

CITATION FOR FRANK YORK VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2012

“Frank joined the Verona Lions Club in 1999. He is a very active member who especially enjoys assisting with the maintenance of the Verona Lions Hall. You can find him repairing door hinges or fixing loose molding. When there were several major renovation projects in the works, Frank was the demolition expert, clearing the area for new construction. Frank volunteers many hours to the various Lions’ projects such as the Annual Jamboree with set-up and take-down and managing one of the fun activities over the three day period. He is also active in the Annual Lions Garlic Festival assisting with set-up and take-down. Frank is often seen helping out in the kitchen on Market Days. Frank’s favourite hobby is to create something out of nothing. He created the purple Lions mini truck now used for area parades. Frank loves to invite local children to ride along with him.

Verona Cattail Festival

Frank is in his 14th year as a volunteer. He is presently on the Verona Cattail Festival Steering Committee managing one of the portfolios in securing volunteers to assist in the events at our festival. Frank is famous for organizing the very popular “Red Green Cardboard Duct Tape Boat Races” during the Cattail Festival. Large crowds gather to watch and cheer their favourite entries as the participants attempt to win their race in a cardboard boat.

Frank planned and assisted in the construction of the Gypsy wagon which was originally part of the first entertainment stage. Frank is very resourceful and takes delight in reusing material that is destined for scrap. The Gypsy wagon is used to store the Verona Cattail Festival equipment.

Frank is credited with the branding of the festival as The Cattail Festival, the only Cattail Festival in Canada. With his humorous persistence, he convinced all the festival members that it was a unique idea. Now of course, we are delighted with the branding of our Verona Cattail Festival and we have Frank to thank.

When the decision was made to construct the Village signs at each end of our town, Frank was there to assist with other volunteers to get it done. Frank is the main reason why we have an event stage we can use and rent out to other organizations. Our famous stage was the result of creative imagination of again using recycled material from TV towers and timber for the main structure. The stage is used in seven local events.

When it came time to develop some “fun stuff”, Frank suggested a mini putt golf course. He had sketch drawings of what it would look like. We now have a nine-hole mini putt that is often enjoyed in various events in this area.

Any time there is a set-up or take-down for the many activities in Verona, Frank offers his help. He comes ready with his tools and his sense of humour to get the job done.

We can always go to Frank with a glimmer of an idea and he will grab onto the essence, develop it, and bring the idea to fruition. When Debbie Lingen was searching for a way to advertise on the Verona Kiosk, Frank came up with the idea of building a pamphlet holder. Not only did he design the holder, but within a week he had constructed and placed the pamphlet holder on the kiosk. Frank is an irreplaceable member of our Verona Community Association. He grasps any problem with enthusiasm and he has a determination to resolve it.

We are very proud of our Frank in Verona. He is truly “one of a kind.””

We wish to thank Frank York for his many contributions to this community by recognizing him as Volunteer of the Year.