

From Hogs to Porsches

There's always room at the Mohawk Inn when it comes to local charities

By DONNA DANIELLI

If you spend a few minutes chatting with the regular customers gathered around the bar at the Mohawk Inn in Campbellville, you'll discover that it's not the bar's history that draws them in. Sure the bar itself dates back to 1840 and originally sat in the old Half Way House Hotel in Eden Mills, but the regulars will tell you that it's the people behind that bar that keep them coming back time and again.

"We've always found that our staff is a tightly knit type of family," says Alex So, General Manager. If anyone knows about family, it's Alex. His family has owned the Mohawk Inn since 1988 and fifteen of his family members are employed full or part time at the location. Even his wife Liz and his mother have been drafted into the family business. Liz searches out all of the interesting giftware that can be found for sale at the Wagon Wheel gift shop in the lobby, while it is Alex's mom that can be found putting around the grounds, caring for the landscaping. "She's always trying to keep things blooming," laughs Alex.

The Mohawk Inn is known county wide for it's excellent restaurant, clean spacious hotel rooms, and fireside lounge, but what really brings a smile to

Alex's face is looking through the file of thank you letters from local charities the Mohawk Inn has supported over the years. Leaf through the rather heavy file and you'll find letters from almost every local church, sports teams, and other non-profit organizations. "Sometimes, you just can't say no," explains Alex with a shrug when asked. "We like to give back to the community, and if we have the space available, we rather help out local folks."

"IT FEELS GOOD KNOWING THAT WE'RE PART OF THESE THINGS"

Over the years, the Mohawk Inn has supported many local sports teams and church golf tournaments with gift certificates and provided meeting space for such organizations as the Milton Harley Owners Group, the Halton provincial and federal Liberal Parties, the Silver Knights (TTC drivers), the Red Knights (Firefighters), Ride for Sight events and more. "We often have people tell us that they haven't much of a budget and we know that they want as much of the profits from their event as possible to go to a worthy cause, not to rent meeting space," he says. He pauses for moment,

recreation & entertainment

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before grinning boyishly and adding "Besides, it's really neat sometimes to see 250 Harleys or 15 Porsches in the parking lot during an event."

Recent events have seen the Mohawk Inn play host to the Battle of the Bands for the Ride for Sight and a Milton Harley Owners Group event that donated \$39,000 to Erinoak Children's Centre. "It feels good knowing that we're a part of these things," Alex comments. "We are also very proud to be a lifetime member of Camp Quality, a camp for children with cancer."

Currently Alex and his staff are gearing up for the Christmas rush. Not

only will they host a variety of weddings and office Christmas parties; they are also presenting two evenings of entertainment featuring the comedians from Yuk Yuks Comedy Clubs. "Those are really popular nights," says Alex of the dinner and shows taking place December 4 and 10. "People seem to appreciate that for only thirty-five dollars they get a dinner buffet, show and disc jockey afterwards." For more information on any of the services offered by the Mohawk Inn and Conference Centre, their website is www.mohawkinn.com and their phone number is 905-854-2277.



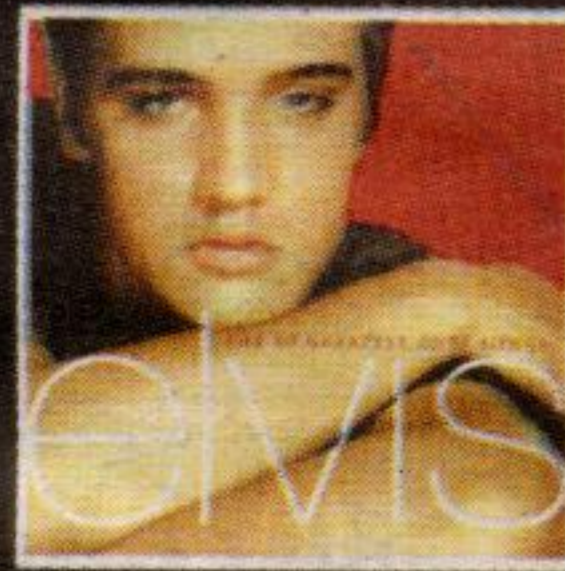
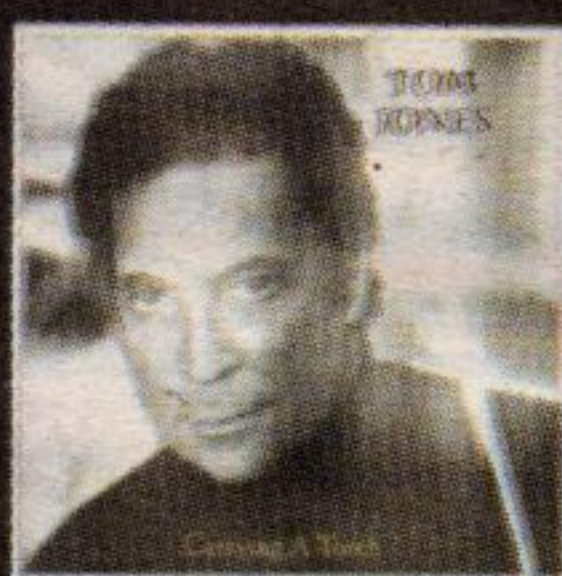
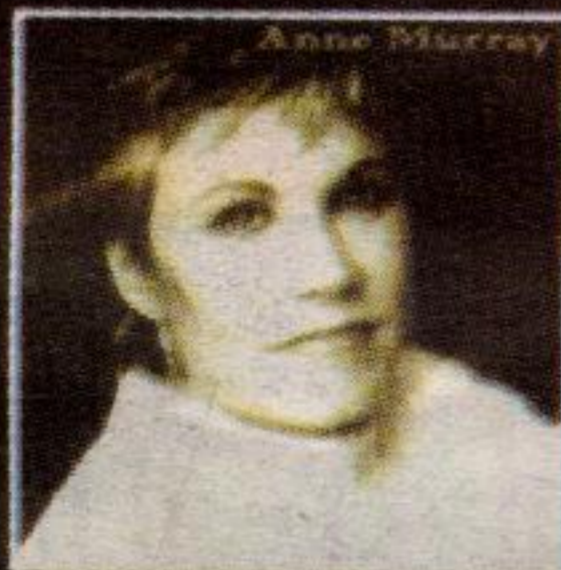
PHOTO BY DONNA DANIELLI

Mohawk Inn customers Dwight Bademan (left) and Adam Bailey (right) chat with General Manager Alex So as they relax around the antique bar found in the Fireside Lounge.

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Top 10 Rentals

This week's Top Ten Movie Rentals brought to you by



1. Elf
2. Chronicles of Riddick
3. The Stepford Wives
4. Shrek 2
5. The Clearing
6. White Chicks
7. The Day After Tomorrow
8. Van Helsing
9. Around the World in 80 Days
10. Dawn of the Dead

New Releases

Elf

starring: Will Ferrell, James Caan

As a baby, Buddy is whisked off to the North Pole, where he is raised as an elf. Seeking out his birth family, he sets out to win over his family and save Christmas in New York, hoping to find his true place in the world.

rated: PG for some mild rude humour and language

Chronicles of Riddick

starring: Vin Diesel

After years of outrunning ruthless bounty hunters, escaped convict Riddick suddenly finds himself caught between opposing forces in a fight for the future of the human race. Now waging incredible battles on fantastic and deadly worlds, this lone, reluctant hero will emerge as humanity's champion and the last hope for a universe on the edge of annihilation.

rated: 14A for frightening scenes and some violence