

## Rotary Club of Peterborough November 5, 2018 Submitted by Colin MacKenzie

12.15 pm: A/President Kevin Duguay opened the meeting in place of Ken Tremblay.

Grace: Bruce Gravel; Four Way Test: Eleanor Down

A toast to the Queen and Canada. National Anthem played on the organ with grace and a superb voice by Faye McMillan, guest of Lucas Smith. Ken Seim, a club member and our "Last Post" trumpeter, followed by 2 minutes of silence to remember those who fought for our country.

Guests: David Feely, Guest of Jay Amer; Faye McMillan, Guest of Lucas and Club; Carol Lawless, Club guest (New Canadian Centre); Marie Virgoe, Guest of Atul/Club (Retired); Ken Armstrong, Club guest (guest speaker); Bob Ough, Club guest; Fred Gariby, Club guest; Garry Humphreys, Club member.

Announcements: *Colin*: Informed members that members had donated clothes, mitts and socks in the past week that went to the YES Shelter for Youth and Families, including a donation of men's socks that will go to the Brock Mission for men. And, today's left over food will go to the VON Drop-in Centre at the Mount Community Centre. *Bruce*: reminded members of the auction in January at the Peterborough Golf and Country Club starting at 5.30 pm, that proceeds will go to Homeward Bound, can buy tickets on line for \$135 pp (\$65 back instantly as a charitable tax receipt) Tables of 8 will cost \$1,080. Items for the auction are needed so please donate or ask friends, co-workers. Any questions contact Chair Bruce or co-Chair Amy Simpson.

A/President Kevin introduced our member retired Lt. Colonel and Dr. Garry Humphreys, a physician for 23 years, served in the Canadian Forces and retired in 1984 as a Lt. Colonel. He said that today was a day to remember and honour veterans who fought in the Canadian Forces, especially in WW1, WW2 and in Korea. Garry then introduced the head table:

*Frank Bayliss* – WW2 vet. and current club member, who will recite "In Flanders Field."

*Ken Armstrong* - Honorary Colonel of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment (also known as the "Hasty P's") He attended Royal Military College, served in the Navy, left the service and taught history, past member of Board of Governors at Trent University, served as Chair of the Police Services Board and continues to be active.

*Bob Ough* - Retired Captain of the RCAF, a trained navigator and helicopter pilot, represented Air Bus in Canada and is a member of the Senate of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment.

*Fred Gariby* - a lawyer and historian, will speak about the significance of the flags on display.

**President: Ken Tremblay**

**Past President: Andi van Koeverden**

**President Elect: Kevin Duguay**

**Treasurer: Wayne Harding**

**Club Secretary: Moe Grant**

**Sgt. at Arms: Lloyd Graham**

**Directors:**

**Marie Press**

**Morris Cox**

**John Thomas**

**Sarah Burke**

**Wayne Harding**

**Lloyd Graham**



### November Birthdays:

November 3 - John Cockburn  
November 7 - Michael Evans  
November 8 - Sally Harding  
November 15 - Neil Campbell  
November 18 - Linda Mitchelson  
November 25 - Frank Gishman  
November 29 - Wendy Hill

### November Club Member Anniversaries:

November 2 - Milan Ichniovsky  
November 6 - Art Turner  
November 17 - Wayne Harding  
November 19 - Arlene Blunck  
November 27 - Rick Storey  
November 28 - Eleanor Down  
November 28 - Joe Kapron  
November 30 - Linda Mitchelson



## Upcoming Program Schedule



**November 19 – Paul Harris Fellow Dinner**

**November 26 – RCOP Honduras Team Update**

**December 10 – AGM + Holiday Celebration**

Garry opened with remarks about remembering those fought and died for our country and who are buried at numerous military cemeteries in the countries where they died, including cemeteries in their own country. Garry said that Hugh Kenner, a teacher and historian was born in Peterborough in 1923 and died in 2003. A Rotarian, he spoke to Peterborough Rotary Club in 1931 recalling the valour and dedication to duty of our troops, and he said the following. *"Forever there will be a bit of Canada in France and Flanders Fields. The place where lie our dead is ours bought with a price beyond calculation, paid for in blood, in youthful hopes, in young men's dreams, in lives of promise and brilliancy which now, alas, never will be lived. We have buried there our future statesmen, poets and explorers, the men of thought and action, whose loss to civilization is beyond reckoning. These spots in France and elsewhere, far from us yet how near to us. How swiftly our thoughts travel to where our treasure lies. No accident of wind and weather can hinder our heart's journey to that foreign land to find our own, and we find that they sleep well. They died for freedom's cause in a land of chivalry and glory and we know rest has followed warfare. They died for principle, seeking no reward, sufficient for them is that the sacred cause of liberty perish not, and the cry of the down-trodden fall not on deaf ears. On the national day of remembrance I would encourage you to cherish in your hearts the memory of our heroic dead who laid down their lives upon the altar of righteousness, duty and patriotism."*

Before Frank was asked to recite "In Flanders Field," Garry said that the poem was written by Major John McCrae, also a military doctor, and was second in command of the 1st Brigade Canadian Field Artillery. who, in 1915 was believed to have witnessed the death of his good friend Alex Helmer and it so affected him to write the poem. It is significant because of the red poppies in the fields of war and is now associated with Remembrance Day Services.

Frank said that he was recently in Heidelberg, Germany and had been taken to a pub for a meal. He saw about 8 to 10 young people sitting at a table when one of them said to Frank, "Hey, you tourist?" Frank said that he was and they asked him where he was from. After Frank said Canada they asked Frank to go sit with them. They and most of the people in the pub stood and toasted Frank saying "Cheers to our friend from Canada." Frank said he was extremely touched and very proud of being Canadian. Frank then recited the poem "In Flanders Field."

Fred Gariby, a lawyer in Peterborough, informed members the significance of the two flags, the Canadian Flag and the Union Jack, also known as the Commonwealth Flag in honour of the reigning British monarch. He also mentioned Major George Bennett, born in North Monaghan Township, who served with the Peterborough Militia for 25 years. He talked about lawyer Gordon Farquarson of the fight against polio, water therapy for polio victims and how the fight against this disease has always been gratefully supported by Rotarians. Major Bennett will be remembered for his cry of battle, that of "Follow Me" to his comrades but, alas, it was to a sad ending because he and many of his comrades were shot in a desperate attempt to stop a German approach.

Garry reflected that 100 years ago on November 11th this year, WW2 ended and a big part of the victory was due to Canadian troops achievements in the last 100 days of that war, during which 27 Canadians were awarded the Victoria Cross for their exceptional bravery

and courage. A corps of 100,000 Canadian troops, lost 46,000 to either being killed, wounded or taken prisoner, and this represented 20% of the casualties for the entire war. The war of 1914-18 resulted in 66,000 Canadians killed and 176,000 wounded. Garry acknowledged Peter MacLoughlin whose father served in Italy during WW2. Peter's father was killed when his jeep ran over an explosive device.

Ken Armstrong was the guest speaker. He is a retired Lt. Colonel of the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment. His topic was called "The White Battalion." This regiment is one of 163 around the country that is ready and prepared to support any unrest in the country, just part of one of their duties. He mentioned the sacrifices of all Canadians who served in various wars, including recently Afghanistan and, during WW2, the Netherlands. That country has never forgotten what Canadian troops did. And one occasion their troops met Ken's troops and they marched together and the Dutch saluted those Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment troops buried in a cemetery. Ken also explained that post traumatic stress disorder was prevalent many, many years ago and was just as serious but was not talked about, so different from today. Ken also described the many situations that Canadian troops found themselves in while fighting in the wars of many years ago, and many soldiers were as young as 19 years old. In one incident Canadian troops had no alternative but to climb up a rock face that was about 1000 feet high to attack Germans. It was daunting and the Germans had no idea what was coming. The Canadian soldiers climbed that rock face and surprised the Germans at the top but 13 soldiers were "transferred" to "The White Battalion." It was a euphemism for being killed and being forgotten. Ken invited everyone to attend the cenotaph on November 11th and remember all the Canadians who fought for their country. In closing, Ken said that...Dying for freedom is not the worst, Being forgotten is."

Robert Ough recited the poem "Act of Remembrance," followed by Ken Seim on trumpet.

1.15 pm – Acting President Kevin thanked the head table guests for their presence and Kevin called the meeting to a close.

#### POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

If you are bringing a guest to Rotary, who may be interested in joining our club, please make sure you introduce this person to Moe Grant or someone else on the Membership Committee. Moe or a committee member will look after talking to the guest and seeing them through the membership process. The Membership Committee has some information at the Holiday Inn that potential Rotarians can take away with them.

Can't Attend A Weekly Meeting... Maybe Make-up

Rotary Make-up Meetings may be sent to  
Lucas Smith for your attendance credit.  
Email: [smi0166@outlook.com](mailto:smi0166@outlook.com)