

# 2014 Seniors of the Year

Four East Zorra-Tavistock residents were honoured with 2014 Senior of the Year Awards at the Annual Seniors' Picnic held in the Tavistock Memorial Hall on Wednesday, June 18, 2014.

Frank and Kaye Bickle, William R. Wettlaufer and Steve Cahill were all recognized for their volunteer work and dedication to the community. Mayor Don McKay read each citation and members of the nominating group were on hand to make the presentations.

The husband and wife team of **Frank and Kathleen "Kaye" Bickle**, established Orchard Park Farms, a thriving apple orchard business between Hickson and Tavistock.

Kaye has been a resident of East Zorra-Tavistock all of her life. She taught school at East Zorra SS#8 for eight years, and was a supply teacher for many years afterwards. She is a very active member of Trinity Lutheran Church, holding many offices in the Women's Group, the Sanctuary Guild and the Sunday School. She has been a Women's Institute member for more than 50

years, holding many offices over the years.

Frank Bickle was born and raised in East Zorra. He has been President of the Oxford Fruit Co-operative, and the Oxford County Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association in Woodstock. Frank has been a member of the Tavistock Rotary Club for over 50 years, having served as President of the Club. Frank is a faithful member of Trinity Lutheran Church, and a member of Church Council.

The Bickles have two children, Tom and his wife Kathy, and Jane and husband, Andrew Fenton along with 3 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

The Bickles were nominated by the Anna P. Lewis Women's Institute as lifelong township residents and active contributors to our community. Institute members making the presentation were Carol McLeod and Mary Alice Roth.

**William R. Wettlaufer** is a very active member of the Tavistock community. Bill has been a Tavistock Agricultural Society member for well over 40 years, serving as President

in 1979-1980. Bill is always there from setup to tear down, and is a constant at the north gate. Bill and his wife Gloria received the service award presented by the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies in 1991. Bill is also an active member of the Tavistock Men's Club.

The 55th annual Men's Club Sauerkraut Supper was held in 2013 and Bill is the volunteer with many

**Each one of these recipients has a special connection to the life of the village and area.**

hats in this fundraiser. He starts by making sure the sauerkraut is made perfectly and gets everything back to where it belongs after the event. He can quite often be seen working in the booth operated by the Men's Club at the Tavistock Arena.

In 2009 Bill was chosen to participate in the Olympic Torch Run through Tavistock.

Bill is the proud father of two and the grandfather of two. As a grandparent he will quite often travel to Cambridge to watch his grandchildren participate

in sports. Bill is the type of volunteer every village needs. He is always willing to say "yes" no matter what the task.

Chris Wiffen made the presentation on behalf of the Tavistock Agricultural Society.

The final recipient was **Steve Cahill**, nominated on behalf of the Tavistock Men's Club and presented with his award by Ron Wiffen.

If you need something done in Tavistock, for service clubs and several church affiliates, Steve Cahill is the one to call. Since he and wife, Ruth, sold Quehl's Restaurant in 1996, Steve has been quietly going about what he calls "semi-retirement", doing all the things others wish they had time to do. Whether it's putting up the town's Christmas decorations, placing flower pots on the street, or replacing light bulbs at the church, Steve is always ready to help, if not organize, the jobs that are

taken for granted.

Steve's working career, which began at 18 years of age, has given him the apprenticeship of a lifetime. Born and raised in Stratford, Steve worked one summer for a general contractor, then later worked at Sealed Power Corp. in Stratford for 10 years. Soon after, Steve and brother, Rick, started their own painting and contracting business under the name Cahill Bros.

He married Ruth Zehr of Tavistock, and the couple moved to Tavistock in December of 1968.

He and Ruth purchased several business blocks in Tavistock and can be credited with renovating and refurbishing them. They include the former Bonnie Doon nursing home on Decew Street, the present Home Hardware store in Tavistock; Quehl's Restaurant in 1987 and the former Weicker's butcher shop; the Chinese Restaurant building (36 Woodstock Street South) and the store at 16 Hope Street West. Steph's Cheese Plus was operated at 51 Woodstock Street South in Tavistock for several years.

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