



Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter 24-April-2025

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 APRIL 24, 2025

"Kiwanis Kindness Day Kick Off !!!

HEAD TABLE

President Nancy Thompson, Guest Speaker Kiwanis
Kindness Day Members, Funmaster Dave Lewis, Introducer
Joanne Murray and those invited by the House and
Reception Committee.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, May 1 – Annual General Meeting
Thursday, June 19 2025, Ploughman's Lunch

KC of Brantford

Thursday, May 8 – 'Invite a Guest'

Division Lt. Governor

Angel Vieth

KC of Kitchener–Waterloo

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday, June 27 2025, Dinner at the Brantford Golf and Country club – details to follow

Club Officers

President

Nancy Thompson

August 9th: Family potluck/picnic

Past President

Alfred Hauk

September 13th: 2:00 PM Port Dover play and dinner
("Here on the flight path" Norm Foster")

President-Elect

Maureen Henry

KIWANIS CONVENTIONS

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

Treasurer

Jim Steele

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

Secretary

Dave Lewis

BIRTHDAYS

Eardly & Natalie Judah – Anniversary – April 22

Phil Hoekstra – Joined – April 25

Club Directors

2 Year Term

Ross Pope

Karen Adams

Joanne Murray

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

None

1 Year Term

Randy MacKenzie

Leo Vos

Bob Wade

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

Club bylaws provide that the club's board of directors shall determine the policies and activities of the club, elect and discipline members, approve the budget and all bills, and have general management of the club. But the club board cannot bind future boards to a continuing policy or project. Committing the club to a project lasting more than one administrative year requires a two-thirds vote of the members at a designated club meeting.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Know you were born an original—to make a difference in the world.

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, 17 April, 2025 Weekly Meeting

President Nancy, welcomed all members and Guest speaker Brian Wood, Curator, Bell Homestead.



Phil Hoekstra presented the 50/50 draw, with Faye Prince and Bob Saunders holding the potential winning tickets, but unfortunately they did not draw the Joker. The pot continues to grow.



Funmaster: Paul Simon opened with a series of Q & A Puns. Leo Vos did much better than the average with answers. Some were growers but were still very much appreciated. Such as:



- Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Because you can't see in the dark.
- When I told my contractor I didn't want carpeted steps, they gave me a blank stare.
- Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? Swarm.
- My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet'. It's a cover band.
- What do you say to comfort a friend who's struggling with grammar? There, their, they're.

Paul moved on to Birthdays and Anniversaries' noting the following:

Birthdays:

Ken McNaughton - April 8, "The month of Ken"

And

Nancy Thompson – April 19



All Members celebrated, with a rousing round of applause.

Paul asked for Happy Stories which were received from:

- Nancy Thompson Donated some Happy Dollars for her Birthday
- Leo Vos thanked everyone for volunteering their time at the Children's Safety Village Easter event this Saturday 19-April-2025 @ 10:00 AM and hoped that the rain holds off.
- Melanie MacKay reminded everyone that we would be collecting items for the Kiwanis Kindness day Food Drive again next week. So please bring your donations.
- Graham Schram was glad to be back after long bout with a cold.
- Karen Adams reminded everyone that later today the BRAVA Volunteer awards Event was being held at the Sanderson Centre and if anyone needed tickets for free attendance, she had them. The Event starts at 6:00PM

Paul then handed the Microphone over to Alfred Hauk to introduce our speaker for today, Brian Wood, Curator, Bell Homestead.

PP Alfred Introduced Brian Wood the Curator of Bell Homestead who is a life-long resident of Brantford. Brian has had an interest in the history of Alexander Graham Bell since the Bell Centennial in 1974. He started as a summer student at the Bell Homestead while going to MacMaster. He completed his education at MacMaster with a BA in Sociology and German and later completed the Ontario Museum Association Certificate in Museum Studies. In 1990 he became the Assistant Curator and was promoted to the Curator position, in 1995.



Alfred asked the membership to welcome Brian Wood to speak about, Life on the Line.

Brian thanked us for inviting him back. It has been a number of years and since his last visit, he indicated that there have been many changes and updates.



Brian had chosen the Topic of “Life on the Line” to track the Bell Homestead’s reconfiguration to follow the Evolution of the Home Phone. His presentation follows the evolution of the telephone through the earliest advertisements and phone configurations, that most of us can readily remember.

One of the 1st telephones was a wooden box with a heavy magnet inside. It had one opening for speaking and listening, and you had to supply your own wiring to connect to a similar wooden box in another location. Bell only rented you the wooden box. To call someone you put your finger into the listening/speaker opening and scratched your finger on the small metal plate on your box until someone, on another box joined to yours, heard you scratching and you could then carry on a “tinny” conversation.



Brian presented a powerpoint, showing many of the advertising notices we were given to show the benefits of having each of the various advances in design and uses for the home phone over the years.

Following are sample advertisements



1930



1960



1984

Brian presented the historical information in a factual and humorous way with details that made this trip down memory lane very relevant and enjoyable. He also spoke about the way the Bell Homestead is now very interactive and as remained a relevant and interesting National Historic Site.

The Bell Homestead Website has many interesting and readily available options that you may find entertaining and informative in the coming season.

Following is a thumb-nail view of the various phone Brian spoke about today.



Karen Adams official thanks in recognition of Brian's presentation and said we have made a donation to a Charity we like to support. That charity is the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation.

The members applauded Brian's presentation and warmly showed their appreciation. After the meeting several members chatted with Brian and exchanged information.

Karen Adams passed the microphone back to President Nancy, who called for any Announcements or Committee Reports.

President Nancy thanked all members and Guest Speakers

Final Thought of the Day: "Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is..." - Jessica Harrelson

If there is nothing else for the good of Kiwanis, we will adjourn this meeting with the ringing of the Bell.

Have a good weekend. Meeting adjourned

Following are candid pictures from this meeting.

