

**The Guelph-Wellington Men's Club**

**40th ANNUAL MEETING**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT for 2016-2017**

**Tuesday, October 31, 2017**

## INTRODUCTION

The Guelph-Wellington Men's Club (GWMC) is a club for retired men from business, the professions, government, education, academia and many other backgrounds who meet on Tuesday mornings for talks, discussion and camaraderie that flow from shared activities. This is accomplished in many ways; foremost are weekly meetings with outstanding speakers chosen from a broad range of disciplines and backgrounds. Others include various social, sports and entertainment activities, which some share with our companions. Our Mission is to build relationships in an environment of fellowship where trust and laughter remain the principle objectives. As members, our greatest asset is to provide generous support to carry out the programs of the Club through volunteering. It is this vital participation that allows us to remain connected in what John Woods termed "the most successful Club in Guelph". As a previous Club president observed, "The most valuable part of your Retirement Savings Plan is your emotional circle, and it can't be bought". Thank you to all the volunteers that make enjoyable and educational things happen.

The past year marked the **40<sup>th</sup> year** of the Guelph-Wellington Men's Club. What follows is meant as a brief synopsis of the Administration and Events of the GWMC in the twelve months ending August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. I hope that this review will provide some evidence of the many good things that have happened. However, it's necessary to specifically thank **Alan Green** who served as president with inimitable style, humour and dedication resulting in an exciting and successful year for our Club.

## ADMINISTRATION

### Board of Directors

#### Officers:

President	<b>Alan Green</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	<b>Charlie Whittaker</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice-President	<b>David Bain</b>
Past President	<b>Ian Millar</b>
Treasurer	<b>Keith Devolin</b>
Assistant Treasurer	<b>Howard Simpson</b>
Membership Secretary	<b>Rob Lindsay</b>
Secretary	<b>Ron Dolynchuk</b>

Bulletin Editor: **Alan Morrell**

Website: **Randy Cook**

**Directors to 31st August 2017:** **Jim Clarke, John Hart, Jim Mottin, Dan Moziar, Jim Pettit, Dale Pickering**

**Directors to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018:** **Graham Ford, Glen Froom, Jim Howse, Ian McMillan, John Prescott, Jack Schill**

The Club is thankful that second vice-president **David Bain** courageously and competently stepped into the role of first vice-president following the death of **Charlie Whittaker** on March 28, 2017.

In conjunction with the Board of Directors, most of the **Administration** is carried out through the **Finance, Membership and Communications Committees. Indeed all other Committees, while also a lot of work and fun, are very important to the success of our Club.**

### **Finance**

As required in the By-Laws, the Treasurer on behalf of the Finance Committee presents a statement of the financial affairs of the Club together with the financial reviewer's report at each Annual General Meeting. **Gary Christie**, stepping in for **Keith Devolin**, delivered the annual report to the membership October 25, 2016. **Keith Devolin** was ably introduced to the Club's accounting system by **Malcolm Coutts** and by **Howard Simpson** in collecting Club dues. A special thanks go to **Joe Valeriote** and **Peter Stonehouse** for their continuing diligence in the review and reporting of the financial records of the Club.

### **Membership and Roster**

According to Club By-Laws, Active Membership is limited to 350, primarily due to the size of the meeting room at the Italian Canadian Club. There are also Associate Members who come infrequently to meetings. As of August 31, 2017 Club membership totaled 353 including 324 Active, 26 Associate and 3 Life members.

**Rob Lindsay**, Membership Secretary, has provided the following Membership changes for the year ending: August 31, 2017:

- 30 deaths of which 15 were active members, 2 were associate members, 1 a life member and 12 who had previously resigned.
- 21 new members were accepted
- 23 resignations of which 18 were actives and 5 were associates
- 13 members shifted from active to associate status
- 1 member shifted from associate to active

The Club is greatly indebted to Rob, assisted by **Gord Curl**, for their labours in keeping track of 353 of us - and more.

## Communications

In addition to weekly announcements of upcoming events, there are two excellent modes of written Communication with members, namely the:

1. **Club Bulletin:** The bulletin provides the membership with timely and complete information on Club news and activities. **Ken Jeffrey** takes on the role of bulletin editor from **Alan Morrell** beginning with the September 2017 issue. Thanks go to Alan who has admirably served as editor since 2015; and a special thanks to **Alan Green** for his continued service as ‘official’ club photographer for event and members’ photos.
2. **Club Website:** In 2007 the Club moved to more of the ‘on-line’ mode of communication. **Randy Cook** became the Webmaster and has done an excellent job of organizing a great deal of information in an easy to find manner and this includes the monthly Bulletins, history, dates of events etc. It is easy to find information in this way: **be sure to check it out at—**

[www.guelphwellingtonmensclub.ca](http://www.guelphwellingtonmensclub.ca)

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

The weekly meeting is the ‘main event’ of our Club and it starts with the **Program Committee** getting excellent speakers for each meeting. This role was under the direction of **Bruce Donaldson** for the past year. It was an excellent year of programming with a wide diversity of informative topics.

In addition to the Program Committee, there are many committees involved in the smooth functioning of each meeting throughout the year. There are more than 140 members involved in Committees in our Club in addition to about 100 involved as greeters. There is some overlap in these duties but these **volunteer members are the key element in the success of our Club** as they are busy people involved in doing things with smiles on their faces. The old saying that “Many hands make work light” is very appropriate, but still some jobs are not light when you do them every week.

**HOUSE COMMITTEE**, under **John Hart**, includes the **Audio Visual (Mike Peleschak - chair)**, **Badge Board and Refreshments (Wynne Wright – chair)**, **Colour Party (Bill Irving – chair)**, **Emergency Planning (Provan Wylie – chair)** and **Defibrillator (David Churchill – chair)** sub-Committees. The **Anthem and Greeters (Jim Pettit - chair)** and **Thought of the Day (Jim Mottin - chair)** Committees are busy at each meeting doing an excellent job and **Gord Kuder’s** end of meeting stories always send us off with a chuckle.

The **Health of Members** Committee under the Chair of **John Prescott** keeps us informed of the ailments of members and, for most, their progress to recovery. In addition this committee also brings us up to date on milestones in our members' lives such as wedding anniversaries of 50 or more years and birthdays of 80 or more years.

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Awards and Donations

**25-Year Member honored: Bruce McCorquodale** joined in 1992 reaching his 25-year membership mark during the 2016-2017 year.

**The Awards Committee**, chaired by **Ian Millar**, selected the following local Community groups to receive the Club's financial support:

1. The Annual Club Award, presented at the Anniversary Dinner in 2016 to a deserving community charity group: **Chalmers Community Service Centre** - \$2,500.00
2. Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph, Kenneth P. Greenaway Awards - \$1000.00
3. Centre Wellington Food Bank - \$200.00

**Archives and History Committee** was under the auspices of **Alan Green** with **David Hull** coordinating the Club's archives which are deposited regularly with the Guelph Public Library. **Peter Moore** has agreed to update the Club's formal history that is provided to all new members.

**Audio-Visual Committee** has been under the expert and tireless leadership of **Mike Peleschak** since 1996 who has now retired and handed over the reins of the committee to **Steve Scadding**. Renovations to our meeting room at the Italian Canadian Club continued to provide technical challenges for the AV Committee. As illnesses and vacations occur, the AV table is sometimes down to only one or two operators so please **volunteer and join today** by going over to the AV table and introducing yourself.

**Club Choir** continues as a vital component to Club fellowship with **Ian McMillan** as board rep and **Ivor Wright** as choir chair. With membership declining to 25 choristers new and hidden talent is always welcome. Choir practices are held at the ICC every Tuesday from 8:30 to 9:30 when there is a Club meeting, but it does take the summer off to refresh vocal chords. Please feel free to give the Choir a try and maybe you will regain that "old black magic" or indeed move out of the shower and into the performance hall.

**Nominations Committee**, chaired by **Ian Millar** is always on the lookout for Club members willing to volunteer to take a two year position on the Board of Directors. Be ready to say **YES** when asked to take on one of the many board tasks that make the Guelph-Wellington Men's Club the place you want to be on Tuesday mornings.

**SOCIAL EVENTS:** The Club continues to sponsor a variety of special and mixed social events:

**Anniversary Dinner** - committee chaired by **Glen Froom**

**Christmas Luncheon** - committee chaired by **Jim Howse**

**Spring Luncheon** - committee chaired by **Jim Clarke**

**Bridge and Euchre** aficionados continue to meet weekly

### **Tours and Lunch**

Another successful year of excellent tours was organized by the Tours and Lunch Committee for the 2016 – 2017 season. The Club thanks **Jack Schill** and committee for their contribution to the success of the Tours and Lunch program. The following is a list of tours which were presented:

September 21, 2016 – Bill Harrison Classic Car Collection (48 participants)

November 22, 2016 - Dixon Distillery (36 participants)

January 31, 2017 – University of Guelph Athletic Centre (52 participants)

February 25, 2017 – Wellington County Museum “War Horse Exhibit” (33 participants)

May 9, 2017 – Canadian Towing (41 participants)

June 20, 2017 – Woodrill Farms (50 participants)

**Special Events Committee: Dan Moziar**, chair

**Night at the Races** sub-committee chaired by **Gord Kuder**

September 12, 2016 – Grand River Raceway – Elora

**Theatre Visits** sub-committee chaired by **John Campbell**

October 26, 2016 – Footloose at Dunfield Theatre

May 25, 2017 – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat at Drayton

**It should be remembered that these events are for all members and not just those with companions.** Both **vegetarian meals** and **gluten-free** meals are available if requested for social luncheon or evening dinner events.

**Sporting Events Committee: Dale Pickering**, chair

This year **Ted Pritchard** and committee organized two golf events (September 21, 2016 and June 21, 2017) and **Lawrie Jackson** worked hard on organizing the Blue Jays game outing (August 12, 2017). Much effort goes into planning these events, and we acknowledge our appreciation to the organizers and their committees.

### **New Initiatives for 2015-2016**

This was an active year for implementation of recommendations made by the New Initiatives Committee chaired by **Graham Ford**:

> November 15, 2016: An orientation session was held for newly inducted Club members.

- > May 2, 2017: The second annual ‘Cambridge Style’ debate took place addressing the topic “Be it resolved that the Guelph-Wellington Men’s Club place on record its belief that while climate change is an unwelcome fact of life, it is a natural phenomenon and therefore the problems it causes cannot be solved by human intervention”.

## Conclusion

Overall, 2016 - 2017 was a very good year for our Club. Its objectives have again met our expectations of gaining much knowledge and having great fellowship.

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## The Guelph-Wellington Men’s Club Award

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Award is to encourage and reward individuals and / or groups who have made a unique and outstanding contribution toward enhancing the quality of life, development of human resources, improving the environment or beautifying the landscape of the community served by the Guelph Wellington Men’s Club.

**Nomination:** Any Club Member may make a nomination. **The Nomination must** be accompanied by a brief description of the contribution made to the community. The Awards Committee will choose the winner from the nominations. **Nomination Forms** are available from the GWMC Secretary and online.

**Schedule:** Nominations close at the end of June. The Award Presentation will be made at the Club’s Anniversary Dinner.

**Eligible recipients** may be:

- An Individual
- A Group
- An Organization
- An Institution

**Recipient(s)** must reside or be located in the area served by the Guelph Wellington Men’s Club. The administration of this award will be carried out by the Awards Committee of the Club.

The Award is in the Amount of **\$1,500.00**

If there are no nominations or if in the opinion of the Awards Committee, none is worthy, the award will be omitted for that year. An award may be made posthumously. Recipients will not be reconsidered for the award until ten years have lapsed.

## Previous Award Recipients

- 1985 – Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)
- 1986 – Gordon Couling (posthumously)
- 1987 – Guelph Horticultural Society
- 1988 – Guelph Historical Society
- 1989 – Rotary Club of Guelph Wellington (Abbeyfield House)
- 1990 – Wellington District Boy Scouts Association
- 1991 – Guelph Humane Society
- 1992 – Wellington Hospice Care
- 1993 – Sister Christine Leyser / Gladys Yates
- 1994 – The Guelph Children Singers
- 1995 – Adair Hannah / Big Brothers Association
- 1996 – The Guelph Concert Band
- 1997 – Onward Willow & Neighbourhood Group
- 1998 – Wyndham House
- 1999 – The Alzheimer Society of Guelph
- 2000 – Wellington Hospitality Connection of Community Chaplaincy
- 2001 – Guelph Food Bank
- 2002 – Sunrise Equestrian & Recreation Centre for the Disabled
- 2003 – St. Joseph's Voluntary Care Association
- 2004 – Change Now Youth 12-24 Day Program & Overnight
- 2005 – Guelph-Wellington Stroke Recovery Network
- 2006 – Women in Crisis
- 2007 = Royal Canadian Legion Branch 234
- 2008 – The Community Inclusion Program of Guelph Independent Living
- 2009 – Charles James Whittaker Landscape Beautification Program
- 2010 – IODE Victoria Guelph Chapter
- 2011 – Beginnings Family Services



2012 – Loyola House, Old Growth Forest

2013 – Living on Less Program, St. James the Apostle Anglican Church

2014 – The Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington

2015 – Griefwalk

2016 – Chalmers Community Service Centre

## In Memoriam 2016- 2017

Howard S. Parkinson		September-16	Resigned Dec/15
Robert P. Treleaven		September-16	Resigned Aug/10
Joe J. Young		October-16	Resigned Nov/15
Wes Scarrow		October-16	ACTIVE
Richard Blake		November-16	ACTIVE
Louis Szabo		November-16	ASSOCIATE
George Fleming		November-16	Resigned Nov/15
Doug McLaren		December-16	Resigned Nov/14
John Burrows		December-16	Resigned Aug/16
Searle (Si) Keir		January-17	ACTIVE
Don Perry		December-16	ACTIVE
Edron Thomas Granger		February-17	ACTIVE
Ken Ferguson		March-17	ACTIVE
Charlie Whittaker		March-17	ACTIVE
Fred A. Hoffman		April-17	ACTIVE
Murray Mathieson		April-17	LIFE
Vladimir F. Rasper		April-17	ACTIVE
Hugh S. Hardy		April-17	ASSOCIATE
E. Barry Hubble		May-17	ACTIVE
Harold Chapman		May-17	ACTIVE
Heinz E Braun		May-17	ACTIVE
D. Carl Jordan		May-17	Resigned Sep/16
Ernest H. Gilliatt		June-17	ACTIVE
John (Jack) C. Watson		July-17	Resigned Oct/13
Ken J. Woods		July-17	Resigned Nov/16
Robert C. Wright		July-17	Resigned Dec/16
Keith Ronald		July-17	ACTIVE
Albert P. (Al) Budra		August-17	ACTIVE
Garnet Norrish		August-17	Resigned Jan/16
Harry P. Burt		August-17	Resigned Nov/16

## **Resignations**

**2016-2017**

Richard Barham	Don Pletsch
Harry Burt	J. Harold Reed
Terry Crowley	Jeff Robinson
Ed Curtis	John Runge
Al Dilella	Jim Runions
Ken Gregory	Bob Sheard
Aubrey Hagar	Nels Strader
Warren Hamilton	Don Sutherland
Carl Jadeski	Peter Wilson
D. Carl Jordan	Ken Woods
Don Lawson	James Chris Young
Klaus Niemann	

## **New Members**

**2016-2017**

Bill Blackie	Gerry Hyde
Don Crow	Dick Haas
Art Cutten	Thom Herrmann
Bruce Elliott	John Keleher
David Elliott	Doug Rodenburg
Don Enns	Helmuth Slisarenko
Jack Findley	David C. Smith
Gerald Friars	Clive Southey
Joseph Hanlon	Irving Stinson
J. Wayne Hawkes	Bruno Will
Cas Herold	

## **Associate to Active Status**

**2016-2017**

Rusty Lovelock

## **Active to Associate Status**

**2016-2017**

Bob Aldis	Hugh Rose
Frank Cerniuk	Bill Richardson
Ted Clarke	James R Stevens
Ken Grant	Peter Valentine
I. Neil McLaren	Art Waters
Jim McKinnon	Bob Wright
David Pell	