

Kiwanis

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8, 2010

February 4, 2010 meeting:

Twenty-one members and five Key Club members welcomed guest Dave Vankestern to our meeting. Thanks to PE Allen for chairing the meeting, Kiwanian Barb for taking notes and Kiwanian Brad for taking pictures.

Happy \$\$ - Kiwanian John Henderson was happy to report his daughter Leisha, PP of Aktion Club, was moving to her to her own apartment in Chatham.

Ridge Marsh Manor paid \$1,200.00 in parking fees and \$1,905.12 for six months management fees. Thanks to Kiwanian Barb for all her work on keeping the records of Ridge Marsh Manor ensuring the club receives payments on a timely basis.

Aktion Club made 320 chocolates for Valentines on Wednesday, February 3 at the Ridgetown Legion. Aktion Club members will be at our meeting on February 10 to sell chocolates to our members for only \$2.00 each so bring your money.

Key Club will operate the concession stand at quiz night and will be holding their election of officers for next year soon.



PE Alan, Key Club VP Jordan, MP Dave Vankestern and PP Craig

DAVE VANKESTERN MP

Dave VanKestern is MP for our region, a member of the Conservative Party. He is the father of eight grown children and the owner/operator of VanKestern Hyundai. Dave first ran in the 2004 election and lost. He ran successfully in 2006 and 2008. All campaign contributions are made by individuals with a limit per person.

Dave is a very active MP with multiple portfolios and sitting on many committees. He has an office in Chatham with one staff, an office in Leamington with two staff and an office in Ottawa with one staff. There are two parts to serving as an MP, working in the riding with constituents and the duties in the House of Commons in Ottawa. Seven months of the year are spent in Ottawa with at least one hour per day spent in the House of Commons when they are in session. The remainder of the time is spent in committee meetings where most of the work is done. Committees offer recommendations and direction to the government. The employees in the Chatham and Leamington offices perform the bulk of his work in the riding. These offices see about ten people per day and handle many phone calls from constituents. Dave handles the casework which requires communications with government leaders and representatives.

The Conservative Party is focused on lowering taxes, making our streets safer, restoring employment and the economy and getting government spending under control. He feels that they have succeeded in restoring our military, renewing national interest in and respect for our troops and re-establishing our Canadian identity and pride. In Dave's opinion the government's biggest challenge is to manage the affairs of Canada while controlling the spending. His greatest surprise when he first began to serve as MP was how slowly things got done.

MP Dave VanKestern gave a very interesting and informative overview of his work in the Canadian Government and members appreciated the opportunity to ask questions following his presentation.

DONATION OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

PP Ken arranged to have medical equipment donated to Canadian Food for Children who ships this equipment around the world to areas in need such as Haiti. This equipment is from a Community Medical Clinic that closed and has been stored by Kiwanian Larry and Pat Rumble in Pat's office. There was medical equipment such as examination tables and scales and office equipment such as filing cabinets and desks.

On February 2 the equipment was loaded into a U-Haul truck donated by Tony DeVito of Ridgetown Storage and U-Haul and Cooper Esso donated the fuel for the trip. The Rotary Club of Ridgetown also donated some extra items they had in their supply of medical aids. Kiwanian Bill Johnston and PP Ken Richmond delivered the items to the Toronto warehouse. Approximately half of what was delivered was immediately loaded into a container bound for Africa. The agency ships two containers a day loaded with food, furniture, personal goods, clothing and medical equipment. They are shipped around the world to meet the requests received from several agencies. The agency assured Ken and Bill that the remainder of the items would be part of another shipment.

Thanks to all members who helped load, members of the community who helped load and donated to the cause. A big thanks goes to PP Ken for arranging such a great project and to Ken and Bill for taking the time to deliver the items. This was an excellent community project. Also thanks to the Ridgetown Independent News for the front-page coverage!

E.C.&C. DISTRICT MIDWINTER BOAR MEETING

Three members of the club, IT Dr. John, PLG Allen and President Debbie attended the District midwinter board meeting in Montego Bay Jamaica. Thursday, Friday and Saturday were full days of meetings with lots of Kiwanis fun in the evenings. Governor Gary and Julia did a great job of organizing the meetings and the fun. Lanton Lee, KI staff member was there to offer education sessions on growing Kiwanis Clubs. It was very warm and sunny and a good mix of work and fun.

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



MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

- February 11 Warm up to quiz night and board meeting
- February 18 Quiz Night
- February 25 Mystery Tour
- February 27 Division 4 caucus in London
- March 4 Annual Chili Cook-off
- March 11 PLG Allen presentation on trip to Ireland
- March 18 Julie & Wentworth Newman – aid to Christiana Jamaica – update & thanks
- March 20 & 21 Spring Craft Show
- March 25 Chatham-Kent Health Team – Marjorie Fair, Laura Johnson & Bob Fletcher
- April 1 Annual Club Elections
- April 8 Highway Cleanup
- April 15 Gail Stucke, Administrator, Lambton Kent District School Board
- April 23 – 25 Key Club Convention in Niagara Falls
- April 29 Key Club chairs the meeting and induction of Key Club Officers

FEBRAURY 11 MEETING

PP June will prepare us for next week's quiz night. There will be a board meeting following the regular meeting.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

I'll be more enthusiastic about encouraging thinking outside the box when there's evidence of any thinking going on inside it.

The trouble with using experience as a guide is that the final exam often comes first and then the lesson.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Debbie Button Past President: June Guyitt
 President-elect: Alan Bloomfield Vice President: Allen Ure
 Secretary: Treasurer: Gary Guyitt

DIRECTORS:

Kevin Bartlett, Chris Arneill, Abdi Yuya, Kevin Hoskins (1 year)
 Shawn Hoskins, Craig Mitton John Wright, David Vaughan (2 years)

DISTRICT & DIVISION OFFICERS:

Governor: Gary Levine
 Governor Elect: Paul Toussaint
 Immediate Past Governor: Sheron Cameron-Dunn
 Div. 4 Lt. Gov. Jim Garey
 Div. 4 Past Lt. Gov. Randy Ross