



1 ROTARY CLUB OF KITCHENER-GRAND RIVER BULLETIN

January 13, 2009

John Swatuk, University of Waterloo, Director of Development

	January 13	January 20	January 27
Sgt. At Arms	<i>January/09 Glenn Stewart –Leader</i>	<i>Bruce Ritter, Healthy Eating</i>	<i>Dr. Anthony Hutchison, Brampton Community Resource Centre</i>
50/50 Draw	<i>Gerry Muller, Len Brunen,</i>		
Greeter	<i>Lindsay Restagno, John Scace, Lisa Klimstra (Smith), Dave Moser</i>		
Blessing			
Introduction			
Thank-You			

Last Meeting: Martha George, Pres & CEO of GVCA

We were joined by Martha George who serves as the President and CEO of the Grand Valley Construction Association (GVCA). Martha is a past member of the Kitchener Rotary Club.



The GVCA is an association that provides resources, information and educational opportunities for its members who are in the construction (and related) industries in the Grand Valley area comprising the counties of Brant, Dufferin, Grey, Wellington, as well as the districts of Norfolk, Haldiman, and the Regional Municipality of Waterloo.

The GVCA was formed in 1974 and is located in Cambridge. It is the 3rd largest construction association in Ontario and the 4th largest in Canada with 610 members in the ICI (Industrial, Commercial and Institutional) industries. They provide many services to their

members including training seminars, recognition events, electronic newsletters, an exam centre for construction and project management and an electronic plans room that includes opportunities across Ontario (and soon, across Canada).

The construction industry is an important one that employs over 1 million persons throughout Canada, it represents 12% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) when considering its impacts on all sectors of the economy, and it maintains and repairs over \$5 trillion in assets.

The size of and average construction firm is 5 or less with the average age of a construction worker of 46 years. Problems loom for the industry for the future as a result of the current shortage of skilled trades in Ontario that will be exacerbated by the aging population and difficulties in attracting new employees to the industry. The current shortage is partially a result of Ontario's apprenticeship ratios of 3:1 which are controlled by trade unions and are the highest in Canada. On the positive side, our region is fortunate as we have good base of educational facilities targeting construction

including Conestoga College programs in Architecture/Construction Engineering Technology, UW Architectural and Engineering programs and the new Masonry Training Centre in Waterloo.

Safety is a critical issue for the industry and it is highly regulated. The GVCA works with safety organizations, WSIB, the Ministry of Labour to ensure that its members have access to the most up to date information on prevention to create a safe workplace for all workers.

Other important issues for the industry include the Construction Lien Act which is outdated and does not afford appropriate protection to contractors and constructors.

The current anxiety about the economy (which is at least partially media built) will create trying times for the industry in 2009 but there are positives. The industry will continue to be busy with renovation, redevelopment and insurance work and with low interest rates; construction is expected to continue to be strong as the country responds to shifting demographics and the aging population. The Crystal Ball report for 2009 indicates contemplated and confirmed construction projects of over \$600 million for the current year.

Also on the agenda for current and future years is to advance the technology of environmentally friendly development.

In summary, construction can be a risky and potentially dangerous place to work but also can be a rewarding and exciting industry with good prospects for the future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations

Congratulations to Paul and Revie Walman who's first granddaughter was born over the holiday season!

Lunch Program Donation



The donation of the proceeds of the Holiday Seasonal Party to the KCI lunch program has now amounted to \$500 after some late collections and the donation of the November and December 50/50 card draw proceeds by Bill Muirhead! Congratulations to everyone who has help to "feed their minds and bodies"!

50/50 Draw

Congratulations to Sharon McMorran who won the weekly draw proceeds of \$26.50.

Attendance

There were 31 members in attendance at the last meeting.

Upcoming Fundraisers



Please mark your calendars for the dates of Skate 48-February 21 and the Mudpuppy-May 3rd. The attendance of all members

is needed to help make these events a success!

Parking

Parking downtown for the Walper is going to be an issue for the next year as construction is due to begin soon on a new downtown parking garage on the lot at the corner of Charles and Benton. A map of alternate parking locations is attached.

Allocations

Chair of the Allocations Committee Joanne Renaud is searching for members to assist in identifying and evaluating worthy recipients of money we have raised with our fundraisers. Anyone interested in joining this committee should contact Joanne at Joanne.Renaud@td.com.

Visioning Session

Our club is scheduled to complete a Visioning session as facilitated by the district on Saturday January 24th. In this regard we are

looking for volunteers from the membership to participate in this Visioning session to help establish the future path for the club to follow for the medium and long term. It is preferable that we get as many members to participate as possible in this process. The session would be an interactive discussion of your hopes, views and expectations of our club to help us set plans to move from "where we are" to "where we want to be" over the next 5 years. The requirements would be for participants to attend the session for 5-6 hours on Saturday January 24th (approximately from 9:00am-2:00pm) at a location to be determined. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Please consider attending as the input from this session will help to solidify our club's plans for the long term.

If you would like to participate or if you have any questions, please contact Robert Dippell at rdippell@knells.ca.

New Addition to Bulletin

Starting next week, we will add a new feature to the bulletin that will introduce you to the members of our club. We will be having short interviews with the club member that will give you a little more insight to interests, talents and passions. ***If you have questions that you would like answered – forward them to your bulletin editor.*** Watch for it!! Tony Maruna will be contacting you.

Directory Photos

Good news!! I got a new camera for Christmas. Over the next month, I will be updating the photos for the Directory as it has been a few years since the last photos were taken. Take this as a warning!!

Mudpuppy Sponsorship Committee

The committee raising money for Mudpuppy is comprised of Mitch Blaine, Joanne Renaud, Peter McCann, Tom Burns and Glenn Stewart. They are asking the club to come up with one possible lead to pass on to them. The goal is to try to find \$500 sponsors. Mudpuppy Chase is May 3.

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

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,

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



Rotary International is encouraging Rotarians to make a small donation of \$100 US 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.trfcanda.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 – Wednesday at noon at 20 Hobson Street (formerly Blackshop)

Cambridge Preston Hespeler – Thursday at noon at the Cambridge Golf club

Cambridge Sunrise –Friday at 7 am at the Cambridge Golf Club

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!!

February 10 – Jack Tacoma, “The Rise & Fall of Rotary Clubs

The Bulletin (& speaker ideas)

Please forward any information for publication to Kathi Smith at smithkathi@sympatico.ca and any speaker ideas to Mitch Blaine at mitchell.blaine@cbre.com

Upcoming PODS

February/09 Paul Walman-Leader

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

March/09 Doug Edwards-Leader

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

April/09 Pat Schlitt – Leader

Rupert Hanson, Kathi Smith, Jim MacArthur, Jim McIntyre, Bill Brown, Bill Muirhead

May/09 Doug Jones – Leader

Andrew McGauley, Dave Timlock, Joanne Renaud, Thea Holdevici, Justin Nesbitt, Jeff Righton

April/09 Peter McCann – Leader

Jon Kaufman, Duane Eby, Dennis Yanke, Mitch Blaine, John Murray, Blair Haley

Coming Soon to Your Rotary Club:

January 20 – Bruce Ritter (Anne Brubacher’s brother) Healthy Eating

January 27 – Dr. Anthony Hutchison, Brampton Community Resource Centre