



## Bluewater Region – Running Board News

### December 2023



#### President's Report

##### A note from President Fred...

As we approach the end of 2023, we reflect back on the great events of the past season...from our touring inspection, spring and summer tours...to the Blyth Festival, nursing and retirement home visitations, a wonderful bayside lunch at Betty and Brian Woods home and another great touring visit to Fred Thorns collection to the Earl McComb property for our annual corn roast and fall tours ....thanks to all of our special leaders who stepped forward to take

things on and make things happen for our Bluewater Region and to past president Wayne Hynd for the special fall tour which was well supported. We are truly blessed to have you all...!! Also, a very special welcome to all the new members who have joined our region in the past year...we welcome you all - Come for the cars...Stay for the people!

We are so looking forward to our Christmas in January event at the Owen Sound Legion on January 28, 2024 for a wonderful Christmas dinner...please send your cheques in as early as possible to Sharon Norton so we know who and how many to expect...A loonie auction and special music and perhaps a Christmas quiz will add to the fun of the evening!! There will be more information on this further down in the newsletter...!!



Our last Breakfast at McDonalds for 2023 was well attended with 28 folks present ...!! As planning begins for the new season, we look forward to having members step up and take us on tours of the great area we live in ...so if you have an idea you would like to put forward, we on the executive will be all ears and supportive ...and thank you in advance for your participation...!! A reminder also to all that 2024 will be an election year, so if you would like to be more involved in the advancement of the Bluewater Region going forward, please step up and be recognized...!!

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best going forward into 2024 and beyond...!! 🎄

Fred

([parsonsfh@gmail.com](mailto:parsonsfh@gmail.com)...phone..519-371-4149)

*As an addendum* to the president's message, I have had a request from a fellow in Iowa to see if anyone in the club has information to share on a vehicle that was once a part of the Bluewater Region...a 1947 Buick convertible which was owned by Mr. Harold Currie. I have attached a photo of the vehicle in its present condition from the person in Iowa who has been asked to sell the vehicle for the now deceased present owners family....the car is in Iowa but was until recently in Florida after being sold by the Currie family a number of years ago.. Any and all information would be greatly appreciated, and I would send responses to the fellow in Iowa.  
([parsonsfh@gmail.com](mailto:parsonsfh@gmail.com)...phone..519-371-4149)



Christmas  
Wishes for Friends



Got this in from Norm Deakins...(a friend of his sent the picture)..his car was in the Santa Claus Parade in Warton this past weekend and he was wondering if we could put it into the bulletin too...he won a prize as well for the presentation of the float...!! 🎄 😊  
Norm has been a long-time member as well.



# FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH COFFEE CLUB

A reminder that the next Coffee Club is on January 6<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) the first Saturday of the month and it is our standing date for coffee and perhaps some breakfast at McDonald's on the sunset strip in Owen Sound.

Hope you can join us at 8:30 am.

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## Regular Board Meeting

January 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion in Owen Sound

Agenda to include finalizing plans for our Christmas Party in January

All are welcome.

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Attached with this newsletter are two newsletters from Kawartha Lakes Region and Durham Region. Hope you take some time and hear what the other Regions are doing and planning.

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## Catch

Following Christmas dinner, my family was relaxing around the kitchen table. We had all enjoyed traditional turkey, sweet potatoes lightly glazed with brown sugar, and a final wedge of pumpkin pie topped with a dollop of ice cream. The good cooking smells still lingered; the oven remained warm.

My sister, our chef, was basking in the compliments — “Fabulous meal,” “I really couldn't eat another bite,” “Everything was wonderful.” Dad had risen from his chair and was contentedly standing nearby.

My nephew, never one to sit still for too long, began dribbling his new basketball around the table and throughout the kitchen. Upon nearing Dad, he stopped—almost uncertainly. With shaking, wrinkled hands, Dad had reached out for the ball. He did not speak, and the boy, confused, looked up and over at us. It took some convincing, but the ball was gingerly passed over.



I watched my father closely to see what he would do. A playful smile appeared on his face. The twinkle in his eyes shone brighter than any Christmas lights. Holding the ball and reaching forward, Dad bounced it on the floor then caught it. This action was repeated. Nodding approvingly, he then turned towards our assembled group. Gently tossing the ball away, Dad began a game of catch.

The ball continued to be passed through eager pairs of outstretched hands. Cries of “Over here!” rang through the warm kitchen. Dad’s active participation in this game was remarkable to me, since he had advanced Alzheimer’s disease. This dementia had robbed him of many memories and the recognition of people, places, and points in time. Despite this, Dad clearly recognized the ball and what you could do with it.

In my younger years, playing with Dad was rare. To his credit, Dad worked hard and provided for us. He was very private and never showed nor shared much emotion; his game of choice was chess, which he did eventually teach me how to play. As an adult, I had become a caregiver and watched helplessly as Dad declined. Connecting moments between father and son had been few and far between before he took the basketball.

I’m not sure how long we played catch. Watching the clock was not important. Dad gleefully led us until he began to tire. What I do know is that our game ended all too soon, and it was time to face the reality of dirty dishes piled high on countertops. The moment, though, will certainly last forever. On this Christmas, Dad gave me a special memory—one that I will always treasure.

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MERRY  
*Christmas*



# ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY IN JANUARY



*January 28th, 2024*

*Owen Sound Legion*

*Cash Bar - Cocktails – 5:00 pm - Dinner – 6:00 pm*

*There will be lots of music – a Loonie Auction*

*Tickets: Members: \$35 each*

*Contact Sharon Norton at 519-372-0011 for tickets*

*Please mail your cheque, made payable to “Bluewater Region ACCCC, to: Sharon Norton, 262125 Concession 5 Keppel, Shallow Lake, ON NOH 2K0.*

*We are looking for items to auction off at the Loonie Auction. Please contact Mary Ellen or Fred at 519-371-4149 if you can help us out. AND don't forget to bring your loonies so you can participate.*

*We would like to know as soon as possible if you do plan to attend to be sure there is sufficient interest. The meal will be a traditional Turkey Dinner with all its trimmings. Please confirm with Sharon as instructed above at your earliest convenience. Thank You.*

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## MERRY CHRISTMAS

We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May you enjoy the season with family and friends.

Hope to see you in January at our CHRISTMAS IN JANUARY party at the Owen Sound Legion.

