



Kitchener-Waterloo
Kiwaniis Club
226 Ingleside Place, Kitchener, ON N2M 2H2
www.KwKiwaniis.org

www.kiwaniis.org

Newsletter

August 31/2024

Club Officers:

President:

Daisy Arseneault
daisyarseneault@gmail.com

Past President

Marilyn Motz
gmmotz@golden.net

President-Elect:

Keri Cameron (2025)

Secretary:

Shelley Des Cotes
sdescotes@rogers.com

Treasurer: John Vieth

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Directors: Lou Gere, Ian Inglis, Alan Chalmers, Andrew Wilkin

What's Inside

The "Coats for Kiwanis" fundraiser is underway (See page 5)

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Send photos & news to editor Steve Rand at waterloorands@gmail.com

"Who" is Kiwanis and what is our Impact?

Kiwanis clubs and members conduct service projects. They hold fundraisers. They donate to the Kiwanis Children's Fund and scholarship programs. They change children's lives in their own communities and through international initiatives — helping young people develop mentally, physically and emotionally.

Every year, Kiwanis members stage more than 150,000 service projects, devote more than six million hours of service and raise nearly US\$100 million for children, families and communities around the world. Kiwanis club projects are based on community needs. We build playgrounds, purchase medical equipment, run foodbanks, develop youth leadership, restock libraries and much more.



President's Message:

This month I'd like to acknowledge all the KW Kiwanians who continue to serve during the summer months. Our Board members have tuned in to make important decisions via email correspondence, our committees

continue to fundraise and plan for the rest of this year and the year ahead and individual Kiwanians have participated in several different training sessions so that our club can benefit from the latest research and knowledge to strengthen our club. We're all

Join us:

Chartered in 1921, we are the oldest service club in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. We are always looking for new members to serve the community ! Interested in donating a little time, money, or elbow grease to serve the needy, the deserving, and kids throughout the Waterloo Region? We are welcoming new members to the club all the time who want to help do exactly that. They have stepped up to help and we need still more

volunteers with unique gifts and talents to offer. Thank you, KW Kiwanians, for the time you generously give to serve the children of Kitchener-Waterloo. I see you and I'm so grateful for you!

volunteers and members to socialize and serve with integrity. Join us in our efforts to provide scholarships to deserving students, run the Waterloo Park Wonders of Winter (Festival of Lights), have some fun at Bingo night, or support our Food4Kids volunteer teams. Pick some of our activities and let the good times roll. Reward yourself with service. Become a leader. We are celebrating over 100 years of community service.

1. Regular Meetings At our Board and club meetings we get together for fellowship and planning. Prospective members are welcome to attend. The meetings are free (except there is no free lunch !) and once a month we host expert guest speakers to discuss a wide range of topics that give us insight and inspiration to carry over into our activities and projects. Board meetings are currently held at 5:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Westmount Golf Club in Waterloo. Check our calendar for other (evening) meeting times or contact our membership chair to confirm time and place at kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com.

2. Activities & Events

For a complete listing of past and future events and volunteer opportunities, see our complete calendar at kwkiwanis.org.

August 1 Rubber Duck Race was held as a fundraiser in Ayr Ontario.

August 3 Kiwanis Kids Day was held on the Grand River in Kitchener from 11am -5pm. Our club offered a special admission price that included attractions such as all-day swimming and a bouncy castle supervised by Jean Stacey, Lou Gere and Roy Weber.



The bouncy castle at Kids Day in Kiwanis Park

Free freezies were handed out by Paula Rand to a lot of thirsty kids. A total of 420 freezies were given away.



Paula Rand tries to keep up with freezie demand

Bandology organized a drumming circle and gave instruction in rhythms and speed. Other games included giant Jenga, Connect Four, and Corn Toss supervised by Jan Alexanian.



Drummers being instructed on proper bucket technique

The popcorn machine never stopped popping as the aroma wafted out over the park all day. Carol Dixon, Malcolm Shantz, and Alan Chalmers handled the scoops until the popcorn supply finally ran out.



Popcorn team(L-R): Malcolm Shantz, Carol Dixon, Alan Chalmers

The weather was perfect and the park filled to capacity by early afternoon. Many families brought their own picnics, tents, coolers, chairs, and toys.



Picnickers in Kiwanis Park on Kids Day.

Cindy Heaton's food truck (Heaton on the Grill) was strongly patronized and continued to do a brisk business into the early evening.



Some partygoers participated in beach volleyball or brought their own games but swimming was the main attraction.



Marketing for this event included Eventbrite.com, social media (Instagram, X) and private community networks. Word also got out about the event via the July 31 interview with Angela Vieth, Keri Cameron, and Steve Rand on the Mike Farwell Show (CityNews 570). All the Kids Day sponsors got prime air time and video coverage.

The team at the admissions tent answered lots of questions about the activities and freebies. Sales were brisk. Thank you John, Kevin, Heeva, Saima, and Daisy. Children were assigned swimming wristbands according to age, following park policies.



The admissions team (L-R): Heeva Torabi, John Vieth, Kevin Twomey, Remi Arseneault, Saima Kahn, and Daisy Arseneault.

Corn Toss, Giant Jenga and Connect Four were popular with the younger set and the Face Painting stations attracted long lines.



Face-painting was very popular at Kids Day

Lawn signs were used to highlight all our wonderful sponsors: All Clear Environmental, Stacey Muirhead Capital Management, Sorbara Law, Blue Skies Bookkeeping, Costco, and the City of Kitchener.

A couple of H-frame signs were used to draw attention to the annual Kiwanis Music Festival, the signature event for K-W Kiwanis. Festival Director Danielle Beck was present as a volunteer at an information table to spread the word about next year's event.

Club members and volunteers from the Key and Circle K clubs were busy all day as families kept showing up right up to 5:00 pm when Kiwanis left the park. The parking lot was still jammed as the Bouncy Castle was deflated and Kids Day drew to a close.



Kids Day poster listing all the added activities available to families that chose the Kiwanis admission package, together with a list of our generous sponsors.

Congratulations everyone on a successful fundraiser. The attendance showed that the community really enjoyed Kids Day.

August 13 Joint Fundraising and Marketing Committee meeting was held to review Kids Day and plan for fall and spring events.



The fundraising committee makes plans for the coming year

August 15 Bingo Night at the K-W Gaming Centre in Kitchener

August 24 Division 5 Council Meeting

August 31 Division 5 Theatre Night

3. Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities

For a complete listing of past and future events and volunteer opportunities, see our Event Calendar at www.kwkiwanis.org.

Fundraiser: *Coats for Kiwanis*

The “Coats for Kiwanis” K-W fundraiser has been launched and promises to be a very successful coat sale. The plan is to collect gently-used coats and sell them on Oct.5, 2024 at Cedar Court. Following our month-long coat drive in August-September, we plan to draw friends, family and folks from the Kitchener Market area to buy Kiwanis coats at irresistible prices.

In order to implement this plan we are looking for **coats** donated by acquaintances and businesses. Our goal is to collect all types and sizes, from kids jackets to adult parkas, and sell them cheaply to run our projects and clothe the community.

We need **6 happy volunteers** to place and monitor two donation boxes each during the

collection period Sept.1 - Oct.4. Monitoring simply means collecting weekly donations and inspecting the coats for damage or stains. We only plan to sell clean, gently-used clothing. Contact organizer Paula Rand if you have business connections, old coats, hangars, or volunteer time. Help address a community need while raising funds for our organization. **We have already placed seven donation boxes, but still need more collection points.**



Paula Rand shows off a donation box and the first donated coats on a clothing rack.

Throughout September:

Volunteer for a 2-hour shift at the K-W Kiwanis donation table at Staples in Kitchener. Proceeds provide half a dozen schools with gift certificates for hundreds of dollars worth of school supplies. (Contact Roy Weber at rweber@charityservices.ca)

Sept. 15 Interclub baseball – see calendar

Sept. 17 President’s Annual Meeting

Sept. 24 Joint meeting with Rotary

4. Service Leadership Clubs

K-W Kiwanis runs Leadership clubs to engage young and old:

Circle K International for college students:

University of Waterloo students Cesar Arriojas and Shradhaa Srikanth have re-launched the University of Waterloo Circle K club. The club already has a roster of over two dozen members. Most college students leave the Waterloo Region for the summer months, but Circle K volunteers joined our members this month to help make Kids Day a big success. We look forward to closer ties with the student leadership group in the fall when everyone returns for classes.

Circle K International (CKI) is the largest student-run volunteer organization of its kind, with over 12,600 members on over 500 campuses in 17 countries. CKI mirrors the mandate of Kiwanis at the university level in making our community a better place to live, through service, with a special emphasis on helping children.

Key Club for students age 14-18:

Key Club member Heeva Torabi joined our many volunteers to run Kids Day at Kiwanis Park on the Grand River on August 3. Heeva represented the Eastern Canada district of Kiwanis International at the 2024 Key Club International Convention that was held in Atlanta Georgia from July 10-14.



Key Club participants representing Eastern Canada pose at the 2024 International Convention in Atlanta. Heeva Torabi received travel sponsorship from K-W Kiwanis.

5. Membership

Interested in joining us? Let us know at kwkiwanismembership@gmail.com or contact a member of K-W Kiwanis whom you may know. Just have questions? Send us email at kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com.

6. Committees & Reports

Committee reports are received at the monthly Board meeting by the K-W Kiwanis Club Board Members. Committee work is essential to smooth functioning of the club and all members are encouraged to participate in at least one of our eleven committees. Typically, assignments require an average of only 1-2 hours per month. K-W Kiwanis committees have the charters outlined below. Check the club calendar and connect with your committee chair each month to verify when and where your meetings will take place.

Affordable Housing

Charter: Work with Property Management to oversee the operations of the Cedar Court and Valley View housing units owned by Kiwanis. Report to the Board.

Chair: Lou Gere

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Lou Gere, Ian Inglis, Stephen Rand, Angela Vieth, Andrew David Wilkin, Greg Wood, Greg Moore

Fundraising

(a) New Ideas (Research and develop ideas and activities to raise funds for general club use or for a specific reason as agreed from time to time. Review “New & Existing Service Projects”).

Chair: Maureen Farkouh

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Paula Rand, Jean Stacey, Angela Vieth, Sandeep Shroff, Tanner Bergsma

(b) Bingo (Organize and recruit volunteers for bingo training and supervision by K-W Kiwanis.)

Chair: Lou Gere

Members: Maureen Farkouh, Gary Keller, John Vieth, Mike Wolf, Greg & Michelle Wood

Bursaries

Charter: Determine criteria for the evaluation of academic bursary applications. Receive and review applications. Select recipients and personally deliver the awards.

Chair: Lou Gere

Members: Jan Alexanian, Gary Keller, Stephen Rand, Paula Rand, Jean Stacey

Membership

Charter: Provide advice to anyone who may need help in their approach to prospective new members. Meet quarterly to plan membership recruitment and retention.

Approve new member applications and bring them to the Board. Review honorary members annually. Check on absentee and delinquent members.

Chair: Keri Cameron

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Maureen Farkouh, Ian Inglis, Kevin Twomey, Angela Vieth, Andrew David Wilkin, Greg Moore

Music Festival

Charter: Continue to refine and improve all aspects of the renowned Kiwanis Music Festival’s operation. Develop and utilize permanent check lists for all aspects of the festival so nothing is missed. Learn from mistakes and maintain improvements.

Create fundraising vehicles specifically for the music festival with the goal of being financially self-sufficient.

Chair: Shelley des Cotes

Members: Danielle Beck, Keri Cameron, Jaime Downey, Maureen Farkouh, Ian Inglis, Angela Vieth, Mike Wolf

Service Leadership Programs

Charter: Provide liaison between Kiwanis student organizations and our

membership. Look for every opportunity to initiate Kiwanis student organizations and activities. Provide necessary support to all sponsored Kiwanis student groups. Help out with Key Service Leadership training.

Chair: Shelley des Cotes

Members: Angela Vieth, Kevin Twomey, Sandeep Shroff

Program & Club Meetings

Charter: Plan and improve the regular club meetings to keep them interactive, fun and informative. Make everyone feel that time spent at meetings is “time well spent”. Maintain sociability among members as a top priority by planning outside activities that foster good fellowship.

Chair: Daisy Arseneault

Members: Keri Cameron, Kevin Twomey

Financial Review Committee

Charter: Perform an annual review of the financial reports of the treasurer and Property Management.

Chair: Greg Wood

Members: Andrew Kelly, Andre Arseneault

Marketing & Public Relations

Charter: Raise awareness of Kiwanis in our community. Publicize events and club news. Maintain the club website and social media outlets. Distribute a regular newsletter to keep members up to date and assist with community outreach and recruitment.

Chair: Stephen Rand

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Kevin Twomey, Andre Arseneault

New/Existing Projects

Charter: Assess all requests for funds submitted to the club with respect to how well they meet our criteria and make their recommendations to the membership. Manage existing projects, recommend their continuance or discontinuance. Search for new club service projects, making sure they meet our criteria, and present them as options to the membership.

Criteria:

- (a) regional effect, not national
- (b) involves children and youth
- (c) Improves quality of life in some way
- (d) Maximize member involvement

Chair: Daisy Arseneault

Members: All club members