

Kitchener-Waterloo Kiwanis Club P.O. Box 38046 Bridgeport P.O., Waterloo, ON N2J 4T9

www.KwKiwanis.org

www.kiwanis.org

Newsletter

March 31/2025

Club Officers:

President:

Daisy Arseneault daisyarseneault@gmail.com

Past President

Marilyn Motz gmmotz@golden.net

President-Elect:

TBD

Secretary:

Jean Stacey

Staceyj49@gmail.com

Treasurer: Maureen Farkouh

maureenfarkouh@yahoo.ca

Directors: Lou Gere, Ian Inglis, Alan Chalmers, Paula Rand, Kevin Twomey, Marilyn Motz, Joan Richardson-Horsey

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Send photos & news to newsletter 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:

Dear Kiwanians,

You showed up in a big way in March! We hosted two extraordinary fundraisers that will benefit Food4Kids Waterloo Region and the new Waterloo Regional Health

Network (WRHN), the new hospital merger of Grand River Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital. The Kiwanis name has been reaching far and wide as an organization which cares about kids and health, and we add to that our passion for music education. The only way this happens is when Kiwanians like you support these events by sharing, attending, volunteering and organizing. You did amazing work and your hours of work are paying off, thank you! I

invite you to reach out to the KW Kiwanis Music Festival and support the biggest music education festival in Waterloo Region in April. The shifts are exciting. You will see children proud to share their hard work with talented adjudicators, doting family members and friends. Register and pick your shift online at the festival website: kwkiwanismusicfestival.com/volunteers. You won't regret it!

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 and members to socialize and serve with integrity. Join us in our efforts to provide scholarships to deserving students, help 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.

December is over but memories of the Wonders of Winter (Festival of Lights) are still fresh. An organizational survey reported that participants in this year's festival said it was the best part of having Waterloo Park in their community.

This year the cleanup effort in Waterloo Park attracted K-W Kiwanians Maureen Farkouh and Andre & Daisy Arseneault when it came time to dismantle the displays. All those lights have to be stored for use next year in the Wonders of Winter shed on site. The organizers proposed that K-W Kiwanis have its own display in coming years at a cost of \$525/yr to increase community awareness of our activities. Daisy plans to bring this proposal to the Board sometime this spring. We have half a year to decide!



Maureen Farkouh wrestles with light strings while dismantling displays at Waterloo Park.

Mar. 4 The monthly Board Meeting was held at Westmount Golf & Country Club. *Mar.* 16 A Celtic Cabaret at the Jazz Room replaced our usual club meeting this month.



Inside the Jazz Room on King Street at the Kiwanis Celtic Cabaret

Jean Stacey organized an incredible evening of entertainment and Alan Chalmers stepped up to serve as a magnificent master of ceremonies.

The house was packed with people, comedy, dance, and music. The

entertainment lineup included Marjorie Hopkins' Intensely Irish Dancers, the Kaleidoscope Irish Dancers, Rusty Nail comedy, Onion Honey, Caleb DeGroot-Maggetti, and Mary-Catherine Pazzano.



Attendees were greeted by a leprechaun and his assistant.

In support of Food4Kids, a total of 72 tickets were pre-sold (60 on Eventbrite and 12 through e-transfer), while 5 people paid at the door. The 47 basket draw tickets netted revenue of \$940 for our projects.



The house was packed with the St. Patrick's Day crowd.



Baskets lined up for the basket draw at the Jazz Room



The basket draw provided Esta chocolates and a cash reward.



Alan Chalmers was Master of Ceremonies

After expenses, including printing, the club made \$1013 at the event.





Intensely Irish Dancers performed live on stage at the Jazz Room.



K-W Kiwanians gather on stage to celebrate Celtic Cabaret Night

Mar. 27 Bingo night at the K-W Gaming Centre brought in hundreds of dollars to support our academic scholarship program. Mar. 30 The Paris-Brant Kiwanis Club offered regional Kiwanians an introduction to the sport of curling at the Paris Curling Club! Attendees learned to "keep their rock on the ice"!

Mar. 31 The Rotary and Kiwanis clubs of Kitchener-Waterloo jointly undertook a gala fundraiser for a new hospital to advance healthcare in the Waterloo Region.



The venue for the new hospital fundraiser overflowed with patrons.



David Johnson poses with attendees. (L-R standing) Trevor Eaton (GR Hospital Foundation), Daisy Arseneault (Pres. Kiwanis), Carol Parsons (Past Pres. Rotary), Angela Vieth (LG), Jeff Stacey (CEO of Stacey Muirhead Capital Management). (L-R seated) Brenda Halloran (Former Waterloo Mayor), David Johnson (Former Governor-General of Canada), Melodie Mensch (Asst. Governor of K-W Rotary).

Guest speaker at the gala dinner was Right Honourable Mr. David Johnson, the 28th Governor General of Canada and former President of the University of Waterloo. Mr. Johnson met with guests from 4:00-5:00 pm in the Marshall Hall in Kitchener. Mr. David Johnston and Jeff Stacey from Stacey Muirhead Capital Management held an engaging fireside chat. Prem Watsa and WRHN CEO Ron Gagnon were guest speakers. Attendees were treated to fantastic performances by both the Neil Murray Band and PopNation. What a night! Gala proceeds of \$740,000 will be used to fund a new hospital for the Kitchener-Waterloo region.



K-W Kiwanians at the fundraising dinner: (L-R) Angela & John Vieth, Maureen Farkouh, and Mike Wolf.



(L-R) Andre & Daisy Arseneault, Shirley Levene & daughter-inlaw Amabel, Jane & Tom Hendricks from Elmira Kiwanis Club.

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.

**Apr. 7-18 K-W Kiwanis Music Festival.

Lots of volunteers will be needed to run the annual signature event of our club!

To volunteer or get more information see: https://kwkiwanismusicfestival.com/volunte ers.

Apr. 10 The Brantford Kiwanis Club and their Aktion Club have invited Division 5 Kiwanians to a buffet luncheon from 11:45 am - 1:30 pm at the Best Western Hotel 19 Holiday Drive in Brantford. The Brantford Aktion Club will make a special presentation. A hot buffet lunch will be served for \$18 in advance (by electronic transfer) or \$20 cash at the door. Please confirm attendance in advance by contacting Nelson McClinchey by April 3, 2025: nelsonmcclinchey@gmail.com Tel: 519-756-0138.

Apr. 12 Mark your April calendars well in advance! The Kiwanis Club of Windsor will host the 2025 Can-Am Goodwill Banquet at the Hellenic Cultural Centre in Windsor, Canada from 6-9 pm. Theme: Launching into Literacy. All Kiwanians are invited.



A chicken buffet dinner will be served with all the fixings. Two Keynote Speakers will attend on behalf of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: Jeanne Smitiuch, Senior Regional Director of the Imagination Library in Canada and Lauren Wirt who oversees growth and support in the U.S.

Kiwanis International Vice President Hope Markes will also participate.

To register for the event please visit the site: https://forms.gle/MWchbaCF3Cicdrst8 The cost per person is \$40 USD or \$55CAD Accommodation: A block of rooms has been reserved at a local hotel. For additional information contact LG Angelo Ciardella: angelo.kiwaniswindsor@gmail.com Apr. 18 The Elmira Kiwanis Club is looking for volunteers for their Good Friday Fish Fry in Lions Hall 4:00-6:30 pm on April 18th. For details contact Tony Dowling: tony@elmirastoveworks.com. Tickets for the dinner are \$25 available from Elmira Stove Works 519-669-1281 or Read's Decorating Centre 519-669-3658 Mav 21 The Guelph Kiwanis Club will host

the 37th Sports Celebrity Dinner, at the Italian Canadian Club, an entertaining event with cocktails, raffles, live and silent auctions in addition to a delicious dinner! Join the individuals being inducted into the prestigious Guelph Sports Hall of Fame for 2025 and Broadcaster Brian Williams who will share stories of his 50 year career in sports as the keynote speaker. Tickets: www.guelphsportshalloffame.com (Adults \$125, Past inductees \$85, Students/children under 17 \$50). All proceeds support the Kiwanis Club of Guelph charities including Belwood Lodge and Camp, the Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph, the Staples Back-to-School Program, and the Teen ETCH Creative Writing Contest.

4. Service Leadership Clubs

K-W Kiwanis runs Leadership clubs to engage young students in community service.

Circle K International for college students: The University of Waterloo Circle K club runs service projects with the guidance of an approved Kiwanis advisor. Currently it has a roster of over two dozen members.

This month Circle K members hosted DCON in Waterloo for clubs from all over Ontario. Ginny and Cesar also helped organize the Grand River Hospital Fundraiser. Circle K advisor Angela Vieth, who is our district Lieutenant Governor, was awarded the CKI Advisor of the Year Award. Congratulations Angela!



Circle K members Ginny and Cesar prepare tables for the Region of Waterloo hospital fundraiser.



Circle K officers and K-W Kiwanians pose with David Johnson. (L-R) Ginny, David Johnson, Daisy Arseneault, Cesar, and Angela Vieth.

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 aged 14-18: High schoolers can apply to become members of our K-W Kiwanis Key Clubs. Members run their own meetings and devise service projects in the Waterloo Region to develop leadership skills.

This month Keyclubbers sent out health kits to the district and held their own event with entertainment by PopNation kids at the Adventure-4-Change. Kyle Christy was MC.



Former Keyclub president Heeva (centre) joins advisor Shelley Des Cotes, Mike Wolf and Circle K members at the new hospital fundraising dinner.

Keyclubbers are eligible to attend the annual leadership conference that Kiwanis International runs for their age group. Key Clubbers also have the benefit of guidance and record-keeping by an approved advisor from our Kiwanis Club.

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, Ian Inglis, Stephen Rand, Angela Vieth, Greg Wood

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 (b) Bingo (Organize, recruit and train volunteers for bingo. Proceeds are applied to our academic bursary program.)

Chair: Lou Gere

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

Weber

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: Marilyn Motz

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Maureen Farkouh, Ian Inglis, Kevin Twomey, Angela

Vieth

Music Festival

Charter: Continue to refine and improve all aspects of the renowned K-W Kiwanis Music Festival. Undertake fundraising, volunteer coordination, and sponsorship.

Chair: Ashley Close

Members: Danielle Beck (Festival Coordinator), Jaime Downey, Ian Inglis, Angela Vieth, Mike Wolf, Rosalind Keith (Volunteer Coordinator), Martin Lacoste Maxine Metzger (Social Media & Marketing), Fiona Stante, Angela Veith (Fundraising Coordinator), Roy Weber (Sponsorship Coordinator), Mike Wolf (Treasurer)

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 Club and Circle K 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: 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