



Chair's Message

This year is very significant for our chapter. It was 30 years ago, in 1979-80, that Chatham-Kent Chapter was first established.

We are planning to celebrate our 30th anniversary this fall. If you would like to help plan the event, or have some suggestions, please contact me or one of my fellow board members.

As described further in the newsletter, the format of the newsletter is changing. This issue is the last print edition to be published. Future issues will be distributed electronically. Please make sure that CGA Ontario has your most recent email address so that you can continue to learn about the activities of our chapter.

The new board met in July to begin planning the upcoming year's events. I am pleased to welcome two new members to the board – Jan Buck, CGA, and Rafi Veettil, a student in the CGA program of professional studies. We will introduce these new members in more detail in our next issue.

I would also like to acknowledge two members of the board who completed their terms this past year. Thank you to Diane Morden, CGA, and Sarah Vander Paelt, CGA. Each of these members has served our chapter in many capacities for many years. As well, I would like to thank Chris Young, CGA, for his leadership over the past year. He will continue to serve on the board as past chair.

We plan to continue to offer programs that have proven successful in the past. This includes a student night for St. Clair College students as well as a liaison event for students in the CGA program. The Southern Work and Play (SWAP) weekend will be hosted by London this year, and it is an excellent opportunity to network and earn some continuing professional development hours. A locally held professional development networking event is being planned for January.

It is an honour to serve as Chatham-Kent Chapter chair for the 2009-10 year. I look forward to seeing you at a chapter event this year.

Debbie Reed, CGA
Chair, Chatham-Kent

Going Green

It is the dawning of a greener era for CGA Ontario's communications. This issue marks the beginning of a more effective means of communications that will maximize timeliness and cost efficiencies. CGA Ontario's chapters will transition from a print to online newsletter format. As this transition from print to online newsletters proceeds, CGA Ontario will continue to seek ways of maximizing communications content, efficiencies and delivery.

The undertaking of this initiative follows a consultation process with chapter officials. The decision to move forward with this transition will help CGA Ontario align with the best practices of the not-for-profit sector. It is also a natural extension of the socially-conscious and environmentally-friendly practices that we have been implementing for a number of years now. And with the unveiling of the new CGA Ontario website (www.cga-ontario.org) now is the perfect time to make the move to e-delivery.

In order to make this transition a success it is important for all CGAs to provide a current, working email address. Please confirm that the primary email address listed in your account at www.cga-ontario.org is both valid and preferred as your delivery option.

Statements will continue to provide CGAs and students with pertinent information through a print format.

Local CGAs Raised Money for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada

In March, local CGAs participated in the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada (BBBSC) Bowl for Kids Sake event and raised \$1,142. Bowlers included Patricia Leblanc-Jaeger, CGA, and Erin Liberty, student in the CGA program and as well as their family and friends. Thanks to the bowlers as well as those who made pledges to the fundraiser. The dollars raised will be matched by CGA Ontario and donated to the BBBSC of Chatham-Kent.



Annual General Meeting

The 2008-09 Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Thursday, May 25, 2009, at Buxton National Historic Site and Museum. More than 25 members and guests attended.

Blake Mercer, CGA, a member of CGA Ontario's board of governors, brought greetings on behalf of the Association. In response to member questions, Blake summarized the work of the member volunteer task force to date. He also encouraged everyone to exercise his or her right to vote in the election for the board of governors.

Chris Young, CGA, highlighted the activities for the year. Key activities included the member achievement night, hosting SWAP and the January healthy eating event.

Following the formal meeting, Shannon Prince, curator of the museum, briefly reviewed the history of the site and then invited everyone to the local schoolhouse to participate in a typical class from the 1800s. Using slates the "students" took dictation and then practiced their math skills – without calculators!!! Shannon invited everyone to attend the annual Buxton Homecoming Weekend to be held on Labour Day.

This meeting continued the tradition established by the board a few years ago. At each AGM, we try to highlight local businesses and community attractions. Once again, this seemed to be appreciated as many in attendance commented that they had not visited the Buxton site before.

The board would like to continue to feature local businesses and sites. If you have an idea for a good venue to hold the next AGM, do not hesitate to talk to one of the board members.

Snowball Raffle Winner

Congratulations to Barb Chapple, CGA. Barb won a Garmin GPS unit in the Snowball draw. The draw was organized to encourage members to participate in local events sponsored by Chatham-Kent Chapter. Each time a member attended an event, his or her name was entered in a draw. This promotion will be held again in 2009-10.

Golf Tournament

This year, Chatham-Kent Chapter hosted the southwest golf tournament. Approximately 40 golfers gathered at Blenheim Golf and Country Club for a day of golf, dinner and networking. In addition to Sarnia-Lambton and Windsor Chapters, members from London also participated.

Thank you to all those who participated and helped make the day a success. A special thanks to Terry Micks, CGA, who organized the day. Next year, the Sarnia-Lambton Chapter will be the hosts.

Thank You Invigilators

Thank you to those members who invigilated the June sessions:

Julie Atkinson, CGA
Barb Chapple, CGA
George De Bruyne, CGA
Walter Lorenowicz, CGA
Jane Rivers, CGA

Think about sharing three or four hours to invigilate an exam. We host exams four times a year and being able to have an exam centre in our community is very important. Not only is it a way to give back to the organization, you may even be able to earn some continuing professional development hours.

If you have time to invigilate an exam, contact Jan Buck, CGA, at jbuck@rmauctions.com

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