
Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter 29-May-2025

1 message

Reply-To: kiwanisbrantford@gmail.com or
To: davegslewis@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 – 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 MAY 29, 2025

Thursday, May 29 - Stan Hutchinson, Local Bike Trails

HEAD TABLE

Acting Chair Ken McNaughton, Guest Speaker Stan Hutchinson, Funmaster Faye Prince, Thanker Phil Hoekstra and others as invited by the House Committee

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, June 5 – Bonnie Camm, CEO Brant Public Health

Thursday, June 12 – TBD

Thursday, June 19 – NO MEETING, Ploughman's Lunch

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
Karen Adams
Joanne Murray

1 Year Term
Randy MacKenzie
Leo Vos
Bob Wade

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

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

August 9th: Family potluck/picnic

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

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

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

Joanne Murray – Joined – May 31 (35 years)

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

Until 1962, Kiwanis clubs were limited to the United States and Canada. But club delegates to the 1961 convention in Toronto approved the extension of Kiwanis to the rest of the world. In April 1962, the Kiwanis Club of Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico, became the first club to be organized outside the two founding nations. Today, Kiwanis clubs are active in more than 70 nations and geographic areas..

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Remember that the greatest reward you get for your efforts is not what you get for them, but what you become by them. Unknown

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, 22 May, 2025 Weekly Meeting

President Nancy Thompson, welcomed all members and Guest Speakers and Guests: Ireluwa Obalisi, Ifeluwa Obalisi and Lucy Obalisi (mother) Augustine Obalisi (Father) and Sydney Lees, Emily Lees (mother).



Phil Hoekstra presented the 50/50 draw, with four tickets to be drawn. Crystal Godwaldt was the holder of the winning ticket today. Congratulations Crystal. The pot start over again next week at zero.



Funmaster Ken McNaughton opened with backgrounds about famous writers, and how they came up with topics and developed some of our Classic Stories. This may be of interest to our three budding Authors speaking today.

An example of Ken's research follows:

Tolkien began *The Hobbit* spontaneously while grading student exams in 1930 or 1931. He wrote the opening line, "In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit," on a blank page. The idea for the story grew from that single line, with Tolkien later telling the story to his children and developing it further.

Ken had a few examples about other authors and their unassuming spark that, when nurtured, grows into something insightful.

He moved on to celebrate, Birthdays or Anniversaries of joining the Club this week. Unfortunately, none of our Club members had either of these events.

We had a few Happy Stories and Ken handed the Microphone back to the Guest Speakers introducer Maureen Henry.

Maureen Henry introduced our speakers.
She Welcomed, everyone!

I'm delighted to introduce our speakers for today, some of the talented winners from last year's **Kiwanis / Brantford Public Library's ~ Youth Writers Contest**, along with their parents.

Before we hear from them, I'd like to quickly explain the contest's judging process. We received a total of 127 submissions across three categories: Senior, Intermediate, and Junior. To ensure complete fairness, every story was assigned a unique number and stripped of all identifying information before being sent to our judges.

We had nine judges in total, three for each category. They reviewed the stories anonymously, identifying them only by their assigned number. Winners were determined by averaging the scores from these independent evaluations. In a delightful coincidence, two of our winners this year are sisters, each winning in their respective categories!

It's my distinct pleasure to introduce our winners today. As I call your name, please stand and be recognized:

- Ireluwa Olabisi, our winner in the senior category!
- And her sister, Ifeluwa Olabisi, the winner in the intermediate category!
- And we must also acknowledge their proud mother, Lucy Olabisi and proud father Augustine Obalisi!
- Next up, our winner in the junior category, Sydney Lees!
- And her proud mother, Emily Lees!

Today, each of these talented winners will be reading their story aloud to us.

[Click on their picture below, to read their stories](#)



Junior category,
Sydney Lees



Intermediate category,
Ifeluwa Olabisi



Senior category,
Ireluwa Olabisi

Kiwanian Paulette Hauk came to the microphone and thanked our Guests Speakers liberally for their imagination and effective story presentation, while still feeling the goose-bumps from the impact of all three performances.

Paulette handed the Podium back to President Nancy.

President Nancy thanked the three speakers for their wonderful presentations and said we would be looking forward to hearing from them again this Fall at our 2nd Kiwanis/BPL Annual Youth Writers Contest.

During the program, President Nancy asked various Kiwanians to identify the Guests that they had asked to join us for this week's meeting.

Following are the guests that joined us today. Rae-Lynne Aramburo CEO of the Brantford Public Library and Partner with us, in presenting the Youth Writer's Contest last year. She and the Library are also working with us to develop this year's program, Erica James, Ruth Mills, Daryl Casey, Erica Huxley, Roger Smith and Mari-Lynne Tota.

Announcements or Committee Reports.

- Randy MacKenzie updated the Members that, Ivone Demarchi had successful surgery and is back home but will be convalescing at home for at least a month or two.
- Pallo Sahota had placed a Sign-up sheet on the tables for all members to indicate that they would volunteer for activities at the June 18-19 Ploughman's Lunch event
- Pallo also reminded everyone that we are having a Social event at the Brantford Golf and Country Club on Thursday 26-June-2025.
- Paulette Hauk let us know that Sean Hauk will be having another performance of Queen at the Polish Hall May 31.

President Nancy thanked all members and Guests and Guest Speakers for attending the meeting and wishes everyone well.

If there is nothing else for the good of Kiwanis, we will adjourn this meeting with the ringing of the Bell by Sydney Lees. Have a good weekend. Meeting adjourned

