

President's Awards by Teri Van Well

A few years back, one of our boards instilled the honour of allowing the president to award members for their service to the club. The last few years I have not handed any out but this year I have the pleasure of honouring 5 of our members. Two of the recipients are being given the award for recognition over the time that I have been in the club and the other 3 recipients are for what they have done for the club this past year.

Gordon Griffiths

Member since 1999

Since I had the pleasure of meeting Gordon, I have been amazed at all the things that he does for the club. When first met him, it was to take over the recruiting of authors for the 'How I Did It' section of Close-Up. He also delivers the copies of Close-Up to our advertisers and occasionally writes an article or two. He is a part of the Refreshment committee, Close-Up, the Print Show, and Workshops and at year end he has been the chair for recruiting new members of the board and reviews our financial records. He is someone that is always willing to lend a hand to someone who needs it.

Rilla Ballantyne

Member since 2014

One of the great things that the club started a few years back to help welcome members to Norway House was a club greeter. I am not sure who, but someone approached Rilla for the position, and she happily agreed. Since that time, whenever you attend one of the Thursday meetings at Norway House you will be greeted by her sunny disposition

and are made to feel welcome. She will help you in any way she can or direct you to someone who can, and she always remembers everyone's name! Along with greeter she has now taken over at our field trip coordinator and I know she is looking forward to organizing some fantastic field trips when things open up again. Thanks Rilla!

Richard Letourneau

Member since 2015

As our Webmaster for the last 3 years, Richard has kept our website in tiptop shape and has helped most of us at one time or another with anything website related. But this is not why I am presenting him this award. When our club was presented with an idea to go online last year to continue to provide content to our members Richard moved full steam ahead. With the help of Kim Smith, the Zoom committee was born and in the months after that our club was providing online content for workshops during the summer months and in the fall our Thursday meetings. He also attending the Interclub meetings with North Shore and was able to bring new ideas forward. I will go out on a limb and say that Richard is our Zoom and Website guru. Thank you, Richard, for all that you have done for the club.

Kim Smith

Member since 2016

And that brings me to Kim Smith. When Kim took over the workshop committee it needed some work in bringing it back to life. And Kim did just that! She put together an amazing team of volunteers and workshop presenters and brought members a wide variety of fun things to try. We went from having a workshop a month, maybe, to having 2 or 3 and most had a waitlist. Along with the workshops Kim worked

alongside Richard to help members become comfortable with Zoom.
Thank you Kim!

Lorna Shaw

Member since 2017

I just have to say one thing about Lorna. The Distraction Project. When the club was still trying to figure out where things were going with the pandemic and how the club was going to look going forward, the board received an email from Lorna with an idea for a project that turned into 24 weeks of distraction. It started out as a way for us to get out to do the thing we love, photography and to keep us connected a club for a few weeks. Lorna would give us a topic with some ideas and send us on our way to take photos. Members could post these photos in the gallery and they were judged by another members. It was such fun to see the different interpretations of each theme. Thank you Lorna for keeping us sane.