



# The Fortarian

May 11, 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](http://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

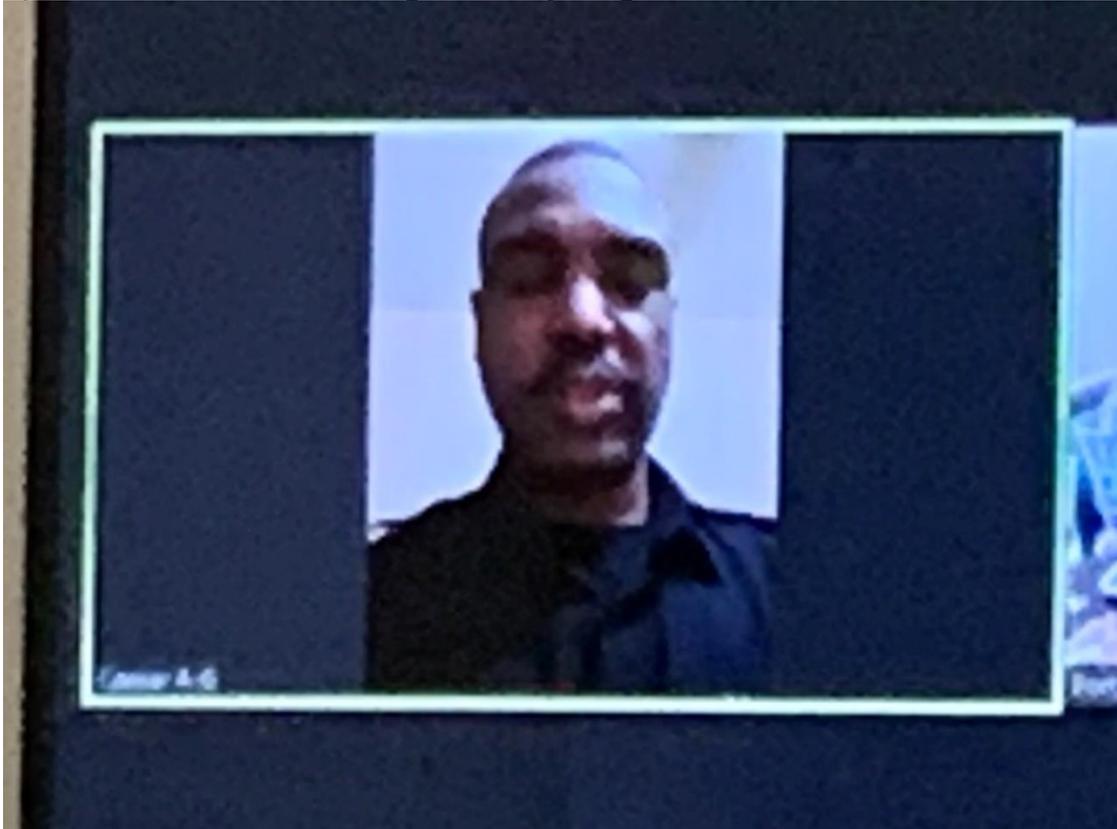
PO Box 10061  
 Thunder Bay, ON  
 Canada P7B 6T6

## Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

## THE FORTARIAN May 11, 2022

Two members, Caesar Ogbemor and Mandi O'Connor, gave their Classification speeches this evening. Due to time constraints, Caesar had to speak before the meeting officially began. Irene Sottile introduced Caesar.



Caesar was born in Nigeria. He and his wife, Ivy, have two children. He has a Bachelor in Marine Science as well as an MBA. Caesar worked for 18 years in automobile sales in Nigeria. He joined the INKAS Company. He moved to Dubai and lived there for 3 years then moved back to Nigeria. Caesar was transferred to Ontario and, initially, lived in Barrie. Ivy, however, applied to the Faculty of Nursing at Lakehead University and was accepted. The family moved to Thunder Bay in 2019. Caesar worked initially in auto sales but has now joined the Correctional Services of Ontario.

One of Caesar's siblings, a sister, died of sickle cell anemia. Caesar worked with Rotary in Nigeria on a project dealing with this disease. This is the reason that Caesar decided to join Rotary when he came to Canada.

President Dawn Sebesta thanked Caesar for his presentation and then welcomed everyone to the meeting. Joan



Krisko play the National Anthem. Robert Moore gave the toast to the Queen and Canada. Sharon Badanai read the Land Acknowledgement. Mary Ann Breton's son, Mark, was her guest at the meeting. Honorary Rotarian Diane Silen was also in attendance.

Mary Ann Breton introduced the other speaker, Mandi O'Connor. Mandi was born and raised in Thunder Bay. She has five children and two grandchildren. She studied sociology at Lakehead University and did post-graduate work in Social Advocacy. She has worked in Health Pro-

motion. She works at Shelter House and in the area of food security. Mandi has finished her FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) training. She has completed the Emergency Response Management and Incident Command courses. President Dawn thanked Mandi for her presentation.

K.S. Joseph was Fine Master for the evening. He was looking for Happy dollars. Sharon Badanai was happy, that with the help of her sister, all six of her children are now Paul Harris Fellows. President Dawn thanked the Club for providing scholarships for students participating in the Music Festival.

There was no correspondence. Sante Sottile provided the Allocations report. Robert Moore provided the House Lottery report. There was no Lighter Side.

## **Announcements**

The Gavel Ceremony will take place on Wednesday, June 29 at the Slovak Legion in the Solarium room. More details will follow.

Sharon Badanai thanked Robert and Bonnie Moore who will be driving the RYLA students to camp. She is looking for two people who will drive the students back. Volunteers for this opportunity are required to have a police check.

President Dawn will be sending out an email soon regarding committee sign-ups for the next Rotary year.

Bob Hookham provided information about a potential fundraiser that would involve the three local Rotary clubs. This would be to run the bar at Countryfest, which is taking place at Old Fort William from July 21 to 24. Two hundred volunteers would be required. Bob will be getting more information regarding the event.

**Editor Erle**

**Scribe Bev**



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