

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

October 2020

Program (October speakers arranged by **David Crawford Smith**)

29 September

Speaker: Tim Boulton
Registered Psychotherapist: Grief and Loss
Specialist

"Is My Guilt Truly Regrettable?"



Anthem
Thought for the day: Ivor Wright
Wally Piech

Introduction: George Hughes
Thanks: Ted Pritchard

6 October

Speaker: Professor Kent Moore
Professor of Physics and Vice-Principal Research
at the University of Toronto Mississauga.

***"Climate Change... Taking the Earth's
Temperature"***



Anthem
Thought for the day: Owen Slocombe
John Valeriotte

Introduction: David Smith
Thanks: Keith Conrad

13 October

Speaker: David Bain
Retired Air Canada Pilot
Member GWMC

***"Memories from my Career as an Air
Canada Pilot"***



Anthem
Thought for the day: Ron Dolynchuk
Murray Matheson

Introduction: David Smith
Thanks: Bob Eccles

20 October

Speaker: Dr. Omar Hashim MD FRCS
Ophthalmologist (Eye Surgeon)

***"State of the Art Cataract Surgery
2020"***



Anthem
Thought for the day: Martin Bauer
Cas Herold

Introduction: David Smith
Thanks: Cas Herold

27 October

Speaker: Adrienne McBride
Executive Director
Guelph Humane Society

***"Why Animals Matter... A case for a
Modern Humane Society"***



Anthem
Thought for the day: Ken Frey
Bruce Stone

Introduction: David Smith
Thanks: Keith Lymburner

President's Greeting

Welcome to October. On the 10th, it will have been seven months since we last met in

person. About one half of our members regularly participate in our meetings via Zoom of

course. Ross now opens the Meeting Room" at 9:30 providing a half hour for informal banter among a growing number of our members.

There is a team in place to assist anyone who wishes to participate in the meetings but may not be quite sure how and what it involved. If you wish support in setting yourself up with Zoom, please send a note to Guelph Wellington Men's Club **Member@guelphwellingtonmensclub.ca**. If you would simply like to discuss generally what is involved, please feel free to call me.

For the month of October, the four regular meetings beginning on October 6, will begin five minutes early at 9:55 AM. They will adjourn at the regular time of 11 AM. However, the Meeting Room will remain open for an additional fifteen minutes to provide time for you to have a more informal chat with our guest speaker. We will collect and evaluate comments throughout the month.

The Club 2020-21 Roster is nearing completion. Please send any changes of your contact information immediately to Rob Lindsay. Once finalized, you will be informed of the manner in which the Rosters will be distributed.

As noted in last month's Bulletin, Keith Devolin and Howard Simpson are ready to accept the dues for the 2020-21 year. The \$80 fee representing a one-time reduction reflects the lower operating costs. The mailing address is included separately in this edition of the Bulletin.

Please take time to review the exciting line up of speakers this month arranged by David Smith.

On your behalf, I would like to thank Ross Knechtel for arranging the five speakers last month while also taking care of the video technology.

Jim Sanders

"That Special Call"

A report to the Board of the Guelph Wellington Men's Club on 1 Sept 2020.

As a result of the telephone survey of members in the spring it became obvious to many, if not most callers, that our members appreciated contact by the club. This form of socialization was appreciated, and in fact liked, by many if not most of our members (Active or Associate).

The examination of the unexpected data obtained from the survey suggested that regular contact from the club was a useful component determining whether all is well and who were challenged or even no longer with us.

By regularly keeping in contact with members, members know we are interested in them, interested in their status and gives them a chance to give their opinions.

The common refrain of "so glad to hear from you" was noted as the most common refrain heard by callers. This indication of the social component within the club suggests that regular personal communication within the club is a vibrant and simple tool useful to the leadership of the club.

What this small task force is suggesting is that members receive "That Special Call":

- A) On their Birthday, they receive a call from a member of the executive wishing them well and determining how they "feel" and what they think about the club.
- B) A call approximately 6 months later from a member of the club asking the same.
- C) Giving support.... if any phone call identifies a member is in distress or need of regular follow up calls not more once a month occur .
- D) Random Calls.... For our most senior members random call be made irregularly determine m their state of life and provide an empathetic contact.

Remember it is important for its members to know about the club and for members of the club to know about its members.

When you are getting older "How are you" is a question we may like to hear.

Thom Herrmann

New Initiatives Group

From the Board

Passings

The Club notes with regrets the recent passing of former member Ken Reeve.

Membership Changes

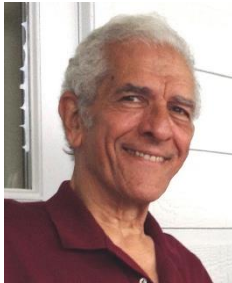
At the September 1st meeting of the Board the Membership Secretary Rob Lindsay reported that Kris Ottosen and William Christian switched Their status from active to associate.

Membership Profile

Membership Secretary Rob Lindsay, at the Sept.4th Board Meeting, indicated the membership profile as:

Active Members	288
Associate Members	23
Pending	1
Life Members	3
Wait List	0

New Members



Ken Breitman
519-

Member Fees for 2020-2021

Active Member \$80.00

Associate Member \$30.00

Dues are payable September 1, 2020

Please mail you cheque to the following address:

**GUELPH-WELLINGTON MEN'S CLUB
Box 197
3-304 Stone Road W.,
Guelph, Ont.
N1G 4W4**

October Birthdays

LORD BILL	Oct	6	82
THEIS JOHN	Oct	6	84
EMBREE KEN	Oct	8	83
PICKERING DALE	Oct	10	83
NODWELL HOWARD	Oct	12	92
RYDER ARNOLD	Oct	24	93
THOMSON JOHN	Oct	24	82

October Anniversaries

DORION DAVID and CONNIE	Oct	1	65 years
STONE BRUCE and NORA	Oct	2	66 years
FUNNELL RAY and JEAN	Oct	8	54 years
WRIGHT RICHARD and CHRISTINA	Oct	11	51 years
BUTLER DANNY and BETH	Oct	12	57 years
GUNTUN DON and ANGELA	Oct	15	54 years
GRAHAM KEN and ERIKA	Oct	19	57 years
TAN K-C and JANE	Oct	20	58 years
WALL VINCE and TERESA	Oct	21	53 years

Health and Celebrations of Members

Contact **Bill Hammond** at **519-822-9317**
or **wshammond53bellnet.ca**
to report on the health of members for October

Items for the November 2020 Bulletin

Contact **Ken Jeffrey** at **519-820-0798**
or **krjeffre@uoguelph.ca** by October 20.

Revving Up with the Rev

Stay young even though growing older!

What's one way to do this? Be in the Guelph-Wellington Men's Club!

A recent daily quote by Frederick Buechner—from his book *Whistling in the Dark*—got me thinking about this business of staying young even though growing older. Not that any of us are doing that but, if you promise not to tell anyone, I'll let you in on a little secret...we're heading in that direction.

Buechner writes:

For the majority of us, growing older is like living in a house that's in increasing need of repairs. The plumbing doesn't work right anymore. There are bats in the attic. Cracked and dusty, the windows are hard to see through, and there's a lot of creaking and groaning in bad weather. The exterior could use a coat of paint. And so on.

Fortunately for me personally, my attic is, on most days at least, relatively bat-free, but I do know about the dusty windows, and there are some creaks and groans, and the plumbing...and, well...

However, as Buechner suggests, in spite of the changes wrought by the vagaries of age, our spirits remain "as full of beans as ever." And that's the important thing!

The average age of those in our Men's Club is 79.8. I turned 83 in July but still like to think of myself as below that average mark...even though, as I write that the song, "What kind of fool am I?" starts to play in my head.

A lesson to put it in perspective.

Recently, I spent a week at my daughter Sandra's home in a rural village area south of Huntsville. One of her two children is my grandson Clark who turned 11 in late August. Gotta tell ya, if you want to stay young—or at least think young—spend a week with that laddie.

One minute, Clark's outside using an electric saw to cut pieces for a bench he's making for his tree-house. The next minute he's ramming around the yard on his tractor that used to be a ride-on mower but had its blade removed so he can, at a moment's notice, take a spin and survey the broad expanse of his rural kingdom. As I watch him, I am reminded of the days when I did similar things when growing up on our family farm.

Notice I said that I "watch" him. Because if I tried to follow him around I wouldn't last even half a day. But that's okay. Clark needs to do what he's doing—it's all part of the imagination pushing the growing, learning process. I don't need to do it now because I've been there, done that. All of it. I'll take very slight liberties with what Buechner says as he reflects on the comparison of an 11-year-old and an 83-year-old this way:

"Part of the pleasure of being a child the first time round is that you don't have to prove yourself yet." Thus, Clark has nothing to prove, just has to imagine and explore. Anything goes.

"Part of the pleasure of being a child the second time round is that I don't have to prove myself any longer. I can be who I am and say what I feel, and let the chips fall where they may."

As Buechner says, young 'uns such as Clark are like the sun before breakfast...and, if you'll allow it, their shine will rub off on you.

Sure, he gets scared sometimes. When he encounters something that seems too big to tackle. When he extends himself beyond his capability and the result is a bruised shin or heart.

But I get scared sometimes too, when I realize that I can't quite bring off some of the stuff I used to do without batting an eye, or when life has given me an unexpected swat sideways.

As I think about all this stuff, I'm reminded of what Vince Wall once told us, in his Men's Club thought for the day, "I'm not old yet. I might be some day, but not yet!"

So, until I get there—to that not-yet day to which Vince referred—I'll dare to think and stay young. And like the octogenarian King Lear, a long time before me, I'll "pray, and sing, and tell old tales, and laugh at gilded butterflies."

One of the things that keeps me thinking in that direction is this Guelph-Wellington Men's Club, of which I'm so pleased to be a member.

Know any others who could benefit from being a member of this wonderful group? Bring 'em on!

Keep smilin', guys! That helps too!

Tom Watson