



Rotary Club of Thunder Bay, (Fort William) Feb 17, 2017

2016/2017 Board of Directors		Website www.fwrotary.ca
President:	Bob Hookham	Directors:
Treasurer:	Boris Cham	Jerry Williams
Secretary:	Joan Krisko	Robert Moore
President Elect:	Therese Lim	Sante Sottile
Past President:	Bev Knutson	Stephen Margarit
<i>Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month</i>		Ben Hettrick
<i>TBDHU building, 6:30 pm</i>		Solade Nicol
999 Balmoral St Williams St entrance		
Allocations Committee		Rotary House Lottery
Committee		
Chair: Peter Stetsko		Chair: Bob Hookham
<i>Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month</i>		<i>Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month</i>
<i>Weiler Maloney Nelson Board Room 12 noon</i>		<i>Weiler Maloney Nelson 12 noon</i>
Weekly Dinner Meetings		Mailing
Address <i>Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.</i>		Thunder Bay, ON
<i>Airlane Hotel & Conference Centre</i>		P.O. Box 10061
<i>698 W. Arthur St. Thunder Bay, ON</i>		Canada P 7 B 6T6
Newsletter Editors		Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

February 17, 2017

On Friday, February 17, the members of the three Rotary clubs of Thunder Bay and the Nipigon Club met together at the Valhalla Inn to celebrate one hundred years of Rotary in the city. The event was the Gala dinner. All proceeds raised by the dinner would be donated to the Polio Plus Campaign.

The Master of Ceremonies for the event was Colin Bruce. Special guests for the evening were District Governor Herb Schmidt; Past District Governor Craig Loughery and his wife, Diane; MP Bill Mauro; Thunder Bay City councilor Shelby Ch'ng; and Hill City Kinsmen Club President Jeff Jones.

Colin welcomed everyone and gave a brief history of the development of Rotary in Thunder Bay.

He then called upon the Reverend Paul Carr to say grace. President Bob Hookham gave the toast to the Queen as well as the toast to the Office of the President of the United States. Lakehead Rotary Club President Chris Davidson gave the toast to Rotary International. Port Arthur Rotary Club President Vonnie Cheng gave the toast to one hundred years of Rotary in Thunder Bay.



A delicious meal was served with the highlight being the prime rib. During the meal, Nipigon Club President Dan Brown conducted the first toonie auction.

After dinner, the Honourable Bill Mauro, MPP for Thunder Bay-Atikokan, brought greetings. He thanked the Rotary clubs for all of their years of service to Thunder Bay. He also said that the government would not have been able to accomplish all of the work that the clubs have accomplished in the city. He talked about the good news regarding the Wilderness Discovery Camp. MP Mauro called up President Bob Hookham and Kinsman President Jeff Jones to speak about the Camp.

District Governor Herb Schmidt was the next speaker. He stated that Rotarians were celebrating 112 years of Rotary, 107 years of Rotary in Canada, and 100 years of Rotary in Thunder Bay. He brought congratulations from the other 63 clubs in the district. He also made a special presentation of a plaque from Rotary International President John Germ. He presented Karl Wahl with his PHF +8 pin.

Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, representing Mayor Hobbs, brought greetings from the City of Thunder Bay. Nipigon Rotary Club President Dan Brown was the next speaker to the podium bringing greetings from his Club as well a quick club report. He also announced that the Nipigon Club wants to be involved in the Wilderness Discovery Camp.



Colin Bruce then called Marianne Wahl up. Marianne is a manuscript scribe as well as a past President of Inner Wheel. She presented a certificate that she had made to celebrate this special occasion to President Bob Hookham. The club presidents and District Governor cut the Centennial cake. Colin Bruce thanked the Valhalla staff for the wonderful meal and service. Dan Brown then ran the second toonie auction.

The club presidents and incoming presidents then gave presentations on the accomplishments of their respective clubs. The first speakers were Bob Hookham and Therese Lim of Fort William Rotary. They talked about the early history of the Club, the Outlaw Bridge, the House Lottery, the Wilderness Camp, and international service projects. Bob thanked Karl Wahl, the club historian, for all of his work throughout the years. Bob also thanked Dr. Tory Tronrud, the Thunder Bay museum Director, for giving the clubs the opportunity to have a centennial display at the museum.

Chris Davidson and Wayne Robinson of the Lakehead Rotary Club talked about their club's beginnings, various service projects such as assisting with the Terry Fox Run and the Salvation Army Christmas Kettles, and some of their fundraisers such as the Spirit of Thunder Bay.



Vonnie Cheng and Brenda Winter of the Port Arthur Rotary Club talked about their club history, their service projects such as Field of Greens and the St. James School and some of their fundraisers such as Oktoberfest. Dan Brown ran the third toonie auction.

DG Herb Schmidt gave an update on the Polio Plus program. There were no polio cases in the world last week. There has been only one case in the world this year. There was no polio contamination in water during this past week. DG Herb discussed the contributions made to the Polio Plus Fund by the clubs in District 5580.

After DG Herb's presentation, Dan Brown ran the last of the toonie auctions. Brenda Winter announced the winners of the Silent Auction. She also announced the door prize winners. These were Jack Hudolin and Brian Davis. Colin Bruce closed out the evening with acknowledgements. It was a lovely evening of fellowship, food, and fun to celebrate a once-in-a-lifetime event!

Scribe Bev

Editor Erle

Photo's Karl

