



Kiwaniis®

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 3, 2014

February 27, 2014 meeting:

Eighteen members were present to witness a very poor start to our national anthem. Thankfully those present that can sing picked it up. A big thanks to the Ridgetown Independent News for the newspaper coverage of our Valentine's meeting. It didn't just help our fine pot – it showed the community how much fun we have at our meetings. Thanks Kiwanian Mary Ann for arranging the fun and the newspaper coverage.

Happy \$\$

\$ - President Brian was happy that Kiwanian Kori came to his rescue and paid for his pictures in the paper.

\$ - Kiwanian John Wright was happy that PP Brad was fine after falling on the ice.

\$ - Secretary June and Kiwanian Gary attended the meeting of another club in Division 4 and she was glad she is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Ridgetown!

Aktion Club

Their next meeting will be Wednesday, March 5 at the Legion at 3:30 and their next PMAC meeting will be March 19 at the Village at 3:30.

District News

Vice Governor Allen reported that Governor Hope would be visiting Region A the weekend of April 26 in Stratford. Sheila Donald will continue as trustee for Region A. She was the only candidate declared for the position. VG Allen attended the training session for the multi-year Kiwanis International Growth Campaign. Past Governor Gary Levine is the District chair for the campaign and has done a lot of great work on the campaign for our district and international.



Chili cook off

This week is our annual chili cook off at the Highgate Legion. If you plan to enter your chili contact Kiwanian John Case. The committee needs at least 12 members to enter their chili. If you are not cooking, plan to attend and taste.

Who will take home the trophy this year?

YOUTH PROTECTION GUIDELINES

The Kiwanis International Board of Directors first approved youth protection guidelines in January 2007. The most recent changes were implemented in October 2013. The guidelines protect both our youth and adult members and outline expectations for adults working with people under age 18.

Why this training?

Every member has to know how to protect the youth with whom we interact *and* ourselves because:

- There are more than 300,000 members of the Kiwanis youth program that Kiwanians sponsor and interact with.
- Almost all Kiwanis clubs sponsor an SLP club and do projects with youth.
- When we work with and mentor youth during projects and activities, their care and welfare are entrusted to us.
- Child abuse has become a significant social problem. One incident can seriously harm a child for a lifetime.

Kiwanians in particular have good reason to act with the highest standards. If we want to be the premier provider of youth service clubs and programs, we need to hold ourselves and our fellow members to the highest standards of conduct and awareness. The best reason of all: It's just the right thing to do.

Guidelines – There are 12 points in the Youth Protection Guidelines:

- 1. Education** – The guidelines require that Kiwanis clubs inform and educate their members on these guidelines. The education should occur annually and a copy of the guidelines must be provided to members.
- 2. Chaperone** – A chaperone must be a Kiwanis member, faculty member, parent or legal guardian. The chaperone must be 21 years of age or older, approved by the school or agency and registered with the school or agency to accompany youth at the specific event.
- 3. Criminal history background checks** – Kiwanis clubs are required to have a clear background check of any member serving as advisor to any Service Leadership Program club. Kiwanis International will conduct background checks for all adults working with youth at all Kiwanis International sponsored events. One background check applies to all events and is valid for two years. Clubs must follow all local and provincial laws requirements related to background checks when working with youth.
- 4. Overnight stays** – On overnight events, adequate adult chaperoning requires:
One adult male for each ten (or part of ten) youth male
One adult female for each ten (or part of ten) youth female
Adults and children should sleep in separate rooms. Exceptions – a parent sharing a sleeping room with his or her own child and sleeping quarters with multiple beds such as a camp cabin. In the case of a cabin setting adults may share the quarters with youth members of the same gender if two or more adults are present.
- 5. Transportation** – Follow all local laws and school policies regarding transportation of youth. When transporting youth a second adult should be present. If two adults cannot be present use the "rule of three" – make sure three people are in the vehicle at all times. **Never leave one adult alone with one child.** This practice is to protect both youth and adults.
- 6. Medication** – A youth must have written permission of the parent/guardian to possess either non-prescription or prescription medication at an event. An adult may not give a youth medication. This includes over-the-counter medication. Example – a Key Clubber is sitting next to you at our meeting and asks for "something for a headache" – members cannot offer them an over-the-counter medication.

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.

7. Use of alcoholic beverages and tobacco – Any event that is primarily for youth or organized by youth members should be both alcohol and tobacco free.

8. Reporting – If you observe or suspect any troubling behaviour, you must report it to the appropriate personnel at the event – and to emergency services personnel, if appropriate. Follow all local, provincial and federal laws regarding reporting. Use the “reasonable person standard” – what would a reasonable person do in the situation and act accordingly. If there is an immediate threat to the youth or others, call local emergency services. Never leave a child in a harmful situation. If you observe troubling behaviour by a youth or an adult at an event you must report it to the appropriate person in charge of the event:

SPL Club meeting – faculty advisor or school principal

Key Club district convention – Club advisor or district administrator

Offsite service project – faculty advisor or school guidance counselor

Event/function attended by Kiwanis club and SLP club – event coordinator

Overnight event sponsored by Kiwanis International – event coordinator

If a member of a SLP club confides in you a troubling situation in their life – report it to the school, either the faculty advisor or the principal. Members are not counselors and should not become involved in situation.

9. Personal information – This guideline refers to any document that has information about youth participants such as registration forms, medical information forms and permission to treat forms. Always treat these documents as confidential. In the case of Ridgetown District High School Key Club members, the school should hold this information. The school is responsible for holding and destroying the documents.

10. Youth and social media – Social media has grown exponentially over the last 10 years. It is a convenient way to communicate with youth we serve, but it should be used with caution. Keep yourself safe.

- Don't initiate online connections with youth. Begin an online “friendship” with a youth only at the youth's request.
- If a youth requests online friendship, use your best judgment when responding. Be aware of the site's settings that let you decide how much particular people see of your profile and posts.
- On social media sites, all interaction is *public* interaction. Others can view each interaction.
- On social media sites, refrain from interactions that can be seen as excessive.

11. Behavioural or health issues – Again, members are not trained to handle many behavioural or health issues. If you run into these situations leave it to the professionals. Be careful about getting involved with the personal lives of the youth you work with. We want to be mentors, but we need good judgment. Don't get entrenched in their personal issues.

12. When rules conflict – Adults working with youth are responsible for knowing which standard should be followed. Always go with the highest applicable standard. In other words, use the strictest policy.

For those members present at the meeting – you were given a worksheet. Due to the short time at the meeting for presentation, the answers to the worksheet were not reviewed. Here are the answers:

1: 300,000 2: 3 million 3: emotional, physical and sexual 4: troubling, something's not right about this 5: d – every Kiwanis member 6: 21 years of age or older 7: True 8: 1 for each 10 male youth and 1 for each 10 female youth 9: three – at least two should be adults 10: False 11: Never 12: person in charge of event – emergency services personnel 13: three years 14: True, False, False 15: seek help from a professional school counselor or crisis hotline 16: highest

AKTION CLUB AT WORK



Kiwanian Hanna helping Aktion Club member Robert



Aktion Club members Lindsay and Harold



Everyone working

MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

Mar. 6	Chili cook-off
Mar. 13	Business & board meeting
Mar. 20	Presentation on Westover
Mar. 27	Quiz night

INTERCLUB OPPORTUNITIES

March 8	Division 4 caucus meeting
April 18	Prayer breakfast
April 26	Governor Hope's visit to Region A
April 30	Can/Am banquet in Sarnia

QUIZ NIGHT

Registration forms for the 30th quiz night are posted on the club website and available at Mitton's Jewellers. Get your team together for March 27, 2014.

GOURMET DINNER TICKETS

Kiwanian Keith reminded members to sell their tickets. The draw will be held at our April 17 meeting.



CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Brian Dunlop

President-elect: vacant

Treasurer: Alan Bloomfield

DIRECTORS:

Brian Hoskins, Marian Visser, Rebecca Malott, Craig Mitton (1 year)

Keith Hamilton, Dennis Vaughan, Gary Guyitt, Jenn Vaughan (2 years)

Past President: Brad Carnie

Vice President: Karolyn Ure

Secretary: June Guyitt

DISTRICT & DIVISION OFFICERS:

Governor: Hope Markes

Governor Elect: Serge Viau

Vice Governor: Allen Ure

Division 4 Lt. Governor: Sandra Collier