



# Kiwanis®

**KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN**

**P.O. BOX 1642, RIDGETOWN, ONTARIO N0P 2C0**

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## **NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 13, 2014**

### October 9, 2014 meeting

Twenty members were on hand for President Dennis' address and first official meeting! President Dennis thanked VP Keith for chairing last week's meeting.

Happy \$\$ - Kiwanian Larry was happy for the successful fish fry with a big thanks to Owen & Talia Visser-Roberts for their help, not just at the fish fry but at many of our projects! \$ - Kiwanian Mary Ann was happy for the \$3,000 donation to the splash pad - \$500 from Odd Fellow, \$500 from the family of Bert Young and \$2,000 from Confederation Chapter IODE. \$ - Kiwanian Rebecca was happy that Kiwanian Brian Hoskins did such a great job fixing her car after she hit a deer. \$ - President Dennis was happy for the great turnout at the fish fry and for the hard work and dedication of the treasurer with some help from other Kiwanians. \$ - Kiwanian Greg was happy to report that Marian has opened a home music school. \$ - Kiwanian Larry was happy again to have seen Kiwanian Marian and her children Owen & Talia on Cogeco TV talking about the importance of libraries in our community. \$ - Kiwanian Craig was happy to be celebrating his 40th wedding anniversary. \$ - VP Keith was happy that Dennis' brother was feeling better and he is able to be back and fulfill his duties. \$ - Kiwanian Gary was happy for all the work that Kiwanian Brian Hoskins does for the fish fry. \$ - Treasurer Jenn was happy "that budget thing is done".

**Fish Fry** - Kiwanian Brian reported an estimated profit of \$2,000 even though the numbers fed were down.

### **Upcoming fundraisers**

October 26 the Presbyterian Church will host a concert with a free will offering going to the splash pad.

**Bracebridge Dinner - Ticket sales are very slow for this event.** Please share this fun evening with your friends and family and post information at your business. There are 320 seats over the two evenings. Ridge Players is very generously donating their time to the evening - **we need to get the tickets sold!** Tickets are available at Mittons. Do you have your ticket for the evening?

**Craft Show** - There is still room for vendors. If you know of anyone that is an artisan or crafter and looking for a venue to sell their product, contact DP June. Help will be needed that weekend - more information on times will be shared soon.

**One Stop Christmas Shopping** - Sunday, November 23 at the Ridgetown Legion fundraiser for the splash pad. A variety of local home business vendors will make your Christmas shopping easy.

From November 1 - February 28 Main & Market will donate \$5.00 from every vehicle serviced to the splash pad.

### **President Dennis' Address**

First of all let me say that it is an honour to make this formal address to you as your President. It would be an honour in any year, but a very particular one during this historic anniversary year for Kiwanis. 100 years of anything positive is worth celebrating and for obvious reasons our club here in Ridgetown is particularly invested in these celebrations with one of our own as International President.

Having a Newfoundland background, as I do, I'm sure you are half expecting that I will devise some sort of maritime analogy to describe my views of my role as your president. Not wishing to disappoint, I have in fact done exactly that. I thought I might compare the role of president to that of a captain steering a large ocean vessel. I have, in fact, never steered a large ocean vessel and consequently know next to nothing about it. Such complete ignorance, however, has never stopped me in the past and as Kiwanian Dale is probably asking himself right now: "Why should this be an exception?"

And so the analogy begins. The most common perception of this activity is imaging the ship's captain up in the wheelhouse turning the wheel to steer the ship on a predetermined course. All actions, all activities are clearly defined and calculated. The destination has been decided and the course has been plotted.

My personal perception is somewhat different. Yes, the captain is in the wheelhouse and yes, the captain is holding the wheel, an action which allows him to sense the pressure on the rudder produced by the tide and currents which also play a role in the direction of the ship and ultimately its final destination. My preference as Captain of the **HMCS Ridgetown** is to sense the groundswell of your wishes, opinions, hopes and desires as members of the crew and steer the ship accordingly. In order for us to be successful on our voyage together, you will need to be open and honest in letting me or one of the ship's officers know what your wishes, opinions, hopes and desires are. It is only in this way can I hope to avoid steering our ship in a direction other than where the membership wants it to go. Thus ends the reading of this simplistic analogy.

My role as your president is one of leadership. My wish is to be the best leader I can be and my success will be measured by how many of you follow. I like to watch TED videos. TED, an organization dedicated to Technology, Education and Development, holds conferences in which videos are produced of the various talks presented. One talk is entitled **How Great Leaders Inspire Action** and since 2009 this video has been viewed almost 10 million times. To illustrate his main premise, which I will get to later, the presenter Simon Sinek asked the audience to consider why some companies are so wildly successful and others are not. His claim was that all companies clearly know What they do. Apple makes computers. GM makes vehicles. Tim Horton's makes coffee. All companies clearly know How they do it. Apple designs easy to use computers and software. GM produces vehicles with powerful fuel-efficient engines. Tim Horton's brews a new pot of coffee every 20 minutes to keep it fresh. His claim was that not every company clearly knew Why they do what they do. The marketing for successful companies focuses on What they make and How they make it. They hardly ever bother saying Why they make it. The marketing for wildly successful companies – with millions and millions of followers – starts with Why they do what they do. His explanation was simple. People don't buy What you make, they buy Why you make it. The balance of the video summarized the brain research, which supports that conclusion.

I think the same theory can be applied to Kiwanis. We all know What we do. We serve the children of the world. We all know How we do that. We raise funds for Eliminate, build Splash Pads, hold Downhill Derbies, Santa Claus Parades, Teddy Bear Picnics, the list goes on. What is most important is knowing Why we do it. Why did we join Kiwanis in the first place? Why do we work so hard on our projects? Why do we volunteer so many hours? I see my role as your President as the one in which I stress the importance of knowing Why we do what we do.

Kiwanis International identifies 3 key components for club success: Happy Members, Community Roots and Personal Invitations. On the Happy Members front our weekly meetings tell the tale. Given our mix of people and personalities, friends and foibles, characters and carrying-on, it would be difficult to find a happier group with the 7500 Kiwanis Clubs Worldwide. For that, we should all be grateful.

As for Community Roots, we need only look around our town to see the tangible proof of what the blood, sweat and toil of Kiwanians, past and present, has accomplished in our community. We are a well-known, well-established, and well-respected service club in Ridgetown. For that, we should also, all be grateful.

The final component for our club success is Personal invitations. There have been references lately to individuals who might be interested in joining our club. The Board and your executive would be thrilled to facilitate that interest but to be wildly successful in such recruitment we need to focus more on Why people should join our Kiwanis Club and not so much on What we do or How we do it. As I have illustrated above, scientific research has proven that the focus on the Why will be more successful than a focus on the What or the How. For me personally, the Why would be a belief in the benefits to me as a person in getting to outside myself by being involved in activities which are of service to others. You only get out of Kiwanis what you put in it.

In closing I feel confident that we will have a very enjoyable, successful, and rewarding year ahead. It will not be challenge-free. In fact we may all have to bring our very best efforts to the tasks ahead. I find reassurance in the fact that, although our projects are ambitious, there is clearly a fount of generosity and goodwill within this club to guarantee success. The energy to be anticipated by an influx of new members can only add to that optimistic forecast. Our best preparation for the year ahead, I would humbly suggest, is to revisit our own personal decision for joining this club and be clear on exactly Why we did so.

Share that with each other and share it with outsiders and success will be ours.

Thank You.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. Summer meetings are hosted by members at various local addresses.**

### **INTERCLUB OPPORTUNITIES**

- Oct 30            Kiwanis Club of Middlesex  
London 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary –  
tickets are available from LG  
Sandra – cost is \$35.00
- Nov 7 – 11        2014-15 E.C.&C. Governor Serge  
Viau will be visiting Region A,  
hosted by Division 3. There will  
be a Region A caucus meeting  
Sat., November 8 from 10:00 –  
12:00 with lunch following at the  
Active Lifestyle Centre in  
Chatham. There will be an  
informal meet & greet on  
Monday, November 10. More  
details will follow from Division 3  
LG Cathy.
- 2015  
Jan 24            Detroit #1 Club celebrates 100<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary. Gala dinner and  
entertainment at Renaissance  
Centre, Detroit. The following  
link has more information.  
[Detroit 2015](#)  
Tickets are going fast.



### **MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE**

- Oct 16            Tour of OPP Identification Unit
- Oct 23            Induction of 2014-15 club officers  
and directors by LG Sandra Collier –  
guest/partner night
- Oct 30            Halloween candy pack
- Oct 31            Halloween Haunted Bus
- Nov 1 & 2        Craft show
- Nov 6            Business & board meeting
- Nov 13            Presentation by OPP Identification  
Officer Gary Scoyne – this would be  
a great meeting to invite a  
guest/potential member
- Nov 14 & 15      Ridge Players presents Encore to  
Bracebridge dinner. Proceeds to  
splash pad
- Nov 14            Blues night fundraiser for splash  
pad
- Nov 20            Annual 4H banquet
- Nov 23            One Stop Christmas Shop  
fundraiser at Ridgetown Legion
- Dec 4            Business & board meeting
- Dec 11            Candy pack for parade
- Dec 13            Annual Santa Claus Parade
- Dec 18            TBD
- Dec 25            Merry Christmas! (no meeting)



#### **2014-15 CLUB OFFICERS:**

**President:** Dennis Vaughan  
**President-elect:** John Wright  
**Treasurer:** Jenn Vaughan

**Past President:** Brian Dunlop  
**Vice President:** Keith Hamilton  
**Secretary:** Alan Bloomfield

#### **DIRECTORS:**

**Gary Guyitt, Bill Johnston, Greg Roberts (1 year)**  
**Mary Ann Hawthorne, Brian Hoskins, Craig Mitton, Dale Smith, (2 years)**

#### **DISTRICT & DIVISION OFFICERS:**

**Governor:** Serge Viau  
**Governor -elect:** Allen Ure  
**Vice Governor:** Phil Rossy  
**Division 4 Lt. Governor:** Sandra Collier