



July 18th, 2018

# The Fortarian

## Rotary Club of Thunder Bay, (Fort William)

### 2017/2018 Board of Directors

President: Sante Sottile  
Treasurer: Boris Cham  
Secretary: Joan Krisko

President Elect: Stephen Margarit  
Past President: Theresa Lim

*Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,  
SJCG Hogarth Riverview Manor  
Boardroom 300 Lillie St North, 6.30pm*

### Website [www.fwrotary.ca](http://www.fwrotary.ca)

Directors: Steven Beaucage  
Glen Craig  
Dave McColl  
Dave Knutson  
Sharon Badanai  
Dawn Sebesta

### Allocations Committee

Chair: Peter Stetsko  
*Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month,  
Weiler Maloney Nelson Board Room 12 noon.*

### Rotary House Lottery Committee

Chair: Dave Knutson  
*Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month,  
Weiler Maloney Nelson, 12 noon.*

### Weekly Dinner Meetings

*Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.  
Airlane Hotel and Conference Centre  
698 W. Arthur St. Thunder Bay, ON*

Note: For July and August, meetings will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday only.

### Mailing Address

Thunder Bay, ON  
P.O. Box 10061  
Canada P7B 6T6

### Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

### Meeting of July 18<sup>th</sup>

Robert Moore served as SAA, and introduced guests, Betsy Murray, Marianne Wahl, and Jan Wheatley. President Sante called the meeting to order and called on assistant district governor Sandi Lynchwood for the introduction of our special guest.

Sandi Lynchwood introduced the guest speaker for the meeting – Blaine Johnson, District Governor.



District Governor Blaine Johnson joined Rotary in 2004 at the age of 27. He was a member of the Janesville, Minnesota Rotary Club in District 5960 for seven years and served as their club president twice. He then joined the Bismarck, North Dakota Rotary Club in 2011 and served as their club president in 2014-15. He obtained his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of North Dakota and his juris doctorate from the University of Minnesota Law School. He is a partner with the law firm of Crowley Fleck PLLP where he practices extensively in the areas of banking, real estate, and oil and gas.



He is married to his best friend, Jessie and together they have five children: Wynter, Brianna, Isaiah, Aiden and Keira. Jessie is Vice-President of Loan Operations for Starion Bank in Bismarck. District Governor Blaine was warmly welcomed by the members of the Fort William Rotary. He spoke about being one of the youngest District Governors in the world and how he was once told that he was too young to lead.

Throughout his address, the District Governor engaged the audience and asked what made some of the members decide to join Rotary with the most common answers as wanting to be involved and wanting give back to the community. He compared those answers to the motivation of Paul Harris to introduce Rotary to the world.

When Governor Blaine started out as a young lawyer, he was given the best possible advice for success by a mentor – join Rotary. And he did just that.

Many years after the founding of Rotary by Paul Harris, Rotary continues to rely on its tried and true foundation – relationships with people.

While Rotary continues to be successful throughout the world, Rotary Clubs must continue to look at ways to remain fresh and innovative. The District Governor shared the story of Montgomery Ward who refused to remain fresh and innovative. That business is extinct and Rotary continues to thrive! The District Governor ended his address with the wise words of Walt Disney – “The best way to get started is to stop talking and get doing”.

President Sante thanked Blaine Johnson, District Governor for his inspirational address. A donation to Polio Plus has been made in his name.

### Special Presentation

Craig presented the Gordon/Ross/Vance Judge award to Erle Wheatley. Congratulations Erle!



### Allocations Report

Stephen presented an Allocations Committee Report. Some funds remain for Clubs and agencies to apply for.

### House Update

Sante provided an update on the House Lottery. While nothing is official yet, it is looking like a very good year! Thank you to all who volunteered this year!

### 50/50

Jerry won the 50/50....but declined on his chance to win the \$11 pot..."let it roll he said."  
President Sante closed the meeting.

Editor – Erle

Scribe – Bruce Nugent

Photo's Karl Wahl

