

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN

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

www.ridgetownkiwanis.com

NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF 20 JULY 2009

Prepared by: Debbie Button email: admin@ridgetownkiwanis.com

JULY 16, 2009

Nineteen members and guest Rebeccah Malott enjoyed a delicious dinner and beautiful summer evening in the back yard of Kiwanian Greg Roberts and family. Thanks to Greg and Marian for hosting our meeting.

August 15 is our annual downhill derby. Lots of help will be needed that day. Co-chairs John and David will have more information as the day gets closer. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

August 22 is our interclub to the Kiwanis Club of Genoa, Ohio. PLG Allen is working with the members in Genoa for golfing and touring. If you plan to attend and have not confirmed with PLG Allen, please do so ASAP.

A past president of our club, Wayne Burke sent an email in response to last week's newsletter, which President Debbie read to the members. It's great to hear from former members and we hope Wayne will find some time in very busy schedule to make a summer meeting. He will see for himself that the Loft still travels!

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent has announced that the proposed expansion of transit service will include Ridgetown on its route effective October 1, 2009. Our club sent a letter of support for this service to benefit the residents of Ridgetown.

Board members – there will be a brief board meeting following this week's meeting.

Our July 23 meeting is at the home of PLG Allen Ure – 23 Cecil Street East, Ridgetown.
DON'T FORGET YOUR LAWN CHAIR.



Kiwanian Kevin thanks our hosts Marian and Kiwanian Greg

KIWANIS is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time.

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Club Website: <http://www.ridgetownkiwanis.com>

E.C.& C. District Website: www.kiwanisecc.org

Kiwanis International Website: www.kiwanis.org



PLG EBERLE GOLDHAWK – from PG Dr. John

Eb was an inspiring and innovative teacher. In grade 8, he taught us life skills: writing cheques and bank deposit slips, calculating interest and making sense of a bank book. He was ahead of his time. Long before it came into vogue in elementary schools, he was teaching French to grade 8 students. So that, in grade 9, they were impressed with our command of French grammar, they weren't too sure about our pronunciation.

He encouraged us to take an active interest in the world around us – whether convincing us of Ridgetown's need for sanitary sewers, he would say "Just go down to Main Street and have a sniff." or his encouragement for us to engage in the great Canadian flag debate with a debate of our own.

This was about the time that he purchased portraits of Canada's 14 prime ministers to frame and hang in the school corridor. I was given the enviable task of sitting in his office creating plastic name tags to identify the prime ministers. Thus began my Liberal education which was somewhat at odds with the Conservative education that I was receiving at home. For the next several weeks, I served as a conduit for the two-way traffic of slings and arrows between my father and Eb ranging from Mackenzie King and the spirit world to the effrontery of John Diefenbaker. I think you can see how it went. And this light hearted baiting between the two of them lasted a lifetime. In fact the thunder we heard the other morning may not have been thunder at all. My father may have made a crack about Jean Chretien.

In the classroom, Eb created a love of learning and kindled the quest for knowledge. He was a demanding and exacting teacher and you always knew where you stood. Although I never was acquainted with his meter stick, I daresay some in this sanctuary were. He did, however, work on his grip strength on my shoulder from time to time.

Eb challenged us to be open to life's possibilities. I've thought a lot about this these past several days and have come to realize that what he did was encourage us to expand our horizons, embrace life's limitless possibilities, change them into dreams and through hard work and determination turn those dreams into realities. At his side, I have learned this lesson time and time again. It has been the lesson of a

Last Sunday in a far-reaching conversation, he brought up the subject of Kiwanis International's new worldwide service project and we talked about possibilities at length.

My life changed forever on Thursday, October 5, 1978. I was a guest at Kiwanis that night and heard Eb give his inaugural address as the club's newly inducted president. I was struck by his vision and the passion with which he shared it. I knew then that I had to be part of it. And the rest is my history.

I was privileged to be partnered with Eb in co-chairing a number of fund-raising and service projects. All but one notable exception were great successes due to his meticulous, and I mean meticulous, planning and attention to detail. Throughout, I watched as he put into practice the lessons of my youth – embracing the possibilities, dreaming big and turning big dreams into reality through determination and hard work. If I have heard it once I have heard it a thousand times: "You have to plan your work before you work your plan."

Our notable exception was the motorcycle races which over a three year period, despite the club's hard work, barely broke even. The culprit was rain – three years in a row. I think that Eb was more surprised than disappointed. Surprised that his planning couldn't circumvent the weatherman and surprised that his celestial connections were not as good as he thought.

Eb recognized the potential of every child and worked tirelessly to provide a nurturing environment for each child to realize that potential. Eb believed that helping a child helps the world. He lived that belief. The swimming pool and tennis courts, literacy and recreation programmes, books for libraries, a new library, a new nursery and MRI scanner for the Chatham Kent Health Alliance, the Kiwanis Kids' Care Centre at the Children's Hospital of Western Ontario, iodine deficiency disorders, and the Robarts Research Institute all spring immediately to mind but are a small catalogue of his self-less service to his community and mankind. Eb truly was the embodiment of the Kiwanis mission statement: changing the world one child and one community at a time. For me Eb was about taking what might be, to what can be, to what will be, to what is.

“ONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

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The Kiwanis Club of Ridgetown meets weekly at 6:30 pm in the basement of the 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.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote:

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime.
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.



So many, many people follow in Eb's footsteps.

MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

July 23	Allen Ure – board meeting
July 30	Rondeau Joe's restaurant
August 5 – 8	E.C.&C. District Convention
August 6	Kevin Hoskins
August 13	Dave Vaughan & John Wright
August 15	Downhill Derby
August 20	Brad Carnie & Mike Mervin
August 22	INTERCLUB TO GENOA
August 27	Debbie & Dr. John
September 3	return to meetings at the Church
October 29	Quiz Night
2010	
February 11	Quiz Night

JUST A REMINDER

Our meetings our more relaxed in the summer, but our monthly dues continue. If you haven't made a payment recently, please see Treasurer Gary. If you can't make it out to a meeting you can mail payment to Treasurer Gary's attention to the Club at P.O. Box 1642, Ridgetown, ON N0P 2C0.
Thanks!

BARBEQUE AT KIWANIS PARK

Saturday, July 25 we will be selling hotdogs and hamburgs at Kiwanis Park for Ridgetown Days. The first shift will start at 9:00 am till 10:30. The next shift will go from 10:30 to noon. The last shift will go from noon till 2:00 pm. Please contact President Debbie if you can help.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Debbie Button Past President: June Guyitt
Vice-President: Alan Bloomfield
Secretary: Barb Doxtater Treasurer: Gary Guyitt

DIRECTORS:

Dale Smith, John Button, Brad Carnie, John Case, (1 year)
Kevin Bartlett, Chris Arneill, Abdi Yuya, Kevin Hoskins (2 year)

DISTRICT & DIVISION OFFICERS:

Governor: Sheron Cameron-Dunn
Governor Elect: Gary Levine
Immediate Past Governor: Chuck McIlravey

Div. 4 Lt. Gov. Jim Garey
Div. 4 Past Lt. Gov. Randy Ross