

Volunteer Week in Halton Hills ★ ★ ★ April 23 - 29 ★ ★ ★

Thank-you is all the reward these volunteers ever need

KAREN HARRISON

Karen Harrison has to be the ultimate volunteer in the sports community.

A teacher at Harrison Public School and a life-long Georgetown resident, Harrison is more at home at the rink than she is in her Princess Anne Drive living room.

She is currently serving a second year-long term as Tri-County hockey president, after 11 years as an executive member of the Georgetown Minor Hockey Association (two years as president).

Harrison is also a member of the Gemini Junior Hockey Club executive. She is a former Halton Hills 'Citizen Of The Year' (1979), and a member of the Kinetite Club.

She has done volunteer work, outside of the sports community, for the Red Cross, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Heart Fund and the North Halton Association for the Mentally

Retarded (she is treasurer of the Georgetown auxiliary).

Karen married a hockey player in husband Fred, and she has two puck-chasing boys, Sons Blake, 19, was the lone Gemini rearguard this season who remembered how to play defence.

It's that personal involvement with sports that drives Harrison to keep on helping. Like all volunteers, there is just a teeny touch of selfishness and personal interest to fuel the fire.

"Yes, it's a personal thing for me," Harrison explains. "Somebody has to do the job, if you want local sports to continue as they are."

"If you want better things for your kids, then you have to roll up your sleeves and get involved."

BROAD SHOULDERS
Over the years, Harrison has experienced all of the rewards and drawbacks of volunteer service. Her five years as a GMHA convener taught her how to deal

with the negative side of things.

"There are times when you don't get all the sleep you need, and you have to take some crap," she points out. "You need thick skin and broad shoulders."

A convener has "the most demanding job", according to Harrison. "Your phone rings off the wall. You just go crazy," she recalls.

Harrison was the first female convener for the GMHA. Her duties included getting information about ice-time to players and coaches, arranging games with conveners in other centers, checking the accuracy of information on all replay cards, acting as a liaison between minor hockey and the referees association, explaining rules and regulations to GMHA officials, collecting late fees, enforcing penalties and suspensions, and even handing in

up the medical table, and decks out the showers with shampoo and towels.

After the game he stays long after the players are enjoying a cold beer in the booster club, picking up wet towels, repacking beer bottles into the empty cases and sweeping the dressing room floor.

"It's a thankless job," Harlow says in a bit of an understatement. "My angle is that I do it because I like doing it. I just love hockey."

GOAL JUDGE
Harlow started in the Raider organization after his own knees became so battered he was forced to give up playing the game he loves so much.

He started as a goal judge, "just to get involved." He had passed a basic first aid course when then-trainer Reg Benoit asked Harlow to fill in for a few games.

"I've been there since," Harlow chuckles.

ers thank you, and that's enough. I'm not in this to make money."



Fred Hammer

Married with two daughters, aged eight and four, it's not always convenient for Harlow to be at the rink for Raider practices and games. Especially when other team members let him down:

"Sometimes you want to quit, especially when the other volunteers don't show up, and you're there by yourself," Harlow said. "It frustrates you."

It all seems worthwhile at season's end, though, when the players offer a pat on the back for a job well done.

"The end of the year comes along, and you get a little recognition," Harlow offers. "About 95 per cent of the play-

A coach and manager for more than five years in the Georgetown rep system, Hammer moved into the spotlight as a volunteer when he took over running the GMHA midget tournament two years ago.

Hammer won't start planning for the January, 1985 tournament until September. After that, he will dedicate three nights a week to the cause.

"Of course, it depends on how much help you can get, but if you want to make it a success, then there is a lot of work involved," Hammer said.

As tourney organizer,

Hammer first applies to the OMHA for a permit. Then he mails out invitations to 'AA' midget clubs around the province.

SELLS ADS
Next comes the selling of program ads. Finally, he draws up a tournament schedule.

"I enjoy getting out and selling the program ads," Hammer said. "I enjoy the social contact, and I get to meet quite a few people this way."

After 12 years in minor sports, Hammer knows what he dislikes the most. His pet peeve as a volunteer is what he calls "the negative attitude of some of the parents."

"Parents look at minor ball as a baby-sitting service," Hammer said. "They drop their kids at the ball park, and away they go."

"I think parents should get involved with their kids, and get behind them."

That way, Hammer says, other parents would know why people like him like to volunteer their time and energy to minor sports. The rewards are great.

"What I like best of all," Hammer says, "is when I walk into an arena, or into a ball park, 90 per cent of the kids come up just to say hello."

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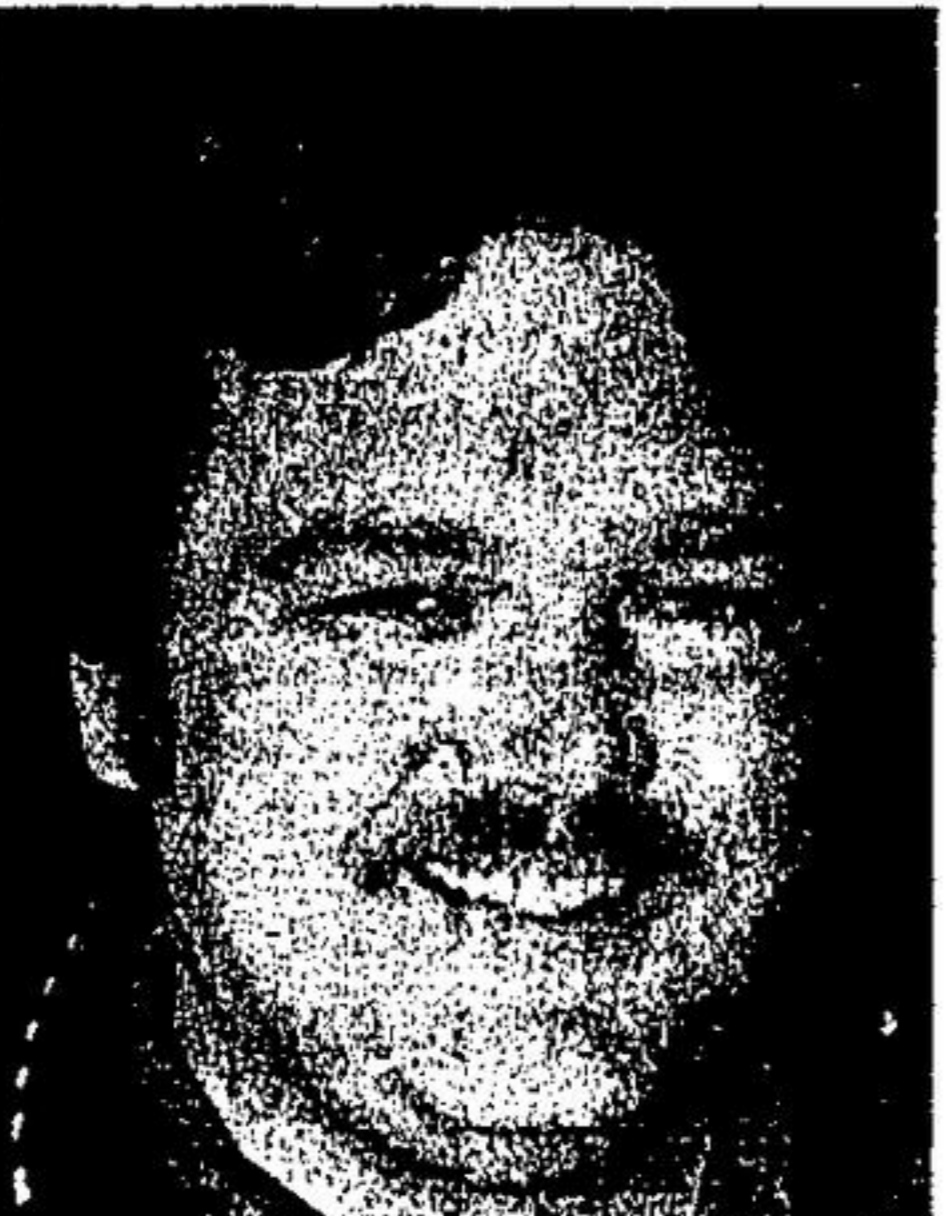
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JUST REWARDS

Many will be shocked to find
When the day of judgement nears
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Satin couches and footstools,
Where there's no committee chairman,
No group leaders or car pools;
No eager team that needs a coach,
No bazaar and no bake sale,
There will be nothing there to staple,
Not one thing to fold or mail;
Telephone lists will be outlawed,
But a finger-snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners,
and rare treats fit for a king.
You ask, who'll serve these privileged few
and work for all they're worth?
Why, all those who reaped the benefits,
And NOT ONCE volunteered on earth.



Terry Harlow

write-ups to the newspapers so sponsors don't get upset.

Why would she want to undertake such a demanding job?

"It's the people that you meet, and the good times that you have," Harrison said. "You can walk into any arena on the circuit and be greeted by a familiar face."

Harrison also has arranged bitling for hockey players visiting Georgetown for our annual midget and bantam hockey tournaments. She has a long list of other volunteer helpers in the community she knows she can call on for help twice a year.

TERRY HARLOW
Amiable Terry Harlow has been the Georgetown Raider hockey trainer for 11 years now. His is a job only the most dedicated volunteer could do for a week, never mind a decade and more.

Harlow arrives at Gordon Alcott Arena at 6 p.m. on a game night, a time when most families are sitting down together for their evening meal.

He fills the water bottles, tapes gimp knees, freezes pucks, counts sweaters and carries sticks. He sets

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Karen Harrison

Trojans top Caps

Anita Stankus scored 19 points to lead the Trojans to a 48-22 victory over the Capricorns in the first game of the Georgetown Ladies Basketball League championship series, Wednesday night at Centennial School.

Lorraine Brown had 11 points for the winners, and Sue Tesar added 10 more. The regular-season champs now need one more win to clinch the best-of-three final.

Debbie Barber was the high Capricorn scorer, with six points. Irene McCauley and Janet McKay contributed four points each.

In the consolation playoff, the Mustangs edged the Cougars, 45-41.

Corinne Buisman paced the Mustang shooters with 14 points, while Alice Ogden downed 10 more. Melanie McCracken had six points in a winning cause.

Carolyn Heron was the top Cougar scorer with 14 points. Leslie Durham downed 11 points, while Wendy Moore and Daiga Zelek put away six each.

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Solemn Liturgy 7:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross
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GEORGETOWN MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
NOTICE OF
SPRING GENERAL MEETING
Sunday May 6th/84
— 1:30 p.m.
Gordon Alcott Arena Hall

PURPOSE:
For election of Executive Members (84/85 season)

All coaches, managers, executive members and team liaison people for 83/84 season are urged to attend and exercise their vote.

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