



The Kinsmen and Kinette Clubs of Georgetown have elected their new executives for the 1981-82 season. Kinettes in the front row are president Marny Malcolmson, treasurer Ritchie Hogan, vice-president Carol Gougeon, registrar Jean McMillan and director Nancy Webster. In the middle row are Kinsmen registrar Dave Hogan and second vice-president Ted Savage, Kinette past president Carol Pearson and secretary Barb Knapp, with Kinsmen past president Don Pearson. Kinsmen in the back row are director Bill Webb, treasurer Keith Knapp, president Brian Markham, director Duke Webster and secretary Brian Hunter.

### KINSMEN, KINETTES HAVE NEW EXECUTIVES



Kin president  
BRIAN MARKHAM



Kinette president  
MARNY MALCOLMSON



The Kinette Club of Georgetown recently thanked its first-year members who have played active roles in the club's charity and community projects and social activities. Receiving Maple Leaf Awards were (left to right) Carol Gougeon, Sheryl Savage, Barb Knapp, Jean McMillan and Nancy Webster. The presentations took place at Saturday's installation of officers by District-Governor Andy Deme of Erin Mills.

### Chamber of Commerce banquet Saturday

# Citizen of the Year Ron McKnight says he's 'a sucker for a good cause'

By MAGGIE HANNAH  
Herald Special

When Acton Chamber of Commerce chose Ron McKnight as its citizen of the year, it found someone who could prove just how much a disabled individual can do for his community.

Despite his cerebral palsy, Mr. McKnight, 32, began keeping score for hockey, lacrosse, soccer and joining community organizations 12 years ago. In that time he has "made a lot of friends" and reaped in pleasure many times what he gave to the community, he said.

"I'm a sucker for a good cause," he joked, "and I find it hard to turn someone down when they ask me to do something. Sometimes I have to because I just can't physically do what would be involved. I find stairs about the hardest things I have to manage. But I got involved because I wanted to do something for the community rather than because of what the community could do for me."

#### ANNOUNCES HOCKEY

He has been involved one way or another with hockey at all levels over the past 12 years and had been scorekeeper and announcer for the Junior A Sabres for the past five years. In that time he's had only three injuries. Puck cut him for seven stitches once, he got a stick because there was no glass above the arena boards once, and this year a puck broke his glasses. Not a bad record for 12 years, he said.

In the days when Acton had a Junior C Lacrosse Team Mr. McKnight was busy with them. He was the Acton Rams founding president in 1970 and followed them until their demise in 1977 because lack of a minor lacrosse organization meant no young players to replace those lost to age. While serving as scorekeeper and announcer for the team he was honored three times, he said, because he was asked to be scorekeeper at the Mann Cup

Championships (All Canadian Lacrosse Championships) in Brampton in 1976 and in Peterborough in 1978. He was also asked to keep score for the Minto Cup Junior A All-Canadian Championship in 1978.

Mr. McKnight finds it frustrating to attend a game and sit in the stands.

#### AN OLD WAR HORSE

"I'm like an old war horse," he joked. "I've been in the timer's box so long every time a whistle goes I automatically check the clock and look to see who the referee is penalizing."

Mr. McKnight is an associate member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197 and has helped with their house league hockey. He also acts as scorekeeper and secretary for the Legion Master's Annual Golf Tournament and occasionally helps at Legion social functions.

Mr. McKnight made himself a promise as a boy that if he ever got involved with a service club it would be the Rotary Club since that group helped pay for his braces, wheelchair and trips to summer camp through their easter seal campaign. In 1969 he decided to keep his promise and since that time he has served in every post except treasurer including a year as president in 1978-79.

Halton Hills residents with a problem which necessitates them calling the town's works crew will explain it to Mr. McKnight since he is the crew dispatcher. He joined the Acton works crew in 1969

and moved to the old Esquesing Yard when regional government amalgamated the three crews in 1974. His fellow employees' feelings about Mr. McKnight is evidenced by the sign in the town shop this week announcing his designation as Acton's Citizen of the Year followed by a notice that the coffee is on him for the rest of the week.

#### A TRUE ACTONIAN

Mr. McKnight proudly proclaims himself as a true Actonian. He was born in Smether's Nursing Home, the town's substitute for a hospital in 1949. His disability resulted from a problem at birth and his parents were told by the doctors at Toronto's Sick Children's Hospital that he would never walk or talk. Medicine has changed a lot in the intervening years. He is thankful that he is in no pain nor is his condition something which deteriorates like muscular dystrophy.

His voice provides not only his livelihood but also his recreation. Mr. McKnight said as he explains how glad he is that his doctors were wrong in their original diagnosis of his abilities. He acts as master of ceremonies at many things including union parties for the works crew. He considers he has a talent for it and never works from a prepared speech.

#### SPEAKS FROM HEART

"I just say what comes out of here and here," he said pointing to his head and his heart. And that's how he'll speak at the Citizen of the Year Banquet when he receives his plaque this

month. Mr. McKnight was also a member of the Acton Chamber of Commerce for a time and in 1971 he received a plaque from them in recognition of his outstanding contribution to sports in the town.

Despite his handicap he

also enjoys travelling. He has been to Hawaii and Florida and will be off to a friend's wedding in Calgary later this year.

He is the oldest of Joan and Jim McKnight's four children and lives at home with them on McDonald Boulevard.

The Honourable  
Douglas J. Wiseman  
Minister of Government Services


and

The Honourable  
Keith C. Norton  
Minister of the Environment

invite you to attend the  
**OFFICIAL OPENING**  
of the  
Ministry of the Environment  
**PHYTOTOXICOLOGY LABORATORY**  
by  
The Honourable  
William G. Davis, Q.C.,  
Premier of Ontario

Ceremony takes place  
Friday, June 26, 1981  
at 10 a.m.

Phytotoxicology laboratory is located on grounds of Ontario Experimental Facility and Training Centre, Heart Lake Road South between Steeles Avenue and Derry Road, near Highway 410.



Ontario

### Pay a friendly visit

The "Halton Friendly Visitors" program operated through Halton Helping Hands still needs volunteers to make the program a complete success. The program, which focuses on "friendly" visits to elderly and disabled residents, offers on the job training, or "learn while you give". Helping Hands' Jane Kennedy said recently. Interviews are being conducted for summer and fall visits. Call 877-8909 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and find out what you can do for the program and what it can do for you.

# Help is available to pay your OHIP premiums.

Ontario residents with low incomes are entitled to assistance in paying OHIP premiums. More importantly, the amount has been changed in the most recent Ontario Budget.

If your income as a single person is less than \$8,200 or your total income as a family of four, for example, is below \$14,000, you may be eligible for assistance to pay all or part of your premiums.

As always, pensioners or those

receiving social assistance continue to receive OHIP coverage without charge.

The best way to check your eligibility is to contact your local OHIP office. It's listed in the Blue Pages of your telephone directory under Government Services.

Please ask because you may very well qualify for OHIP assistance today, even though you might not have in the past.

Ministry of Health  
 Ontario

Dennis R. Timbrell, Minister

## If you're heating with oil, cash in on the Government's Off-Oil Rebate - up to \$800.

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