

Kiwanis Club of Orillia
Weekly Meeting, Monday April 4, 2016

Present:

Joanne Watson	Heather Breckles	Dave Breckles
Doug Downey	Steph Worthington	Tim Timpano
Jim Wenger	Carol Ivey	John Parker
Bob Wink	Scott O'Conner	Charles Kelly
Noel Sterne	John Morton	Jack Kyzer
James Maxwell	Mark Burns	Rob Town
Peter Head	Mike Bunn	John Mayo
Marnie Bosco	Lawrence LaFrance	Fred Larsen
Bob Brown	Bruce Waite	Mike Whitwell
Bruce McRae	Ben Cole	Dave North

Guest:

Korrina Kyzer	Susan Croft	Sarah McRae
Blair Bailey	Michael Gordon	

Oh Canada:

Words simply cannot describe today's rendition of our national anthem (more on that later).

The Blessing:

Noel Sterne was on hand to offer the blessing today – thanks Noel.

Happy Loonies:

James Maxwell offered up a loonie to the memory of longtime Kiwanian, friend and gentleman Francois Tisi – we all miss you Francois!!!!!!

Ben Cole was happy about the successful development and deployment of his new visual and acoustic enhancing multi-media elevation system (two up-side down garbage cans). Innovation can come from anywhere - in this case, likely the bathroom.

Bob Wink is happy to be home in one piece after a winter of skiing out west. Good to have you home “Go Around”.

Lawrence LaFrance coughed up a loonie for son Ben (or Dan) for landing a summer job with an environmental engineering firm – congrats to one of you!!!!

Blair Bailey chipped one in for the 58th annual Kiwanis Music Festival and to the new festival registrar Steph Worthington – **yay Steph!!!!!!**

Bruce McRae is happy that daughter Sarah is home

Bruce Waite is excited about the Waite Family ensemble's chances in the upcoming Music Festival – sounds like they're in a class by themselves.

Kiwanis Safety Village Update:

Safety village club liaison Mike Bunn was on hand to remind us that we're at Notre Dame next week. Check the website for future dates and openings – thanks Mike.

Today's Guest Speakers:

Micheal Gordon, along with longtime artistic director of the Kiwanis Music Festival Blair Bailey were with us today on behalf of the St. Paul's Centre. They spoke of the vision to transform St. Paul's United Church from a traditional place of worship to a modern entertainment facility for the performing arts. Wow, what a great way to utilize and reinvent one of Orillia's most historic and beautiful churches. This is of particular interest to our club given our long history with St. Paul's through the Kiwanis Music Festival.

Roger Ducette:

I (Dave North) was completely caught off guard and I'm really touched by the vignette of Roger Ducette singing Oh Canada brought to us today by President Ben. Mr. Ducette or "The Voice" as he was simply known, sang our national anthem at the Montreal Forum from 1971 until shortly before his death in 1981. During his reign, Montreal won seven Stanley Cups – Boston, Philadelphia (2) and the New York Islanders won the others.

As Ben pointed out, I was a young kid growing up in Brechin during much of that time. Back then we only had five channels on TV and three of them were CBC. It was the Beach Combers, Celebrity Cooks (that's a lot of Bruno Gerussi), The Forest Rangers, Front Page Challenge, The Tommy Hunter Show and of course, Hockey Night in Canada!!!! Funny, doesn't seem like there's as much worth watching today... Okay, I'm finally coming out of the closet on something – **I'M A HABS FAN!!!** Have been all my life!!! There, I said it!!! Nice to finally get that off my chest!!!

There was a lot of things about that late seventies that I found unsettling to say the least. The clothes, the hair, the dance moves, the Corinthian leather - **YEISH!!!!** Roger himself would have described it as “beaucoup du fromage”. One thing that did keep me up at night was Rene Levesque, the Parti Quebecois and their attempt to rip apart our country. As a thirteen year-old it was pretty obvious to me that Roger Ducette belting out “Oh Canada” in both our official languages in the Montreal Forum every Saturday night was a pretty powerful symbol for the unity of our country. He was the right guy, with the right stuff at the right time!!! He’s a unique icon of Canada and one of my fondest memories of those great Habs teams of the seventies.

Thanks so much Ben for this gesture and the kind words. The frame will be displayed proudly in the Canada room at the cottage. I can also guarantee that some extra wattage will be brought into the cottage for this July 1st. At 7:00 am, the island will awake to Roger Ducette cranked up to ten!!!! I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again, from here on I would like the club to end “Oh Canada” like Roger did – ascending!!!!

Next Week:

We're all back at Theo's next week. Not sure who the speaker is but whoever we have, you won't want to miss it!!! That's about it for this week. Have a great week everyone!!!!

Thought for the Day:

“Canada is a great country, one of the great hopes for the world.”

Jack Layton....



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