



The Fortarian

Nov 24th, 2021
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

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Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

THE FORTARIAN
November 24, 2021

President Dawn Sebesta welcomed everyone to the meeting. Joan Krisko played the National Anthem. Sante Sottile gave the toast to the Queen and Mary Ann Breton read the Land Acknowledgement. Assistant District Governor (ADG) Dan Brown of the Nipigon Club attended the meeting via Zoom. Raymond Nelson was the guest of Cindy Levanto-Kawahara.

Mary Ann Breton introduced the guest speaker, Sam Stovel. Sam is the volunteer Camp Director for Camp Quality Northwestern Ontario (CQNWO.) She has been involved with the organization for five years and has been camp director for the past two years.

Camp Quality is a volunteer-driven organization that empowers children living with cancer. The international organization was originally started in Australia in 1983. The concept was brought to Canada in 1988 by volunteers from southern Ontario. There are six camps in Canada. Camp Quality Northwestern Ontario was founded in 2001 with the first in-person camp being held in 2002. The camp had previously been hosted at Camp Duncan but this year, it will be hosted at the Wilderness Discovery Centre. There are 24 campers, which includes siblings, and 40 volunteers.

Seventy-five percent of children have long-term effects from cancer treatment. The children may suffer from depression and social isolation. The psychological and mental health aspects of the disease are quite often neglected. The COVID crisis has made these issues worse.

The children rebuild social skills by going to camp. They are in a positive and fun environment. They regain self-confidence by being encouraged to try new things. There is a wide range of activities in which they can participate. There is no cost to attend for the camper and their families.

The camp philosophy is inclusive. Children can build positive self-identity. Eighty-one percent of the children have increased self-esteem. Eighty-eight percent have become more independent and seventy-eight percent have improved their social skills. These improvements stay in effect long after attending camp.



Camp Quality has different programs throughout the year. There is Camp Week for children, ages 7 to 17, and their siblings. There are Family Fun Days that are open to all ages. There is Breaking Borders, for ages 18 to 29. This program is not available in Thunder Bay. There are Camp at Home Clubs, for ages 4 to 17. These are virtual clubs developed during COVID. Local volunteers in northwestern Ontario organize the programs, including the camp.

The organization relies on donations from corporations, foundations, and individuals for monetary support. There is a need for volunteers to assist with fund-raising as well as to work with the campers. President Dawn thanked Sam for her presentation.

Joan Krisko, the Foundation Committee Chair, thanked Club members for their generous donation of \$1100 for World Polio Day. ADG Dan Brown reported that the Nipigon Club raised \$3200 for World Polio Day through a community raffle.

Irene Sottile was the Fine Master for the meeting. This is the first time that the Club has done fines in a very long time. There was no correspondence. Sante Sottile presented the Allocations Committee report. Bob Hookham presented the House Lottery Committee report. Cindy Levanto-Kawahara did Lighter Side.



Announcements

There will be a Bocce Night on Wednesday, November 30, at the Da Vinci Centre, located at 340 Waterloo St. South. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. and costs \$2.00. Please notify Irene if you are interested in attending.

The Club Christmas Party will take place on Friday, December 10, at the Italian Cultural Centre, located at 132 Algoma St. South. The symposium is at 6:30 p.m. and dinner is at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$45.00 per person. Please notify Irene Sottile before November 30th as she has to give the numbers to the hall on that date.

The Rotary Carol Sing will take place on Sunday, December 12 at St. Paul's Anglican Church, located at 808 Ridgeway St. East. The event begins at 7:00 p.m. Please contact President Dawn if you would like a poster for the event.

The Nipigon Rotary Club will be hosting their Christmas Party on Sunday, December 19 at the Red Rock Inn. The cost is \$25.00. The meal will be a turkey dinner. Please contact ADG Dan Brown, if you wish to purchase a ticket.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

November 29: Satellite RFDA Night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Contact Stephen if you are interested in volunteering.

November 30: Bocce Night at the Da Vinci Centre at 6:00 p.m. Contact Irene if you are interested in attending.

December 6: Satellite Shelter House Night from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Contact Stephen if you are interested in volunteering.

December 8: FW Rotary Meeting (Hybrid). The speaker will be from Our Kids Count.

December 10: Rotary Christmas Party (Italian Cultural Centre). Contact Irene if you are interested in attending.

December 12: Carol Sing (St. Paul's Anglican Church) at 7:00 p.m.

December 13: Satellite RFDA Night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Contact Stephen if you are interested in volunteering.

December 19: Nipigon Rotary Christmas Party at Red Rock Inn. Cost \$25 per person. Contact ADG Dan Brown for tickets.

December 20: Annual Shelter House Christmas dinner from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be 2 shifts. Contact Stephen if you are interested in volunteering.

Editor Erle

Scribe Bev

