

Lakehead Rotary Club—Thunder Bay

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Thunder Bay, Ontario. P7C 4C7
www.lakeheadrotary.com



2017/18 President—Wayne Robinson



Lakehead Rotary Chronicle

February 23, 2018



Our meeting on February 22nd was cancelled in favour of the annual Rotary Anniversary event on the 23rd, the official anniversary date for Rotary International – District Governor Debra Warner joined with local Club Presidents Therese Lim [FW], Brenda Winter [PA] and our own Wayne Robinson for this “photo op” with the anniversary cake... a representative of the Nipigon Club was not able to attend due to the weather and hazardous road conditions

A mild and snowy late winter evening for our Rotary Anniversary assembly at the Italian Cultural Centre with 19 Lakehead Rotarians and guests enjoying fellowship, feasting, and fine fare offered up in the silent auction at the event. All proceeds from this annual Canada Club assembly go to Polio Plus with equal shares going to each of the 4 clubs to be forwarded to the Rotary Foundation. Rotary International is 113 years old; Rotary in Canada is 108; Rotary in Thunder Bay [Fort William and Port Arthur] is 101 and we celebrated our centenary last year; and Lakehead Rotary turns 34 on May 8th.

ON THE DOOR IN 2017/18:

Clint covered the door at the ICC to welcome Lakehead Rotarians and guests while Joan Krisko welcomed FW Rotarians and Joe McEachern looked after PA Rotarians.

SPONSORSHIP:

If you can help your Club and wish to promote your business or community interests through a month sponsorship, please contact Sergeant Bill or Clint. Here is the sponsorship line-up so far:

JULY	open	JANUARY	open
AUGUST	TBSO/Ken	FEBRUARY	Beaux Daddy's
SEPTEMBER	4 Amigos	MARCH	RFDA/Volker
OCTOBER	Nexus/Audrey	APRIL	MS Society/Sandy
NOVEMBER	NOSM/Gail	MAY	Salvation Army/Gail
DECEMBER	open	JUNE	5 Star Rotarians

OUR SPONSOR THIS MONTH

ROTARIAN CHRIS DAVIDSON



Our sponsor this month is Beaux Daddy's Canajun Grill House – thank you Rotarian Chris Davidson.

OUR FAMILY OF ROTARY IN THUNDER BAY

Celebrating birthdays this month
GAIL BRESCIA



Celebrating anniversaries this month
KATHRYN & RALPH KEMPTON

CLUB CALENDAR

- MARCH IS ROTARY WATER & SANITATION MONTH**
- MAR 1 PAUL PEPE/THUNDER BAY TOURISM
- MAR 8 MAUREEN NADIN/MESSAGING
- MAR 15 EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE [METI]
- MAR 17 BUSINESS MEETING
- MAR 22 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
- MAR 29 GARY DAVIES
- MAR 30 NATURE CONSERVANCY of CANADA
- GOOD FRIDAY
- APRIL IS MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH**
- APR 2 EASTER MONDAY
- APR 5 DOUG LUND/SALMON ASSOCIATION
- APR 12 MEETING CANCELLED !!!
- APR 12 SHRIMP FEST
- APR 19 BUSINESS MEETING
- APR 19 ROTARY CANADA CLUB MEETING
- APR 26 MEETING CANCELLED !!!
- APR 26-29 DISTRICT CONFERENCE – THUNDER BAY

MAY IS ROTARY YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

- MAY 3** VOLKER KROMM
- MAY 10** OPEN
- MAY 17** BUSINESS MEETING
- MAY 21** VICTORIA DAY
- MAY 24** OPEN
- MAY 31** OPEN

JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH

- JUN 7** OPEN
- JUN 14** OPEN
- JUN 21** MEETING CANCELLED !!!
- JUN 21** PRESIDENT'S BBQ & ASSEMBLY
- JUN 23-27** ROTARY INT'L CONVENTION – TORONTO
- JUN 28** BUSINESS MEETING – FINAL MEETING OF 17/18

DISTRICT CONFERENCE – 2018 THUNDER BAY

Our District Conference will be held in Thunder Bay this year with the Valhalla Inn serving as the host hotel for most of the events. Conference Registration is now open on our District website – register today. Here is a direct link to get you started:

<http://rotary5580.org/page/2018-district-conference-thunder-bay-ontario>



WAYNE IS A NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOW:

President Wayne was quite surprised at the Anniversary event when DG Debra called him up to the podium and presented him with recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow. Governor Debra is using PHF transfer points to recognize individual Rotarians in our District for their achievements and dedication to the ideals of Rotary and the Rotary Foundation. She chose to honour President Wayne and presented him with the PHF pin and medallion, assisted by Clint. Congratulations Wayne.



The Anniversary event was well-attended by Rotarians from the 3 local Clubs. Unfortunately, weather and bad road conditions prevented Rotarians from Nipigon to get in for the event. Our Anniversary assembly has been held now on or close to February 23rd since 2006 when it started as a Lakehead Rotary event to celebrate Rotary's anniversary and have an "affordable" fellowship event for all Rotarians and their guests. We decided to open it up to the other area Clubs and Rotarians when we wanted to raise funds for Polio Plus through this event. The Clubs now take turns to host and organize the event but it is still primarily a fellowship assembly and chance to meet with fellow Rotarians. Since 2006, this event has raised \$31,250 for Polio Plus and each of the Clubs receives a 25% share to send to the Rotary Foundation for Polio Plus. This year's event is being tabulated and we should know soon how much we raised and how much each Club's share will be.



District Governor Debra Warner was our guest speaker for the Anniversary event and she gave us some encouraging news on the front to eradicate polio in the world. We are very close to our goal but the challenge is great in those few places left where polio cases still show up. We have funding partners who are matching our dollars and these include our Canadian Government and the Gates Foundation.

DG Debra also used this opportunity to thank our Clubs and to recognize individual members in each for their achievements. She recognized Rotarians who have received their PHF and some who have reached multiple PHF status. The Presidents of the 3 local Clubs had a few minutes each to talk about their Club's achievements so far this year and to look ahead as a new Rotary year begins in July. President Wayne was particularly proud to say that our Club has finally reached its long-awaited membership goal of 40 members with the recent addition of new member Jennifer Kahan.

The event always includes a silent auction to top up the revenue for Polio Plus and bidding was intense this year with Rotarians from each Club taking home some fine offerings. Even DG Debra managed to score a fine win taking home a beautiful framed pen and ink drawing on birch bark.



It will be Lakehead Rotary's turn again in 2019 to host and organize the Anniversary event and I note that the official date – February 23rd – falls on a Saturday next year. Stay tuned for more but mark that date in your calendar.

RECOGNITION FOR LAKEHEAD ROTARY:

Our Club also received recognition at the Anniversary event as DG Debra presented us with a certificate of appreciation for our financial support of End Polio Now. This goes to Rotary Clubs that contribute \$1,500 U.S. or more to the Campaign and we continue to meet this challenge each year. We are on track to exceed this minimum goal again this year.



50/50 FOR THE FOUNDATION:

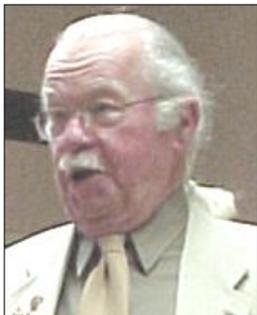
To return at our March 1st meeting.

FINES:

Also suspended until March 1st but many of us still had a “fine” time at the Anniversary event.

BILL'S STUFF...

Welcome regular contributor to your weekly Club Chronicle – Bill Butuk with his “Bill’s Stuff” Column.



BIG JOHN WRENCHER

“Big” John Thomas Wrencher, also known as “One Arm John” (born February 12, 1924 in Sunflower, Mississippi—died July 15, 1977 in Clarksdale, Mississippi) was an American blues harmonica player and singer who was active from the 1940s to 1977.. He was well known for playing at the Maxwell Street Market in Chicago in the 1960s.

The Maxwell Street open-air market was a ten block area on Chicago's Near -West Side where many blues musicians—both amateur and professional –were permitted to play right on the street for tips from people passing by. Musicians such as Hound Dog Taylor, Little Milton, and Earl Hooker started their career on Maxwell Street before moving up to more comfortable work at clubs. The one musician that stayed the longest to become a fixture at the Market was “One Arm John” or “Big John Wrencher “. John was born on a plantation in Mississippi and being surrounded by the blues, as a young man he became interested in music. He was particularly interested in the harmonica which he taught himself to play.

Starting in the 1940s he worked as an itinerant musician playing far and wide in the country between Memphis and Chicago up to the early 1950s. In the early 1950s he moved to Detroit for a while where he worked with Baby Boy Warren. In 1958 John was involved in a car crash in Memphis, resulting in the loss of his left arm. By the early 1960s John moved north to Chicago and quickly became a regular fixture on Maxwell Street. John played always on Sundays, the big payday for busking musicians, working non-stop from 10 in the morning to 3 in the afternoon. He cupped his harmonica and a microphone in his right hand, the physical challenge seeming not to alter the hugeness of his sound. He was usually backed by only an electric guitarist and drummer. A flamboyant performer putting on a show for the people on the street, constantly moving and dancing while the cigar box was passed around for tips.

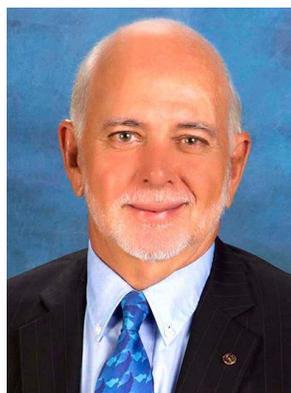
John cut his own album “Maxwell Street Alley Blues“ in 1965. This gave him appearances at the Chicago Blues Festival and European tours. He was a popular visitor to Europe where he cut an album in 1974 for Big Bear Records. He continued to play on Maxwell Street. In July 1977, he went to visit family in Clarksdale Mississippi. While sitting at Wade Walton's Barbershop and sampling a bottle of whiskey, he had a fatal heart attack. The bottle of whiskey remains at Walton's as a tribute. Watch and listen to Big John Wrencher at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbJi1jYdNVA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SKrqzXOqzlo&list=PL8WqZaH0AFOD9scHnruDZLG6EI4nacTN>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO14uIFV_PY&list=PLZrAkaeOQ6v6a8LBJPMMamlmy37oGKj4E&index=2

**NEXT MEETING MARCH 1/18
PAUL PEPE – THUNDER BAY TOURISM**

ROTARY PRESIDENT-ELECT – 2018/19



BE THE INSPIRATION

