

# Kiwanis

**KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN**

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## **NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 11, 2010**

### **January 7, 2010 meeting:**

Twenty-one members and five Key Club members welcomed six guests – Brian Hoskins, Lars Natvik, Elsa Natvik, Amanda Johnston, Rebecca Malott and Jen Vaughan.

Happy \$\$ - Rebecca Malott was happy to be at the meeting and happy that she was doing well in school. \$ - Kiwanian Brad was happy to have Kiwanian Ron Fuller's help with the lights while Kiwanian Bill Johnston watched from his showroom. \$ - Jen and David Vaughan were happy that their son Brandon addressed Municipal council and was successful in changing the bylaw to allow more than two recreational vehicles on one property. \$ - PP Ken was happy to have Santa visit his grandson while he visited Ken and Marg. It proved to him that Santa could find him! \$ - PLG Allen was happy for all the help over the Christmas season. Santa saw in excess of 700 children. He was also happy to have given PP Ken's grandson a kazoo and suggested it would be a great way to wake his grandfather in the morning.

Key Club – Vice-President Jordan reported that they are busy preparing for quiz night in February. They hope to enter at least two teams and will operate the concession stand.

Aktion Club – Treasurer Gary reported that three members attended the Aktion Club meeting on January 6 – Treasurer Gary, PP June and Kiwanian John Henderson. The next Aktion Club meeting will be February 3. They will be making chocolates for Valentine's Day again this year.

PLG Peter will be discussing the Teddy Bear Picnic with members at the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Peter will lead a brief open forum.



President-elect Alan thanked our speaker Lars Natvik

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

## LARS NATVIK

Key Club member Brittany Woods introduced our guest speaker Lars Natvik. Lars was born in Norway and spent his early years either in Bergen or in the mountains – hiking, fishing and skiing. Eventually Lars entered engineering school, only to take a year to complete his mandatory military career in the Congo as a United Nations peacekeeper. He completed his university degree in 1964 and married that year.

Lars and Asta moved to Canada in 1966 to learn English. They then moved back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean a number of times until they decided to settle in our area in 1974 to join Asta's brother's dental practice.

While raising four children, Lars and Asta drove to Mexico City every few years, camping out of the back of an old Ford and travelling through every back town they could find. This started their career in travelling the local, rough way.

Once the children grew up, they really started to travel in earnest. They have visited: Cook Islands, Fiji, Australia, Taiwan, Philippines, Hong Kong, Thailand, most of Western Europe, Azores, Morocco, Cuba Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Argentina and Bolivia.

Lars showed pictures and talked about their trip to Bolivia. The scenery was incredible. He explained that Bolivia is a land locked country that gained their independence in 1925. The country is 1 million square miles with a population of 10 million. Lars and Asta travelled by bus throughout the country. They visited many remote villages as well as the larger cities. They purchased many handmade tapestries from local women. These tapestries are made of hand spun wool and woven on very primitive looms with little or no patterns to follow. Lars brought several with him for members to view.

Lars' presentation and photos were very interesting and informative.

Joining Lars was his daughter Elsa Natvik. Elsa is a teacher at Ridgetown District High School and the staff advisor to our Key Club. We are very lucky to have Elsa involved with the Key Club. Thanks Elsa for all your work with the Key Club.



## DONATION FROM HOWARD MUTUAL INSURANCE



Guest Amanda Johnston is the Marketing Associate for Howard Mutual Insurance Company. Amanda presented Kiwanians John Wright and David Vaughan with a cheque towards the Downhill Derby. The presentation was to thank John Wright for all his work in taking Howard Mutual's fire truck to parades. Howard Mutual also donated their 2<sup>nd</sup> prize winnings at the Santa Claus Parade back to the club "in support of the many wonderful things your group does for this community". Thanks Amanda and Howard Mutual Insurance. Thanks to John Wright for arranging the donation to the Downhill Derby in recognition of his time.

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

**CLUB DONATIONS**



\$1,000.00 was donated to the Ridgetown Figure Skating Club to be used for local youth unable to pay registration. Karen Dilliott accepted the donation.



\$1,000.00 was donated to Ridgetown Minor Hockey to be used for local youth unable to pay registration. Chris Wyrzen accepted the donation.

**MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE**

- January 14 Annual Club Auction
- January 21 Kiwanis anniversary & education night  
Business & Board meeting
- January 28 Brad Carnie – sailing the North Shore
- February 4 Mystery Tour
- February 11 Club quiz night – warm up for the following week
- February 18 Quiz Night
- February 25 Business and board meeting
- March 20 & 21 Spring Craft Show

**JANUARY 14 MEETING**

Annual Club Auction – for our newer members what is this? Each year members bring an item to be auctioned at the meeting. One member acts as an auctioneer and members bid and purchase the items. These items are always sealed – that’s correct – you have no idea what you are bidding on and the items are always of “questionable” value. In the past auction items have ranged from unique statues, a box of batteries to a box of stones. This is a great place to re-gift that item you have no idea why you received or what you are going to do with it or to give away some of those things sitting on your work bench taking up space. This is sort of like a blind garage sale. No one knows who brought the items, unless you want to fess up.

It is a fun evening. Don’t sweat over what to bring. Just grab something, wrap it up and come out to enjoy the fun.



A past auction steal

**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