

# THE BRIDGE

Official Newsletter for Rotarians of District 6330  
[bridge@rotary6330.org](mailto:bridge@rotary6330.org)

## By the Glass...

Upon writing this note, I've had the pleasure of visiting 21 clubs within our district. It has been great hearing about the amazing contributions that these clubs have made in the communities in which they live and that they have adopted around the world. We have very much to be proud of.

I am hearing that club members are interested in what other clubs are doing, and to this end, we have created a platform for us to chat with each other about two topics in particular – environment and DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion). Please join in the conversation! Share what you have been doing in these two areas! Perhaps get some new ideas from others.

To join the conversation, please visit the [District 6330 Facebook](#) page and become a member if you haven't already. Once you're a member, navigate to the "Chat" rooms section and click to join. I look forward to connecting with you there!

Now is the time to start planning for Celebrate Community Week.

During the week of 11-17 September, Rotary and Rotaract clubs worldwide are collaborating with local Kiwanis, Lions, and Optimist clubs on service projects that address health and wellness, food insecurity and hunger, education and literacy, and the environment. When we unite our efforts, there's no limit to the positive impact we can create in our communities. Start planning today!

Then share what you are doing with us!

Please send your pictures and stories to:  
[bridge@rotary6330.org](mailto:bridge@rotary6330.org)



Questions for Sonja? Email her at [sonja.glass@rogers.com](mailto:sonja.glass@rogers.com)



# I Choose Rotary



## ROTARY MONTHLY THEME



Many thanks to our District Membership chair, Sue Storie for her years of dedication to membership in our District. We welcome Lorna Gunning Fratschko to the District team as our new Membership Chair. If you are interested in joining Lorna, please contact her directly.

Lorna Gunning Fratschko, our district membership chair can be reached at [lorna.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:lorna.rotary@gmail.com)

## Next Month: Basic Education and Literacy Month

TO VIEW THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR OF THEMES AND EVENTS, CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW.

<https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/calendar>

## Membership and New Club Development Month

It's a time to recognize our members and the amazing work they do in their communities. Rotarians around the world are finding ways to open opportunities, showing their incredible dedication and commitment to making the world a safer and better place.

## Contgratulations to clubs who achieved positive membership growth in 2022-23

RC of Algonac - President Dan Stewart  
RC of Clifford - President Nick Oleksandriw  
RC of Clio - President Brianna Fuller  
Drayton RC - President Robert Bignell  
RC of Festival City (Stratford) - President Kirk Riehl  
RC of Flint - President Elizabeth Jordan  
RC of Flushing - President Kevin Foltz  
Genesee Valley RC - President Joseph Reynolds  
RC of Global Passport - President Debra Seabrook  
RC of Grand Bend - President Tom McCann  
RC of Grand Blanc - President Janette Sullivant  
RC of London Hyde Park - President Kenneth Wall  
RC of London South - President Hector Silva Rodriguez  
RC of Markdale - President Lyal Ratcliffe  
RC of Meaford - President David Glass  
RC of Mildmay - President Dawn Kennedy  
RC of Northern Bruce Peninsula - President Catherine Henderson  
Paisley RC - President Ed Maxwell  
RC of Petrolia - President Steve Lichty  
RC of Sarnia - President Rick March  
St Clair RC - President John Steffy  
RC of Tara - President Mike Medwedyk  
RC of Thornbury & Clarksburg - President Lib Kennedy  
RC of Watford - President John Churchill





## Where's Sonja This Month?

|                            |           |   |
|----------------------------|-----------|---|
| August 15 <sup>th</sup>    | Tuesday   | London East                             |
| August 15 <sup>th</sup>    | Tuesday   | Grand Bend                              |
| August 17 <sup>th</sup>    | Thursday  | Saugeen Shores                          |
| August 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | Tuesday   | Festival City                           |
| August 22 <sup>nd</sup>    | Tuesday   | Strathroy                               |
| August 23 <sup>rd</sup>    | Wednesday | Mildmay                                 |
| August 28 <sup>th</sup>    | Monday    | London Rotary                           |
| August 1 <sup>st</sup>     | Tuesday   | Marysville                              |
| August 30 <sup>th</sup>    | Wednesday | St. Thomas                              |
| August 30 <sup>th</sup>    | Wednesday | St. Thomas Railway City                 |
| September 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Tuesday   | Goderich                                |
| September 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Wednesday | Drayton                                 |
| September 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Thursday  | London Hyde Park                        |
| September 9 <sup>th</sup>  | Saturday  | Harry Lumley Bayshore Center Owen Sound |
| September 10 <sup>th</sup> | Sunday    | Harry Lumley Bayshore Center Owen Sound |
| September 12 <sup>th</sup> | Tuesday   | Kincardine                              |
| September 12 <sup>th</sup> | Tuesday   | Clifford                                |
| September 13 <sup>th</sup> | Wednesday | Southampton                             |



## Upcoming District Events

RC of St. Clair  
Annual Turtle Race  
August 20

Nine & Dine  
Charity Gold  
London Hyde RC  
August 23

2023 Rotary Mile  
Festival Races at the  
Crim Aug 26

Stratford Rotary Dragon  
Boat Festival  
Sept 16

Rotary Leadership  
Institute III  
Sept 11 and 18

Sarnia Bluewaterland  
Art in the Park  
September 9

Drayton Rotary Car Show  
Sept 4  
4-8pm

Be sure to add your upcoming club event on the district calendar so we can share it here.



Flint

Flushing

Genesse Valley

Global Passport

Greater Flint  
Sunrise

London Hyde Park

Meaford

Sarnia

St. Marys

St. Thomas

Stratford

Warton

## Congratulations to our clubs who received their RI citation

The Rotary Citation is an award that recognizes clubs' hard work throughout the year. Taking action toward achieving the citation goals helps clubs engage their members, stay relevant in their communities, and run more efficiently.

A welcoming and engaging club also reflects the values of Rotary. When clubs work to achieve these goals, they also contribute to Rotary's overall health and culture for generations to come.

To be eligible for the Rotary Citation, presidents set measurable goals and track them throughout the year. There are 26 goals that can be selected to apply toward citation achievement. Clubs need to meet 13 of these goals. This flexibility allows clubs to choose the goals that are most relevant to their club.

So, on behalf of Rotary International and the District, congratulations to the 12 clubs in our district that received this recognition for the 2022-23 year and thank you for your club's efforts towards making the world a better place.

DGE Katherine Hahn presenting the citation to past president Gerry Thuss, RC Stratford



# MEMBERSHIP IN YOUR CLUB

## DOES YOUR CLUB HAVE A MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE?

Your Membership committee members are the cheerleaders of your club. They are enthusiastic members who work with their club president to attract and retain members. To be effective, a Rotary club needs members. Your club's ability to assist local and international communities, support The Rotary Foundation, and develop leaders capable of serving Rotary beyond the club level is directly related to the strength, size, and involvement of its membership base. A club membership committee ensures a concerted effort to recruit new members and retain current ones. Specifically, the role of the Club Membership Committee is to develop and implement an action plan for membership development that actively attract, retain and engage members.

Remember to have a club secretary, treasurer, and Public Image/ Relations committee in place. Need help? Visit the [RI Learning Center](#)

(you will need to create an account.)

## MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT TOOLS

Be intentional about improving your club experience. Use these tools and their results to make changes.

Getting to Know Prospective and New Members  
(member interest survey)

Engaging and Keeping Members  
(retention assessment and analysis)

Understanding How Your Club Represents Your Community  
(diversity assessment)

Understanding Why Members Leave  
(exit survey)

Enhancing the Club Experience  
(member satisfaction survey online version)

Finding People to Invite  
(prospective member exercise)

These tools may be found on the RI website by following this [link](#)



The role of the Vice Governor is to step into the District Governor role if the current District Governor becomes unable to complete the term of office.



## Getting to know... your Vice Governor



Michael has been a member of Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary since 1978 and held most positions in the club including president twice. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and sustaining member. Michael was the district international service chair for three years and Assistant Governor for three years ending in 2007. He was 6330 District Governor in 2010-11. He was District trainer for three years ending 2016.

Michael has retired from the pork and apple industries, and the steel fabrication business. He still has a part time design business.

Michael has been married to Margaret for 55 years. They have 3 adult children, 7 grandchildren and one great grandchild.



*Vice Governor Michael Atkins  
and DG Sonja*



## 26th STRATFORD ROTARY DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL: SEPTEMBER 16, 2023

Held on Lake Victoria in Stratford, this one-day festival will have over 40 teams participate in the recreational Hong Kong style races, including a 2000-meter final featuring the top 8 teams. The Grand Champion and Community Division Champions are honoured with trophies at the closing ceremony.

Over 2,000 will attend to watch the races and enjoy the food, refreshments, entertainment, and Kid's Tent. Proceeds from the event support Rotary community activities with over \$930,000 raised to date!

Please check our [website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#) for more information.



### Race Format

- A one-day recreational Hong Kong style dragon boat races for awards.
- Race Course Length - 500 metres or 1640.4 feet
- Number of lanes - 4
- Lane width - 10 metres or 33 feet
- Number of boats - 8
- 2,000 metre races for the top 8 teams





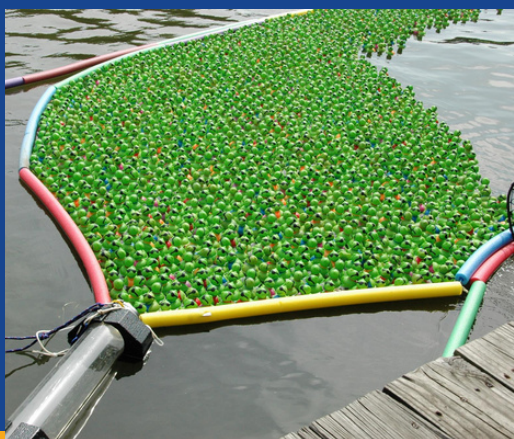
# Pine River Turtle Race

## ROTARY CLUB OF ST CLAIR

With the loss of St Clair Rotary's largest fundraiser in 2020 during COVID, their Freighter Raffle (a trip on a Great Lakes Freighter from St Clair, MI to Duluth MN and back), they needed to shift gears. Out of those gears came the idea of a Turtle Race on the Pine River in St Clair. The race is similar to the Rubber Duck races most clubs are familiar with.

St Clair Rotarians sell tickets with numbers that correspond to the numbers on the turtles, and the turtles are dumped into the river all at once (4,000+ Turtles). The first 3 turtles in the tube at the finish line win \$1,500 for first prize, \$1,000 for second prize, and \$500 for third. After the winners are determined, there is

an additional dip of turtles for door prizes. The success of the event is not only the hard work of the St Clair Rotarians, but the collaboration with local businesses to set them up as "Adoption Centers", selling the tickets for incentive prizes to those selling the most tickets. Race day includes the singing of the National Anthem, and the emcee giving the order for the turtle drop from a specially designed turtle hopper on a front-end loader. Then the excitement happens, and they're off to the races. It is a fun event and is well attended by the community. After all, how many times do you get to see over 4,000 plastic turtles float down a river?







The Rotary Club of Owen Sound

# 150th Anniversary RCMP Musical Ride

The Rotary Club of Owen Sound is pleased to bring the 150th Anniversary presentation of the RCMP Musical Ride

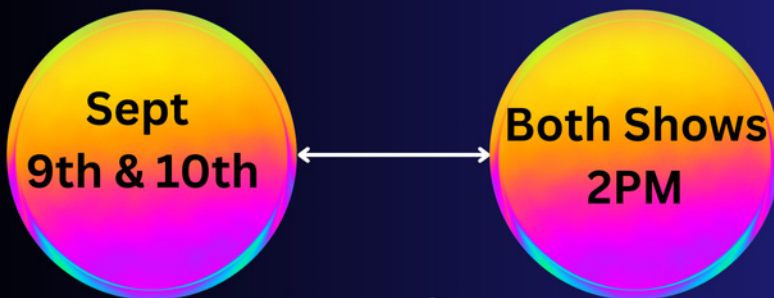
Featuring performances by



Jess Cameron's Elite Equestrians



Special Presentation by GRACE (Georgian Riding Association for Challenged Equestrians)



**Location:**

Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre  
Owen Sound

Tickets on line: [tickets.attackhockey.com](http://tickets.attackhockey.com)  
Call the box office 519-371-7452  
1-866-528-8225

**Tickets on Sale  
NOW!**

Proceeds to The Rotary Club of Owen Sound  
Camp Presqu'ile Kitchen Renovation



# Club Feature

## SARNIA BLUEWATERLAND

### *busy.. busy*



## Next Month we'll feature Area 7 Projects & Events

The Rotary Club of Sarnia Bluewaterland is really making a difference in their community this summer! The club is gearing up for its largest fundraiser of the year- Art in the Park. This event will be held at the Mike Weir Park in the Brights Grove area of the City of Sarnia on Saturday, Sept 9th. Art in the Park was initiated 30 years ago by a group of volunteers who were members of the Gallery in the Grove at Wildwood Park. In 2010 the RC of Sarnia-Bluewaterland entered into an agreement with the Gallery to assume the sponsorship of this major community event. [Click](#) here to learn more about this event.

In 2018 Rotarians of Sarnia Bluewaterland began the search for Rotarians in Kenya who would help provide water to a village of 3,000 people. That effort came to fruition on 23rd December 2022 when water gushed from the ground in Yombra near Lake Victoria. The Rotary Club of Kisumu Central has been working closely with the Sarnia Bluewaterland club to make water available to everyone. Their water project in Kenya is moving forward this month with the installation of the water tank and the village will be on this water system by end of September if all goes well. Find out more information [here](#).



## What Else?

Literacy Lambton Project- Baby Bookworms  
Used Book Sale in February 2024

Collaboration with Sarnia Club for "Breakfast Under the Bridge" Makinac Sailboat Race







# Call for Nominations - District Governor for 2026-27

Each year we call upon our clubs to explore with the members of their club the opportunity to serve as district governor in District 6330.

Nominations for district governor to serve during the Rotary year 2026-27 are now being accepted until October 4th, 2023.

District 6330 selects a district governor by a nominating committee.

Members in good standing who are willing and able to serve as district governor and have served as Club President are eligible to be nominated. [Click](#) here for the form.

## HELP WANTED

We are looking for dedicated Rotarians to help us support clubs with the following:

Membership

Website

Assistant Governors in areas: 4, 6, 8, 9, 10

Rotary Leadership Institute

Public Images/ Relations

Newsletter Editor

Please email DG Sonja for  
more information  
[sonjaglass@rogers.com](mailto:sonjaglass@rogers.com)

## REMINDERS

Rotary Leadership Institute  
PART III

Monday evenings –

Sept 11th and 18th, 2023

6:30-9:30 pm

ON LINE – BY ZOOM – with  
Facilitators

email

[dianechantler@hotmail.com](mailto:dianechantler@hotmail.com)

To keep up to date on  
what's happening in  
District 6330 visit our  
Website: [Rotary6330.org](http://Rotary6330.org)  
AND  
check out our  
[Facebook Page](#)

Learn more about Rotary  
International by visiting  
the Learning Center at  
[Rotary.org](http://Rotary.org)

(you will need to create an account)