Kitchener-Waterloo
Kiwanis Club
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www.KwKiwanis.org

www.kiwanis.org **Newsletter** October 31/2026

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What's Inside

Section 1 - Regular Meetings
Section 2 - Activities & Events
Section 3 – Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities
Section 4 – Service Leadership Clubs
Section 5 – Membership
Section 6 – Committees & Reports

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

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

Kiwanis club members and volunteers conduct service projects. They hold fundraisers. They donate time to the Kiwanis Music Festival and our bursary 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.

The Club Corner:

In the Club Corner members share thoughts about activities they engaged in over the preceding weeks. This month Steve Rand offers the following note (mostly for happy lexlophiles): **"A bicycle can't stand alone,**

because it's two-tired." But our club members are not tired! Collectively in October we supported kids in need at Camp Belmont, drove Key Club members to their spring rally in Ingersol, mounted our blowout coat sale in Waterloo Public Square, and joined forces at Pack Night to prepare food parcels at Food4Kids. Bravo to all the club volunteers who helped make these efforts a great success.

This is the time of year when we recall our efforts to make Thanksgiving a joyous occasion. We keep the needs of our fellow citizens in mind throughout the year, but Thanksgiving provides us with a special day to reflect on opportunities we can enjoy as Kiwanians to improve our community and to support others through volunteerism. Congratulations everyone on making October another exciting month.

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 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*.

2. Activities & Events

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

October 3

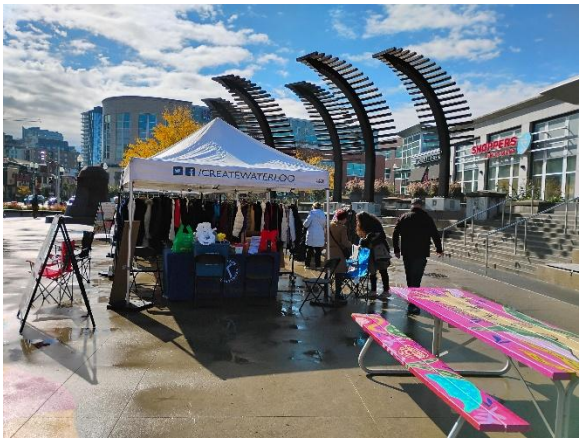
K-W Kiwanians gathered at Camp Belwood near Fergus with other Ontario Kiwanians to provide an outdoors experience for kids with special needs.



(L-R) Andre and Daisy Arseneault, Richard Kleri, Angela and John Vieth at Camp Belmont. Thanks to Heather Fleming for the photo.

The Guelph Kiwanis club maintains a 22 acre property and cabins on Lake Belwood as a retreat for children with special needs. The weather was perfect. Attendees were treated to a “Not Duck Dinner” and posed afterward on the sunny campus with Lieutenant-Governor Richard Kleri.

October 4 The annual fundraiser “Coats for Kiwanis” was held in Waterloo Public Square this year. The city provided three canopies and the rain stopped just in time at 10:00 am for setup.



Setup in Waterloo Square followed a light morning rain by only a few minutes. The checkout table was positioned over a shallow puddle but it did not dampen our spirits!

Thanks to Carol Dixon we had a total of fourteen roller racks rented for the purpose of displaying the coats. Approximately 300 items were moved to Waterloo Public Square for the event.



Fourteen racks were filled with coats, jackets, snow pants, and one mink coat! Boots, shoes, gloves and hats were put on display behind the browsing area

Prior to the sale, garments were collected from donation boxes in several local high-rise buildings after Labour Day. Boxes were placed in the main lobbies of participating apartment complexes in Waterloo and gathered up every two days throughout the month of September. Then they were sorted, cleaned, sized, and priced.





Paula Rand looks over the donations. To be included in the sale garments needed to be inspected and sorted into categories. Additional steps involved minor cleaning, sizing, and pricing

Donations also came in as personal deliveries by John Pinnington, Kim Le, Malcolm Shantz, Angela Vieth, Remi and Andre Arseneault, Anna Meksavanh, and the mayor of Waterloo Dorothy McCabe. Many thanks also to Anna Meksavanh and Jean Stacey for helping to sort, size, and price over 200 coats in Paula Rand’s “garage operation”. Jeff and Jean Stacey picked up the coat racks rented by Carol Dixon and delivered them to the sale site. Phew! What a team.



Remi Arseneault checks out the racks of men’s wear

During the sale itself we were fortunate to have extra hands on deck to help customers find what they needed. Bob Jones and Linda Wey volunteered their time to don Kiwanis aprons during the sale this year. Thank you.



Most of the customers came in as random foot traffic from King Street or were seeking the Mayor's Octoberfest Market, only to discover that we were the whole show !



Marilyn Motz (L) and Paula Rand (R) organized the roller racks.



The sales team at closing time (L-R): Kim Le, Daisy Arseneault, Steve and Paula Rand, Bob Jones and Maureen Farkouh



Our best customer departs with her purchases and a smile

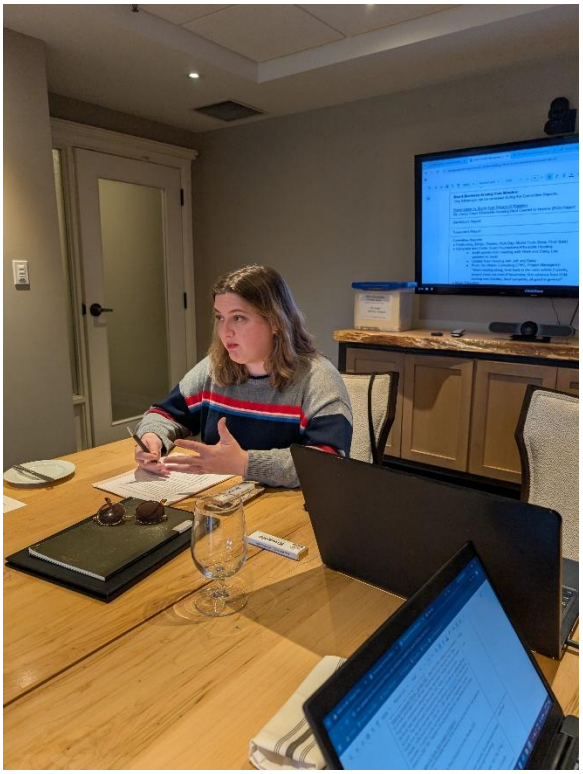


Mike Wolf stored all the coat sale hangers, signs & frames in the basement of his senior homecare agency Promyse for an entire year. Thanks Mike!

October 6 The October Board meeting was held at Westmount Golf & Country Club. Directors heard the RGI (Rent Geared to Income) report from Brynn Harlock of the Region of Waterloo on the Cedar Court apartments. New members Deidre Wilson and Kim Le were also welcomed to the club.



Attendees at the Board meeting included (L-R) Jean Stacey, Daisy Arseneault, Deidre Wilson, Kim Le, Angela Vieth, Lou Gere, Steve & Paula Rand, Sandeep Shroff, Joan Richardson-Horsey, Marilyn Motz, Alan Chalmers, Maureen Farkouh, and Andre Arseneault



Brynn Harlock of Waterloo Housing Services gave an audit report on the financials of the Cedar Court apartments

October 15 Pack night at Food4Kids at 330 Trillium Dr Unit B, Kitchener from 6 pm-7:30 pm. The Kiwanis team of 15 had fun bagging around 400 meals. Food4Kids volunteers deliver 1600 meal bags weekly to 140 schools in the Waterloo Region. Hungry kids will thrive this week!







(Top) Four scenes of the chaos at Trillium Drive. (Middle) Linda Wey and Mike Wolf check out the fresh bananas. (Bottom) Karen Hilling affirms that volunteers are the happiest people on earth. Lou Gere and Carol Dixon finish filling their bags.

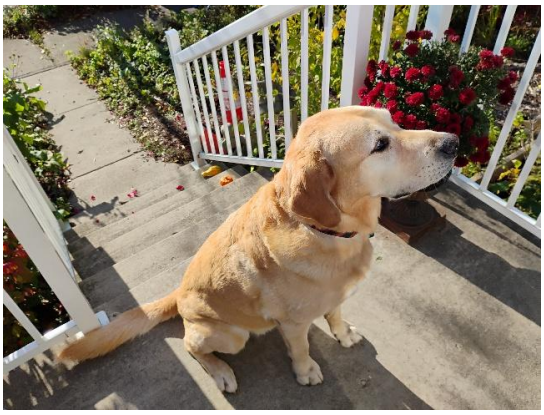


The Pack Night team from K-W Kiwanis.

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.

November 3 The monthly Board meeting of K-W Kiwanis will take place at the Westmount Golf Club 50 Inverness Drive, Kitchener. All members and the general public are welcome to attend (but cannot vote). Dinner is available from the club for a fee. Hybrid in-person and online.
November 5 Bingo Night at the K-W Gaming Centre in Kitchener. These games are run by our volunteers and bring in funds to support the Academic Bursary Program of K-W Kiwanis. We award $2000 bursaries to half a dozen financially-challenged students in the Waterloo Region who wish to pursue advanced degrees. We need more volunteers to run this important regular event. Contact Lou Gere (lougere@hotmail.com) to put this once-a-month night of fun on your calendar.
November 17 Andrew Scheifele is scheduled to describe the Service Dog Program in Waterloo at our regular club meeting. Check the website calendar at *kwkiwanis.org* for the location of the Commissary Building on UW campus.
December 8 Mark your calendars for the annual holiday dinner (see *kwkiwanis.org*).


Meet Jonesy on Nov. 17: Canine ambassador to the world

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 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 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

Academic Bursaries
Charter: Administer the K-W Kiwanis academic bursary program. Receive and review applications. Select recipients and personally deliver the awards.
Chair: Lou Gere
Members: Paula Rand, 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, 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 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: Angela Vieth
Members: 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, Jean Stacey

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, Anna Meksavanh, Steve Rand, 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