



May 9th, 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](http://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 9th, 2018

Dave Knutson presented a cheque for \$5,000 to the winner of last week's Early Bird draw, John Aiken. John thanked Rotary for all the good work it has been doing and all the efforts that go in to the house lottery. He has been buying house lottery tickets for years. John was a member of the Lakehead club and enjoyed his years in Rotary.

President Therese Lim called the meeting to order. Sharon Badanai invited Rotarians to raise a glass and toast to the Queen. President Therese announced that Karl Wahl was the Sergeant-At-Arms for this meeting. Karl advised that there was one guest Rotarian in attendance, Wayne Robinson from the Lakehead club, as well as several representatives of the Inner Wheel.



Karl Wahl was the guest speaker for the evening and he spoke about Women in Rotary. Karl pointed out that before the 1990's, Rotary clubs around the world were still predominantly males only. The 1950's saw the beginnings of the possibilities of women joining, but it took until 1987 when a Supreme Court judge in California forced Rotary International to change its Constitution to allow women members. By 1992 there were 22,000 female Rotarians. In 2010, there were almost 200,000 female Rotarians.

In Thunder Bay, the Fort William club was the first to admit women, and the only club in the District with a formal Inner Wheel organization. For many years, the Inner Wheel did its own work with its own funds. Karl introduced the Inner Wheel representatives present: Margaret Tollefson, Bernice Cranton, Marianne Wahl, Cynthia Judge and Sharon Badanai.

Cynthia Judge spoke about when her father was a Rotarian and her mother was a member of the Inner Wheel. Sharon Badanai remembers the group began when they would meet to play cards, then started fundraising. They made food for beer gardens and held book sales which were a big fundraiser. Margaret Tollefson spoke about the fun, fellowship and memories that they had as a group. Marianne Wahl said that when she was refused membership in Rotary she joined the Inner Wheel.

She recalls when the Fort William club eventually started admitting women and was ahead of the other clubs. The other two local clubs soon followed Fort William's lead.

Karl advised that there is more information on the Inner Wheel website:

<https://www.internationalinnerwheel.org/>

President Therese thanked Karl for the interesting presentation and introduced two other ladies at the table: Karl and Marianne's daughter, Heidi Wahl, and their granddaughter, Amma Wahl.

Bob Hookham handled the fines. He asked how many males have been asked to join the Inner Wheel, and fined Karl \$2. Then he fined anyone who was not at the District Conference \$2. Finally, anyone who was not at the lottery house last Saturday selling tickets before the SELL-OUT was asked to pay \$2.

President Therese shared one item of correspondence from the Salvation Army. It is an invitation to attend a launch event and ground-breaking ceremony on May 16 at 10:30 am at 545 Cumberland Street North. Sante Sotille will reply and will attend on behalf of President Therese.

Wayne Robinson, president of the Lakehead Rotary Club, also Chair of the Planning Committee for the recent District Conference, personally thanked that club and the Planning Committee members for all the hard work in planning the conference. He specifically wanted to thank Jerry Williams (treasurer), Irene Sotille (contagious enthusiasm), Therese Lim (touching memorial service), Joan Krisko (music), Bob Hookham (icebreaker) and Stephen Margarit (Facebook). He said that it was the efforts of people like these that make him a better Rotarian.

Jill Zachary said that she was honoured to be awarded the Distinguished Rotarian Award for International Service. She thanked Fort William Rotary for being so supportive of her passion for international projects, such as the successful Guitarrani school project in Bolivia. She also thanked Fort William Rotarians for agreeing to help support Alicia Helion who was sponsored through a Global Grant to go to Ethiopia to pursue a Master's Degree in Public Health.

Dave Knutson announced that the winner of today's House Lottery Early Bird draw for \$5,000 was Janice Hindle, who had ticket number 10212. Dave thanked all the ticket sellers who worked toward our sell-out at 1:30 pm on Saturday, May 5.

Bob Hookham advised that work parties will be starting after the long weekend for Wilderness Discovery. Other clubs are contributing with labour, the Kinsmen are doing a boat raffle which they expect will raise \$50,000 for the project, HAGI is contributing another \$50,000, we have \$87,000 in the bank, a group of veterans is coming up from the US to help with some of the work, this has become an international project, the work required is estimated at over \$1,000,000, we need to stretch the money as far as we can.

President Therese indicated that the Allocations Committee had met and had three recommendations for the Board for consideration: \$10,000 for Habitat for Humanity, \$10,000 for the Air Cadets (annual amount) and \$75,000 for Wilderness Discovery. After our pre-commitments, and these three allocations, we will still have about \$120,000 remaining.

President Therese advised that the McKee Bursaries are being presented at Westgate High School on June 6, at the Lakehead Alternative School on June 18 and at Churchill High School on June 27. We are looking for presenters.

President-Elect Sante Sotille took over the meeting from President Therese who had to leave for another engagement.

KS Joseph delivered the Lighter Side.

Karl Wahl ran the 50/50 draw. Twenty-four tickets were sold which resulted in a total of \$363.50 in the pot. Wayne Robinson drew President Therese's ticket. Joan Krisko drew a card from the deck on her behalf . . . a QUEEN, but, alas, not the elusive Queen of Hearts.

Sante Sotille adjourned the meeting.

### RYLA

Drivers are still needed to pick up the students on July 14 in Duluth. Please contact Sharon if you can help.

Editor – Erle

Scribe – Dave McColl

Photos - Irene

