

# Rotary Review

Newsletter of The Ottawa Rotary Home  
and Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation



Fall and Winter 2012

Celebrating 30 years of keeping families  
strong, helping keep them together

## Welcoming Our New Chair

It is my happy duty to serve as chair of the Board of the Ottawa Rotary Home for 2012-2013. I say happy because, when one looks around the Ottawa Rotary Home, one always sees lots of happy, smiling faces coping with difficult challenges. Happiness is a powerful motivator for any duty and the Board takes inspiration from the clients and staff of the ORH as we face our many challenges, especially in funding the adult respite wing.

When the adult wing was opened four years ago ORH had no provincial funding for adult respite and the state-of-the-art adult wing at our Leitrim campus stood empty. We had built it in the expectation that operational funding would follow from the province. It didn't.

In January 2011, the ORH Board undertook a strategic planning exercise which identified the requirement for permanent, sustainable funding of the adult respite wing at 100% occupancy as the primary focus of the ORH's three year strategic plan. I am happy to report that, with private sources and strategic partnerships, the adult wing was able to

achieve 25% capacity in fiscal 2012. This is good progress in a challenging fiscal environment, but we need to do more. The ORH Board will work hard this year to make further progress toward achieving this primary strategic goal.

I am also happy to report that the ORH Board now has representation from every Rotary Club in the City of Ottawa. Bill Robinson joins the Board from the Nepean-Kanata Rotary Club and has assumed the role of chair of our governance committee. Peggy Gilmour from the Rotary Club of Orleans, Ottawa's newest Rotary club, has agreed to undertake the role of Secretary. Mary Wattie, who is a member of the West Ottawa Rotary Club, has accepted the position of Treasurer. They join Sam Monsour from the South Ottawa Rotary Club, Riaz Mostaghim from Kanata-Sunrise Rotary Club and Peter Fisher from the West Ottawa Club, together with the six members from the Downtown Rotary Club, to form our extended Rotary family on the ORH Board.

Brian Barr, Chair  
Board of Directors

## A Message From Our Executive Director

Rochester  
Street to  
Rotary Way  
30 years  
and counting!



Gina St. Amour,  
Executive Director

2012 has been a grand year for The Ottawa Rotary Home as we celebrate three amazing and innovative decades of dedicated service.

My journey as the Executive Director of the Rotary Home began at 30 Rochester Street in 2004. I am as proud now as I was then to carry on the Home's compassionate progression that was launched in 1982 by Ms. Paula English, the Ottawa Rotary Home's first Executive Director, and mirrored in 1985 by Ms. Faith Detchon. As the successor to these remarkable women, I am both honoured and inspired by their steadfast leadership and staunch commitment to the families and caregivers in need of respite within our community. The same devotion and drive is what governs our mandate today and I am grateful to both of them for the visionary path they set forth and their legacy and guidance that remains.

## this issue



P3

2012 Golf  
Marathon

P4

A Lasting  
Legacy

P5

Now and  
Then

P6

Announcements  
& Recognitions

[www.rotaryhome.on.ca](http://www.rotaryhome.on.ca)

[www.orhfoundation.ca](http://www.orhfoundation.ca)

## Ongoing Collaboration — and NEW Website!

While The Ottawa Rotary Home and the ORH Foundation have long worked closely together, this year we have embarked upon two new joint ventures with a view to presenting a more unified public face and to improving access to information for families, donors and other supporters.

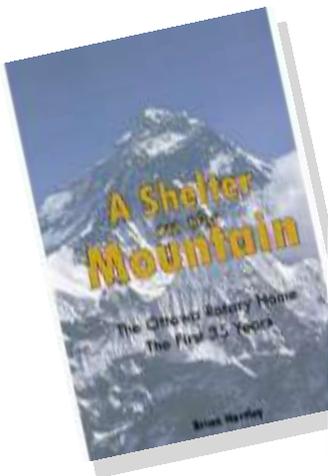
This edition of the “Rotary Review” is the first joint newsletter from the Rotary Home and the ORH Foundation. We hope you will enjoy learning about the families that access the Home’s services along with information on the Foundation activities and donors who help support these programs. If you have comments on this new format we would love to hear from you! Send us your feedback by emailing [newsletter@rotaryhome.on.ca](mailto:newsletter@rotaryhome.on.ca).

Our next collaborative effort will be the development of one website, as well as the use of joint social media accounts. You can check us out now on Facebook (and “like us”) and stay tuned for our more information on our re-designed website in the New Year!

## Community Organizations and Business Leaders Show Their Support

We have had incredible support in recent months from local businesses and community groups and we would like to recognize their generous contributions to the Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation. Their support provides the funding needed to offer overnight adult respite programming to 8-10 local families over a two week period in January 2013. On behalf of the individuals living with disabilities and their families who will benefit from these services —**Thank you!**

- Taggart Realty Management and Tamarack Homes - \$10,000
- RBC Foundation, *special thanks to the Rotary Club of Ottawa* - \$3,900
- Scotiabank Findlay Creek - \$2,000
- VLN Reach Foundation - \$2,000
- Rotaract Club of Ottawa - \$1,060
- Rotaract Club of Ottawa South - \$1,500



### Local Rotarian, Brian Hartley, writes history of the Rotary Home in *A Shelter on the Mountain: The Ottawa Rotary Home—The First 35 Years*

ON SALE Now at the Rotary Home for just \$20—get your copy today!



Don Rogers, Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation Treasurer, and Brian Hartley.



(Left to Right) Faith Detchon, Executive Director of the Ottawa Rotary Home 1985 -2004; Gina St. Amour, current Executive

NOW PAY BY  
DEBIT OR CREDIT



A MERCHANT SERVICES MACHINE is available providing a convenient payment option for any debit or credit transactions like fee payments or donations.

## 2012 Golf Marathon A Fantastic Success!

On Monday, June 4th at Emerald Links Golf & Country Club, 100 golfers participated in the **9th Annual Rotary Home Golf Marathon**. We would like to send a warm thank you to all the participants, sponsors, volunteers and donors for making 2012 another incredible year. **You raised over \$67,000 for The Ottawa Rotary Home's Young Adult Overnight Respite Program!** The proceeds from the event will provide 175 days of respite to families in our community who are caring for a young adult with a severe physical disability. **Thank you!**

### Thank you to all our 2012 Sponsors:



STIKEMAN ELLIOTT LLP



International Orthopaedic Consultants Inc.

Kanata MYERS CHEV•BUICK•GMC

Rotary Club of Ottawa

Rotary Club of Ottawa South

Rotary Club of West Ottawa

## A Family's Life

"Our daughter Vanessa is a regular guest at the Ottawa Rotary Home. Vanessa lives with both mental and physical disabilities which she has had from birth. She requires 24 hours of constant care. What an incredible difference discovering the Rotary Home has meant to us. We can once again enjoy some of life's simple pleasures that many take for granted because of the Rotary Home. Sleep, speaking on the telephone, chatting with your spouse about your day, these are things that we do not do when our daughter is at home with us.

The Rotary Home has changed our lives in ways we could never have imagined. The Rotary Home means that we can spend time together, shop together and even have complete, uninterrupted conversations together.

It allows us the time to connect as husband and wife, as parents with our able-bodied children and visit friends and family freely. The relief you feel knowing that your child is in a safe place, with highly qualified professionals and great people is an experience that is hard to describe. Vanessa is currently part of the Home's Children's Regular Relief Program. Thanks to the support of donors and sponsors we are hopeful that the Adult Program will be there for her when we have the need".

- Louise Samuels



Louise & Greg Samuel—2012 Golf Marathon

[www.rotaryhome.on.ca](http://www.rotaryhome.on.ca)

[www.orhfoundation.ca](http://www.orhfoundation.ca)



## SAVE THE DATE for the 2013 Golf-A-Thon!

You won't want to miss the 10th Anniversary of the event. It is sure to be our biggest and best yet! So join us on Monday, June 10th, 2013 for unlimited golf, fantastic food and prizes and one of the best golf days of the season!

## A Lasting Legacy

Bob and Kim Ridpath have been long time supporters of the Ottawa Rotary Home. They are major donors to the Home both personally and professionally. Kim is a past President of the Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation, and has chaired the Foundation's premier event the "Golf-A-Thon" for the past ten years. Kim was also a Committee Member for the "Building on a Dream" project. The Ridpaths and their family members also funded the "Bubble-bath-atorium" at the Leitrim Campus.

The Ridpath's know firsthand the value of the respite care provided by the Ottawa Rotary Home. Their son Jordy, a former client who passed away in 2000, visited the Home regularly for many years. So when it came time to prepare their wills, it didn't take the Ridpaths long to decide to include the Ottawa Rotary Home as an important recipient of their resources.

*"We saw an opportunity that would allow us to give back to a place that meant so much to us as a family during Jordy's life and continues to be so important to so many of the families of these wonderful, special kids and young adults. Being introduced to the Rotary Home was the single most important event in being able to provide the kind of care we wanted for our son. The Rotary Home provided us with the best possible quality of life for us as a family and the staff became part of our extended family. What is ours is yours!" - Kim Ridpath*

### We'd love to hear from you!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

- Bequests • Donating Securities • Gifts of Life Insurance

Call us at 613.822.5391 or email [legacygiving@orhfoundation.ca](mailto:legacygiving@orhfoundation.ca)

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 2013 GOLF-A-THON

Parents, supporters or sponsors who would like to help with our Golf-A-Thon please contact the Foundation office at:

Tel: 613.822.5391 or  
Email: [golf@orhfoundation.ca](mailto:golf@orhfoundation.ca)



"Twenty-four of the Home's angels 'graduated' from the Rotary Home's children's program last year. Now that they are over 21 there is no provincial funding to care for them while we aging parents get a respite break. For \$272 you can provide a local family with a 24-hour period of respite care at the Rotary Home. Every gift helps. Please give generously today by visiting [www.orhfoundation.ca/donations.html](http://www.orhfoundation.ca/donations.html) to make a secure online donation today.

Thank you and best wishes for a happy holiday season!"

- Debbie Arecchi

Read more of Debbie's letter at:

[www.orhfoundation.ca/angel.html](http://www.orhfoundation.ca/angel.html)

[www.rotaryhome.on.ca](http://www.rotaryhome.on.ca)

[www.orhfoundation.ca](http://www.orhfoundation.ca)



# Now and Then

*30 years of caring for our community*



## Why Your Support Matters

For much of the Ottawa Rotary Home's history our focus has been on providing respite services to families with children living with physical disabilities and complex medical needs. This needed "break" allows caregivers an opportunity to rejuvenate for their own well-being with the comfort of knowing their loved ones are receiving the same quality of care they are provided at home. Today, we still operate our children's wing at 100 % capacity and with the added ability to offer families an emergency bed during times of crisis or joy, when urgent respite is required. Every year more and more of our children turn twenty-one and "graduate" from our provincially funded program. A total of 57 children have come of age in the past three years alone. As many of our clients are adolescents, this trend will continue. In fact, 1 out of every 3 clients currently in our children's program will graduate during the next five years.



There is hope for the individuals and the families facing this dilemma. Although we have no annualized provincial funding for our overnight adult services, support from public donations, corporate sponsors and grants from private foundations have allowed over 100 families to access our respite services since the program began operating in 2009. With your help families caring for young adults with complex needs will be able to continue to get a much needed break to rest and recuperate from the daily challenges they face and the Ottawa Rotary Home can continue keeping families strong by helping keep them together.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Congratulations  
on your  
Wedding*  
Sarah Picard &  
Jose Pou  
September 14th



Photo by: David Kawai of  
KAWAIPHOTO, Ottawa

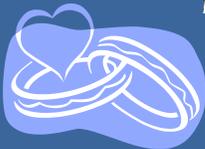


Alicia Petrone &  
Tim Miller  
September 15th

Photo by: Patrick Chondon  
Photography, Thunder Bay

Cheryl O'Connor  
& Chris Peck  
October 27th

Photo by: Bryan Jones  
Photography and Videogra-  
phy, Ottawa



*Engagements*

Joshua Gray & Kristen Brawley,  
Jessica McElroy & Yves Desjardins  
*and*  
Tiffany Mackey & Korey Mackenzie

*New Arrivals*

Angela Henderson's  
son, Benjamin  
*Born on July 9th*  
*and*  
Christine Fontaine Paquette's son,  
Charlie



**The Ottawa Rotary Home**  
*and*

**The Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation**

address effective January 1st, 2013 will be:

**823 Rotary Way**

Ottawa, ON K1T 3W6

Home Tel: 613.236.3200

Foundation Tel: 613.822.5391

Fax: 613.822.8778

Home Email: info@rotaryhome.on.ca

Foundation Email: info@orhfoundation.ca



## Our Enchanted Garden

Our new garden "bloomed" this summer thanks to generous support from Michael Potter and family and the enthusiastic planting efforts of the volunteers from KPMG LLP, Stikeman Elliott LLP, family, friends and our Board members. The beautiful garden designed by Sundaura Alford from Gardening in Ottawa, offers a plethora of flowers, shrubs and trees, many with a unique sensory components that will provide a relaxing oasis for clients and staff to tend, cultivate and enjoy for years to come.



KPMG volunteers (Left to Right): Wayne Darling, Brian Bost, Arthur Smolarkiewicz, Jules Beaudet, Theo Odartei and Erin Murphy (not pictured).



## In Recognition

of the generous contributions that helped make our Canada Day and 30th Anniversary celebration a success the Ottawa Rotary Home gratefully acknowledges:

- Our wonderful MC Michelle Cruise from Boom 99.7
- The financial support of the City of Ottawa
- The donation of food from Loblaw 's South Keys and the Real Canadian Superstore in Westboro
- The donation of coffee by Kirsten Hansen-Tripp, Manager of the Starbucks Coffee Company in Orleans
- The spectacular fireworks display by North Star Firworks
- The food and beverages donated from Allan and Joanne Foget of Sobeys in Orleans and Kanata.



## Already contributing to your workplace United Way campaign?

Did you know you can designate your contributions to the charity of your choice?

To have your donation benefit Rotary Home families in need of respite care just bring this information to your United Way workplace representative:



**The Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation**