

**Orchard View**  
BY THE MISSISSIPPI  
ALMONTE

# The Monthly Review

March, 2020



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## Resident of the Month: Jane von Boetticher

Written by: Brent Conolly

*“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”*

—Mark Twain, American humourist

Add kindness to a positive outlook, supported by a strong, spiritual faith, and you have a very nice lady who stands tall when it comes to successfully taking on some of life's gruelling challenges while, at the same time, cheerfully doing God's work. Jane's maiden name is Wilson, and along with four other siblings, she was raised in Kemptville, Ontario, as a member of a well-respected Christian family. Her father was the town pharmacist who owned and operated a Rexall pharmacy (in those days called a drugstore), which was located just across Prescott Street from her grandfather's department store. As a teenager, she worked in the pharmacy sweeping floors, dusting and stocking shelves, and performing other tasks. There she learned the business side of retail, as well as the value of a dollar earned—or lost.

After completing high school in Kemptville, Jane trained at the National Business College in Ottawa and returned to work in the pharmacy as a young adult. In 1953, she married her first husband, Clarence Scissons, who was from Almonte. The couple had four children, and Jane worked as a stay-at-home mom until the children were either firmly established in school or had sights set on their secondary education choices.

She returned to work outside the home as an office assistant in the family practice of a local Kemptville doctor, Dr. Jackson Flay. The family then moved to Peterborough, Ontario, where the children had ready access to Trent University and Sir Sandford Fleming College. And then something unimaginably sad happened: Clarence died very suddenly and unexpectedly in 1977 at the age of forty-five, leaving Jane with the sole responsibility of providing for the four children. Fortunately, the children, for the most part, were of secondary school age and would soon be ready for self-support. (Or as some of us in the Ottawa Valley might suggest, “the kids were ‘jist about’ out of the house.”)

It was during this time that Jane found employment in the office of a Peterborough ophthalmologist. The irony of this was that she estimates that she worked in the medical field for more than twenty years but, oddly enough, didn't have any family medical insurance coverage through her employment in those offices, so she started to cast around for another job with a preference set on private industry. This search led her to the discovery of Fisher Gauge Inc. of Peterborough, which manufactured and exported sophisticated die casting machines and other precision metal products. With the help of the personnel manager (who was a friend of hers), Jane landed a job at Fisher Gauge as the mail girl; she delivered the mail daily throughout the office, which provided her the opportunity to meet many of the managers and staff. Around a year after starting with the company, she became the personal secretary to the vice president, Chester Fisher. Jane describes him as a wonderfully kind and generous man who was well respected by his employees and the community at large. Chester also had a host of religious friends and associates. (Mr. Fisher was also the proud grandfather of NHL hockey star Mike Fisher, who played 1,104 games for the Ottawa Senators and the Nashville Predators over the span of eighteen years, retiring from active play in 2017. Jane recalls knowing “little Mikey” when he was a boy, and she has followed his progress ever since.)

Apart from being a regular for-profit company, Fisher Gauge had a very benevolent—but otherwise modest—face to its operation: each year, Chester would allocate a huge sum of money to be donated to a worthwhile recipient (or recipients) chosen from an underprivileged country or from back home in Ontario. From time to time, Mr. Fisher would call upon Jane to visit some of these sites to become familiar with the nature of the project or improvement and to get to know some of the people involved. To this end, she once travelled to Ecuador to visit the Quechua people, who were upgrading their health system in order to reduce a long-standing dependency on witchcraft. On the same trip, she also visited the radio transmitter site of HCJB (Heralding Christ Jesus Blessings) located high in the Andes mountains, which transmitted into Russia during the Cold War.

In 1983, Jane married her second husband, Reverend Dr. Walter von Boetticher, a much-liked and very busy United Church minister, who went on to preside over three congregations in eastern Ontario during a thirty-nine-year career. When Jane told Chester that she and Walter were about to be married and that she would be leaving Fisher Gauge, Chester Fisher gave them his full blessing and remarked, “Jane, there is only one person who can be Walter’s wife—I can hire another secretary.”

Walter had four grown children, which made a total of eight kids in their brand-new family. At the time, the kids were either out of the house or “prit-near” out of it. Since Walter was such a high-profile clergyman who was often called upon to do work beyond the congregational level, Jane decided that she would leave the workforce and become a stay-at-home minister’s wife. She worked tirelessly alongside her husband for the next thirty years. However, she not only was involved in church matters but also was very active in her community; she served for thirteen years as the recording secretary for the local library board in Smith Township, and for seventeen years, she was vice chairperson for the board of directors for the Bonnechere Museum in Eganville, Ontario.



#### A Good-News Epilogue

Over the course of getting to know Jane, I have been struck by her true spirit of kindness, compassion, and love for people. She is enjoying her time at Orchard View by the Mississippi, and she feels that, no matter what lies ahead for her and Walter, the fine professional people of Orchard View, as well as their own children (three of whom live in the Almonte area), will help make the right choices for them. “We are very happy and feel very safe living here,” she adds.

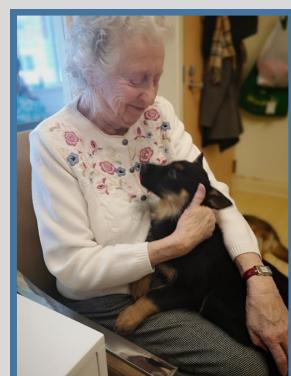
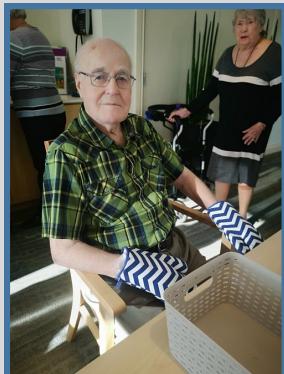
Jane and Walter’s strong faith is evident despite their health challenges. Walter deals with a heart condition, and Jane has vision issues. She has poor sight out of one eye only, while her other eye is now totally blind. Now comes the *good-news* part of this wonderful story: Jane’s eye surgeon recently informed her that she has now become a candidate for a corneal graft (a surgical procedure where a damaged or diseased cornea is replaced by donated corneal tissue). God be with you, Jane!

The Lord works in mysterious ways, so stayed tuned, folks!

# Keep on Smiling



Endless amounts of fun, from winter carnival, home-made Beaver tails, spring walks, puppy love and celebrating Birthdays! Throw in some quality time together... We are doing just fine!





## Employee of the Month - Sapphira Sinasac

Congratulations to Sapphira, on being named Employee of the Month! Sapphira comes to us as she also works at Joe's Italian Kitchen, but when she is here with us at OVM we don't want her to go back to Joe's. Sapphira is kind and gentle by nature, always willing to help no matter what the task is. She takes on projects and excels no matter what. We all thank you Sapphira for all your hard work and for being so kind to us all. Keep up all your efforts, we love to see you smile!

## Testimonial - Catherine Renwick

Many retirement homes aim to 'do their best' in providing service and care to their residents. What sets Orchard View apart, is that their 'best' is excellent! The nursing and personal care, recreation, dietary, environmental and administration staff are friendly, knowledgeable and nimble. Over the past three years, our family's experience is that the Orchard View staff live their mission - *to treat residents with respect and dignity in an environment that optimizes well-being*. When either of our parents had a changing need or a new worry, Orchard View staff consistently rose to the challenge. They worked with our family creating manageable solutions which were agreeable to Mom and Dad. In my opinion, after 40 years of working in the health and wellness sector, Orchard View by the Mississippi ranks very high!

### Laugh out Loud at Orchard View

What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?  
It gets toad away.

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?" "That's disgusting. Don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad replies. After dinner the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?" "Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."

Can a kangaroo jump higher than the Empire State Building?  
~ Of course. The Empire State Building can't jump.

### Scam Alert

We are all at risk of scammer. Here is a new one on the rise.

From a friend....  
Interesting!

I just got a call from a 304 area code. Thinking it was someone I know in WV, I answered. It was a man claiming to be from customer service (didn't say what company, only "customer service")

The first thing he asked was "Can you hear me?" I remembered something I saw on Facebook saying people are calling and asking if you can hear them, then using the recording of your "Yes" reply as a way to sign you up for all kinds of stuff. So I replied "I hear you" to which he again asked "so you can hear me?"

Me: I hear you

Him: I just need a yes or no

Me: I hear you

Him: \*hangs up\*

Thanks to whoever posted that story. I probably would have answered Yes the 1st time he asked.

## Special Activities / Events

Easter Brunch  
Spring Fling  
Maple Festival  
Bridge Tournament

## Musical Entertainment

With the recent COVID -19 we will not be having any outside entertainment at this time.



## Residents in Action

Chat with Pat  
Bingo with Joanna and Friends  
Open Art with Audrey  
OVM Chorus with Barbara

## Regular Activities & More!

With outside guests and community members unable to come in and visit at this time, our Recreation, Dietary and Nursing Departments are kicking it into high gear. We have new activities starting including Spring Fling, Door Greeting Matching, Wheel of Fortune, Weekly Mind Works Session (in replacement of Memory Fitness) Tasty Delights, Port Stops, Paying it Forward to the OVM Staff. We have wellness checks with drinks and snacks going room to room. We are all here to support and encourage a healthy happy life for all our Residents.



## COVID-19 UPDATE from OVM

We are setting sail on our very own cruise ship "the OVM Cruise Lines"

Every week as we stay on social isolation from outside guests we will be "stopping" at a new port and exploring what that country has to offer.

Our first stop is to Italy as we will be having Dinner with the Captain Joe.

If you wish to see your loved one we have created a "docking station" in our board room where you can speak over the phone to your loved one while still keeping everyone safe.

Follow us on Facebook for more updates throughout this time.

## JoJo's Did You Know?

Giving transforms you — giving does not always mean money, it can mean giving something of yourself; time, a smile, a good morning, or a good day. The simple way of giving transforms the receiver but it also transforms the giver as it holds a power that can transform each one's attitude, health and much more. Giving shouldn't be used for just one time of year, giving if you are truly giving can be a life long, always thing.





# Easter BRUNCH

SUNDAY APRIL

12

ORCHARD VIEW BY  
THE MISSISSIPPI

WE WILL BE ENJOYING OUR EASTER  
BRUNCH TOGETHER AS OUR OWN OVM  
FAMILY.

WE WISH ALL OUR FAMILY MEMBERS  
AND COMMUNITY A VERY HOPPY EASTER



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