

Kiwanis

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 2009

November 12, 2009 meeting:

Twenty members and five Key Clubbers welcomed seven guests to our meeting. Guests were Bill and Mary Ann Machacek, Graham Smith, Scott McFarlane, Lynda Ross, Pat Rumble and our guest speaker Dr. Dave Machacek.

Happy \$\$ - PLG Randy was happy to report on the great Key Leader group. \$ - PLG Peter was happy to be able to drive the full length of Main Street on new pavement. Kiwanian Bill Verlaan was sorry he couldn't call on PP Gord Shaw for his defense on paying for his picture in the paper – he did pay up!

Key Clubber Amanda Vaughan was the mystery handshake. PE Alan Bloomfield did not shake her hand but more shameful was that Kiwanian David Vaughan – her own father – did not shake her hand!

Key Club – Key Club members wrote thank you notes to the club for the opportunity to attend the Key Leader weekend. Key Club President Brendan had a “baby” with him from his parenting course. The baby was quite fussy during the meeting and Brendan had to leave several times.

As club president, I was proud to have represented the club at the Remembrance Day service. I joined the Aktion Club as we both placed wreaths of remembrance. Key Clubbers Brendan and Jordan did the same on behalf of the Key Club.



Kiwanian Shawn thanked Dr. Dave

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

STEM CELL RESEARCH

Kiwanian Kevin Hoskins introduced our guest speaker. Dr. Dave Machacek completed his PhD in neuroscience at Emory University in the department of Physiology in 2006. His PhD work looked at the actions of monoamines on spinal cord reflex physiology. Following his work at Emory, Dave took a post-doctoral position in the lab of Dr. S. L. Stice characterizing new lines of human neural progenitor cells derived from embryonic stem cells.

In 2007 his work with Dr. Stice led to a position as a research scientist with ArunaA Biomedical, where he went on to lead the research and development department. ArunaA is focused on advancing drug discovery and basic research through development and commercialization of products and services related to human stem cells. In his time at ArunaA, Dave obtained 1.5 million dollars in Federal grants, and brought three products to market for international distribution. Additionally, he developed, designed and completed a service contract with a "top 5" pharmaceutical company for a compound screening project.

In the summer of 2009 Dave left ArunaA to return to Ontario where he is currently working to develop projects which promote science awareness. He is presently in the process of founding a company to structure technology based education projects, coordinating projects with the London Alzheimer's Society and working as a freelance science writer while completing his bachelor of education at the University of Western Ontario.

Dr. Dave gave members a very interesting presentation on his stem cell research.

Embryonic Stem Cells are cells with the potential to turn into every cell in the human body. These pluripotent cells are not enough to create life, but can support life. The cells used for research are discarded embryonic cells from "in vitro" fertilization clinics. They are deemed not viable for life and are discarded 3 – 5 days post fertilization. The growth of these cells in a lab setting is "labour intensive gardening". These stem cells can self replicate creating an unlimited supply of cells.

This research was first hypothesized in 1910. In 1963 Canadians proved the theory using blood stem cells. Embryonic stem cells were first isolated in 1981 and 1998 the first human stem cell was isolated.

Researchers view the use of stem cells as a way to turn the clock back – potentially turning mature cells into stem cells. Dr. Dave showed incredible videos of the differentiation process of brain cells.

This technology is being widely used in the pharmaceutical industry. Using this technology they are able to watch gene expression in real time.

STEM CELL RESEARCH

The pharmaceutical companies are able to test toxicology on these cells grown in labs as opposed to expensive clinical trials. The first application has been the effects of antidepressants on developing babies. The cost to develop a drug is approximately \$1 billion dollars. This research has the potential to minimize the cost of drug discovery.

Thanks to Kiwanian Kevin Hoskins for inviting Dr. Dave to speak to our club. It was a very interesting presentation.



CHRISTMAS CAKES AND SMOOTHIES

Following the meeting bags of chocolate smoothies were packed – bags of five for \$10.00. Great chocolate – worth every penny!

Kiwanian Gary Wake has Christmas cakes to sell. Once again this year they are \$14.00. It's not Christmas without fruit cake!

If you need either chocolates or cakes to sell contact Kiwanian Gary.

Santa Claus needs reindeer! Please contact his booking agent – VP Allen – for dates needed.

Santa Claus is coming to Ridgetown. Mark your calendars for December 12 – the Santa Claus parade! Lots of help is needed that day so please plan to attend.

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.

FALL CRAFT SHOW

Plans for the fall craft show are well under way. PP June has done a great job of securing new vendors and confirming returning ones. The crafter space is SOLD OUT. Thanks PP June! Advertising is planned and radio remote booked. All we need now is help at the show. Set up of booth space will be Friday, November 13 after 1:00 pm. There is another function at the Kinsmen Auditorium that morning.

PP JUNE HAS THE DUTY ROSTER FILLED FOR THE CRAFT SHOW. Thanks to all who can help.

INTERCLUB OPPORTUNITIES

Nov 25 - VP Allen will be making a membership growth presentation in Windsor. If you are able to attend this meeting, contact Allen ASAP.

Dec. 7 - Kiwanis Club of Forest City London – IT Dr. John is presenting an award for their club.

December 3 Kiwanis Club of St. Thomas party – social time at 5:30 dinner at 6:30. Cost is \$20.00 per person. Entertainment and a visit from Santa is planned. The club is collecting food items or toys for Christmas Care.

December 10 Kiwanis Club of West Lorne party – at Lakeview Gardens in Eagle at 6:30. Cost is \$25.00 per person.

Contact VP Allen - interclub chair - if you are able to attend any of these interclubs.

MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

Nov 14 & 15	Fall craft show – plan to help
November 19	Tour of Labatt's Brewery, London
November 26	4H banquet
December 3	Working meeting – get Santa's sleigh ready for the parade!
December 10	Christmas message & candy pack
December 17	Children's Christmas party
December 30	Social evening at the home of Debbie and Dr. John
2010	
February 11	Quiz Night
March 20 & 21	Spring Craft Show

RIDGETOWN KIWANIS FOUNDATION

Ridgetown Kiwanis Foundation will hold an election at the club's December 3 meeting. There are three positions to be filled on the Board.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

A Process for Effective Change

1. To shape your values, change your thinking.
2. To sharpen your focus, change you priorities.
3. To raise your expectations, change your beliefs.
4. To clarify your perspective, change your attitude.
5. To improve your results, change your habits.

CLUB OFFICERS:

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