



May 30th, 2018

The Fortarian

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay, (Fort William)

2017/2018 Board of Directors

President: Therese Lim
Treasurer: Boris Cham
Secretary: Joan Krisko
President Elect: Sante Sottile
Past President: Bob Hookham
*Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,
SJCG Hogarth Riverview Manor
Boardroom 300 Lillie St North, 6.30pm*

Website www.fwrotary.ca

Directors: Jerry Williams
Solade Nicol
Dave McColl
Dave Knutson
Sharon Badanai
Bruce Nugent

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*

Mailing Address

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

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

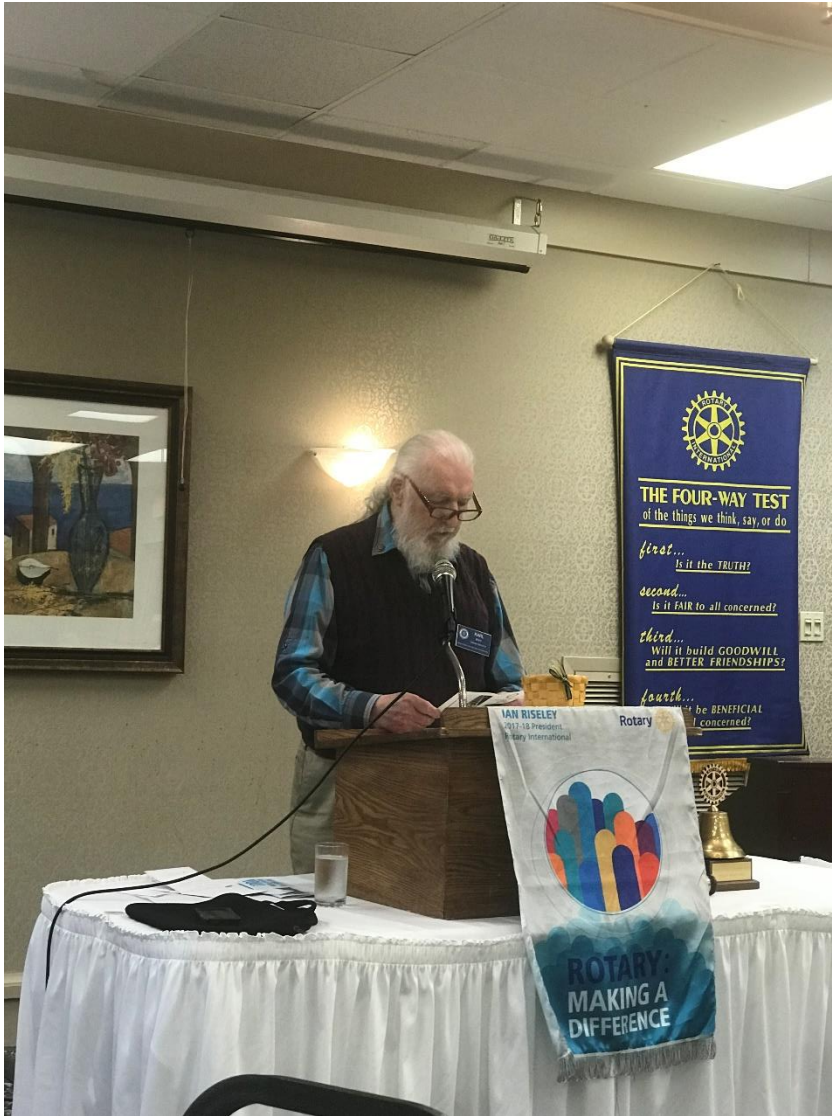
Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

Meeting of May 30th, 2018

President Therese asked Cynthia to do the toast to the Queen & thanked Dave McColl for manning the door. We didn't have a formal program, so Karl Wahl stepped in at the last minute & volunteered to give us a Rotary history lesson.

He started by reading a poem that Rotarian Franz Tollefsen penned in 1987 to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the "Outlaw Bridge" which was built in 1917 & crossed the international border at Pigeon River. The entertaining poem was titled "Saga of the Outlaw Bridge". He then gave us some background history which lead up the building of the bridge.



The newly formed Port Arthur/Fort William Rotary Club was chartered in 1916, and one of their first projects was the upgrading of the road between our twin cities and the border. The president of the 1st club was Dr. McCullough, who eventually became the RI President.

One of the original members was William Scott, an engineer, who owned the Pigeon River Timber Company . He spearheaded a project, in conjunction with the Duluth & Cook County Rotary clubs, to build a bridge across the river. He actually designed the bridge & his company built the bridge with \$6,000 in funding coming from the 3 clubs.

The road to the border was named after him and was called the "Scott Highway" for many years. Neither of

the federal governments were involved in the approval or funding of the project, hence the name "Outlaw". The bridge was completed in the summer of 1917 & a motorcade of 65 cars drove from the Lakehead to Grand Marais & were the first vehicles to cross that border. There was a large celebration in GM with a dinner & dance to celebrate this historic occasion.

That wooden bridge was eventually replaced with a steel one in 1930 & the current one, which was constructed in 1963. Therese thanked Karl for filling in with little notice & for providing us with some interesting local history.

Joan got "Good News" from Brian, who recently spent a few fog-free days in Halifax & also from Dave McColl who thanked Irene for setting up the room before he arrived for his SAA duties. She then fined any member who wasn't wearing their pin; anyone who didn't attend last week's meeting and members who hadn't yet contributed to the Foundation during this current Rotary year.

Therese told us that she attended the Lakehead Music Festival windup dinner & again thanked Dawn Sebesta for everything that she does each year to ensure the Festival's success. She then read a letter from Plan International Canada who will be represented at the upcoming RI Convention in Toronto. Our club does sponsor a child through this humanitarian organization.

Our latest House Lottery Earlybird winner of \$5000 was A.Papich, # 06098.

Sharon made a plea to the Club, as she needs a local grade 10 or 11 student to attend the upcoming RYLA event in Crookston, MN. She has 7 students enrolled, but we've already paid for 8 attendees. Please let her know if you know an eligible student that might be interested in attending the Camp from July 7 to 14th.

Irene had a funny story about a naked roofer in the doctors office. She also won the monthly Bingo game.

RYLA

Drivers are still needed to bring back the students from Duluth on July 14th. Please contact Sharon if you can help.

Editor – Erle

Scribe – Terry Cameron

Photo – Erle

