**Wiarton Rotary**

**Minutes**

**February 8, 2024**

**There were 16 Members and 3 Guests for the Dinner Meeting held at the Wiarton Legion.**

**Our Guests were Krista Linthorne , Community Relations Officer with The OPP as well as Bryaire Forbes of Tobermory our out-bound student to Belgium and her father Dan Forbes.**

**Rotarian Trevor Hathaway arrived after the meal.**

**President Nora Walden brought the Meeting to order at 6:45 PM with an acknowledgement that we were gathered on the Traditional Lands of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation and a Moment of Silence.**

**Rotarian Rebekah Larter introduced our Guest Speaker Krista Linthorne , Community Relations Officer who works out of the Wiarton OPP Detachment Office.**

**Krista has 4 Children and 4 grandchildren and had a career in Health Care before joining the OPP. She has worked out of the Wiarton office for the last 9 years.**

**Krista’s very timely subject for the evening was Cyber Security.**

**On all internet platforms various scammers and criminals are lurking in an effort to cheat and steal from unwary Internet users. Emails, Facebook and similar platforms have people who are working to gain information from the unaware to use against them in various scams. Even Innocent games can be used. Facebook Posts are used to get the unsuspecting to give out personal information that can be later used against them. Romance emails, Computer Repair emails or those pretending to be who they are not like Government or Bank employees work to separate the unsuspecting from their money . Company Logos are easily copied. Many of the Criminals are off shore.**

**One popular scheme is the Grandparent Scam where someone pretends to be a Grandchild in trouble. With the use of Artificial Intelligence they can even copy the Grandchild’s Voice.**

**Everything you do on a computer can be traced even if deleted. Everyone needs to be careful of guarding their Passwords and when using on-line payments. Air Tags can be used to find Luggage and Vehicles-and also to track the movements of people. Public WIFI is not secure . Prying eyes can harvest your information.**

**Another problem Krista brought to our attention was the issue of Cyber Bullying which can have serious consequences for the victims.**

**Krista was thanked by Rotarian Mike McMillan . She was presented with a card stating the Club had donated to the Canadian Mental Health Association on her behalf. A number of Questions followed from club Members.**

**President Nora Walden presented Rotarian Donna Rudell with a new Paul Harris pin with one Saphire signifying that over $2000.00 had been donated to the Rotary Foundation in her name. Congratulations Donna and thanks for your support of our Foundation.**

**Rotarian Bev Garinger let the club know that her Team of workers for Wine Survivor 11 at the Laura Lisk Real Estate Office were Holly and Trevor Monday and Tuesday Nights, Wednesday Night , Rebekah and Glen, and on Thursday and Friday evenings Nora and Bev. On Site Training will be provided by Trevor and Holly.**

**President Nora Walden stated that District Grants Chair our own Pat Cavan Suggested that our club could apply for a $3000.00 US District Grant to help with our ongoing projects / appeals. This could help with our local youth projects and our international projects like Hand up. It would help with our ability to keep these items going during our financial constraint. It would mean more work for the club Treasurer. The Club supported this proposal in principal. More details for follow.**

**The Interact club raised $665.55 by supplying Hot Chocolate and Cookies to the crowd attending the Wiarton Willie Festival last weekend from the Rotary Shed at Bluewater Park. Thanks go out to Trevor, Rebekah and Mike McMillan. Thanks to Foodland for their support.**

**Shore to Shore 2024 is going well with over 50 Registered participants so far . A planning meeting was held before the Rotary General Meeting for discussion and to update committee members.**

**Rotarian Glen Barnett is Chairing “The Rotary Club of Wiarton Fundraising Golf Tournament” at Pinewoods Golf Club on Sunday, September 8, 2024. Glen passed around a sheet so that members could sign up to help.**

**The Membership Committee sent out a survey to Identify prospective members. Six have been emailed to Pat and Two were turned in to Glen. Please return your soon if it has not been turned in.**

**The Wiarton Rotary Club will be the sponsoring club for the Global Grant Application : Hand Up Global Grant to fund a tutoring program with an emphasis on Literacy skills in Guatemala. Thank You to Pat, Bob, and Glenda.**

**On March 11, 2024 there will be a Fireside Chat at the Home of President Nara Walden.355 Northacres Road, South Bruce Peninsula commencing at 7 pm.**

**The Crown and Anchor Wheel has been donated to the Wiarton Lion’s Club.**

**President Nora passed around several Thank You and Post Cards she had received on behalf of the Club.**

**The Club voted to decline appeals in Q3 and Q4 . We did receive a Request for funding the Grade 8 trip for Peninsula Shores School. We funded their trip last Year - $3380.00. They were supported in 2019 for 904.93. To be discussed February 22/24.**

**An Invitation has been Received to attend a Thriving Volunteerism Workshop sponsored by the Town of South Bruce Peninsula. They are meeting with Community organizations on Thursday March 21, 2024 from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM at the Sauble Beach Community Centre. Rotarians Nora Walden and Mike Mason will attend.**

**The Club has received an Invitation to the Outdoor Education Centre Family Day Event sponsored by Teri Hastings Real Eastate on February 19, 2024. We will be able to hand out snacks and have a membership table. Nora Walden, Rebekah Larter and Adelaide Larter will attend. Another Volunteer would be appreciated.**

**We have been invited to a Business after Hours event at the Adult Learning Centre on Thursday February 29, 2024. Hopefully a Volunteer is able to attend.**

**There is an International Women’s Day Event at Cobble Beach on Friday March 8, 2024. It will be from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The cost is $40.00 to attend. Local Business women speakers and live music Paige Warner will be featured. Speakers include Mayor Sue Carleton, Meg Robertson, Shauna Bonterre, and Kristen Webb.**

**Rotarian Bev Garinger announced that there would be a new Rotary Pig used to raise funds for club social events . The 50/ 50 draw will be used for that purpose . There will be a chance to name the new club Pig Bank.**

**Rotarian Mike Mason spoke concerning the plans for the Wiarton Home Coming Weekend August 3-4, 2024. There will be many events including Ball Tournament, Pickleball Tournament, Musical entertainment, food booths, KidZone and a Car Show on this Civic Holiday weekend . The 4H and many other groups will be involved. Mike stated that plans are coming together. More information to follow.**

**We are looking for Businesspeople to become corporate members of our club. We have invited them to Meetings and make them welcome when they attend**

**President Nora has signed up to attend the Multi District PETS in Kalamazoo Michigan, March 14 -16, 2024. Thank you for attending this event on our behalf.**

**March 28th Rotary General Meeting-Reschedule or Cancel. Several members are interested in attending Josie’s Fashion Show. Josie Symon is currently hosting our Rotary Exchange Student Manu. Manu will be helping out at this event. Tickets are $25. Would we consider cancelling or rescheduling our meeting so that members can attend the fashion show? To be decided February 22/24.**

**Nora won the 50/50 draw.**

**Next Meeting Thursday, February 22/24. Our Guest speaker will be Emanuelly Noleto Boesing, Rotary Youth Exchange Student from Brazil District 4440**

**Submitted by George Gordon**