



Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter February 1, 2024

1 message

Kiwanis Office <kiwanisbrantford@gmail.com>

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A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER from and about THE KIWANIS CLUB OF BRANTFORD

Meeting at the Best Western Brantford Hotel & Conference Centre:
Every Thursday at 12:00 noon

Current Membership – 49



E.C. & C. District

Governor

John Chave
KC of Barrie

Governor Elect

Pamela Rodney White
KC of Constant Spring

Vice Governor

Cynthina Blackman
KC of Pride of Barbados

Immediate Past Governor

Anthony Haile

PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY 1, 2024

Glenn Brown, Theatre Manager for the Sanderson Centre, will update us on happenings at the Sanderson Centre.

HEAD TABLE

President Alf Hauk, Guest Speaker Glenn Brown, Funmaster Pallo Sahota, Introducer Maureen Henry, Thanker Leo Vos, and those invited by the House & Reception Committee .

UPCOMING MEETINGS

KC of Curacao

Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Steele

KC of Brantford

Division Lt. Governor

David MacLennan

KC of Stratford

Club Officers

President

Alfred Hauk

Past President

David Lewis

President-Elect

Nancy Thompson

Treasurer

Jim Steele

Secretary

Bob MacLean

Club Directors

2 Year Term

Randy MacKenzie

Leo Vos

Bob Wade

1 Year Term

Stuart Parkinson

Graham Schram

Nancy Sherritt

Thursday, February 8: LG David MacLennan on Kiwanis Goals & Objectives 2023-24

Thursday, February 15: Murray Angus, Family Businesses in Downtown Brantford

Thursday, February 22: TBA

Thursday, February 29: Ontario Health Network, Dementia Awareness

Thursday, March 1: 105th Anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Kiwanis Club of Brantford Social Event: Friday, February 2nd at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at the Brantford Club, 98 George Street. Dinner will be a prix fixe menu including a starter, entree and coffee or tea. \$55 per person includes tax and gratuity. Dessert is prix fixe and available upon request. Sign up sheets available at Thursday's lunch meetings or email pallosahota@hotmail.com

BIRTHDAYS

Doug DeLaronde will celebrate his birthday on February 1st, Pallo Sahota on February 6th, and Bob Saunders on February 10th. Happy Birthday Kiwanians!

ANNIVERSARIES

Nothing to report!

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

Randy MacKenzie will mark 22 years as a member of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford on February 1st and Kiwanians Maureen Henry, Lisa Jacuniak, and Nancy Sherritt 3 years on February 10th!

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

Club bylaws prevent the club from being used for any political purpose or, as a club, from actively participating in the political candidacy of any person. But this does not mean that the club cannot take an interest in public affairs. Article XIV, Section 1, of the Standard Form for Club Bylaws states, "This club shall seek, by fair discussions at its meetings and in other ways, to keep its members informed on all questions of public importance and any proposed legislation affecting the community, state, province, or nation in which this club is located." Equal time is normally given to opposing political candidates or supporters on each side of controversial issues. .

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Happiness is a place between too little and too much.

To view what happened at last week's meeting, please page down

Last Week's Meeting Highlights



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Highlights of the Thursday, January 25, 2024 Weekly Meeting

Our genial president bid welcome to members and guests then called Ken McNaughton, Funmaster for the day, to the lectern where, in his inimitable way, proceeded to make us laugh at some good jokes on AI and Haggis. (Note, having eaten some haggis a few years ago, I see nothing funny about it).



Putting humour behind us, we moved to our weekly bout of tension and anxiety as we sat on the edge of our chairs, thinking "will my number be drawn this week?" or "if my number is drawn, what are my chances of getting the joker?" Alas, no winner this week so the pot is now bigger which means even more tension next week.

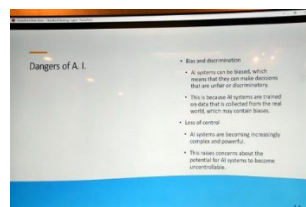
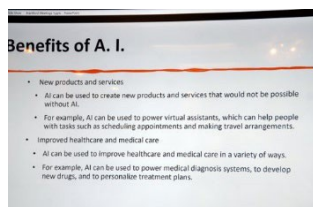


Getting over his disappointment, Dave Lewis went to the lectern to introduce our guest speaker, Tim Philp. (Note that Dave was on his best behavior because his wife, Joanne, had joined us today:).

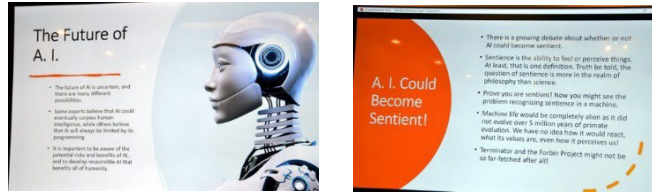


Tim began his talk with an introduction to AI. He stated that it is such a rapidly developing field that there is no one definition that clearly tells us what it is. He showed a request he made for a sonnet to be written by an AI device. He had a four verse one in two seconds!

Some common features of AI systems include the ability to learn from data, to reason from information, and to make decisions. There are many benefits of AI, helping develop new products and services, as well as improving healthcare and medical care. On the other hand, there are some downsides, such as job displacement, data privacy and security, bias and discrimination, and loss of control. It will have a profound impact on society.



There is now great controversy over copyright. And finally, the big concern is AI becoming sentient. If so, we have no idea of its values or how it would perceive us. It might even be able to look like us. How would we tell the difference?



On a final note, I should mention that some of us here have known Tim for years but he looked a bit different today. A few noticed that he cut his finger on the mic but the few drops looked more like oil than blood. Hmm, we wonder. Despite the thought that maybe we sentient beings are not being sensible, Phil Hoekstra thanked Tim for his excellent presentation.

President Alf quickly ended the meeting and all left a little quicker than usual with over-the-shoulder glances. :-)

The quarterly DCM meeting was held on Saturday, January 25th. One of the largest group of Kiwanians to attend a quarterly DCM meeting sat down at 9:30 to LG David MacLennan's Call to Order. Brantford was well represented by Joanne Murray, Nancy Thompson, Maureen Henry, Bob MacLean, Nelson McClinchey, Alf Hauk, Jim Steele, and Dave Lewis. Much discussion took place as it was held for the first time in Ayr and hosted by the newly minted club of North Dumfries. A slightly different presentation from the norm was given by Tom Edge of the Stratford club on Accessibility. For years Tom had limited vision but recently lost his sight completely. He talked about how he wanted people to deal with him, all very helpful. We ended the meeting by breaking into small groups to discuss the marketing of our brand online and in person. Following an ample lunch at noon, all headed for our respective homes.

Following is a picture of the eight clubs in our division displaying their, "Kiwanis District 5 – First Quarter Awards", received at the DCM on Saturday, January 25th.



Candid photos of our meeting follow.

