organizations such as the local hospital, Ajax Salvation Army, and the Ajax Public Library, to name a few.

In October 2019 we planted 4,500 crocus bulbs in the centre median of Harwood Avenue, raising funds for the global polio eradication programme that Rotary originally started in 1985, while beautifying this stretch of road.

We also have club social events where we can let our hair down, relax and enjoy fellowship. All of these events bring together a wonderful group of people without whom we would not have such a great, effective club.





New member thoughts about membership



Brad Fiamboli (an active member since January 2021)

"I decided to join Rotary as I wanted to get involved in community based volunteer activities with an organization

that has experience working locally but also part of a global network of volunteer and community service."



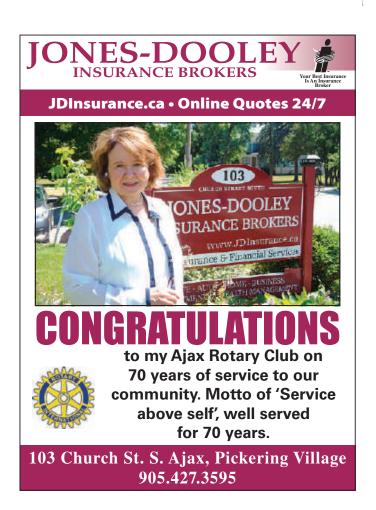
Deborah McDougall-Jones

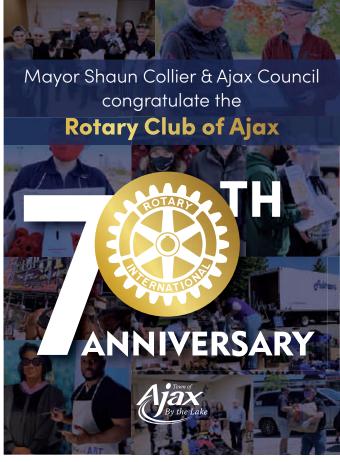
(an active member since January 2021)

"As a current member of the library board and as a big library user I was reminded of Rotary every time I walked past the Rotary Room at the main branch of the Ajax Public Library. Rotary's presence in a community institution

I love so much planted the first seed. I also live very close to the waterfront and walk by Rotary Park. Mostly though,

"I love Ajax and want to give back to my community for purely selfless reasons and I believe that is what members of Rotary do."





BEING A ROTARIAN



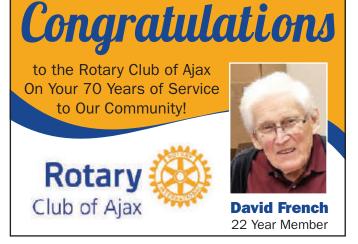
Joining Rotary

The Club welcomes new members throughout the year. New members bring new energy and new ideas that help the club to be even more successful.

To find out how you too can make a difference in your community and around the world, visit the website at www.ajaxrotary.org. There you will find information on how to join us for a meeting and contacts for further information.













ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

Pride and service in one's community takes many forms. While Ajax Rotary is proud to support a multitude of organizations and individuals within the town by providing financial grants and donations, we are also proud to use our own sweat equity to help keep Ajax beautiful and free of unsightly litter.

In 2014, with the co-operation of the town, Ajax Rotary was one of the first organizations to become involved with the town's Adopt-a Road program. The club 'adopted' the section of Audley Road between Rossland and Taunton Roads and committed to cleaning the roadside litter twice a year for at least three years. We have continued to renew this commitment annually.

Using reflective vests and other safety equipment and materials provided by the town, Ajax Rotarians groom the east and west sides of Audley Road, removing bags of refuse, beautifying one of the main roads within the town.

It's a dirty job down the ditches picking up litter but like most dirty jobs there is real satisfaction in knowing we have done our share to help keep Ajax beautiful.





CLEAN-UP 2020 STYLE

Due to the impact of COVID related restrictions the Club was unable to participate in the group clean-up of Audley Road. Nonetheless Rotarians took on the challenge of litter pickups in their own neighbourhoods or in some other favourite spot.







AREAS OF FOCUS



The work of Rotary clubs begins in the community. Every community around the world has its own unique needs. While Rotarians provide support to many different types of organizations and for many different types of projects we deliberately focus our efforts in seven key areas to maximize our impact. These areas of focus are: peace and conflict prevention/resolution; disease prevention and treatment; water and sanitation; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; economic and community development; and, new in 2021 – supporting the environment.

Supporting Local Health Services

The Rotary Club of Ajax has consistently focused on the support of local health services. Over seventy years the Club has provided more than \$715,000 and significant people power to ensure that the town of Ajax is well served by its hospital.

Subsequent to the end of World War II the hospital run by Defence Industries Limited was closed and local residents were forced to travel out of town for hospital care. In 1951 a charter was granted for the development of a hospital in Ajax and seventeen people from Ajax and Pickering were appointed as Provisional Directors. The Directors were charged to plan the new hospital and to raise funds for its construction.

Of these seventeen people, four - George Lawrence (Club Presi-

dent 1953/54), Robert Hunt (Director 1951/52), Harold Jenkins (Secretary 1951/52) and Roger Conant (Club President 1952/53) – were 1951 Charter members of the Rotary Club of Ajax. Their commitment to 'Service Above Self' largely benefited the Rotary Club, the Hospital, and the community at large.

Early donations to the Ajax & Pickering General Hospital included:

- The Club's first donation to the Hospital of \$1,500;
- Donations in 1961/62 to furnish a physiotherapy unit; and,
- The provision of a television for the Children's playroom in 1965. As the local Hospital was finding its feet, in 1958 the Club supported the construction of the Crippled Children's Centre in Toronto, later to become the Bloorview Children's Hospital, one of the primary facilities of its kind in Canada.

As the community continued to grow a new hospital was built on its current site and was opened in 1964. Rotarians were at the forefront of the governance of the new facility. Of the twenty-five Officers and Directors in 1964, nine of them were Rotarians: Robert Thompson (Club President 1981/82); George Robinson (Club President 1962/63); Robert Kerton; Kenneth Morley (Club President 1956/57); Ken MacInnis (Hospital Administrator 1957-1992); Harry Boyes; Harry Smith; J.W. Bosch M.D.; and, Elwin Smith.

The Club continued to commit funds to the Hospital and later donations included:

- A late 1980s commitment of \$150,000 towards the 1990s expansion of the Hospital;
- The 1996 furnishing of a Waiting Room attached to the Intensive Care Unit;
- A \$300,000 commitment in 1996 towards the purchase of a Video Endoscope;

Significant commitments continued through 1997-2001, including a major contribution towards the purchase of a 3 Tesla MRI scanner.





Recent donations include:

- \$120,000 towards two projects between 2014-2016 a Green Roof amenity offering the outdoor benefit of fresh air and sunshine, and the redecoration of a dining area used by rehab patients.
- \$75,000, in 2019, for the acquisition of Smart Intravenous pumps.



The Club is also proud that it partners with the Hospital Auxiliary to provide Welcome Kits to new babies born in the Maternity Ward. Over twenty five years the Club has donated more than 25,000 stuffed toys to young patients, and more recently to senior patients as well, in order to help calm their fears.

Each Christmas, Rotarians visit wards in the Hospital, and in



THANK YOU!



Ajax Pickering Hospital Foundation



Thank you to all members, past & present, of the Rotary Club of Ajax for supporting the AJAX PICKERING HOSPITAL and the heath of our community for 70 years!





One System | Best Health





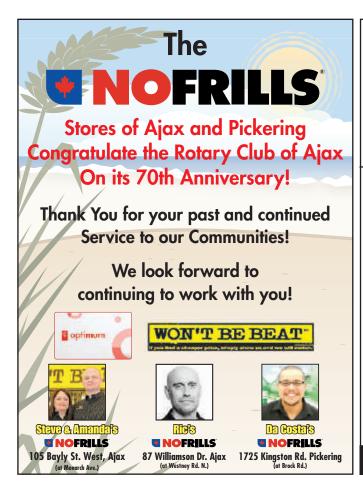
AREAS OF FOCUS

the Ballycliffe Long Term Care Home, to bring Christmas greetings, carols, gifts to patients and a visit from Santa.

The past 70 years have seen dramatic changes in the Hospital. Regardless, Rotarians, such as Rene Soetens (Club President 1980/81 and 2014/15), Warren Hurren (Club President 1999-2000) and Tom Batchellor (Club President 2007-09) have continued to provide service through roles on the Hospital's Board of Directors, the Hospital's Foundation Board, the Hospital's Community Advisory Panels and as members of the Hospital's Auxiliary (Gloria Sharples, Treasurer). The Club remains committed to Lakeridge Health (Ajax Pickering) and to the health and physical well-being of Ajacians.









INTERNATIONAL SERVICE



Lao People's Democratic Republic (Laos) is a small country in south east Asia of approximately 7,000,000 (2019). It is a poor country where in 2008, according to the World Health Organization, 33.9% of the population lived on \$1.25 per day. In 2019 life expectancy at birth was 68.5 years for both genders, relative to that of 82.2 in Canada. Neonatal mortality per 1,000 live births was 22 in 2019 and the under-five mortality rate (probability of dying by age 5 per 1,000 live births) was 45.5 for both genders. In Canada the corresponding rates were 3.3 and 4.9. Laos' infrastructure does not allow for universal access to education or to safe drinking water.

Adopt a Village Laos is a charity whose mandate is to develop services to bring life saving programs and services to Laos' rural communities. For eleven years this charity has provided funds and sweat equity to enrich the lives of rural Laotians.

Its primary focus is to provide a permanent supply of water to villages through the construction of dams or wells. Water tank and taps are installed throughout the villages and villagers no longer need to spend hours walking to retrieve fresh water for their families' needs. Adopt a Village also provides water filtration systems to individual families and trains them on their use. The results have been astounding. Without diarrhea caused by water borne bacteria, farmers can spend more time in their fields and rice yields



have increased. More students are going to school because they are not sick from unsafe water. Infant mortality has dropped and there is often disposable income, where before there had been none.

Other projects have included: the electrification of villages; the construction of schools and toilets; student bursaries; and, a feminine hygiene program in secondary schools.

The Rotary Club of Ajax believes in the mandate of this charity and has seen evidence of its successes. The Club, and individual members, have been proud supporters of Adopt A Village for more than eight years.





SHELTERBOX

All families need shelter. Every year, hundreds of thousands to millions of people around the globe lose their permanent shelter because of natural disaster or conflict. In response, Rotarians around the world, including those in Ajax, work in partnership with the organization Shelterbox to provide the resources necessary for families to rebuild their homes and lives.

Shelterbox, an initiative conceived by a British Rotarian Club in 2000, provides rapid response support to disaster areas in the form of ShelterBoxes and ShelterKits. ShelterBoxes typically contain family-sized tents specially designed to withstand the elements and provide people with temporary shelter. ShelterKits contain all of the essential tools people need to start repairing and rebuilding their homes. Other items provided include cookware, solar lights and blankets.

Since 2012, ShelterBox has been Rotary International's project partner in disaster relief. Rotarians and Rotary Clubs around the world provide support in a variety of ways, from raising funds for the purchase of the Shelterbox and Shelterkit components to providing support on the ground during a response to a disaster. The partnership permits access to families even in the most remote communities.

Shelterbox and Rotary have responded to families after disasters such as Typhoon Haiyan in 2013, the Nepal Earthquake in 2015, Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017, and Cyclone Idai in 2019. As a result of this life-changing project partnership with Rotary International, more than 1.6 million people in 100 countries have been aided since 2000. In 2020 alone Shelterbox was able to reach out to 200,000 families in need of shelter.

In 2020 Shelterbox awarded Rotary International with its first Global Humanitarian Service Award, in recognition of Rotary's outstanding partnership throughout the years.

The Rotary Club of Ajax is proud that it has provided the funds for over 15 families to rebuild after disaster. The members' work and community support extend the lifesaving reach of the Club around the globe. Members take pride in our achievement of supporting families recovering from disaster and conflict around the world.



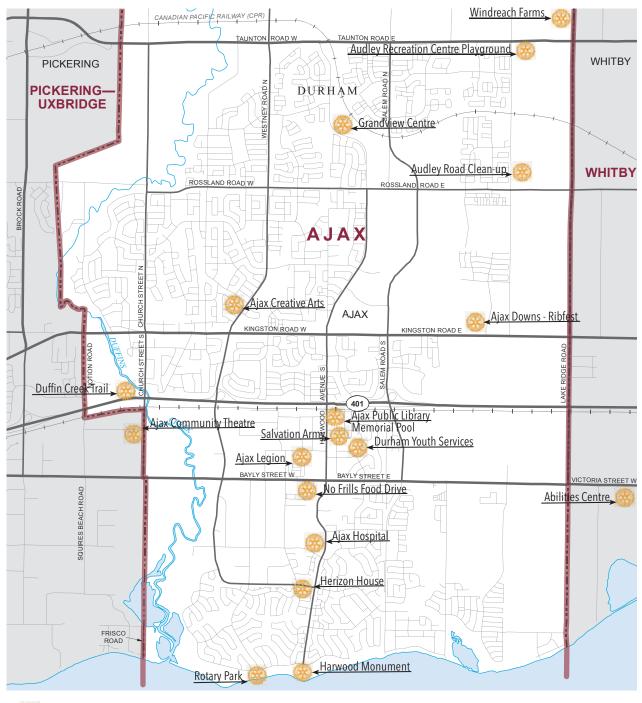
NEW BEGINNINGS

By David Stone

The New Beginnings Interfaith Refugee Support Group was formed in 2015 during the Syrian humanitarian crisis. Three faith groups (DFUC, Pickering Village United, and the Pickering Islamic Centre) plus other community members, joined together to sponsor Syrian refugees. Collectively the group sponsored two Eritrean brothers who had spent years in a refugee camp in Kenya. The men (aged 40 and 30) arrived in Canada in March 2016 and settled in Ajax. New Beginnings could not have accomplished this sponsorship without the generous support of many people and groups such as the Ajax Rotary Club. The two men are settled into Ajax, both married – one with a baby and one expecting a child in April. Both men are working and are very thankful to be settled in Canada, and in Ajax in particular.



Community Impact



Art with a Heart • Big Brothers Big Sisters • Black History Month Celebration • Boys & Girls Club • Girls Inc. High School Bursaries • Music for Life String Orchestra • Robotics Team • Young Singers Ajax



SUPPORTING YOUTH

The Rotary Club of Ajax is proud of its long history of providing support to both individual youths and to organizations that deliver services and supports to youth.

Some of the activities that the Club has undertaken since its inception include:

- Management of the former Rotary Hall starting in 1954 to allow youth sports, boy scouts, music festivals, film days and Teen Town to operate;
- Sponsorship of annual one week student exchange programs with Franklin Pennsylvania Secondary School and Ajax High School. This program ran from the mid 1950s through 1968;
- Sponsorship of the 5th Ajax Scouts in the mid 1970s;
- Sponsorship of environmental gardens at various elementary schools in support of their studies during the 1980s;
- Support of Easter Seals through the distribution of seals and collection of donations in the town for 25 years starting in 1960. Half of the funds raised were used in Ajax.
- Support for the Harwood Secondary School to raise funds for the Ontario Society for Crippled Children/Easter Seals from 1980-1988, including an annual luncheon hosted by the students;
- Hosting a Group Study exchange by young non-Rotarian professionals to Israel and the Philippines;
- Sponsorship of student exchanges, from 1978-2000, with students from Ajax High School and Pickering High School.
 Students lived and studied for one year in destinations including Germany, Netherlands, South Africa, Brazil, Australia,
 Finland, and Sweden. Rotarians hosted the visiting students from these countries;
- Hosting local high school students, for over 40 years, at our weekly luncheons to hear the guest speakers and interact with members;
- Support of the construction of the accessible playground at the Audley Community Centre in 2011;

- Provision of playground equipment at Rotary Park;
- Financial support to Joanne's House/Durham Youth Services to support their programs for youth at risk;
- Acting as the conduit in the mid 2010s, in partnership with Axalta Coatings Inc., for the distribution of 80 laptops to youth;
- Support of post-secondary student placements; and,
- Providing, over many years, stuffed comfort toys to children who came to the Ajax Pickering Hospital for medical attention.



STUDENT BURSARIES

Club members are particularly pleased to have been able to provide small bursaries to graduates from each of Ajax's five high schools since the 1960s.

The Service Above Self Bursary is intended to benefit a graduating student who best exemplifies the values and motto of Rotary through their contributions and service to their school and/or community. Candidates are selected by school administrators who are best aware of student activities.

In 2020 the Rotary Club of Ajax provided, in addition to its normal bursaries, additional funds so that the five school administrators could provide a second bursary to a student who had executed an activity to help their community better cope with the effects of COVID.

It is very rewarding to members to have contact with the graduates to learn how their studies are progressing.

RECIPIENTS REPORT

"I'm very delighted to say that [the bursary] has aided me in my pursuit of a post-secondary education in the life sciences. I am currently attending McMaster University and I intend to specialize into the honours neuroscience program. Olivia Ipwanshek (Ajax High School).

"I was excited to win the award and learn I had also won some money. Although my program was cancelled this year due to CO-VID, I plan to use it to help me pay for my tuition. Angelo Guzzo-Foliaro (Archbishop Denis O'Connor Catholic High School)

"I was the recipient of this award in 2019. I just wanted to thank you again for this bursary. It helped me pay for my deposit when it came to applying for colleges so it helped ease some final stress especially when it came to picking schools I wanted to attend. All in all, I just want to thank you for awarding me with this award, it had made a drastic impact in my life and has now changed my

TO MEMBERS TO HAVE
CONTACT WITH THE GRADUATES
TO LEARN HOW THEIR STUDIES
ARE PROGRESSING."



future for the better. Christine Too Chung

"I was the 2017 recipient of the Ajax Rotary Club award. I am currently in my final semester of my undergraduate degree at Trent University. I will (hopefully) be starting

my Master's degree in September. The Ajax Rotary Club award is a proud accomplishment of mine, as it recognized my outstanding service and achievements both in academics and my school community. JaCoya Laplante (Archbishop Denis O'Connor Catholic High School)





COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS

The Rotary Club of Ajax welcomes requests from local organizations for small grants in support of specific projects. Since 2015 the Club has provided \$20,000 to youth-focused community organizations. The recipients include: Durham Region Tri Service Cadet Band; Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth; Junior Achievement Central Ontario; Jennifer Ashleigh Childrens' Charity; Boys and Girls Clubs of Durham; Ajax and Pickering Early Childhood Development Coalition; Big Brothers Big Sisters Durham; Windreach Farm; Their Opportunity;

Raquel's Chair; Richardson Collegiate; and, Young Singers (Ajax).



The Rotary Club of Ajax is a proud supporter of the Ajax Public Library, including a \$100,000 contribution for the construction of the Main Branch Library.

Recently, to support the Library's Learn for Life initiative the Club contributed \$2000 towards the purchase of 3,000 knap-



sacks. These knapsacks were given to all students from junior kindergarten to grade 6 who registered for the 2019 TD Summer Reading Club (TDSRC) program (total registrants 3,081). Bright lime green in colour these knapsacks proved to be a popular way for area children to transport their TDSRC reading booklets, stickers and prizes.



Congratulations!







Lon Harnish,

B.Comm, CIM, CFP
Investment Advisor
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General Manager

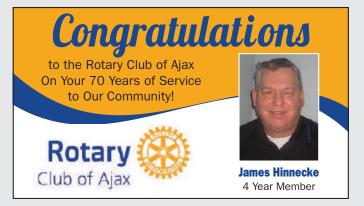
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email: jcopetti@copetti.ca www.copetti.ca



ROTARY SUPPORTS YOUTH







All children deserve an opportunity to enjoy healthy outdoor activities. For some it is challenging to acquire the appropriate equipment to play their sport of choice.

For the past three years the Rotary Club of Ajax has been involved in District-wide Hockey Equipment Drives. Gently used hockey equipment and winter clothing has been collected and redistributed.



Generous donations from local residents, local hockey leagues and from staff and students at Durham College, has resulted in the donation of hundreds, if not thousands, of pounds of usable equipment and clothing.

These items, along with thousands of tonnes of items from other clubs' Drives have been sent to communities in northern Ontario, Northern Manitoba and Nunavut.



ALLEVIATING HUNGER

Food scarcity is a global problem. People around the world, including families here in Canada, do not have access to food on a reliable basis. Food insecurity is a result of many circumstances including: adverse climate conditions; mass migration of populations due to conflicts; or, from inadequate financial resources. While the Rotary Club of Ajax cannot provide permanent solutions to address food insecurity it can help to provide temporary relief to families through its programs and services.

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER



Since 2014 the Rotary Club has partnered with Kids Against Hunger Canada, community volunteers, Forest Brook Community Church and the McEachnie Funeral Home to package 400,000 meals that have been distributed locally and internationally to countries including El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Peru, Honduras and Sierra Leone.

Each meal contains a full day's nutrition for one person. The food ingredients include rice, fortified vegetable protein, dehydrated vegetables and a special blend of twenty one vitamins and minerals.

The Club has paid more than \$100,000 to purchase the food supplies over the past 7 years and members have worked in tandem with hundreds of community volunteers to package the meals and ensure they are distributed.

Feed the Need Durham has been a local recipient of the meal packs which have then found their way into homes in the Durham Region.





ALLEVIATING HUNGER

AJAX ROTARY POLAR PLUNGE

In February 2020 the Club held its first Ajax Rotary Polar Plunge in Lake Ontario.
This chilly activity was a joint fundraising initiative in partnership with Ontario Power Generation (OPG), to support the Durham District School Board's Make a Difference Poverty Strategy Program.

\$6,900 was raised by 25 plungers for Bolton C. Falby Public School's breakfast program. All proceeds were used to provide nutritious food to students at the school, to ensure readiness to start the day with a full belly.





Congratulations!











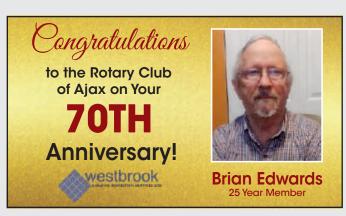
95 Bayly Street West Baywood Centre, Suite 200, Ajax www.ajaxdental.ca

8 Year Member

Phone: 905.683.3811

Fax: 905.683.5415









ALLEVIATING HUNGER



The '1000 Survival Gardens' project was initiated in the summer of 2020 in response to disruptions brought about by COVID-19 that challenged the ability of South Africans to secure reliable food supplies. Rotary Clubs and development organizations in Canada and South Africa, partnered to raise funds, plan, and implement the delivery of 1000 Survival Garden Kits to 1000 South African families. The Rotary Club of Ajax provided a donation to this worthy initiative.

Survival Garden kits are comprised of the necessary supplies and tools to enable women (as the main providers of families)

the ability to cultivate their own fruit and vegetable gardens.

A major tool of the kit is the "hippo roller" which enhances the ability for water collection. Water is typically gathered by



- Seeds and seedlings
- Compost, fertilizer
- How to Grow a Garden Guide
- Soap and sanitizer
- Face masks

women and children by means of carrying buckets on their heads, and usually involves multiple trips each day to the water source. The hippo roller, which is rolled along the ground, performs this task much more easily, holding five times more water than a typical bucket. Besides saving time, the

hippo roller is beneficial by being physically easier to manage, allowing women more time for family-building activities, and allowing girls to remain in school.



EFFORTS TO END POLIO



There was a time when the word 'polio' struck fear into a parent's heart. The polio, or poliomyelitis, virus afflicted young children, often causing death or disability. Prior to the widespread dissemination of the vaccine developed by Dr Jonas Salk in 1955, thousands of children were afflicted by this disease every year. According to the Canadian Public Health Organization, the disease peaked in Canada in 1953 with nearly 9,000 cases and 500 deaths. An estimated 11,000 people in Canada were left paralyzed by polio between 1949 and 1954.

While wealthy countries introduced mass vaccination programs to immunize children against this disease, progress was slower in the developing world. In response, Rotary International and other partners, formed the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in 1979. Its goal was to eradicate polio throughout the world. Since that time, Rotarians have donated more than \$2 billion to this cause. Rotary's advocacy efforts have led to government funding decisions to support polio eradication in even greater amounts than member donations.

Our efforts have paid off: polio has been eradicated in almost every corner of the world. The Americas became polio free in 1994. Other parts of the word followed, including Africa, which was declared polio free in 2020. The virus only now exists "in the wild" in Pakistan and Afghanistan, where war and rugged terrain have made final efforts difficult. Though the numbers are low, Rotary International continues its efforts, for unless the disease is eradicated everywhere, it could return with a vengeance.

The Rotary Club of Ajax is proud to be part of this success story. Over the years, its members have donated thousands of dollars directly to Rotary International's End Polio Now Campaign, and indirectly through support of Rotary International.

And the club hasn't forgotten the survivors either: each year, it meets with polio survivors who talk about their experiences with the disease. Though many did partly or fully recover, some are still subject to 'post polio syndrome', a non-contagious condition that affects the muscles, and requires additional care. To learn more about Rotary International's efforts to end polio, visit www. endpolio.org. There you can make a donation to this worthy cause. If you prefer you can also do so through the Rotary Club of Ajax; all such donations are tax deductible.



FUNDRAISING AND SUPPORT



Members of the Rotary Club of Ajax take great pride in the number and diversity of projects that it has been able to support over the last seventy years.

In order to provide funds to local and international organizations the Club has executed hundreds of fundraising events and members have given tens of thousands of person hours to bring events to successful fruition.

The fundraisers have been diverse over the years but they all have had one thing in common – fun. Fun for the Rotarians and for the participants. The community has been very supportive of the Club's efforts.

The Club has kept its fundraisers fresh and successful by proactively switching them up. We rented out campsites at Rotary Park for some 25 years. We managed Rotary Hall. There were numerous elimination draws combined with dinner and country and western dancing. We have sold many items: pumpkins picked from the Hedge Farm; birdseed and, nature books so people could identify the birds they were feeding; hams at

THE FUNDRAISERS HAVE BEEN DIVERSE OVER THE YEARS BUT THEY ALL HAVE HAD ONE THING IN COMMON – FUN.





Christmas; 50/50 draw tickets to members; and, we went door to door selling fertilizer for about 5 years.

In cooperation with the Society for Crippled Children we distributed Easter Seals town wide.

The Club held several trip-of-the-month lotteries. We ran Monday night bingo for 25 years. We then added TV bingo which brought us into Ajacians' homes every Thursday. Currently the Club runs its Catch the Ace lottery via the internet.

Formerly the Town allowed service clubs to hold New Year's Eve events at the Ajax Community Centre and we took our turn. Members hosted a Lobsterfest dinner and an Octoberfest festival, where we ran out of everything including lobsters and alcohol!

In conjunction with Homeweek we hosted pancake breakfasts for 45 years. This breakfast became a staple Father's Day celebration for many families. Starting in the early '90's we hosted Canada Day Events at Rotary Park, followed by several





FUNDRAISING AND SUPPORT











attempts at craft beer festivals. We have run food tasting events and golf tournaments.

Rotary hosted live TV auctions with the support of the then MacLeans TV. Recently we tried our hand at virtual auctions.

Following the lead of other Rotary Clubs we established Durham's largest community event, the highly successful Pickering Rotary Ribfest which has run 'live' for 13 years until grounded by COVID 19. Over this time we estimate that more than 800,000 guests have visited the Ribfests which have raised more than \$1,000,000. While COVID slowed the Club down, it did not defeat it and two drive through Ribfests were held in 2020. These events raised \$32,000 for the community.

During the summer of 2020 we held a socially distanced bottle collection.

We organized a Run-the-Lake event at Rotary Park for warm weather enthusiasts and a polar plunge for those who prefer winter. Annually our members participate in a walk to raise funds to eradicate polio worldwide.

The Club has been fortunate to enjoy the support of hundreds of non-Rotarian community volunteers who have helped to make the Club's fundraisers a success.

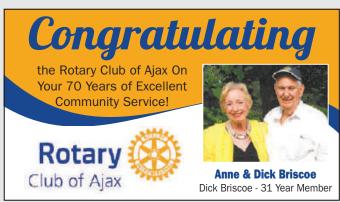
While raising funds is work, it is rewarding work that allows the Club to continue to make a difference – the primary reason to be a Rotarian.

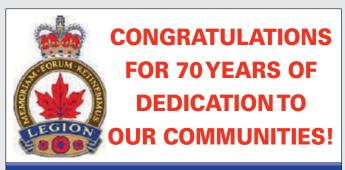
Congratulations!





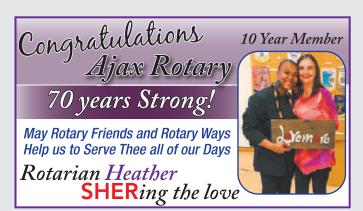






Royal Canadian Legion Branch 606, Pickering 1555 Kingston Road, Pickering • 905-839-2990





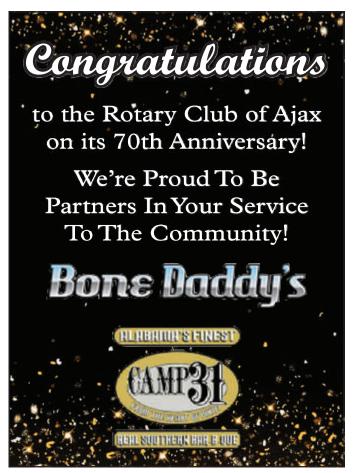
Congratulations
To The
Rotary Club of Ajax
On Your 70 Years Of
Serving Our Community!





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Beyond the dawn of the new century, the Rotary Club of Ajax continues to work hard to succeed in its efforts to serve those who need our help.

100% of the funds we raise go to support worthy projects both in our community and abroad, including:

2010 \$60,000 was donated to Ajax Hospital to help fund the extended care unit.

***60,000** was donated to help fund a Special Needs playground in north Ajax.



2012 \$25,000 was pledged to UOIT for student bursaries



"Just 1 Item" was established to help feed families





2014 \$10,000 and 15,000 lbs. of food was donated to support local food banks and Kids Against Hunger

2015 \$75,000 Pledged to the Grandview Children's Centre building fund.

2015 \$75,000 Pledged to the Ajax Salvation Army building fund.

2016 \$15,000 Committed to Durham College for their new "International Building"

2017 We funded the reconstruction of the Ajax Legion flagpoles

2018 We celebrated the 45th year of our Pancake Breakfast!

2019 \$75,000 Donated to Ajax Hospital for the purchase of new "Smart Pumps"





PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS

The Paul Harris Fellowship, named for Paul Harris, a Chicago lawyer who founded Rotary in 1905, is one of the most significant honours bestowed by Rotary International.

The Fellowship is awarded to Rotarians and non-Rotarians who exemplify the highest ideal in Rotary of placing "SERVICE ABOVE SELF."

To be nominated by a Rotary club to receive a Paul Harris Fellowship is a high honour.

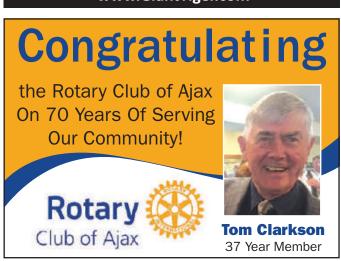
The following individuals have received the Paul Harris Fellowship through the Rotary Club of Ajax between 1975 and 2020:

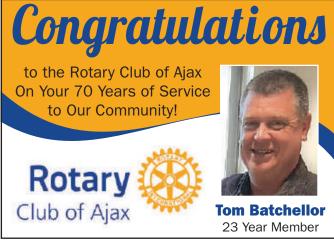
1975-1989

Don Kemp, Dave Wordley, Chuck Walker, Charlie Reed, John Jones, Bob Thompson, Russ Sage













PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS

1990-1999

Squib Thompson, Bill Bosch, John Love, Harry Smith, Ken Smith, David Low, Jim Wilson, Barry Burns, John Hansen, Bob Kerton, Ken Macinnis, Dennis Furnis, Wally Henwood, Ivan Irwin, Rene Soetens, Robby Robertson, George Martin, Dick Briscoe, Bruce Harcourt

2000-2009

Clarence Prins, Myrna Picotte, Joyce Smith, Steve King, Warren Hurren, John Parsons, Lon Harnish, George Browes, Paul Butler, John Hansen, Marv Jones, Geoff Nie, Tom Clarkson, John Maxwell, Bill Parish, David French Cynthia Furnis, Sanne Hansen, Gloria Sharples, Tom Batchellor, Eric Fowler, Lon Harnish

2010-2020

Doug Dickerson, David French, Rick Johnson, Jens Hansen, Shelley Marshall, Alan Marshall, Wilen Sage Bill Girling, Tony Pelosi, Keith Pymar, Rene Soetens, Tom Batchellor, Tom Clarkson, Lon Harnish, Marv Jones, Don Brewer, Ken MacInnis, Randy Slemin, Donna Bright, Marsha Jones Dooley, Stephan Barg, Ken Hurst, Heather Hebert, Paul Taalman, Bruce Green, Rob MacArthur, Beverly Girard

THE ROTARY CLUB OF AJAX ALSO PRESENTS TWO ADDITIONAL AWARDS:

The Pat Bayly Award which is given to non-Rotarians or to organizations whose contributions to the community merit special recognition.

Past recipients are: 2018 – Jerry Coughlan; 2017 - Roger Anderson; 2016 - David Evans; 2015 - Gloria Sharples; and, 2014 – Myrna Picotte

The President's Award, chosen by the club's President is awarded to Ajax Rotarians in recognition of their exceptional contributions. This Award was presented to Ken Hurst in 2015.













The Baywood Centre would like to Congratulate The Rotary Club of Ajax on their 70th Anniversary. Thank you for all you do!































































Baywood Convenience Store



Congratulations!

105 Bayly St. W., Ajax

Congratulations!