
Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter November 14, 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 – 43



E.C. & C. District

Governor

Pamela Rodney White
KC of Constant Spring

Governor Elect

Cynthina Blackman
KC of Pride of Barbados

Immediate Past Governor

John Chave
KC of Barrie

Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Steele

PROGRAM FOR November 14, 2024

Laura Moulton, Woodview Autism and Mental Health Services and
Christmas Cookie Campaign Kick-off

HEAD TABLE

President Nancy Thompson, Guest Speaker Lauren Moulton,
Lucy Albert and Roslyn van Patter, Introducer Dave Lewis,
Funmaster Bob Saunders, and any others invited by the
House Committee

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, November 21 – Origin Story of Glenhyrst Light

KC of Brantford

Division Lt. Governor

Angel Vieth

KC of Kitchener–Waterloo

Club Officers

President

Nancy Thompson

Past President

Alfred Hauk

President–Elect

Maureen Henry

Treasurer

Jim Steele

Secretary

Dave Lewis

Club Directors

2 Year Term

Ross Pope

Joanne Murray

1 Year Term

Randy MacKenzie

Leo Vos

Bob Wade

Show

Thursday, November 28 – Membership Committee Business meeting

Thursday, December 5 – Jennifer Stebbing on Wills

Thursday, December 12 – Kiwanis/Staples project

Thursday, December 19 – Kiwanis Christmas Luncheon

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

KIWANIS CONVENTIONS

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

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

BIRTHDAYS

Graham Schram – Birthday – November 09

Maureen Henry – Birthday – November 13

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

None

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

Roxanne Bond – Joined – November 13, 2019

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

Kiwanis dues cannot be claimed as a personal tax deduction. As nonprofit corporations, Kiwanis clubs do not pay taxes on income. But Kiwanis clubs do not qualify as deductible charities for members or donors who provide the club's income. This is why some clubs, districts, and Kiwanis International have established charitable foundations to receive tax-deductible donations for service purposes.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“Stay afraid, but do it anyway. What's important is the action. You don't have to wait to be confident. Just do it and eventually the confidence will follow.” — Carrie Fisher

To view the highlights of last week's meeting,

please page down

Last Week's Meeting Highlights



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Highlights of the Thursday, 07 November, 2024 Weekly Meeting

The meeting started at 12:30PM with Acting Chair Maureen Henry, welcoming all members and Guests Joyce Morris, Alex Morris's wife and Goranka Vulikavich a friend of Kiwanian Karen and Guest Speaker, Murray Angus to the Thursday 07 November weekly meeting.



As this meeting is an observance of Remembrance Day, PE Maureen asked everyone to stand for our National Anthem and a Video of the Poem "In Flanders Fields". This was followed by a moment of silence to honour those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Opening thought for the day: "Let us never forget the solemn truth that the nation is not constituted of the living alone." —Sir Robert Borden, 8th Prime Minister of Canada

At the 50/50 Draw - Phill Hoekstra handled the activities. Linda Moyer drew the first card and was unsuccessful in finding the joker. Our guest speaker, Murray Angus drew the second card but was also unsuccessful in his pursuit of the joker.



PE Maureen stated that, Birthdays and Anniversaries of joining our Club were:

Eardly Judah – had a Birthday – November 3

David Neumann – Joined – November 1, (34 Years)

Joel Balberman – Joined - November 5

Judy Lillico – Joined – November 7

Congratulations to all of you and many happy returns!

Happy Stories

There were numerous happy stories to announce. Among them were:

- Karen Adams grateful to have the presence of her friend, Goranka, who is a potential member for our club.
- Graham Schram announced his own birthday that was next week on the 10th of November and invited well wishes.
- Leo Vos announcing that he had 29 teams signed up so far for Trivia Night on November 14th.
- Alex Morris announced he had 2 free tickets for The Music Club's next presentation but only if you had never been to a Music Club event before.
- There were several other Happy Stories as well.

Kiwanian Jim introduced our Speaker this week, Murray Angus.

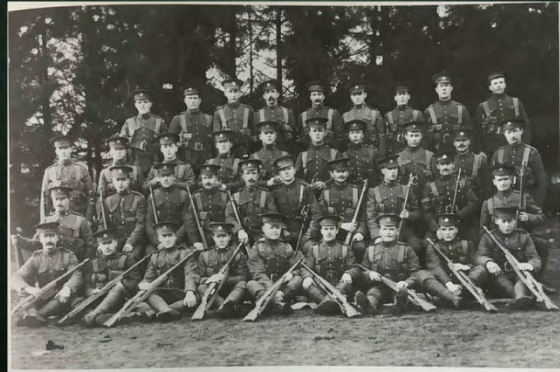
Murray gave a very interesting presentation on the 4th Battalion Canadian Infantry Brigade, WWI, which was largely comprised of Brantford residents. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Murray spoke of many detailed facts and information relating to each slide based on his extensive research and passion for history to bring this information to light once again on this Remembrance Day.



The Short but Valiant History of the 4th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force

- The 4th Battalion was raised in Sept 1914 in Valcartier and consisted of men from Brantford, Aurora, Hamilton and the St Catherines area.
- Brantford sent troops from the Dufferin Rifles and the 25th Dragoons and they originally made up almost 25% of the Battalion.
- Within weeks of their formation in Oct 1914 they were sent to England for training at Salisbury Plains with a strength of 44 officers and 1,121 other ranks.

This is some of the first Brantford men to be sent overseas in 1914 with the 4th Battalion



- In Feb 1915, after 3 months training, they were sent to France and assigned to the 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade
- On April 22nd they were sent to join the British and French Armies at the Second Battle of Ypres
- The next day, Apr 23rd, the 4th Battalion earned a new reputation and a new nickname – The Mad Fourth

- Their first orders were to cross more than a 1000 metres of muddy unprotected ground to a hill that was being held by thousands of German troops.
- Even though they faced shelling, machine gun fire and chlorine gas attacks they managed to capture the hill, but at a horrible cost.
- On April 24, the day after their first battle at Ypres, all that remained uninjured of the original 1165 members were 3 officers and 120 other ranks.

One of the first Officers to be killed in action that day was 27 year old Lieut. Cameron Brant, great grandson of Joseph Brant.



The Mad Fourth always seemed to be at the forefront of the fighting and had reinforcements sent to them throughout the war, many from Brantford. They went on to distinguish themselves in more than 20 famous battles of WWI including Givenchy, the Somme, Vimy Ridge and Passchendaele.

Each fight taking its toll on the battalion.

By the end of the war the 4th had had more than 5500 men assigned to the battalion and had suffered 4,291 wounded or invalided and 862 killed in action.

One of the attendees of the Homecoming celebrations was Sgt. William Merrifield VC

He was an English born Canadian who joined the 4th in 1917

He was awarded the Military Medal for his actions in battle at Passchendaele and earned the Victoria Cross for his 'Conspicuous Bravery and Devotion to Duty' with the 4th Battalion during the battle of Canal Du Nord in 1918

Our city's Armoury is named the "William Merrifield VC Armoury" in his honour



Today, the 4th Battalion is perpetuated by the 56th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA (previously The Dufferin Rifles of Canada and later The Dufferin and Haldimand Rifles of Canada) and The Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (Wentworth Regiment).

The Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment) also carry some of the battalion's battle honours because of the number of soldiers its predecessors the 20th Regiment, Halton Rifles and 36th Peel Regiment contributed to the 4th Battalion.



Sometimes circumstances beyond anyone's control can create an interesting piece of history.

Take the story of Cyril Kinsella, a young English orphan who was sent to Canada in 1908 with a group of 75 other boys. More than 100,000 of these British Home Children came to Canada between the 1860s to the 1940s in the belief that they would have more opportunities here.

Kinsella was born in 1897 in London, England. His father passed away when Cyril was young and his mother decided she had no choice but to place her son in a children's care home.

When he turned 11, he was sent to Canada and would spend a number of years as a worker on several Ontario farms, eventually being sent to Brant County.



When the First World War broke out in August 1914, Kinsella became one of the earliest Canadians to enlist. At 17, he lied about his age and joined Brantford's 125th Battalion. He was tall for his age and in good physical shape so there were really no questions asked about whether he was old enough to enlist.

Kinsella was assigned to the 4th Battalion and saw action in the Second Battle of Ypres in Belgium in April 1915. He was severely wounded in that battle and he suffered shell shock and deemed unfit for service. He was sent home to a hospital in Toronto to convalesce from his wounds and a bout of appendicitis.



As circumstances would dictate, he would cross paths with sculptor Walter Allward in 1916. The artist felt that young Kinsella would be a perfect model for a figure that would be part of a new monument he was designing. That monument, to be built in Brantford, was a newly commissioned work that was to celebrate the invention of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell.

So Kinsella posed for the reclining nude figure — "Man, discovering his power to transmit sound through space"



In August 1916, once he had completed his modeling commitment, he decided to re-enlist. He returned to France and was reassigned to his former unit, the 4th Battalion. He was wounded again that December but returned to the front. He also suffered from a chlorine gas attack.

Kinsella didn't attend the unveiling of Bell Memorial in October 1917 because he was still serving in Europe. He survived the war but didn't get to see the monument until 1946, when he returned to Brantford on vacation.

In an interview with The Expositor at the time, he said: "The posing was exacting and took about two months."

He eventually settled in San Luis Obispo, Calif., where he was a rancher for more than 40 years.

He passed away in California in December 1960.

Karen Adams gave a very gracious thank you to Murray Angus, tying in the allegorical figures on the James Allward's, "Alexander Graham Bell Memorial."



PE Maureen called for Committee Reports and Announcements

- Maureen Henry reported that the Youth Writers Fest was all ready to go for Saturday, November 16th and invited all members to join us on that day.
- Leo Vos reminded anyone who was thinking of attending the Trivia Night as a team that there was still time to register.
- Maureen Henry reminded everyone on Bob Saunders behalf that next week, November 14th was the kick-off for the Christmas Cookie Campaign. Sample bags will be available for purchase.

Closing thought of the day:

Lest We Forget - Rudyard Kipling

If there is nothing else for the good of Kiwanis, we will adjourn this meeting with the ringing of the bell.
Have a great weekend.

Meeting Adjourned