



THE GATEWAY GAZETTE



SERVICE ABOVE SELF



The Rotary Club of Warton

District 6330 Chartered 1938
Dinner Meetings –6 P.M. Thursdays
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 208

Feb 20, 2020 Gateway Gazette

We had a small but mighty crowd of 15 Rotarians who with our guests enjoyed a great tasty meatloaf dinner by the Legion ladies

Announcements:

On a sad note but unfortunately necessary, it was decided to cancel our **Maple Magic** fundraiser. This will create challenges at budget time, but in light of world events, is the only decision that could be made. President Mike thanked Eric, Mike and Trevor For their many days of preparation work in getting Maple Magic setup and ready to go.

Trevor announced that the **Empty Bowls** fundraiser at PSDS for the food bank will be postponed. It is still intended that the event go forward but it won't be until later in the school year. Trevor has five tickets left to sell and they are the only remaining tickets for the event. .

Zimbabwe

At a recent executive meeting it was brought to our attention that there is a serious food shortage problem developing in Zimbabwe. The country is running out of sustainable food production to support the needs of the general population. It was projected that by March half the population would have little or no access food. The Foundation & International committee looked at many different agencies that were already mobilized and after a fairly extensive search and vetting process, it was agreed that ERDO, which stands for Emergency Relief and Development Overseas, was the best choice of agencies to get emergency relief food to the people of Zimbabwe. A cheque for \$500 has been issued this week. Through ERO our donation will be matched X4 by the Canadian government for a total of \$2,500.

Kathy Christie introduced our guest speaker Christi Ronholm who, for 3 years has been the manager of communications and fund development for the Bruce Peninsula association for community living (BPACL). She has been in the social field for over 15 years with many different rolls including; personal support worker, drug and alcohol counselor, and support worker in the developmental services sector

Attendance: 15 Rotarians

Guests: Bob Vaillancourt, Christi Ronholm

Birthdays:

March 10 Gay Ratcliffe

Anniversaries:

16 Bob & Bev Thompson

Upcoming Meetings:

All meetings are cancelled till further notice. See announcement on page Two.

June 19-21 District Conference, Port Elgin

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE 2019-20

PRESIDENT	Mike McMillan
PAST PRESIDENT	Mike Mason
PRESIDENT ELECT	Gay Ratcliffe
SECRETARY (Executive)	Gay Ratcliffe
SECRETARY (Recording)	Donna Stewart
TREASURER	Scott Elliott

DIRECTORS

ADMINISTRATION	Linda Ebel
SERVICE PROJECTS	Kathryn Christie
MEMBERSHIP	Gay Ratcliffe
FOUNDATION	Trevor Hathaway
PUBLIC IMAGE	Pat Cavan
FUNDRAISING	Eric Robinson

When Christi first started at BPACL she suggested that the clients get out and enjoy the natural beauty of the Bruce Peninsula, the staff thought she was crazy. They now have all kinds of outdoor or external activities for the community living clients such as; snowshoeing, drama club, backpacking, music, bowling, yoga classes, hiking, curling, kayaking, and YMCA qua fit.

Christi is promoting that her clients be part of and active in the community.

Their mission statement is: The promotion of people participating and contributing in their community and becoming all they can be.

The values they are stressing to their clients are; ownership, fairness, commitment, mutual respect and trust.

They are also working with the gray Bruce employment services to provide jobs for the clients.

The BPACL is holding a travel raffle fundraiser. To date they have sold enough tickets to break even but unfortunately the volume of sales has slowed a bit. They were going to have a table at Maple magic to sell their tickets but unfortunately that will not happen now.

It was suggested during our meeting that perhaps Rotary could help in someway with these ticket sales.

Christi will e-mail us more information on this as well as a poster to post on our website.

50-50 draw was won by Ron B.

Reporter: Trevor

Message from President Mike

To All Our Members & Friends:

We, as your Executive, have been discussing our response to the Covid 19 (Corona) pandemic that is currently affecting the entire world. As we are all aware, the situation & the global response is changing by the hour.

Since gatherings of people are being thoroughly discouraged everywhere, we felt that it would not be the right thing to do to carry on our regular Thursday Rotary Meetings, our individual Committee Meetings, nor our Executive Meetings for the time being & risk any chance of our members coming in contact with the Covid 19 Virus.

Therefore, all our meetings will be cancelled until at least Thursday, April 9. In the day or two leading up to that April 9 meeting, our Executive will meet via conference call & decide what further steps to take.

However, all is not lost, as we really appreciate getting together with each other when we do and it is important to stay in touch. We are currently exploring at least two or three ways that we can all meet via video & audio links - where we can all see &/or hear each other. Over the next week or so, a couple of our more media savvy members will be exploring this in detail & we will be in touch with everyone when we have a way forward.

In the meantime, stay safe, wash your hands frequently, don't bother hoarding any more toilet paper & for any of our members who are travelling at the moment, self-quarantine yourselves for at least 2 weeks upon your return.

We look forward to getting through this global crisis & maintaining our Club strength at this very trying time.

Michael McMillan