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15th Annual Aktion Club District Conference

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Kiwanis

May 2019

Governor's Message

Melford "Mel" Clarke Governor Easter Canada & the Caribbean

Greetings Kiwanians! We've journeyed through another month. The Kiwanis Bus has stopped briefly in various places to celebrate clubs' anniversaries, attend projects (signature, charity events or fund raisers), Eastern Canada & Caribbean District convention in Stratford, Ontario, and to welcome the Governor on his official visits to Division 12 in Ottawa and Division 16 in Quebec City. We continued to increase our overall net membership while also building and adding new clubs to the District. The month of May was an Awesome Month!

Congratulations on a job well done to convention chairperson Mr. John Patterson and his team. The guest speakers for all the events were excellent choices. They left us excited with new ideas and concepts. We heard that "We Are Who We Are", then another speaker told us each of us is "Awesome".

Additionally, congratulations to Divisions 23E, 24 and 25 for the formation of new clubs during the first and second quarter of this administrative year. Divisions 2, 4 and 27 are projected to form clubs in their various divisions during June/July period. Currently

we have six of the 12 projected new clubs budgeted. As at May 31st our District has a net growth of 345 members which gives us a total of 7,204 members. Although we must congratulate ourselves on these accomplishments, we must also be aware that our District is on the verge of losing approximately six clubs with a total of eighty members. We must work on inviting the members where clubs are closing to join other clubs or increase the the membership of the existing clubs so that the overall membership total will not decrease. Now is the time to work on replacing these members.

The highlighted pictures show the various activities during the month of May 2019 while I visited Divisions 12 and 16. Some of the pictures include the 100th Anniversary of the Brantford Club and the Eastern Canada Key club District Convention.

> It was a pleasure attending and addressing the opening day of the Eastern Canada Key Club District convention. Many thanks to District Administrator Deborah Knight and the Kiwanis and Faculty Advisors whose attendance assisted in making the convention a success.

> The 100th Anniversary of the Brantford club was a grand occasion. The room was packed with people who came to celebrate. The Mayor and the member of parliament of Brantford were in attendance.

> At this time, I am thrilled to announce the winner of the Governor's second quarter

award. Congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Ramble Hanover of Division 25. This club gained the most points based on a set criteria agreed by the collective group of Lieutenant Governors for the second quarter.

Division 12 demonstrated the activities of the haunted house project. The principal of one school where a

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Governor's Message cont'd

reading project was held has consented to look into forming a K-Kids Club at her school in Division 12. We also visited a K-Kids club in Division 16.

Lieutenant Governor William Cowperthwaite ended my official visit to Division 12 with a BBQ at the location of the haunted house project while Lieutenant Governor Michel Cote climaxed the evening by taking me to an all you can eat lobster fest.



Kiwanians the months of June and July are critical for our District. Let us delete those members that need to be deleted early and diligently replaced them with dedicated and quality new members. Let us be reminded that our goal is to end the year with a net gain of 252 members and build 12 new clubs.

Enjoy the Kiwanis experience as we continue to be inspired to commit, serve and grow our club, division and district.

Melford Clarke 2018-2019 District Governor





From the Editor's Desk

Stay With Us... Play With Us... Meet With Us...

Eastern Canada & Caribbean District Convention 2019 Report

embers of the **Kiwanis** Clubs across Eastern Canada and Caribbean District came together Canadian city, Stratford, to celebrate another exciting year of achievements, conduct Kiwanis business and have some fun!

The melodic bagpipe and the introduction of countries

flags signalled the Opening of the 102nd Eastern Canada and the Caribbean Kiwanis Convention. Members and guests were welcomed by Governor Mel Clarke. We had greetings from Gregory Rosser representing the MP John Nater, Randy Pettapiece. Member of Provincial Parliament and Jim Scott of the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada. Also addressing us were the representatives of two of our main sponsors, Tallman Promo and ABC.

The highlights of the morning were:

• the presentation of the Citizen of the Year Award to Richard and Ruth Kneider, founders of Simple





Dreams Ministries which was created to help the poor in Stratford. Their community service included several trips to Russia helping with the physical and spiritual needs of orphans in various areas; and

 the Spirit of Kiwanis Award was presented to Past Governor, Joanne Murray by IPG Robert Moo Young for the year 2017-2018.

The ceremony ended with an entertaining and inspiring presentation by the Keynote Speaker, Kelly Walker. Rarely, you find a voice , a message and a man wrapped into one to bring songs to the hearts of people. Kelly Walker is it! Kelly had members laughing and crying but, most of all, truly inspired by his message, talent and humour.



Day 2 saw the hosting of the Service Leadership Breakfast. Attendees were in for a treat from the guest speaker, Paul Coates whose message and musical talent was enlightening and inspiring. Entertainment was provided by the Avon Public School Choir.

Convention 2019 Report cont'd

The highlights of the morning were the presentations of the following awards:



 The Coup de Chapeau Award was presented to Past Governor Phil Rossy by IPG Bobby for his outstanding contribution to the District in 2017/2018.

PG Phil was also presented with the Godfrey Dyer Award as well as a special award from Kiwanis Internal for his work on the Formula team.

 The presentation of the Frank Summerhayes Award for best Divisional Bulletin to Distinguished Lieutenant Governor Eliane Andre-Lubin of Division 27 by IPG Bobby.



• Presentation to the Distinguished Lieutenant Governors and Clubs. The Lieutenant Governors were all presented with the Godfrey Dyer Award as well.



The Members Gala was an elegant affair with fine dining and entertainment by the Stratford-based trio, Strings and Traps. Soon it would be time to "ease the tension" of the anxiously awaited announcement of who would earn the "E" on their Distinguished status, but not before the following awards:

- the Award of Merit for the most outstanding secretary went to Sheila Donald
- the Godfrey Dyer Award for Marketing went to the Kiwanis Club of Eastern St. Andrew
- the Ray Allen Award was presented to Past International Trustee Gary Levine by Distinguish Lieutenant Governor Gerthlyn Holman.

The Ray Allen Award recognizes the Past Lieutenant Governor who has continued contribute and participate in activities of the club, Division and District for the last 5 years.



Convention 2019 Report cont'd

It was then time for the announcement of the coveted "E". Distinguished Governor announced that Sharon Williams of Division 23 East was the recipient of the Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Excellence.

The final day started with the Memorial service for members who passed during the year 2017-2018 administration. This was followed by the address from International trustee, Ron Smith. It was then on the business of the district with the financial report from DST Jim and DLG Kermit.

At the plenary session both amendments were passed without discussions. The resolution to support Past International Trustee Gary Levine was also accepted by the delegates, followed by the formalities of nominating and voting for the district officers who were then inducted by International Trustee, Ron Smith.

Other district awards presented were:

- the Ralph Taylor Memorial Gong for best Club Newsletter to the Kiwanis Club of ESA;
- the Laurent Girouard for the runner-up Club Newsletter went to the Kiwanis Club of Montego Bay, and
- the Interclub award went to the Kiwanis Club of North St. Andrew.

The awards for the top 3 signature projects were also presented by Governor Bobby. First place to the Kiwanis Club of Forest, 2nd to Kiwanis Club of Nassau AM and 3rd place to the Kiwanis Club of Orilla.

The session ended with the presentation from the Fredericton team for District Convention 2020.





Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Excellence, Sharon Williams



Avon Public School Choir provided entertainment at the Service Leadership Breakfast.

Thanks to Past Trustee Vivenne McDonald-Calder who provided me with the relevant information that enabled me to prepare this report.

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Awardees



Past Trustee Gail Norris presents award to the District Signature project winner - Kiwanis Club of Forest.



Past Trustee Gail Norris presents award to the second runner-up of the District Signature project - Kiwanis Club of Orillia.



The Laurent Girouard for the runner -up Club Newsletter went to the Kiwanis Club of Montego Bay.



Past Trustee Gail Norris presents award to the first runner-up of the District Signature project - Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M.



Kiwanis Club of Eastern St. Andrew coped the Ralph Taylor Memorial Gong for best Club Newsletter.



The Interclub Award went to Kiwanis Club of North St. Andrew.





The Bikes Back 2 Life project of the Kiwanis Club of Aruba started in June 2016. The club collects unused bicycles from the Aruban community. These bicycles are refurbished and put back in proper and safe riding condition by local bicycles shops Tri Bike Aruba and RadioShack.

Once the bicycles are ready, Kiwanis Club of Aruba hands them over to needy children in the community. The first handover of this project for this Kiwanistic Year took place on Saturday, May 4th, 2019. A total of fourteen (14) bikes were handed over to 14 children.

To date almost 100 children have been assisted with a bicycle. With the generous support of the Aruban community, Kiwanis Club of Aruba will be able to continue providing the children of Aruba with a bicycle for their enjoyment. Together we can help bring bikes back to life and make a child smile.



Out and About with the Governor



Governor Mel converses with the Governor General of Jamaica His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Linton Allen during his official visit to Division 24 in March 2019.

Below, the Governor General and Governor Mel is flanked by his Lieutenant Governors and other team members.



Governor Melford Clarke was honored by Division 22 (home Division of Governor) on May 9, 2019 at Government House. Seated are Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling, centre; Lieutenant Governor Barry Willmott, right and at left, District Governor Melford Clarke.

Out and About with the Governor



Division 23 East 2018/2019 Class of Presidents with Governor Mel and Lieutenant Governor Pam at the All Clubs Meeting and mass induction ceremony.

Division 23 East Inductees.





Gov. Mel recognized DLG John Quinney as the oldest club member present at Kiwanis Club of Middlesex (London) Inc., Ontario in Division 4 during his visit. John joined Kiwanis in 1954 and belonged to several Kiwanis clubs before joining Middlesex Club.

Governor Mel presented John with one of his Governor's pins. He told him it will be a collector's item as there were only 250 pins made.

THE BEACON HERALD

Kiwanis names Kneiders Citizens of the Year

At a recent convention in Stratford, the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada named Ruth and Richard Kneider of Simple Dreams Ministries is Citizens of the Year.

They don't do it for the recognition but, as is often the case with truly good work, recognition has come to them all the same.

At the Kiwanis Eastern Canada and Caribbean District Convention on May 16 in Stratford, Richard and Ruth Kneider, the couple who launched Simple Dreams Ministries back in 2011, were named Citizen of the Year by the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada after being nominated and recommended by the membership of both the Kiwanis Club



At the Kiwanis Eastern Canada and Caribbean District Convention in Stratford last week, the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada presented Richard and Ruth Kneider of Simple Dreams Ministry with its Citizen of the Year Award -- otherwise known as the Mel Osborne Fellowship -- for their exemplary community service. (Galen Simmons/The Beacon Herald)

of Stratford and the Kiwanis Club of Festival City.

"(We nominated them) because of all of the involvements that they have through their Simple Dreams Ministries foundation, particularly for hosting such events like To Stratford with Love – the Christmas dinner – the Easter ham and Thanksgiving turkey giveaways, and the way they are able to provide assistance to families, especially children who have medical needs or need a boost up in many ways," said John Patterson, a local Kiwanis member and the convention's host committee chair. "... That's the kind of thing that caught the attention of the two Kiwanis clubs here in Stratford."

According to the Kneiders, the Simple Dreams non-profit was born from a series of missions to Russia to help a rural evangelical church improve the lives of those living in orphanages in the community and surrounding region.

"The region that they're living in is pretty high poverty ... so if we can just help them a little bit (financially and with yearly visits), then the people that are planted there (can rely on the church for support)," Ruth Kneider said.

"When we go over there, we are the catalyst that starts (the discussion)... We have said on numerous occasions, 'The church is here, the (orphanages) are here, you have the same mindset, so why don't you work together?" Richard Kneider added.

While their initial trip to Russia has been followed by 12 more annual excursions, they realized in 2011 there is just as much need for charitable giving here in Stratford,

Published on: May 24, 2019

prompting them to officially register as a non-profit in Ontario.

Since then, the Kneiders have established a number of annual events and initiatives aimed at improving life for the city's working poor. These include, as mentioned, the To Stratford With Love Christmas dinner, the Easter and Thanksgiving supper giveaways, their Picnic in the Park, and the Pizza Pool Party.

But in addition to their public events, the Kneiders also help people in more practical ways, such as helping lowincome families by donating new or gently used beds,

eyeglasses, computers, and new or used appliances, as well as helping them financially with things like car repairs, utility bills, gas, rent, and much more.

"We've helped in situations where someone has to ask, 'Do I pay my hydro so I have heat or do I buy groceries so our kids can eat?" Ruth Kneider said. "If we can bridge that gap for them for that one-time thing, that's kind of what we do."

Though neither of the Kneiders are Kiwanis members themselves, Simple Dreams has partnered with the local Kiwanis chapters on a number of projects and initiatives, such as their annual Passport to Savings fundraiser.

"The missions of Kiwanis and Simple Dreams are very similar. They're child-driven, they tend to look after the young people ... and it's an amazing club for sure," Ruth Kneider said.

"The Kiwanis mission is 'Improving the world one child and one community at a time,' Richard Kneider added, "... and that's how Simple Dreams Russia got started – getting into the orphanages –and we've just carried that over here in Stratford."

According to organizers of the Kiwanis convention, 432 Kiwanis members and 58 guests representing 163 clubs from Eastern Canada and 16 countries in the Caribbean attended the event at the Best Western Arden Park Hotel in Stratford.

KIDDIE BEE SPELLING COMPETITION

It was another successful venture of the Kiwanis Club of Providence-Montego Bay when it hosted its 5th staging of what has now become a household name among Early Childhood Institutions in the Western Section of the Island - 'KIDDIE BEE SPELLING COM-PETITION".

On April 11, twenty three (23) prep, infant and basic schools came together in what one could describe as " the battle of the infants", where children between the ages of 3 to 6 competed for the coveted trophy of the Henderson Book Store Kiddie Bee Spelling Competition. The aim of this competition is to enhance spelling and literacy skills, build confidence from an early age, develop healthy competitive skills, enable a solid foundation and to have "Fun with Words". As usual, the Calvary Baptist Church Hall was full to capacity with teachers, parents, retirees, Kiwanians and officials from the Ministry of Education that came out to witness the maturing of this event ..

Image: A constraint of the constraint

At right, Sheryl Marlow of Henderson book store presenting the Henderson Book Store Kiddie Bee Spelling Competition Trophy to Myles Whittingham while President Mervena Smith beams with pride. At centre is Mr. Barrington Thompson, Spelling Coach of Montego Bay Christian Academy.

Nicola Shakes, Regional Co-ordinator of Literacy in the Ministry of Education Region 4 gave glowing endorsement of the project and reiterated the importance of activities like Kiddie Bee in creating a brighter future for the children of our Nation.

Lieutenant Governor of Division 25, Glenda Miller, who conceptualized the project 5 years ago beamed with pride as she addressed the audience and gave an over view of the project. She commended the Kiwanis club of Providence for the vision of ensuring each year that the project is improved. President Mervena Smith spoke of her delight this year seeing the improvement and noted that every child was a winner.

Five year old Myles Whittingham from Montego Bay Christian Academy, proved to the 22 other competitors that he was the master of spelling when he emerged the champion speller. Xahaire O'Kello Steale from Wee Care Basic School was first runner-up and Tenese Mowatt from Hosanna Prep School was second runner up and champion girl. Spell-master, Sheryl Lee Phipps must be commended for doing a great job as a maiden voyage.

The competition was sponsored by Henderson Bookstore, Montego Bay. Sheryl Marlow, Manager of the Company presented the champion trophy to Myles and noted the Company's commitment to education and said she was happy to be partnering with the event. Each child received a mini trophy with his/her name and school engraved thereon and each school received a set of books for its library along with a certificate of participation. First second and third place winners were recipients of a tablet each and the champion school, Montego Bay Christian Academy was presented with a Kiddie Bee Cake sponsored by Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Ltd., Fairview Branch.

The Kiwanis Club of Providence-Montego Bay is proud to be promoting academia at such tender age and thanks the many sponsors that made the venture the success it was. A 25% increase in participation is envisioned for next year.

15th Annual Aktion Club District Conference



Guest Speaker Barbara Hacking addressing the audience.



Lunch is served...

Bonnie Richardson received the Outstanding Leadership Award

The 15th Annual Aktion Club District Conference was held in Stratford, Ontario on Friday May 17. Members, advisors and guests gathered for a Fun Leadership Inspirational Program.

The free event was hosted by the Aktion Club of Stratford. The day's activities included shared success stories, interesting and informative speakers and awards presentation. A scrumptious lunch was served and enjoyed by all. Five (5) clubs participated, including Chatham-Kent, Ridgetown, Stratford and Toronto.



2019 Key Club International Convention July 3-7, 2019 Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Implementation of Disabilities Act a priority for 2019/20

THE focus of the Jamaica Council for Persons with Disabilities for 2019/20 is the implementation of the Disabilities Act, for which regulations and codes of practices are being developed.

This was stated by minister of state in the Ministry of Labour and Social Security Zavia Mayne, in a message delivered by project director, Programme of Advancement through Health and Education (PATH), Elsa Marks Willis, at the first distribution of items from the Abilities Foundation Food Bank, at the entity's location in St Andrew in March 2019.

"Implementation of the Act will create additional opportunities for persons with disabilities, and minimise discrimination against them. We are also striving to put in place the right conditions so that everyone can participate equally, as we are working towards an inclusive society," the state minister said.

The Disabilities Act makes provisions to

safeguard and enhance the welfare of persons with disabilities across Jamaica. This legislation protects and promotes the equal rights of the disabled and prohibits discrimination against them.

Mayne urged all Jamaicans to play their part in creating equal opportunities for persons with disabilities, so that they will be able to take care of their families and make meaningful contribution to the growth and development of Jamaica.

"More needs to be done to further integrate persons with disabilities into our workforce and to help them to positively contribute to the productivity levels of the Jamaican economy," he said.

He noted that the ministry continues to provide support for the disabled community, with more than \$12 million granted during the 2018/19 financial year for medical care, education, and assistive aids such as wheel chairs, eyeglasses, prosthesis and hearing aids.



Project director, Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education, Elsa Marks Willis (left) looks at the array of food items at the Abilities Foundation's Food Bank in St Andrew. Occasion was Thursday's first distribution from the Food Bank, which was set up by the Kiwanis Division 23 East to assist the disabled community. Others (from second left) are lieutenant governor, Kiwanis Division 23 East, Pam Rodney White; district governor, Kiwanis Eastern Canada and the Caribbean, Melford Clarke; and project chair, Sheron Gilzean.(Photo: JIS)

"We have grants of up to \$150,000 for persons who are interested in starting or expanding micro businesses. Other benefits provided by the ministry include therapy sessions, concessionary bus fares with the Jamaica Urban Transit Company (JUTC), and income tax exemptions in specific cases," he said.

The Abilities Foundation Food Bank was officially launched in December 2018 by Kiwanis Division 23 East, and aims to address the challenge of food insecurity impacting persons with disabilities and their families.

Mayne commended the service club for the undertaking, noting that approximately 150 persons will benefit initially. "Your act of kindness is, in fact, championing the cause of persons living with disabilities in Jamaica... Your tremendous effort has helped to make our Jamaican society a better one, and we look forward to a long-standing, successful cooperation," he said.

Bike Rodeo Kiwanis Club of Forest 2019 - Signature Project

icvcle Rodeo is a service project designed to promote safe cycling among the youth of Forest and the surrounding areas. A research showed that it would be very beneficial to educate the youth in cycling safety to reduce trauma for both them



and their families. Kiwanis Club of Forest has been hosting this event annually for over 35 years in partnership with local law enforcement and other community stakeholders.

The rode is kept on the ice surface of the local arena and is opened to youth, 13 years of age and under and has approximately 110 kids participating and along with their parents and grandparents and Kiwanians showing up to support brings the participation numbers at approximately 300 persons. It teaches them cycling safety tips along with rules of the road. Their parents are also involved in the learning experience as they travel through the eight stations set up for the two hour event. For the past six (6) years Sarnia Seaway Kiwanis has been supporting the event financially and has promised to attend and participate in 2019. The rodeo is also supported by the local Police, Fire and Ambulance departments.

Partners of Bicycle Rodeo are Canadian Tire, Tim Hortons, Farm Safety Association, local banks, insurance companies, CN Retirees group and local volunteers who just want to help out. These persons provide expertise in rules of the road, safety tips, proper helmet fitting, providing prizes and volunteering to operate the various stations to interact with the youth. The event is promoted through social media, local radio stations, electronic billboards and on the screen of the historic Kiwanis Kineto Theatre before the nightly show begins. The local paper runs a story on the event showcasing the winners and the importance of such an event. There were over 600 shares in 2018 of several of

the different posts and a unique video was posted on the club's website by Glen Starkey.

Over the years members of the public attend with their kids and later decided that they want to get involved because of the value that they see in becoming a member of the Kiwanis Club. As some of these members have commented, "This is what Kiwanis is all about". There are currently six members who are still active members in the club after attending the annual rodeo. There are several other people who have joined but have over the years transferred out of the area.

Donations in kind from the community includes the use of the facilities, prizes, etc., total \$3496.36, in addition to \$658.54 paid by the local club for medallions, entertainment etc. The cost to the club is \$9.61 per child or approximately \$18 per member. We only accept donations at the event as we will provide bicycles along with helmets for any child that doesn't have one to complete the course.

Activities on the day of the rode which is the first Saturday in June include a Key Club member and two grade 8 students participating by wearing the club's mascots that mingle with the participants.

Bike Rodeo cont'd

The local Fair Ambassador and Junior Ambassador participate as role models for the kids. The props and stations consist of a Rail Road crossing operated by retired CN employees, Demon Driveway, Cross Canada tour which is an obstacle course made up of flags from all of the provinces and territories, School Bus, a teeter totter ramp to test balance and stopping on a dime contest to win a free movie pass. All of the kids get a prize and there is face painting.

We always receive very positive feedback from the parents and grandparents who attend this event.





64th Annual Circle K International Convention June 26-29, 2019 Walt Disney World® Resort, Florida

Feed the Family Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M. 2019 - Signature Project

In the island of New Providence there are many families in need. Although there are many shelters that provide housing, food assistance, etc., most of these places have little to no financial assistance. The needs of these shelters are well known. The Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M. is committed to eliminating unnecessary hunger to those living with food insecurity and without regular access to affordable and nutritious food.

Discussions with the Red Cross, Social Services, the Salvation Army, and different churches revealed that the most difficult time of the year for the less fortunate is the Christmas season. The weekend before Christmas, through the Feed the Family project the club is able to provide food for families that would otherwise be struggling to provide for themselves and blankets, tams, toothpaste, deodorant, snacks, etc. to the homeless.

The grocery packages can feed the families for three weeks to a month. This allows them the peace of mind to be able to focus on other needs during this season.

This year 50 families along with three Children's homes, one Senior Citizens home and 20 homeless persons were beneficiaries – a total of 480.



The eight (8) year old Feed the Family project is funded through the club's annual fundraising "Block Drive" sale, sponsorship from Coca Cola, Purity Bakery, and Butler's Bargain Mart. This year we also received cash donations from the TK Foundation and Higgs & Johnson.



There is full participation from the SLPs who assisted with fundraising, promoted the project through their schools and via social media and identified some of the families who were to benefit.





Register today for the 2019 Kiwanis International convention at Walt Disney World® Resort in Florida. And bring your loved ones! It's the perfect place to add family to a tradition of fun and fellowship.

Learn more at kiwanis.org/convention.



JUNE 27-30

