



Kiwaniis®

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 26, 2013

August 22, 2013 meeting:

Twenty-one members and Key Clubber Amanda welcomed guests Bethe Carnie, Joanne Mervin and former Key Clubber Andrew.

President Brad congratulated the Vintage Tractor Show committee on a successful weekend. He then called on Secretary Mary Ann to report on the golf tournament. Congratulations to Mary Ann and the committee. The first annual Ridgetown Kiwanis Community Golf Tournament raised \$10,000! Thanks to all who worked hard to make the tournament successful. President Brad was happy that the ball drop went off as planned. He lost a little sleep worrying that the "contraption" he built to drop the balls would not work. Kiwanian Mike Mervin helped President Brad while Secretary Mary Ann supervised. It worked!

Kiwanian Karolyn gave a report on District convention – shown on next page. Congratulations to PLG Peter Guyitt. He was the longest serving Kiwanian at the District convention! We are so fortunate to have Peter and his 52 years of service and experience in our club.

Committee sheets for the 2013-14 Kiwanis year. If you have not returned your sheets to VP Brian, please do so ASAP.

IVP Dr. John reviewed the revised club bylaws. A motion was made by VP Brian and seconded by Treasurer Alan to adopt the bylaws as presented. Motion passed.

August 29 meeting will be a partner/guest meeting at the home of Dr. John and Debbie. We will be joined by an interclub from St. Thomas Golden K, LG Doug and 2013-14 LG Sandra and PLG Ken Monteith.



VP Brian thanks our hosts Bethe Carnie and Joanne Mervin. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal they prepared!

Report on E.C.&C. District Convention from Kiwanian Karolyn Ure

When I decided I was going to attend convention I had very low expectations but was going mainly to support Dad in his desire to become Vice Governor. I truly thought it was going to be rather stuffy, not very exciting but I knew I would learn things so not all would be lost. I have never been more pleased to be wrong!

The workshops available to attendees were very informative and very specific which kept them interesting as did the participation of those attending. It was quite apparent that people were eager to get as much information as possible to take back to their home clubs.

Many parts of the Kiwanis Family were represented throughout the convention, from the flag bearing Aktion Club members in the opening ceremonies, to the Key Club and Circle K Miracle Minutes to raise awareness and funds for Eliminate. Both of the Governors from those clubs spoke at various times throughout the convention, they were energetic and thankful for all the opportunities Kiwanis have given them. These well spoken individuals really solidify the positive influence and importance of having these SLP clubs available to kids.

There was a lot of focus on mentoring and succession planning and the importance of it within the clubs. There was much discussion about the need for information to flow from established members to new members, existing committee chairs to new committee chairs and the mentoring of new executive by existing executive to help with preparedness. Mentoring and succession planning is happening at the District and International levels as well, which can only make us stronger.

One question I was asked, a lot, was how we are attracting young new members. The answer thankfully wasn't that hard – FUN! We have a lot of fun in our club and that makes it so much easier to attract new members of any kind. Growing up around Kiwanis I was aware of how much fun is had, what I wasn't aware of was how many clubs do not work quite like ours. Ridgetown has somewhat of a magic potion when it comes to having the right doses of fun, observance and service. I also believe that helping prospective members understand that there's not an attendance record makes things less intimidating. Many of the service clubs carried a "so many missed meetings and you're out" kind of policy and that keeps members away. When people know there won't be backlash and/or ridicule over attendance, it sets the path for wanting to come and participate rather than having to. To me those are key as to why our club continues to grow and thrive.

We are a busy club and it is easy to forget that what we do reaches beyond our club and our town, convention was a good eye opener for me in this aspect. The stories from people of all ages of how Kiwanis has done *this* and it helped out them, their family member or whomever are abundant. Each one in its own right, very special. Learning these stories and being surrounded by so many people with the same mission, same goals, same purpose, one can't help but be inspired.

As a "first timer" I got to do a lot of observing. What I saw was years of friendship and years of service being celebrated by people that truly love what Kiwanis brings to the table, I saw new friendships being formed, I saw information and ideas being shared around tables and across countries all at once. I saw Kiwanis in action.

If you have the opportunity to attend a convention, you won't regret it!

Thanks Kiwanian Karolyn for sharing your experience and perspective of the convention.

The Kiwanis Club of Ridgetown meets weekly at 6:30 pm in the basement of Mount Zion Presbyterian Church, 59 Main St. E., Ridgetown, every Thursday, from September 1st through June 30th each year. Summer meetings are hosted by members at various local addresses.

MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

Aug 29 Meeting hosted by Dr. John and Debbie Button – 12920 Onoko Line
Partner/guest meeting

Sept 5 New member induction and board meeting

Sept 12 Poker run

Sept 19 Speaker from Ronald McDonald House

Club Dues

Have you paid your dues? Our monthly dues remain at \$40.00 per month even if you can't attend the meetings. Please ensure your dues are paid. Contact Treasurer Alan Bloomfield for any outstanding amounts.

Happy \$\$

Kiwanian Dennis had a couple of happy \$\$ that he added to the LCBO (liquor and cold beer) pot. #1 he was hopeful that any comments he made at the meeting hosted by the Dunlops had not been misconstrued. After the tour of the "uber shed" he now understands why according to Facebook the tour has become the top tourist attraction in Morpeth and made application for UNESCO World Heritage Site designation. When he asked his wife Gail how she felt after the tour she quoted Martin Luther King, "I've been to the mountaintop"!

#2 – to thank Brian for joining the local chapter of ARA (anal retentive association) VP Brian has completed all 12 steps of the programme – in numerical order – and is now allowed to run for president of the association!

Kiwanian Dennis also sang an excerpt from VP Brian's new phone ring tone. "Oh Briny Boy, the pipes, the pipes are leaking."

VP Brian of course enjoyed the fun of the jest from Kiwanian Dennis!

Key Club

As members we know that our club sponsors a Key Club. The members of the Key Club attend our meetings, help at our projects and even conduct one of our meetings annually. We know that Key Club gives the students an opportunity for service to their school, community and the world and an opportunity to meet friends throughout their district and even around the world – but I think the personal growth of Key Club members is what is most important – and that growth was demonstrated at our last meeting. I remember Past Key Club President Andrew when he first attended our meetings. He was shy and really not that interested in what was happening at our meeting. He sat with his friend and they talked to each other. It was awhile before Andrew came back to our meetings. He continued with Key Club and received a lot of guidance from Key Club advisor June Guyitt and Kathleen Osborne. When he did come back he was President of the Key Club and a confident, more mature young man. He had attended Key Club District conventions, attended training sessions and was leading his very successful club. At our August 22 meeting he once again demonstrated his maturity and respect for Key Club and Kiwanis. He was leaving the next day to attend Fanshawe College. He could have been out with his friends for one last time, but he came to our meeting. At the end of the meeting he spoke to Kiwanians, shook our hands and explained he was off to school the next day. Andrew took the time to come to our meeting to thank us for our support of Key Club. Congratulations Andrew and good luck with your studies. I am sure you will do well.

Our sponsored leadership programs maybe important to Kiwanis but they are for more important to the youth they serve.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Brad Carnie

President-elect: Kevin Hoskins

Treasurer: Alan Bloomfield

DIRECTORS:

June Guyitt, Dale Smith, Wendy Millyard, Greg Roberts (1 year)

Brian Hoskins, Marian Visser, David Vaughan, Karolyn Ure (2 years)

Past President: Alan Bloomfield

Vice President: Brian Dunlop

Secretary: Mary Ann Hawthorne

DISTRICT & DIVISION OFFICERS:

Governor: Peter Tudisco

Governor Elect: Hope Markes

Division 4 Lt. Governor: Doug Taylor