



Kitchener-Waterloo  
Kiwanis Club  
P.O. Box 38046  
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[www.KwKiwanis.org](http://www.KwKiwanis.org)

[www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org)

**Newsletter**

August 31/2026

## Club Officers:

### **President:**

Daisy Arseneault  
[daisyarseneault@gmail.com](mailto:daisyarseneault@gmail.com)

### **Past President**

Marilyn Motz  
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### **President-Elect:**

TBD

### **Secretary:**

Jean Stacey  
[Staceyj49@gmail.com](mailto:Staceyj49@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Maureen Farkouh  
[maureenfarkouh@yahoo.ca](mailto:maureenfarkouh@yahoo.ca)

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

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*Send your photos & news to newsletter editor Steve Rand at [waterloorands@gmail.com](mailto:waterloorands@gmail.com)*

## What is the Kiwanis club and what is the impact of our members?

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.



## Editor's Corner:

This month K-W Kiwanians undertook the job of helping Waterloo Region kids have some extra summer fun and greet the next school year with a smile. Our third annual kids' day was an unqualified success,

attracting the largest crowd yet to Kiwanis Park for a sunny day of swimming and entertainment by Ronno, Bandology, and the bouncy castle. Volunteers offered face-painting in the pavilion and officers from the fire department and special constable's office dropped by to let attendees inspect their trucks and equipment.

Free popcorn was in high demand. As a

### **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

result, we ran out shortly after noon. Our supply of freezies lasted a little longer until mid-afternoon. After that the lines for the food truck, yard games, and face-painting doubled in length. At closing time for our Kiwanis members, families were still arriving at the park to set up picnics under the trees. Many thanks to all our volunteers for organizing such a splendid day.

more volunteers and members to socialize and serve with integrity. Join us in our efforts to provide scholarships to deserving students, help run the Kiwanis Park Kids Day or 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.

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## **1. Regular Meetings**

Kiwanis is an Ojibway word that means "We share our talents". At our Board and club meetings we get together for fellowship and to plan community service projects. 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 Kitchener. Check our calendar for other (evening) meeting times or contact our membership chair to confirm time and place at [kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://kwkiwanis.org).

**August 1** Kiwanis Kids Day attracted over 1000 people this year. Clearly, the new marketing avenues that were explored by Anna Meksavanh and Kim Le worked very well to get the word out. Roughly 70% of families arriving at the park had heard about Kids Day from various media sources or had purchased tickets online prior to arrival.



*Families spread out under the trees for a day of swimming, music, barbequing, bouncy castle, yard games, popcorn, and freezies.*



*(L) Special Constable Kyle Meksavanh was on hand over the noon hour making friends with attendees of all ages. Later, local firefighters handed out fire-fighter badges.*



*The fire department brought a big truck to the park and showed the kids what was in many of the compartments for fighting fires.*



*Many kids took a break from swimming to check out the fire-fighter stickers distributed by the fire fighters.*



*The food truck Heaton on the Grill served an expanded menu despite being short-handed. (L-R) Paula Rand, Daisy Arseneault, and Key Club member Tobi Oke wait to order at the food truck.*



*The hot dogs from Heaton on the Grill expanded from last year!*



*Jenga and face-painting were favourite activities for the kids.*



Our face-painting team consisted of Tobi Oke, Sandeep Shroff, Tammie Deubry, and Paula Rand.



The freezie stand was so popular that supplies only lasted until early afternoon



Jean Stacey was "all in" while supervising the bouncy castle !



Outside the swimming area Lou Gere found the bronze plaque commemorating the dedication of Kiwanis Park and Centennial Swimming Lake on Oct. 24, 1967. The facilities were presented to the City of Kitchener as a public service project by the Twin Cities Kiwanis Club.



Picknickers came well-prepared with wagonloads of supplies, gas barbeques, tents, balloons, and their own games



(Left) Ronno entertained young dancers. (Right) Bandology group introduced dozens of kids to drumming instruction on plastic pails

**August 13** An emergency Board meeting was held online to address the need for change orders to the Cedar Court housing renovations, which are progressing well.

**August 14** The academic bursary committee visited Sandra Santos at city hall in Kitchener to propose endowment of bursary funds raised from bingo proceeds. Sandra is the licensing administrator and was able to advise the committee on lottery statutes.

**August 17** Gently used coats are coming in early for the October K-W Kiwanis sale. To make way for coats received in September, Paula Rand and Lou Gere had to store 80 garments in the K-W Auditorium! Yes, K-W Kiwanis still has the storage room at the auditorium which was granted to the club

back when Octoberfest activities made enough money for our club to sponsor one of the ice rinks ! Paula and Lou moved coats into storage there and took a moment to confirm that the Kiwanis logo is alive and well on the walls of the Aud.



Lou Gere and Paula Rand pile up coats for the fall sale in the Kiwanis storage locker in the K-W Auditorium.



The scoreboard at the K-W Auditorium is still flanked by the Kiwanis International logo commemorating the club's donation of an ice rink in the 1980s

### 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](http://www.kwkiwanis.org).

**September 9** Elmira will host an Interclub. Please RSVP by August 31. Dinner in Elmira will feature the Legion's delicious chicken, schnitzel, For details see the flyer below.potatoes, coleslaw, sauerkraut,

vegetables, coffee and dessert served Mennonite-country style.

#### KIWANIS CLUB OF ELMIRA DIVISIONAL INTERCLUB MEETING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

G2G TRAIL, KISSING BRIDGE TRAIL – PAST & PRESENT

Dave Conlon, Director of Operations for the G2G (Guelph to Goderich) Rail Trail, will help us relive history as he describes with words and pictures the various communities along the 132 km multi-use trail that repurposes a former Canadian Pacific Railway line.



Dave says the trail route no longer poses some of the risks of the distant past. Dinosaur sightings may have been frequent many years ago but are rare today.

Elmira Legion's famous "Delicious" chicken, schnitzel, potatoes, coleslaw, sauerkraut, vegetables, coffee and dessert. **Served Mennonite-country-style.**

Cash bar.

Elmira Legion, 11 First St. East, Elmira, ON  
Doors open at 6:00 PM, Dinner at 7:00  
\$40.00 per person

Reserve or e-transfer to [jhmpem@gmail.com](mailto:jhmpem@gmail.com) by August 31, 2026

**September 19** A visit to the Healing Forest has been scheduled, together with a talk on medicinal plants and herbs in the new indigenous lodge at Columbia Lake.



(L-R) Daisy Arseneault, Myeengun Henry, and Jordan Kaye meet to talk about future presentations involving the Knowledge Keeper, K-W Kiwanis and the Circle K service leadership club.

Ojibway chief Myeengun Henry will be our host. Mr. Henry is the official Knowledge Keeper for the First Nations in Waterloo Region. This event will replace the regular September club meeting and will be held jointly with our Circle K and Key Club service leadership members. Start time will be 11:00 am at the new indigenous lodge on Columbia Lake (north campus of the University of Waterloo). This event will take about 2 hours.

#### **4. Service Leadership Clubs**

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

*Circle K International for college students:* The University of Waterloo Circle K (CKI) club is a Kiwanis-sponsored youth group that runs its own community service projects. Currently CKI has a roster of over two dozen members and is actively involved in community events.

Circle K International (CKI) mirrors the mandate of Kiwanis at the university level to make our community a better place to live, through service, with a special emphasis on helping children.

CKI is the largest student-run volunteer organization of its kind, with over 12,600 members on over 500 campuses in 17 countries. However, more locally, K-W Kiwanis is especially proud of our up-and-coming group of civic leaders at the University of Waterloo.

*Key Club for students aged 14-18:*

High school students can apply to become members of our K-W Kiwanis Key Clubs. Key Club members run their own meetings and service projects in the Waterloo Region to develop leadership skills.

Key Club members are eligible to attend the annual leadership conference that Kiwanis International runs for their age group. Key Clubbers are guided by an

approved advisor from Kiwanis. St. Mary's Key Club now has new officers and one of the St. Mary teachers (Melanie) has been designated the club advisor. The St. Mary's Key Club currently has 24 members.

Key Club members are also eligible for Kiwanis awards. This year K-W Kiwanis donated awards totalling \$1000 to three students from St. Mary's. The students received their awards at the St. Mary's High School graduation held in the Kitchener Auditorium on June 11.

#### **5. Membership**

Interested in joining us? Let us know at [kwkiwanismembership@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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 ensures the smooth functioning of our 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

##### ***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

### ***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, Deidre Wilson, Jean Stacey

### ***Membership***

Charter: Plan approaches to membership recruitment and retention. Pre-approve new member applications and bring them to the Board. Review honorary members annually. Provide advice for approaching prospective new members. Check on absentee and delinquent memberships.

Chair: Stephen Rand

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: Marilyn Motz

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 Vieth (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: Angela Vieth

Members: 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: Stephen Rand

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Kevin Twomey

### ***Financial Review Committee***

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

Chair: TBD

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: Daisy Arseneault

Members: Kim Le, 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