

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

**41st ANNUAL MEETING**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT for 2017-2018**

**Tuesday, October 30, 2018**

## 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 **41<sup>st</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 covering the period **September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018**. I hope that this review will provide some evidence of the many good things that have happened. However, it's necessary to specifically thank **David Bain** for his service as Club president with style, enthusiasm, enlightenment and educational focus making it an overall exciting and successful year for our Club.

## ADMINISTRATION

### Board of Directors

#### Officers:

President  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
 Past President  
 Treasurer  
 Assistant Treasurer  
 Membership Secretary  
 Secretary

**David Bain**  
**Dale Lockie**  
**Jim Howse**  
**Alan Green**  
**Keith Devolin**  
**Howard Simpson**  
**Rob Lindsay**  
**Ron Dolynchuk**

Bulletin Editor: **Ken Jeffrey**

Website: **Randy Cook**

#### Directors to 31st August 2018:

**Graham Ford, Glen Froom, Jim Howse,  
 Ian McMillan, John Prescott, Jack Schill**

#### Directors to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019:

**Allan Dyer, Wayne Hawkes, Thom Herrmann  
 Jim McQueen, Ralph Sykes, David Walpole**

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. Treasurer **Keith Devolin**, delivered the financial report for 2016-2017 to the membership at the October 31, 2017 AGM. **Keith Devolin** was assisted by Assistant Treasurer **Howard Simpson** in managing Club banking and collection of members' 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.

## **Annual Budget and Fees**

Each May, the Finance Committee (**Jim Howse** – Chair) presents its recommendations to the Board with respect to a proposed Annual Budget and on changes to membership and initiation fees for the next year. On the committee's recommendation, an increase of \$5.00 in the annual Active membership dues from \$115.00 to \$120.00, an increase of \$10.00 from \$20.00 to \$30.00 for Associates and an increase of \$10.00 in the initiation fee from \$60.00 to \$70.00 was presented and approved at the Club's General Meeting on June 5, 2018.

## **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, 2018 Club membership totaled 355 including 320 Active, 31 Associate and 4 Life members. Just days after the end of the fiscal year, long-time Life member, T.K. (Sandy) Warley passed away.

**Rob Lindsay**, Membership Secretary, has provided the following Membership changes for the year ending: August 31, 2018:

- 17 deaths of which 9 were Active members, 2 were Associate members and 6 who had previously resigned.
- 27 new members were accepted
- 13 resignations of which 10 were Actives and 3 were Associates
- 8 members shifted from Active to Associate status
- 1 member, (George Hughes), was elevated from Active status to Life member status.

The Club is greatly indebted to **Rob Lindsay**, assisted by **Gord Curl**, for their labours in keeping track of 355 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 monthly Club bulletin provides the membership with timely and complete information on Club news and activities. **Ken Jeffrey** took on the role of bulletin editor beginning with the September 2017 issue. 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 a more ‘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** continuing to attract excellent speakers for each meeting. This role was under the direction of **Allan Dyer** for the past year. A new feature, quarterly program evaluations, enable the committee to engage speakers to match members’ interests on 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 130 members involved in Committees in our Club in addition to the many 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 **Gary Thomson**, includes the **Audio Visual** (**Steve Scadding** - 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 **Anthems** (**Ian McMillan** – chair), **Greeters** (**Wayne Hawkes** - chair) and **Thought for the Day** (**Graham Ford** - 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.

**Of note**, the Emergency Planning and Defibrillator committees have been amalgamated into an **Emergency Response Committee**. Two subcommittees are the **Evacuation** and the **First Aid / Defibrillation Teams**. The first Fire Drill evacuation at a Club meeting successfully took place on August 7, 2017 (without incident).

**Audio-Visual Committee:** Club meeting are supported with technical services under the expert leadership of **Steve Scadding**. Renovations to our meeting room at the Italian Canadian Club continued to provide 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.

The **Health of Members** Committee lead by **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

**Life Member honoured:** An Active member since 2006, **George Hughes** was proposed and voted a Life Member of the Guelph-Wellington Men's Club. George has served as Club president (2012 – 2013) and continues to provide advice and support to Club presidents and board of directors.

**25-Year Members honored:** Six members joining in 1993 reached the 25-year membership mark during the **2017-2018** year with badges being presented in November this year.

Jack Galin – Life member	Don Parr
Ron Hayes	Bill Winegard
Freeman McEwen	Jack Zavitz

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

1. The Annual Club Award, presented at the Anniversary Dinner in 2017 to a deserving community charity group: **Guelph Symphony Orchestra** - \$1,500.00
2. Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph, Kenneth P. Greenaway Awards - \$1000.00

**Archives and History Committee** was under the auspices of **David Bain** 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.

**Club Choir:** The Club choir continues as a vital component of Club fellowship with **Ian McMillan** as board rep and **Ivor Wright** as choir chair. Practices, led by choir director **Frank Parkinson**, are held at the ICC every Tuesday morning from 8:30 to 9:30. 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. The choir goes on-the-road five times a year to perform at local retirement and long term care facilities. Its performance at our Remembrance Day meeting is a highlight of the Club year.

**Nominations Committee**, chaired by **Alan Green** 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 continued to sponsor a variety of special and mixed social events during the 2017 – 2018 year:

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon**– October 24, 2017 - committee chaired by **Glen Froom**

**Christmas Luncheon** – December 12, 2017 - committee chaired by **Jim McQueen**

**Spring Luncheon** – April 10, 2018 - committee chaired by **David Walpole**

**Bridge and Euchre** aficionados continue to meet weekly on Thursdays.

### **Tours and Lunch**

Another successful year of excellent tours was organized by the Tours and Lunch Committee for the 2017 – 2018 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:

- October 10, 2017 – Wike Manufacturing (33 participants)
- November 10, 2017 – Waterloo Museum (34 participants)
- January 30, 2018 – Wellington Brewery (50 participants)
- February 20, 2018 – Superior Glove (38 participants)
- March 27, 2018 – OVC Animal Cancer Clinic (34 participants)
- August 28, 2018 – Quality Engineered Homes (40 participants)

**Special Events Committee: Ralph Sykes**, chair

**Night at the Races** sub-committee chaired by **Gord Kuder**  
September 11, 2017 – Grand River Raceway – Elora

**Theatre Visits** sub-committee chaired by **John Campbell**  
May 10, 2018 – West Side Story at St. Jacob's Country Playhouse

**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: Thom Herrmann** - chair

This year **Jack Schill** and committee organized two golf events (September 20, 2017 and June 20, 2018) and **Lawrie Jackson** worked hard on organizing the Blue Jays game outing (September 8, 2018). Much effort goes into planning these events, and we acknowledge our appreciation to the organizers and their committees.

## **New Initiatives:**

**New Initiatives Committee** presented two events with **Dale Lockie** as chair.

- > November 28, 2017: An orientation session was held for 20 newly inducted Club members.
- > February 6, 2018: The second annual 'Cambridge Style' debate (newly renamed **The John Patrick Kyba Debate**) took place addressing the topic "*Be it resolved that: It is time for additional curbs on free speech*".

**New Club initiatives** for 2017 – 2018:

- > A **Ride Program** for the support of Club members requiring mobility assistance is now provided by volunteer Club members. Driver contacts can be found on the Club website.
- > A **Support Network** of Club volunteers prepared to assist fellow members experiencing life's hardships and trials was developed and introduced to the members in May through the bulletin and Club website.
- > A Club **Brochure** proposed by President **David Bain** for the purposes of awareness and membership development were available for distribution in April 2018.

## **Conclusion**

Overall, 2017 - 2018 was a very good year for our Club. Its objectives have again met our expectations of gaining knowledge and having great fellowships.

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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

2017 – Guelph Symphony Orchestra

### **In Memoriam 2017- 2018**

Aubrey Hagar	September-17	Resigned Nov-16
Peter Wilson	September-17	Resigned Nov-16
James Runions	October-17	Resigned Nov-16
Bruce McCorquodale	October-17	ACTIVE
Russ Lott	November-17	ACTIVE
John Patrick Kyba	November-17	ACTIVE
Gordon Woodall	December-17	ACTIVE
James L. McKinnon	December-17	ASSOCIATE
Bill Bell	January-18	Resigned Nov-17
Chris Young	January-18	Resigned Mar-17
Brock Pilkey	February-18	ACTIVE
William G. Richardson	March-18	ASSOCIATE
Russell Willoughby	April-18	ACTIVE
C. Ross Thomson	May-18	ACTIVE
William (Bill) Raffan	May-18	ACTIVE
J. Frank Hurnik	June-18	Resigned Aug-14
Carl Rosenquist	June-18	ACTIVE

### **Resignations 2017-2018**

Bill Bell	Bill Braithwaite
John Campbell	George Charbonneau
Alan Hill	David Levy
Sam Luker	Bruce McLeod
Dan Mozier	David Pell
Garnet Shoup	Ian Smith
Art Waters	

**New Members  
2017-2018**

Clay Switzer	Doug Black
Zoltan Petrany	Terry Few
Steven Faehrmann	John Hewings
Phil Allt	Craig Cornell
Terry Windle	Bob Thompson
Brian Magee	Jack Upsdell
Tim Tentcher	Ken Frey
Rob Morris	Ron Taborek
Scott Jamieson	Chris Clark
Ken Murray	Ken LeLacheur
Bill Grexton	Tom Watson
Harley Nicholson	Jonathan Webb
Tony Martin	Chris Harrison
Owen Shewfelt	

**Active to Associate Status  
2017-2018**

Andy Kozakavich	Ken Reeve
John Caron	Gord MacFarlane
Barry Athoe	Gord Froom
Lane Van Geest	Tom Hlland

**Respectfully submitted, Ron Dolynchuk, Secretary**

**October 30, 2018**