



The Fortarian

Feb 23th, 2022

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

2021/2022 Board of Directors

President: Dawn Sebesta
 Secretary: Stephen Margarit
 Assistant Secretary: Irene Sottile
 Treasurer: Erle Wheatley
 Assistant Treasurer: Sante Sottile
 President Elect: Fhara Pottinger
 Past President: Cynthia Judge
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom: 6.30pm

Website www.fwrotary.ca

Directors:
 Irene Sottile
 Robert Moore
 Sante Sottile
 Mary Ann Breton
 Bev Knutson
 Stephen Margarit

Allocations Committee

Chair: Bob Hookham
 Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom 12 noon.

Rotary House Lottery Committee

Chair: Dave Knutson
 Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom 12 noon.

Semi-monthly Zoom Meetings

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.
 Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Mailing Address

PO Box 10061
 Thunder Bay, ON
 Canada P7B 6T6

Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

THE FORTARIAN
February 23, 2022

President Dawn Sebesta welcomed everyone to the meeting. Assistant District Governor (ADG) Dan Brown from the Nipigon Rotary Club was in attendance via Zoom. Joan Krisko played the National Anthem. Mary Ann Breton gave the toast to the Queen. She also read the Land Acknowledgement.

President Dawn introduced the guest speaker. Matthew Vilella is the Past Area Director and Division Director for Toastmasters International. He is a member of the Nanabijou Toastmaster Club here in the city. He is also a member of Port Arthur Rotary. Matthew is a teacher in the Tourism program at Confederation College. He joined Toastmasters International eleven years ago. The program has provided him with many opportunities.

In May 2019, Toastmasters and Rotary formed a strategic alliance that has produced a positive impact for both organizations. Members of both organizations can “enhance their skills, broaden their networks, and increase the positive impact they have in their communities.” Members at the grassroots level can get to know each other and work together. Toastmasters International has also developed eight communication and leadership courses for Rotary.

Toastmasters was founded in 1924. It is a worldwide organization that “empowers more confident and effective communicators/leaders from diverse backgrounds.” Toastmasters supports professional development in the areas of: communication, leadership, setting and achieving goals, and the Pathways Learning program.

Matthew presented a video showing what happens at a typical Toastmaster meeting. There are seven meeting roles to be filled. Participants give speeches and provide feedback.

Matthew is a Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM.) The DTM award is the highest level of educational achievement in Toastmasters. It took nine years for Matthew to achieve this goal.

If a person is interested in joining Toastmasters, they can attend a club meeting for free. There are 3 clubs in Thunder Bay. The Heart of the Harbour Club meets Tuesday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Lakehead University. The Westfort Club meets every second Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at West Thunder Community Centre. This meeting is also on Zoom. The Nanabijou Club meets Tuesday from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Confederation College.

Toastmasters is not an expensive organization to join. There is a one-time new member fee of \$20. Dues are \$45 USD, payable every six months.

Toastmasters will be offering an 8-week Speech Craft course for Thunder Bay Rotarians. The cost will be \$30. The date and time are to be determined. Matthew will be sending out an e-mail looking for interest.

Cindy Levanto-Kawahara was the Fine Master for the evening. Those members who had not attended the Valentine Day dinner or wished President Dawn a happy birthday were forced to pay up.

Robert Moore gave the House Lottery report. The launch should be happening soon. The House will be open for viewings on Sundays, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Two volunteers will be required to be in attendance in order to answer questions. Mary Ann Breton will be in charge of enlisting volunteers for this task.

The meeting ended with Robert Moore doing the Lighter Side.

Announcements

Sharon Badanai presented on the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program for this year. The camp will be taking place on July 10-16 at the University of Minnesota Crookston. Eligible students must be in Grades 10 or 11. The application is online. The deadline for applying is April 6, 2022. Everything is paid for by Rotary except for spending money. If you know of any students, who are interested, please provide them with the information.

*Please note that the words in quotes come from the Toastmaster International website.

Editor Erle

Scribe Bev



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES