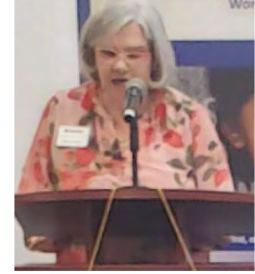


Highlights of the Thursday, 23 April, 2026 Meeting

President Maureen, welcomed everyone and Guest – Isaac Halsey (Youth Leaders On Board from Laurier - 2026) and Guest Speaker - Paull Rodrigue, to this Thursday 16, April 2026 weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.



Joanne Murray kicked off this Kindness Day by presenting our two Best Western Waitresses with Kindness Day Treats and Joanne Brooks Best Western General Manager with a Spring plant and thanks for all they do for us.

President Maureen called Phil Hoekstra to present the 50/50 Draw with Peter Liberati and David Neumann holding potential winning tickets. Unfortunately, no one found the “Joker” today, so the “Pot” continues to grow for next week.



President Maureen called Alfred Hauk to come forward as Funmaster.

Alfred Hauk came to the microphone and open with some very humorous zingers.

Such as:

What did the Tibetan monk say when he saw the face of Jesus in a tub of margarine?

"I can't believe it's not Buddha."

He had several more that kept us chuckling through out the presentation.

Alfred Hauk helped us celebrate the following anniversaries and Birthdays:



Anniversary of joining the Club (Yrs)

Joan Griffin	30
Leo Vos	27
Phil Hoekstra	24
Paulette Hauk	4
Melanie Mackay	4
Bonnie Little	4

Birthdays (April)

Birthdays (April)	Date
Nancy Thompson	19

Happy Stories

Karen Adams confirmed that a Volunteer Recognition Celebration was held at the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts on Monday, April 20, 2026, to thank and recognize City of Brantford and BRAVA Brant volunteers during National Volunteer Week (April 19-25, 2026). Volunteer Impact Awards were presented to volunteers who engaged in activities that resulted in making a difference in enhancing the organization they volunteer with and the community. A recipient of the awards that were nominated by their peers, was our own Leo Vos. Congratulations to Leo Vos, BRAVA Brant 2025 Volunteer Impact Award winner.



Randy MacKenzie noted that the Book Fair was going very well and suggested that you hurry down to 1 Market St., to pick through an excellent selection of Books at a great price.

Randy MacKenzie also confirmed that we have 30 Blue Kiwanis Shirts on order from Mark's Warehouse.

Melanie thanked everyone for their ideas and involvement with all of the various activities planned for this year's Kiwanis Kindness Day Event.

Paullette Hauk thanked Karen Adams for her support and organization of the, BRAVA Volunteer Recognition Celebration at the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts on Monday, April 20, 2026.

Leo Vos thanked everyone connected and supporting the Volunteer Recognition Celebration, particularly Joanne Murray for nominating him.

Doug Delronde that he has organized a Ground Maintenance crew for the Children's Safety Village and that they have just finished a significant cleanup in April. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help cut grass, weed-whack, touch up paint, etc. through the coming summer month please contact Doug Delaronde at: ddelar1637@rogers.com

President Maureen called Nancy Thompson to the podium to introduce our Guest Speaker today, Paull Rodrigue - Topic: The Art of Glass Blowing

Nancy Thompson indicated that, Paull Rodrigue is a prominent Canadian glass blower based in Hamilton Ontario, with over 30 years of experience. A Sheridan College graduate, he specializes in vibrant, sculptural glass art, often utilizing the Italian incalmo technique to create complex color combinations and, according to West End Gallery, his work is frequently exhibited in Canadian galleries.

Paull's work is characterized by bold, fluid colours, rhythmic bubbles, and high-contrast, layered, and luminous forms. He is known for "pushing the boundaries" of glass as an art form.

He graduated from the Sheridan College Institute's Glass Program. He operates his studio in Hamilton, Ontario, where he also teaches, as listed in Rodrigue Glass.



In 2026, he was recognized by the City of Hamilton Heritage Awards with the Art of Heritage Award for his involvement in the All Our Relations project.

Paull Rodrigue was welcomed to the podium and thanked the Club for asking him to speak at this meeting. Due to some technical problems, we were unable to view a short video presentation Paull had prepared. Paull carried on with a slide presentation giving us background about his early education 30+ years ago, and how Glass Blowing and Pottery were offered at Sheridan College and Paull, felt the pull to go into Glass-Blowing.



Following is an outline of Paull's career while showing various pieces of his work for emphasis.

Background and Career Highlights

Graduate of the Glass Program at Sheridan College Institute in Oakville, Ontario and began his journey in 1993, with over 35 years of professional glassblowing experience. He is known for "signature swirls" of color, technical layering, and high-refractive, luminous qualities.

Paull utilizes the incalmo technique, which involves welding two separate glass pieces together to create intricate, colorful designs.

He operates his own studio, Rodrigue Glass, in Dundas, Ontario with his featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions across Canada.

Signature Work

Paull's Signature Series is Large-scale, made-to-order pieces ranging from 20 to 33 inches in height. The forms of pieces he creates are bowls, vases, and abstract sculptures characterized by a balance of simple forms and complex color application. He also does custom work producing custom pieces for corporate clients and private collectors.



Paull Rodrigue describes his work as an intuitive, "seductive" process that focuses on the interplay of light and color.

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Notable Achievements:

His work has been featured in solo and group shows at venues like the Carnegie Gallery and the Toronto Outdoor Art Show.



He was involved in the development of the Glass Juno Awards alongside the late artist Shirley Elford and has continued to produce them for over two decades.

His pieces are represented in galleries across Canada and the USA.

Paull even created a piece of Art with blue and purple colours that was presented the Queen Elizabeth.



Paull rounded out his presentation by answering a number of questions for the audience.

Joanne Murray was the official thanker and announced that, in recognition of his presentation, we have made a donation to a Charity we like to support. That charity is the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation.

Paull was given a sound round of applause and stayed to answer more questions after a brief business portion of this meeting was concluded.

President Maureen thanked Paull Rodrigue for interesting, intriguing, hot and wonderful art presentation.

President Maureen called for Committee Reports and Announcements:

Ken McNaughton - **Mark your Calendars**, Brantford Hospital, "Bed Race", of which we are a primary Sponsor will be held on **Date:** Saturday 23 May 2026. **Location:** Branlyn Community School, 238 Brantwood Park Rd, Brantford, ON N3P 1N9. **Volunteers needed:** Contact Coordinator >> Jim Steele.

Melanie MacKay thanked Leo Vos for the donation the Thursday nights Trivia revenue to the Children's Safety Village as part of the Kiwanis Kindness Day event.

Pallo Sahota noted that, we will shortly be announcing the details of this year's Ploughman's Lunch which will be held on 18-June-2026.

Nelson McClinchey called for volunteers to attend the Stratford Interclub on 11-May-2026

President Maureen, thanked all members for joining us today.

President Maureen asked If there was anything else for the good of Kiwanis, seeing none, she adjourned the meeting with the ringing of the Bell.

