

Kiwanis

KIWANIS CLUB OF RIDGETOWN

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NEWSLETTER FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 31, 2011

October 27th meeting:

Twenty-four members gathered in the Church for a regular meeting of the Club.

Happy \$\$ -- Kiwanian Dave Vaughan had \$1 because he was glad to be back after a long spell of working out of the area. Kiwanian John Wright had \$1 because it was Kiwanian Dave's Birthday, even though he was whining about the fact that nobody was doing anything about it. Regional Trustee Allen had \$1 because there was no whining at Kiwanian Bill's table.

Treasurer Gary noted that we will be sponsoring three community skates in the next few months: December 11th, January 29th, February 5th and 19th, all Sundays. The skate takes place from 1:30 to 3:00 if any Kiwanians would like to participate.

For a list of upcoming Interclub opportunities, please see page 3.

Tonight Secretary John Henderson gave a presentation on Highgate's Mary Webb Centre, which is the community project designed to adapt the former United Church building to new purposes.

The MWC offers four main programs at present: concerts and other performing arts events; fine arts exhibitions; community service programs; and museum-oriented activities. The performing arts activities predominate, with concerts approximately monthly featuring a range of artists including Jimmy Rankin, Melissa MacLelland, Royal Wood, and others whose names are familiar to those who are interested in new Canadian music, especially music with a "roots and traditional" theme. In addition, there have been two student photography exhibitions, an ongoing exhibition of local artists and craftspeople, as well as community programs such as a weekly coffee hour. To round it off, there is now a historical display featuring part of a mastodon skeleton retrieved from a field in the neighbourhood.

Secretary John said a little about the history of the MWC project, which began less than two short years ago and, in effect, opened its doors to the public only five months after the committee first began operations. One important aim is to preserve a historic building with great architectural and heritage value; another is to foster the arts within Chatham-Kent. But perhaps the main objective is to provide a stimulus to the village of Highgate, which has seen its fortunes decline over recent decades. The organizers hope that the existence of a thriving tourist destination at the Highgate crossroads will help to turn those fortunes around.

The MWC is now incorporated as a non-profit, with full ownership of the building, and a viable business plan. All of its workers are volunteers, and the project runs on a shoe-string, although hopefully in a business-like and sustainable way. The Centre recently had its first corporate Annual General Meeting, elected a new board of community volunteers, and received its first major grant, a Downtown Partnership Program award from the Municipality. In the new year, it will begin a Capital Campaign to fund the renovations required to bring the historic building into line with modern standards of accessibility, amenities and safety.

For photos of the MWC please see Page 3.

MEMBER EDUCATION: Last week, PP Debbie told us a little about how Kiwanis International functions. The following describes the mandate of the International Committees.

Executive:

PROCEDURE 102.1 - The Executive Committee will provide oversight and direction to all other Board Committees and will assure the Board commitment to the Kiwanis International Strategic Plan. This committee will provide oversight and direction regarding membership growth, assuring that each committee is committed to developing especially strategies that drive long-term sustainable growth of Kiwanis International membership including diversity oversight, worldwide service project, structure, and board development. In addition, this committee will focus on the operational functions of the organization, including personnel matters pertaining to the Executive Director and Board, litigation, IT, and facilities.

Audit & Finance:

PROCEDURE 102.3: The Board Committee on Audit and Finance will work to create the financial resources and meet the financial goals, objectives, and strategies outlined in the organization's strategic plan. Additionally, the Audit and Finance Committee is charged with monitoring all financial matters involving Kiwanis International or any of its sponsored organizations, including budgets, requests for over expenditures, travel management, retail/merchandise operations, and alternative income not generated by dues or fees.

Membership:

PROCEDURE 102.6: The Board Committee on Membership will work to develop and implement membership growth and retention strategies to achieve the Kiwanis International vision of one million members. New thinking, new ideas, and new models of membership will be necessary to meet and achieve this vision. The committee will focus on global expansion, product development retention strategies, new club and new member support, and club growth. Further, this

committee will assure that Kiwanis International and Kiwanis clubs reflect the communities that we serve by focusing on membership and leadership diversity.

Governance:

PROCEDURE 102.2: The Board Committee on Governance will review all matters primarily related to governance and structure of all levels of the organization and will specifically address content of, interpretation of, and compliance with Kiwanis governing documents: bylaws, policies, and procedures. This committee will work with other Board committees as appropriate regarding content and intention of "rules."

Education:

PROCEDURE 102.4: The Board Committee on Education will work to establish Kiwanis as a premier provider of educational programs that develop competent, knowledgeable, and ethical leaders. This committee will concentrate on the education, training and leadership development programs offered by Kiwanis International including all offerings of Kiwanis University.

Marketing/Communications:

The Board Committee on Communications/Marketing will work to establish Kiwanis as a powerful voice for children and communities worldwide. This committee will focus on the Kiwanis brand, retail operations, organizational communications and public relations, and the internal and external communication vehicles of the organization. In addition, this committee will assure that the service programs of Kiwanis International support the Kiwanis brand and contribute to our ability to serve as an advocate for children and communities.

Programs:

PROCEDURE 102.5: The Board Committee on Programs will work to support, enhance and grow the various Kiwanis-branded leadership development programs; character education programs; and service leadership programs for children, youth and young adults.

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

Highgate's Mary Webb Centre



The first concert: Rant Maggie Rant



A historic building of great architectural distinction



MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

- Nov 3 PLG Randy Ross – pictures of Australia
- Nov 5 & 6 Fall Craft Show – mark your calendars to help
- Nov 10 Remembrance Day program
- Nov 17 Scott Taylor – Rondeau Park
- Nov 24 4H banquet
- Dec 1 Wine bottling
- Dec 8 Candy Pack
- Dec 15 Children's Christmas party
- Dec 22 Christmas dinner
- Dec 29 Social evening

The following Interclub opportunities are coming up shortly:

- November 5th at Tillsonburg, replacing an earlier visit scheduled for October that was cancelled.
- November 7th at Forest City in London, where Ed Holder will be speaking at a luncheon.
- November 14th at the Children's Hospital, where we are all invited to the Grand Opening between 2 and 4 (RSVP please – see earlier e-mail).
- December 8th at St Thomas Golden K, for Christmas Dinner
- December 12th at Forest City in London, where the 4H Awards are being given out
- December 15th at Rodney West Lorne, for a Christmas Party.

If you haven't signed up to help with the Craft Show, November 5th and 6th, please do. There are many jobs that need volunteers. Thanks!

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Alan Bloomfield Past President: Debbie Button
 President-elect: Allen Ure Vice President: Brad Carnie
 Secretary: John Henderson Treasurer: Gary Guyitt

DIRECTORS:

Shawn Hoskins, Craig Mitton, John Wright, David Vaughan (1 year)
 Brian Hoskins, Greg Roberts, Gary Wake, Bill Johnston (2 years)

DISTRICT & DIVISION OFFICERS:

Governor: Paul Toussaint
 Governor Elect: Janet Atkinson
 Immediate Past Governor: Gary Levine
 Division 4 Lt. Governor: Jim Scott
 Division 4 Past Lt. Governor: Jim Garey