
Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter September 12, 2024

1 message

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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 – 46



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 SEPTEMBER 12,
2024**

Jim Steele will discuss this year's fee increase. As well, District LG Designate Angela Vieth will be on hand to install the executive for the 2024-25 year. All incoming members for this year's Board will be contacted and reminded that their attendance is needed.

HEAD TABLE

President Alf Hauk, President Designate Nancy Thompson, District LG Designate Angela Vieth, Thanker Joanne Murray, Funmaster Joel Balberman and whoever else the House Committee invites.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, September 19 – Lauren Moulton on Woodview programs

Thursday, September 26 – Alf Hauk, President's Retrospective

Thursday, October 3 – Incoming President's Plans for Coming Year

Thursday, October 10 – Derek Ritschel, Manager of Lighthouse Theatre

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Saturday 28th September – Bell Homestead Trivia, test your 60s TV trivia for a chance to win prizes. 60s style finger foods and refreshments are included in the cost.

KIWANIS CONVENTIONS

Eastern Canada & Caribbean District Convention – Niagara Falls, May 29 to 31, 2025

Kiwanis International Convention – Pittsburgh, June 25 to 28–2025

BIRTHDAYS

None

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ivone & Susan DeMarchi – September 19
Congratulations!

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

None

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

The first President of Kiwanis International elected from outside the United States was the third, Henry J. Elliott of Montreal, Quebec, who served in 1919–20. Seven other International Presidents have been Canadian. The first International President elected from outside the two founding nations of the US and Canada was Ian Perdriau AM, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Melbourne, Australia, who served in 1994–95.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." – Will Rogers

**To view the highlights of last week's meeting,
please page down.**

Last Week's Meeting Highlights



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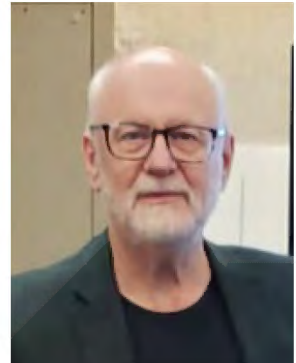
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Highlights of the Thursday, 05 September, 2024 Weekly Meeting

The meeting started at 12:30 pm with President Alfred welcoming the guest Speakers, Corrinne Psailia and Machel Denison and Guests, Brian MacLean, Michelle MacLean, Bill Sparks and Trish Sparks and all members.



The opening thought of the day was: The 1st Object of Kiwanis: "To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life."

Joanne Murray introduced two Kiwanian friends from California that she and Jim had met at a conference two years ago that were visiting their cousin here in Ontario and joined us this week at our meeting. LG Brian MacLean and wife Kiwanian Michelle MacLean and Cousin Bill Sparks and wife Trish Sparks were warmly welcomed by all members.



Phil presented the 50/50 draw. Tickets were drawn by Bob Ritchie and Paultette Hauk. Unfortunately neither member found the illusive "Joker".

As funmaster, Randy Mackenzie pulled a couple of humorous yarns out of his magic bag such as:

During three rehearsals for the school nativity play, little Johnnie who was playing the part of the innkeeper persisted in answering, "Yes we have room in the inn". The teacher organizing the play, just before the evening performance pleaded with the boy to answer, "No" to the question.



The performance went very well except that Johnnie at the critical moment did say "No", then added, "but would you like to come in for a coffee".

Randy moved on to help celebrate a Birthday for Alfred Hauk, Friday September 6 and the anniversary of Crystal Godwaldt September 6 for joining our Club.

Happy Stories were called up next by Randy.

Leo Vos made a donation in appreciation of all the 75 people that attended the 15th Anniversary of the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Brantford in recognition of the Club members and all they do for the community. Len confirmed that no good deed goes undone, indicating while he cleaned up brush in his daughter's home, he also got a bad rash of poison ivy.

President Alf called on Dave Lewis to introduce our speakers Corrinne Psailia and Machel Denison of Strong Start.

Kiwanian Dave introduce Machelles Denison, the Chief Executive Officer of the Strong Start Charitable Organization, a position she has held since January of 2010.

Harnessing their members common belief in changing children's lives by helping them learn to read, she has led the Board of Directors and staff through the exciting transformation of Strong Start from its grass roots beginnings, preparing the organization, its efficient infrastructure and high-impact early literacy programs for expansion.



Today, Strong Start offers 3 programs supporting children 6 months to Nine years of age. They operate in 8 regions in Ontario and to date have helped over 60,000 children. Strong Start is proactively evolving their programs, engaging community and growing their reach to help more children acquire the essential life skill of reading.

Kiwanian Dave further introduce Corrine Psaila joined Strong Start in February 2024 as their Ontario Regional Program Co-ordinator for the Letters, Sounds and Words™ program.

Corrine is responsible for supporting program partners, overseeing program implementation, and building community relationships in Brant, Haldimand and Norfolk. Corrine has over 23 years of experience working with children and families in education and community services. She is passionate about helping children learn to read and possesses extensive knowledge and experience in education, including Early Literacy Intervention and Special Education.



Corrine said she is thrilled to have joined the dynamic team at Strong Start and is looking forward to developing meaningful relationships with the members of the Brantford Community.

Kiwanian Dave asked Machelles Denison to come to the podium. Machelles Denison thanked our Club for asking her to outline the changes that have occurred in their organization over the past few years and how they have adapted to the new needs in teaching young children to read.

Machelle used a visual presentation in support of the details she supplied. The opening slide introduce the theme of the presentation that was borrowed from our Club's Defining Statement; "Changing the world by serving children, one child in our community at a time".

Machelle indicated that their Organization's Vision is that, All Children Read.

1 in 4 Canadian Children

- 1 in 4 Canadian children entering Grade 1 is significantly behind his or her peers.
- Children experiencing reading difficulties likely to continue to struggle.
- By the end of Grade 3, 74% of struggling readers won't ever catch up and are 4 x more likely to drop out of high school



Machelle told us that *“the human brain is hard-wired for spoken language – making learning to speak natural. Any child, unless neurologically or hearing-impaired – or are sensory-deprived - will learn to speak at some point. Reading and writing, on the other hand, are man-made.”*

Reading does not develop naturally, and for many children, specific decoding, word-recognition, and reading comprehension skills must be taught directly and systematically.

Reading is not a natural skill and must be explicitly taught. Phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension are foundational skills that must be taught systematically and explicitly. Direct, explicit instruction is more effective than implicit or incidental instruction.

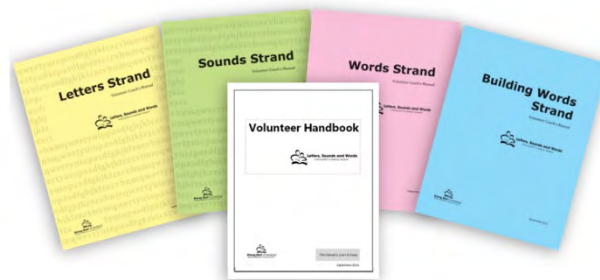
We all know that **reading is good for us**. It can improve brain and memory function and keep your brain operating more effectively as you age. Reading also enhances connectivity in the brain, reduces stress, promotes relaxation, improves sleep, and has the potential to decrease the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's.

During the presentation we were unable to present a slide title **How We Learn to Read**. Machelle explained the details that were on the slide to us. If you would like to see that slide, [Click Here](#).

The Ontario Curriculum for Grade 1 to 8 were changed in 2023 to revert to the Phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension method that had been successful. The Strong Start Organization had to restructure their “Building Word Strand” training manual to match the 2023 Ontario Curriculum for consistency.

- Strong start now has teaching Strands consistent with the new Curriculum.

Four Strands



- Volunteers Work One-on-One with Children

Volunteers Work One-on-On With Children



- Building Community



- Brantford/Brant County 2023-2024

Letters, Sounds and Words
A Strong Start to reading program™

**Brantford/Brant County
2023-2024**

- 247 children benefited
- Delivered in 20 Brantford/Brant schools
- 146 trained volunteers gave 2,324 volunteer hours
- Measurable results
- 96% of children made considerable, excellent or outstanding gains

- At-Home Resources now available

At-Home Resources

- Downloadable, free & fun
- Adaptable for ages 3-9 years
- Developed by Educators

- Where are programs available?

Letters, Sounds and Words
A Strong Start to reading program™

We strategically seek out program partners to ensure our program are accessible to those who would benefit from the most.

- Letters, Sounds and Words is delivered in private faith-based schools, and schools for children with exceptional needs and schools for children who are Indigenous
- Children from Indigenous families are part of each of our programs in other regions

The Strong Start Website is at www.StrongStart.ca

Machelle and Corrine answered several questions from the members after the presentation. They were given an hearty round of applause by the members with some chatting after the end of the meeting.

They also received a formal, “thank you”, from President Alf in recognition of Machelle’s presentation, and let her know we had made a donation to a Charity we like to support. That charity is the Brant Community Health Care System Foundation.

We also presented Machelle and Corrine a donation cheque for \$2,500 in support of the Strong Start Organization to help them carry on the work they have been doing.



President Alf called for any Committee Reports and Announcements:

- Details were made about those attending the Staples Back to School Drive
- Details about the upcoming Back to School Food Drive
- Details about the Bell Holmstead Social

- **Important Notice** – Next week Thursday 12-September District LG Designate Angela Vieth will be on hand to **install the executive for the 2024-25 year**. It is very important that all incoming members for the 2024-2025 Board are in attendance.

Following are the names of the slate of officers and directors to be installed at this meeting:
Nancy Thompson, Maureen Henry, Pallo Sahota, Leo Vos, Bob Wade, Ross Pope, Dave Lewis and Jim Steele.

Directors leaving the Board are: Stuart Parkinson and Graham Schram

Final thought for the day:

Was a Video from Hope Marks Incoming International President, wishing all members a congratulation on the 15th Anniversary of the Kiwanis Aktion Club of Brantford and Brantford Kiwanis Club.

The bell was rung to end the meeting at approximately 1:10 pm

After the meeting we had a special presentation for fellow Kiwanians LG Brian MacLean and wife Kiwanian Michelle MacLean from California, a friend of Joanne Murray and Jim Steele .



Below are guest at our meting today. Bill Sparks and wife Trish Sparks (Ontario) and wife Kiwanian Michelle MacLean and LG Brian MacLean (California)

