

ROTARY CLUB OF KITCHENER GRAND RIVER



MISSION STATEMENT

We are community leaders who provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations & help build good will & peace in our community and internationally.

Our focus is making a difference 'with Youth', Fellowship and the good feeling of being part of a good cause.

PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

4 Way Test

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build good will & better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

MOTTO

“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

1ROTARY CLUB OF KITCHENER-GRAND RIVER BULLETIN

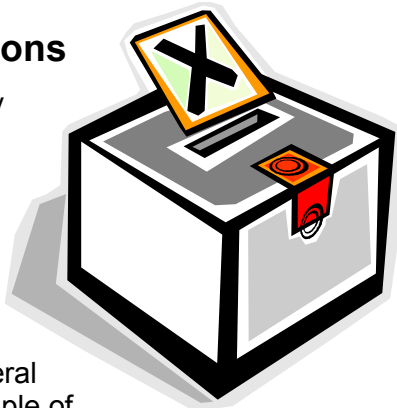
October 21, 2008

Dave Richards-Updates on the Highway Traffic Act

| | October 21 | October 21 | November 4 |
|--|--|--|---|
| Sgt. At Arms 50/50 Draw Greeter Blessing Introduction Thank-You | <i>Jon Kinghan- Leader</i> Bill Brown, Rupert Hanson, Doug Jones, Jim McIntyre, Bill Muirhead, Jim MacArthur | <i>GSE Team from Australia District 9820</i> | <i>Marg Manias – Long Term Planning</i> |

Last Meeting – Elizabeth Witmer- Queens Park Update and other political prognostications

We were joined by Elizabeth Witmer, the honourable MPP for Kitchener-Waterloo. She shared with us a few comments on the upcoming federal election and a couple of predictions. Liz cautioned us that polls, which have recently shown a weakness in the popularity of the federal conservatives, can be notoriously inaccurate.



Her prediction was that our local MP's will not change (whoops) and a federal conservative minority (right on the money with that one). She further predicted the conservatives to win more seats, as well as the NDP with the liberals losing seats and the Bloc staying the same (mostly right on that). Her comments were that Dion is a drag on the party and that there will likely be a leadership change (it certainly looks that way).

The latest dominant issue of the campaign seems to be the economy which has taken over for the initial concentration on Green everything. A lot of the economic politicking seems to be fear mongering as our economy is essentially sound with our banks being secure and Canada being the only G8 country not currently running a deficit. There is a need for changes as we continue the

evolution from an economy heavily reliant on auto manufacturing.

As to the state of the province, Liz mentioned that the health system is not providing enough. Almost ½ of the provincial budget goes to health care and the impression of the population is that it is not improving the quality of our care. There are over 1M people in Ontario without a family doctor who are forced to use emergency facilities partially because of an exodus of Doctors to other provinces (mainly the west).

Economically, Ontario is now back of the pack with 230,000 jobs lost permanently since 2004 with another 250,000 jobs potentially hanging in the balance over the next 5 years. It will be important in the future for the province to become more competitive with taxes and improve the integration of immigrants into the work force to create export type work (whether product or services). Unfortunately, under Dalton McGuinty, there has been created 42,000 public service jobs which have offered promise of false prosperity by significantly increasing the burden on taxpayers. The upcoming Ontario Economic statement expected October 22 may include a deficit for the first time in many years.

There is an current exodus of workers from our province to western Canada chasing higher wages and the job creation afforded by the Western natural resource based economies. Our Ontario Apprenticeship program is flawed and failing at the task of creating the next generation of skilled workers due to union intervention and inattention.

Bottom line is that Ontario needs to encourage job growth by reducing the burden on companies with respect to taxes and regulation to address

our current situation and establish a long term prosperity plan for the province and its residents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance

There were 27 members and 3 guests in attendance.

50/50 Draw

Congratulations to Gerry Muller who was the deserving winner of a pot of \$23.50.

Halloween Party

Gerry Muller announced the annual Halloween Party will be held November 1st. He will be sending an email out with the invitation to everyone.



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District Conference

Thanks to all who attended the recent District Conference in Brampton. The topic of the day was very informative and important to the future of our club. Look for a future presentation from the attendees and an open club discussion of the issues we (and all) clubs face for the future.

Thanks to : John Scace, Thea Holdevici, Kathi Smith, Paul Walman, Rob Dippell and Seung-Mi.

Mudpuppy Chase

Thanks to those Rotarians who have stepped forward to help with this year's Mudpuppy Chase. We are still looking for some more committee members. If you are interested, please contact John Dobson to let him know!

Email: John.Dobson@emerson.com

Skate 48

Only **123** days until Skate 48-2008!

We need to start thinking about teams now to get them booked in for our event!



Hotel Liaison

Our liaison with the hotel is Andrew McGauley. If you have suggestions, cancellations, compliments or complaints for the hotel, please pass them on to Andrew.

Do You Know Someone Who Would Make a Great Rotarian?

Think about the people you interact with on a weekly basis and consider inviting them out to our club – your pharmacist, vet, doctor, community volunteer, former Rotarian, colleague, retailer, ...

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Our goal is to end the year with net one new member.

Group Study Exchange – Evening at Blue Moon



Our club will host this year's team from Australia (along with the other four KW clubs) during the last week of October. The

team is now half way thru their exchange and will be arriving into the custody of the KW cluster on Friday the 24th. There is a welcoming party at the Blue Moon on Saturday night October 25th. Based on their presentation at the District Conference, it is apparent that they do enjoy a beer or two so please plan on coming out to greet our guests and show them a good welcome.

Thanks to the volunteers from the club who have volunteered to assist in driving the GSE'ers around on their October 30th Vocational day: Thanks to: Peter McCann, Martin Ward, Rob Dippell

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

Rotary International is encouraging Rotarians to make a small donation of \$100US every year to the Rotary Foundation. A \$100 annual contribution from club members makes you a sustaining member. You can donate \$100 directly to the Canadian office of the Rotary Foundation or you can request that you are billed quarterly as part of your club billings. To learn more about

making direct donations through the Canadian site go to: <http://www.trfcanada.org/>

Looking for a Rotary Club to Make-up?

Kitchener Club – Monday at noon at Delta Hotel Kitchener

Waterloo Club – Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Laurel Room at U of W

Kitchener Westmount Club – Wednesday at noon at Delta Hotel Kitchener

Cambridge North –

Cambridge Preston Hespeler

Cambridge Sunrise

Kitchener Conestoga Club – Friday at noon at Westmount Golf & Country Club

For other clubs in the area, log on to www.rotary7080.org and click on where and when clubs meet. Make-ups are a great way to learn more about Rotary!!

The Bulletin (& speaker ideas)

Please forward any information for publication or ideas for speakers (to forward to PODS) to Kathi Smith at smithkathi@sympatico.ca

Upcoming PODS

November/08 Andrew McGauley-Leader

John Murray, Dave Timlock, Blair Haley, Justin Nesbitt, Jeff Righton, Kathi Smith

December/08 Jon Kaufman-Leader

Duane Eby, Dennis Yanke, Mitch Blain, Thea Holdevici, Peter McCann, Wes Haynes

January/09 Leader: to be determined

Gerry Muller, Len Brunen, Glenn Stewart, Lindsay Restagno, John Scace, Lisa Klimstra (Smith), Dave Moser

February/09 Paul Walman-Leader

Tony Maruna, Martin Ward, Deanna Brenneman, Tom Burns, Darryl Dalke, Sharon McMorran

March/09 Doug Edwards-Leader

Mark Caldwell, Fraser Moull, Des Gibb, Rod Goetz, Mark Grossman, Anne Brubacher

Coming Soon to Your Rotary Club:

October 28 – Australian GSE Team

November 4 – Marg Manias – Long Term Planning

November 11 - Geoffrey Hayes – “Remembering” a great meeting to bring family and friends