



COMING EVENTS

**Feb. 28,
Meeting**

*Kitchener
Rangers*

Steve
Biankowski

Who Am I?

Dan
Ferguson

*Lunch
Bunch*

Cora's
Waterloo Sq

**Mar. 27,
Meeting**

*Sport Net
Programs*

Jeff
MacDonald
Exec. Dir.

Who Am I?

John Cullen

*Lunch
Bunch*

Angel's
Weber St.

Tuesday 31 Jan. 2012

Chicopee Ski Club and the Community Chicopee attracts 285,000 visitors annually and employs over 300 people in full-time and seasonal positions.

Lori McRae



Chicopee was founded in 1934 by a group of ski conscious local people who wanted to pass on their love of the sport to the rest of the community. In the first year there were 200 members; today there are 3,000. Today Chicopee offers the full spectrum of winter and summer season sports and activities, food and beverage lounge, hall and deck, meeting and conference facilities and plays host to a wide variety of special events, tournaments, visitors to our region, weddings, trade shows and an extensive school group program. It is considered a gem of Waterloo Region. Its 165 acres of land include 14 ski/snowboard runs, 4 chairlifts (including a new Quad lift), 2 magic carpets, 7 km's of bike trails, 5 clay tennis courts, 3 Olympic beach volley ball courts, 2 bike parks and an 18 hole disc golf course. All of these are serviced by a

30,000 sq. ft. full-service chalet.

Chicopee launched a 10-year strategic plan called Vision 2020 which will ensure growth and viability for years to come. Chicopee's vision states that "Chicopee is a unique community resource committed to providing four season fun-filled recreation and learning experiences for all ages. Chicopee offers four-season family fun for the whole community".

Chicopee is an active community supported. A key program is Track 3 which provides disabled children with customized programs and the opportunity to ski. Other ways they give back to the community are through donation of lift tickets and Green Season passes to various charitable organizations; Community Outreach Program Summer (COPS) where working with groups like Big Brothers/Big Sisters 50 children experience a day of skiing followed by dinner; "Ski Down Wednesday" where lift tickets are reduced and for every ticket sold, \$5 is donated to a selected charity; and RAK – Random Act of Kindness Day where special incentives are provided.

Chicopee has a proud history and looks forward to a long and happy relationship with Waterloo Region as an all season resort.

Who Am I?



John Freund

I was born in Windsor, Ontario, in 1936. My parents immigrated to Canada from Hungary and Yugoslavia in the late 1920s to Windsor, Ontario, where they met and married. They settled in Leamington, Ontario. My mom worked part-time, while my dad owned and operated an auto service and body shop for the next forty-plus years.

I had a very active youth spending a lot of time at my father's business, playing in the local town band, playing high school football and basketball as a Warrant Officer in the Air Cadet program. Once a year, the Leamington band competed at the Waterloo Band Festival - just across the road from us today at Waterloo Park.

I also came to this area to stay with relatives who owned and operated K-W Frozen Foods. I'd help deliver products around the area and enjoyed my visits very much.

When I graduated from high school, a part-time job at a local car dealer led me to take advantage of an offer of sponsorship, from this Pontiac Buick dealership, to attend General Motors Institute in Flint, Michigan. This was a two-year co-operative program in dealership sales and

service management.

After completing the program in August, 1958, I came to Kitchener for a visit and had the good fortune of meeting Jack and Ralph Forbes, who owned the local Pontiac-Buick dealership in Kitchener. Within a week of that meeting, I was hired and the beginning of a twenty-three year career with them began.

Some of the highlights I experienced working at Forbes Motors included:

- Managing the service station at Weber St.
- Managing the Marine Department – in Elmira,
- Overseeing the construction of the Weber St. location
- Eventually becoming the Used Car Sales Manager for the next eleven years

Early in 1981 I made a big decision to accept an offer from a relative, John Neil, who was a Canadian Tire dealer in Mississauga. He asked me to oversee the construction and then to manage the auto service department of this flagship store. Canadian Tire were building this 'state of the art' 18 bay service facility, which had the most up-to-date equipment that was available at the time. We broke all sales records every year in the store and service department! During those six and a half years I drove from Waterloo to Mississauga - not an easy task!

My commute to Mississauga ended in 1987 when John Neil and I found out that Canadian Tire were planning to build a new store on Highland Road in Kitchener. Within a month we were asked to take over this store. Once again, I oversaw the construction of the store and service department and for the next few years, managed the auto service department.

Before retiring in 1998 I went out on my own as an automotive service consultant and I managed service departments at two other local stores. Early in my retirement Canadian Tire Corporation Automotive Department hired me to write a course to train service managers and service advisors.

In 1961 I married my wife, Joline, a Family Studies teacher with the Waterloo County School Board. Our daughter, Sherry, was born in 1962, and our son, Jeffrey was born in 1966. Between work, and holidays spent with family, I developed my marine modeling hobby by building and eventually racing gasoline-powered radio-controlled model boats. I founded Golden Triangle Marine Modellers in 1970, and various design and race successes led to my eventual invitation to represent Canada in world competitions in South Africa, England, and the United States.

Together in retirement, Joline and I have owned two wonderful West Highland White Terriers, Duffy, and Sassy, which we enjoyed showing in competitions across North America. We have always loved road trips, and traveling with our dogs, and sometimes even with our children and two grandchildren, by way of 'RV', has left us with the fondest of memories.

Today, I belong to the:

- K-W Woodworking Club
- Toronto Antique Classic Boat Club
- Golden Triangle Marine Modellers Club
- Probus

Thank you for letting me share my life story, so far.

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50/50 Draw:

First Prize: **Vern Hall**

Second Prize: **Dolf Bogad**

Jan. Attendance & Membership:

Members: 86 Guests: 5

New Members:

Please welcome our newest members, **Gordon Coyne, Tupper Cawsey and Ron Dunkley** (shown below) who were inducted at the January Meeting.



Gordon Haywood has been proposed for membership. Please make your comments to **John Williams** at 519-579-6571.

Duty Roster, February Meeting:

Introduction: **Gord Ferguson**

Thanker: **Fred Beattie**

Wellness Report:

Fred Janke has moved to Terrace on the Square. He requires regular dialysis. Fred would enjoy visits from Probiants. Contact Ron at 519-746-1282 to report any sickness you are aware of.

Book Club:

The February meeting will be held at the home of **Walter Runge** on Feb. 15th at 2:00. The book is "Worth Fighting For" by Sheila Copps, one of the Rat Pack. The March Book Club Meeting will be held on Thursday, Mar. 22 (note this is a change of day) at the home of **Lynn**

Matthews. The book for discussion will be Half-Blood Blues by Esu Edugyan. Newcomers are always welcome.

Outdoors Group :

The Outdoors Group hikes on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month starting in February. You can also find out about our times and locations for hikes by looking at the Event Calendar on the club website.

Financial Group:

The Financial Group will be meeting at **Karl Kaufman's** on March 29th from 9:30 AM to 11 AM to discuss the advantages/disadvantages of downsizing and renting versus owning a condo. As well, some discussion might occur if the Federal Budget has been tabled in Parliament. If you would like to join our group please contact Karl."

Order of Canada:

It was noted that our newly inducted member **Gordon Coyne** has the Order of Canada. This prompted the President to acknowledge (as a bell ringer) that **John Panabaker** also has had the Order of Canada for some 20 years. It has since been noted out that **Tom Jeary** received the Order of Canada 3 years ago. We are indeed fortunate to have these men as members of our club. Congratulations to each of them.

Bell Ringers:

Doug Sullivan - for his volunteer work at The House of Friendship delivering Christmas Food Hampers.
Bryce Walker - on his graduation from U of T's Rotman School of Management into the Institute of Corporate Directors with HOOPP (Hospitals of Ontario Pension Plans).
Don Blain - for the work he does, together with his wife Kathryn who

is the founder of the Meningitis Research Foundation of Canada.

Upcoming Events:

April 10 – 10:00 AM – A tour of the new Center for International Government Innovation is being planned. More details will follow including information about parking and lunch.

December 12 – Christmas Luncheon. If you have ideas for entertainment please let **Don Blain** (539-664-0220) or **Alan Chalmers** (519-568-8585) know.

We Need You!

These are some of the positions that the nominating committee is looking to fill. If you have an interest in any or part of these, speak to **Jim Bowman** (519-747-2401)

Club Historian

Organization skills are helpful.

Director-at-Large

This role assumes you are prepared to proceed through the various executive positions of the Management Committee.

Program Committee

The Program Committee needs a member who is interested in becoming involved in suggesting good speakers for future programs.

Membership Committee

We need someone to learn about looking after our club membership.

ProBuzz

People are needed to help with ProBuzz. Skills required include, being comfortable using a computer and learning new software; an interest in writing; and an interest in editing.

Thanks to **Dolf Bogad** for the photos this month!

January Joy



Executive Committee – 2011-2012

President, Eric Broadhurst - 519-746-2519
1st VP, Brian Hendley - 519-885-0271
Secretary, Ron Charie – 519-885-3144
Sgt-At-Arms, Ray Cloutier – 519-743-9987

Past President - Jim Bowman - 519-747-2401
2nd VP - Don Blain - 519-746-3782
Treasurer, Andrew Beamish – 519-884-7644
Dir. At Large, Alan Chalmers - 519-568-8585

Committee Chairmen

Communications, Bob Schmidt – 519-576-9994
Membership, John Williams – 519-579-6571
Wellness, Ron Hustwitt – 519-746-1282

Historian, Dolf Bogad – 519-884-7131
Program, Ray Millard – 519-747-4933
ProBuzz Editor, Vern Hall – 519-699-5367
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