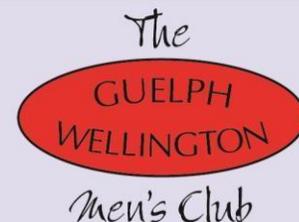


GUELPH-WELLINGTON MEN'S CLUB
BULLETIN

Opportunities for learning and fellowship through weekly meetings, social and sporting events

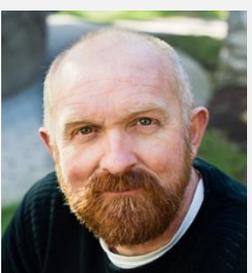


President: Jim Sanders
Vice President: John Hart
Treasurer: Keith Devolin
Secretary: Ron Dolynchuk

GWMC Website:
www.guelphwellingtonmensclub.ca

May 2021

Program: May speakers arranged by Bruce Donaldson

<p><u>4 May</u> Speaker: Len Freisen History Professor Wilfred Laurier University</p> <p>“THE PEARL HARBOUR ATTACK “ (What on earth were they thinking?)</p>		<p>Anthem Steven Henrikson Keith Conrad</p> <p>Thought for the day: Bruce Stone</p> <p>Introduction: Bruce Donaldson Thanks: Dave Ireland</p>
<p><u>11 May</u> Speaker: Jeremy Shute Senior Planner/ Chief Social Impact Officer Shared Value Solutions</p> <p>“SPEED TO THE SEA “</p>		<p>Anthem Steven Henrikson Keith Conrad</p> <p>Thought for the day: Steven Henrikson</p> <p>Introduction: Bruce Donaldson Thanks: Roger Hacker</p>
<p><u>18 May</u> Speaker: Brent McKenzie Associate Professor, Marketing and Consumer Studies, College of Business & Economics University of Guelph</p> <p>“RESEARCH IN THE BALTIC STATES”</p>		<p>Anthem Steven Henrikson Keith Conrad</p> <p>Thought for the day: Cas Herold</p> <p>Introduction: Bruce Donaldson Thanks: Ken Hills</p>
<p><u>25 May</u> Speaker: Jonathon Kelly Senior Wealth Advisor Meridian Credit Union</p> <p>“ETHICAL INVESTMENTS “</p>		<p>Anthem Steven Henrikson Keith Conrad</p> <p>Thought for the day: Keith Conrad</p> <p>Introduction: Bruce Donaldson Thanks: Bob Breneman</p>

President's Message

A big thank you is extended to the Program Committee chaired by Graham Ford and supported by John Core and George Hughes for arranging the speakers for the month of April. Graham Ford will be stepping down as Chair with John Core taking over in September.

Please consider arranging for the speakers for one of the twelve months during our upcoming year. The majority of our speakers come from the interests of our members. You can discuss the details and requirements of this important and rewarding contribution to our Club with Graham, John or George.

Your Board of Directors at its April 6th meeting passed four significant motions.

Thanks to the work of the Recruitment and Orientation Committee, Tom Watson, Allan Dyer and Fred Dawkins, the revisions to the Club's brochure were enthusiastically approved. The revised copy will be used as part of an ambitious campaign to make our Club better known to potential members. This extensive plan will be outlined in detail prior to its launch in the Club's year ahead.

The Board approved the plan to restructure and update the website. There will be a "Public" component open to everyone. This is where we will tell our story, who we are and how to become a member. The "Private" component will be available to members only. The content will include the name, telephone number and email address of each member. Much of the content will be moved from the current site into this pass-word protected part. Member's personal information such as date of birth will not be included to protect our privacy. This significant undertaking is being led by Randy Cook, our Website Master, and Grant Maxie who has considerable experience in organizing the content on many websites in which he is professionally involved. It is hoped that the majority of the work will be completed by the summer. Each of us will receive a "unique" password along with instructions on the content and its access.

The Board also approved the ongoing use of video teleconference when we finally reconvene meetings at the Italian-Canadian Club. We will be working with the Rotary Club that also will continue with the "hybrid" meeting format. It seems likely now that returning to the ICC will not take place until late Fall or early Winter.

Finally, the Board approved an increase in the Speakers' honoraria from the current \$100 to \$150 effective September 1st 2021.

The ongoing strength of our Club has been the extensive involvement of our members. Please contact Past President Jim Howse to learn more about the six openings on the Board and many other highly satisfying assignments coming up on September 1st.

Jim Sanders

From the Board

Passings

The club notes with regret the recent passing of club member Tim Lumsden and Jean wife of club member Paul Truex.

Membership Profile

At the April Board meeting, Membership Secretary Rob Lindsay, reported to the Board that the membership profile at that time was:

Active Members	273
Associate Members	26
Pending	0
Life Members	3

New Members

The club welcomes as new members:



Allan Fox
519-821-0993



Don Hamilton
519-831-5671



Dennis Weiler
519-831-6391

Revving Up with the Rev

Our resilience is a strength!

Recently, I was thinking about the story about a farmer who had a donkey, and one day the donkey fell into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do.

Finally, the farmer concluded the following things:

- There was no way to get the donkey out of the well.
- The donkey was old, and had served the farmer well, so it seemed kinder to bury the donkey than to let it struggle endlessly.
- He had talked about filling the well in anyway, so now was an opportune time.

The farmer invited his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey cried horribly when each additional shovelful came down on him. Then, to everyone's amazement, the donkey quieted down.

A few shovel loads later, the farmer looked down the well, and was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing: he would shake it off and take a step up.

Everybody kept shoveling. The donkey, slowly but surely, rose. Up and up it came. Pretty soon, to everyone's amazement, the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!

There are two points to the story:

1. Things are going to happen to us in life that put us down a well—metaphorically speaking, of course. Those things test our resilience, our resourcefulness.
2. We can get out of the deepest wells by not stopping, never giving up, by shaking off the dirt, and taking a step up.

A year ago in March we, along with everyone in the world, were knocked into a well by the Covid-19 pandemic. Our Guelph Wellington Men's Club was hit hard. We suddenly found ourselves in entirely new territory without much of a map or compass to help figure out a direction. It was...shocking. Well, maybe it won't last too long, we mused. Then reality set in—it's going to last longer than we thought. We won't be back to "normal" anytime soon. So what, then, does it mean for us not to be able to see our friends, chat with those at our table group every Tuesday morning?

What does it mean for us as a Club? Indeed, how do we even be a Club when we can't get together?

But, in due course, a path forward was figured out, and on May 25, 2020 the Club began to meet via Zoom. It became the way we would be for a while, and now, a year later, it's still the way we are.

Zoom meetings aren't perfect. They don't carry the aura, the excitement, the buzz, that's present when we walk into the Italian Canadian Club on a Tuesday morning. But Zoom meetings have kept us together. In that sense, they have been our lifeblood.

We still aren't sure how long it will be before we can get back to in-person meetings. Hopefully, sometime this coming fall. Maybe not until January of 2022. But, in the meantime, we will continue to do all that we can.

In a recent column, author Seth Godin wrote a reminder about the importance of resilience: "The world is going to change, and resilience is our best response. Resilience is not about building things that always turn out the way we expect, it's a commitment to an attitude that works even when things don't turn out the way we planned. Especially then. Sailors know that fixing on a point on the horizon is a good way to survive a storm."

It's a privilege...it's also a gift...to belong to a group such as this where resilience has been demonstrated in so many ways over this past year. As I've suggested before, don't keep that a secret! Tell a friend or two who you see as potential new members. Invite them to try us out.

And keep shoveling. One of these days this donkey that's the Guelph Wellington Men's Club will step out of the well and trot off!

In the meantime, guys...keep smilin'!

Tom Watson

Health and Celebrations of Members

Contact **Don Crow** at **226-383-9522**

or **dg.crow@hotmail.com**

to report on the health of members for May 2021

Items for the June 2021 Bulletin

Contact **Ken Jeffrey** at **519-820-0798**

or **krjeffre@uoguelph.ca**

by May 20 2021.

Table Chats - Come Join the Fun!



Greet old friends and meet new ones!

Following the conclusion of a very successful Table Chats trial, we are hoping you will help us to expand the program with more participants.

Why Table Chats? Our Men's Club has maintained a wonderful selection and exposure to speakers throughout COVID-19 pandemic with Zoom meetings. However, we all feel the loss of the social aspect we had in pre-meeting coffee and cookies sessions at the ICC.

To address this loss, the Table Chats trial ran for a month and ended in mid-January. Three groups met by private, small group Zoom meetings, just like being at a table at the ICC.

The questionnaire to members who joined the trial have shown the trial to be an outstanding success!

All 16 members who participated indicated that they have enjoyed the Table Chats and will continue to participate after the trial. Some of their observations:

"It's a great way to spend 30 minutes on Tuesday mornings prior to the regular Zoom meeting! It's also a great way to get to know new guys!"

"The chats have been very important for me. I was drifting away and not connecting to the meeting as it was so much simpler to just relax, read the newspaper and do the Sudoku puzzle."

"The table Chats bring back good memories of arriving early at the ICC on Tuesday mornings for chats with friends."

"Our group has lots of laughter before the formal meeting. Table chats are great for connecting."

"Our group has lots of laughter before the formal meeting. Table chats are great for connecting."

Please give Table Chats a try! It's a great way to lessen the monotony of hibernation! Everyone interested will be accommodated. You will be glad that you joined!

E-mail

Dale Schenk dale.schenk@rogers.com or Allan Dyer adyer@uoquelfh.ca and we will add you to a table. If you want to be with friends, include their e-mail addresses.

See you at the Table!

Something to Look Forward to:

For those members who enjoy the tours, the Tours and Lunch Committee has three tours waiting in the wings for the day when the curtain can be raised. In no particular order they are: Elora Mill Banquet Centre in Elora, Farley Group (inflated domes) in Aberfoyle, and Restoration Design Porsche Cars on Beverly Street in Guelph. Looking forward to seeing the yellow school bus parked in front of the ICC.

May Anniversaries

MARTIN TONY and JACQUELINE	May 2	57 years
SPICER EVAN and MARY ELLEN	May 4	64 years
RAESIDE JIM and MARGARET	May 7	67 years
HAWKES WAYNE and MARIE	May 7	55 years
GREEN ORLAND and BARBARA	May 13	54 years
WINDLE TERRY and KAREN	May 15	50 years
HEBERT DAN and SANDRA	May 16	51 years
ELLIS ROGER and MARGARET	May 16	51 years
SMITH BOB and SAUNDRA	May 18	53 years
BRAUN ROMAN and GRACE	May 21	66 years
SLISARENKO HELMUTH and DANA	May 21	50 years
HINES GORD and JEANETTE	May 22	50 years
McCRACKEN BOB and BETH	May 23	61 years
ZUCCALA GEORGE and NORMA	May 27	54 years
PIECH WALLY and AUDREY	May 27	60 years
MILLER JOHN and CAROL	May 31	52 years

May Birthdays

PIECH WALLY	84 Years
TRUEX PAUL	83
RAESIDE JIM	95
BAUER MARTIN	85
CONRAD KEITH	84
OTTOSEN KRIS	84
COX RUSSEL	96
DORION DAVID	89
TAN K-C	84
KASHA KEN	88
SYKES RALPH	82
JEFFREY KEN	80
RENTON BOB	86
DONALDSON BRUCE	85
GALLIN JACK	96
GYLES CARLTON	81
GATEHOUSE WAYNE	82