



The Fortarian

Oct 13th, 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

Mailing Address

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 Thunder Bay, ON
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Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

THE FORTARIAN
October 13, 2021

President Dawn Sebesta welcomed everyone to the meeting. Robert Moore provided both the American and Canadian National Anthems. Sante Sottile gave the toast to the Office of the President of the United States while Joan Krisko gave the toast to the Queen. Irene Sottile read the Land Acknowledgement. Assistant District Governor (ADG) Dan Brown of the Nipigon Rotary Club attended the meeting.

President Dawn introduced the speaker, District Governor Keith Brokke, and his wife, Lynne Brokke, who is also a Rotarian. DG Brokke is a charter member of the Fargo Moorhead AM Rotary Club and served as Club President in 2004-2005. He also served in many positions at the District level before becoming District Governor.



DG Brokke began by presenting President Dawn with three awards for the club. Fort William Rotary received first place for fund-raising, first place for inter-club

service, and first place for inter-organizational service at the District Convention that was held in April.

DG Brokke presented the new vision statement that was adopted by Rotary International in 2020. He talked about the new International President for 2021-2022, Shekhar Mehta, of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar of India. The new Presidential Theme is “Serve to Change Lives.” President Mehta believes that membership development should be a high priority for Rotary. Two other priorities for the new President are the environment, which is now the seventh area of service, and the empowerment of girls and young women. DG Brokke then showed a video of a Global Scholar who created a project to empower women in a community in India.

Two priorities for DG Brokke during this Rotary year are to revitalize Group Study Exchange (GSE) and to inform clubs about the international projects that are being done by members of District 5580. DG Brokke, having previously been District Foundation Chair, discussed the different types of grants available to Rotary Clubs. There are District Grants that fund small-scale, short-term activities that assist with needs in the local community and in international communities. An example of this type of project is park benches that were provided by the Ely Rotary Club for their community. There are World Community Service (WCS) projects. In these projects, a club in one country provides humanitarian assistance to a club in another country. Examples of these types of projects are medical clinics being built in Bolivia and schools being built in Guatemala.

Global grants support large international projects that focus on Rotary’s areas of service. These grants must have a minimum budget of \$30,000. Grant sponsors can use District Dedicated Funds (DDF) for their project. The RI Foundation provides an 80 percent matching grant for all DDF contributions. Examples of these types of projects are sweet water wells being constructed in India.

DG Brokke discussed Rotary Friendship Exchange as well as the Polio Plus initiative. President Dawn thanked DG Brokke for his presentation.

There was no Allocations report. The draw for the Rotary House was held on October 11. The winner was Katrina Sutherland.



President Dawn announced that the local Rotary Clubs have received permission from the city to organize the Christmas parade this year. The Canada Club will meet in order to discuss whether there is enough time to be able to put the parade together given such short notice.

ADG Dan Brown had tickets available for the 50/50 Polio Fundraiser being put on by the Nipigon Club. There was no Lighter Side.

Upcoming Events

April 21-23, 2022: District Convention in St. Cloud, Minnesota at St. Cloud Convention Centre.

June 4-8, 2022: Rotary International Convention in Houston, Texas.

Editor Erle

Scribe Bev

