

# The ROCKWOOD Miller

## Another successful year for EWCS golf tourney

For the first time in years it didn't rain on EWCS's annual Golf Tournament fundraiser. The beautiful weather was just a small piece of the large success of the day. Every golfer spot was sold out weeks in advance and the event raised more money than ever before.

Over 140 golfers came out to enjoy 18 holes at the beautiful Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club, where they had an opportunity to win a variety of prizes that included trips and \$10,000 cash courtesy of RBC in Erin & Hillsburgh.

It is because of generous business like RBC that this event can be so successful. TIM-BR Mart in Hillsburgh sponsored Team

Photos. Allan Alls & Liz Crighton of ReMax Real Estate sponsored lunch, Two new companies, BDO in Guelph & Shane Baghai Group of Companies (who are the builders building the new Medical Centre at the North end of town) sponsored dinner. In addition over 60 other local businesses sponsored the event.

"It is really the volunteers who deserve so much of the credit for this year's success. The committee members [Allan Alls, Mark Bouwmeester, Ted Forrest, Karen Weir-Piroutz & David Robart-Morgan] have been working for months to find sponsors and they did an amazing job", said Caroline Turn-

bull, EWCS's Marketing & Revenue Development Coordinator.

The winning team this year was John Deschamp, Martin Quigley, Peter Noakes & Scott Belanger.

New this year, EWCS introduced a Service Group Contest for golfers from any of the local service clubs. The first winners of this trophy were Mary Cunningham, Wilson Belford, and Wolfgang & Chris Stichnothe - which is a mixed team of Optimists & Rotarians.

After such a fantastic event, the golfers, staff and volunteers are already looking forward to next year. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, July 19, 2011 and join us for the next.

### EWCS GOLF GREATS

First annual winners of the Service Group Contest at the EWCS Golf Tournament. Left to right: Wolfgang & Chris Stichnothe, Mary Cunningham, and Wilson Belford

- Submitted photo



## Survey to better seniors' services

With a grant from New Horizons for Seniors, EWCS is conducting a needs survey for all seniors, 55 years or older, in the Township of Guelph Eramosa, Town of Erin and surrounding communities. The survey aims to find what services are needed in our area.

"We know from experience and all of the incoming requests that East Wellington doesn't have all of the services seniors want and need. Compared to the rest of Wellington County, we're

very under-served," says Glenyis Betts, EWCS's Executive Director. When EWCS approaches funding bodies for money to support new programs it is important that they can prove these services are needed.

East Wellington Community Services strives to provide a full range of services to seniors, including recreational services such as card groups and line dancing, day programs for those with Alzheimer's or Dementia, and transportation services for seniors to

medical appointments.

Many people, over the age of 55, do not feel they fit into the category of "seniors". This survey is not only for seniors in retirement communities or who need help at home. The survey covers topics of recreation, housing, transportation, medical availability, and general wellness. No matter what category you fit into or what services you currently use, anyone over 55 should use this as their chance to have a say about services in the area.

# Shooting stick

By Denise Paulsen

A married couple living in Rockwood happily regaled recollections of a dream come true for those who enjoy playing the game of pool. Brian and Mary Ann Hodge are members of the Guelph chapter of the Canadian Pool-players Association, an American affiliate. Successful regional winners, in both countries, compete every year at the championships in Las Vegas, as Brian and Mary Ann have in the past.

"Seeing is believing," Mary Ann, who has lived in Rockwood all her life and currently works at Jim's Repair Shop, said "The main room at the Riviera Hotel is 10,000 square feet, filled to capacity with a sea of 102 tables, and bleachers for the spectators. The Mini Mania room has 135 tables. It's unbelievable."

Brian Hodge has been a resident of Rockwood for 38-years. When asked how his love affair with the game, commonly referred to as "shooting stick", began Brian said, "I wanted a sport that both my wife and I could enjoy together. A friend played for a league in Hanover, but I was looking for somewhere closer. I joined the Wellington/Guelph chapter of the national league. In our second year, Team Hodge Podge won the regionals.

The trip to Vegas is the ultimate goal for all the pool-playing participants, hoping to win a shot at the \$25,000 first prize. "When your team of eight wins the regionals, you are flown down to Vegas for the week. The local association picks up the tab. This trip costs \$6,000. It is very exciting," Brian continued, "On our first trip to Vegas, we had a phenomenal run. We lost our first game, and then went on to win the next



Brian Hodge at the National Championships in Las Vegas in 2000. - Submitted photo

seven. Out of 512 teams, we finished in 9th place overall."

The Hodges returned to another tournament in Vegas three years later. "We only won a couple of matches, but we still had a lot of fun. A couple on our team got married down there. We all attended the ceremony and had to hustle back to shoot another match!" Brian laughed.

The game of 8/9-ball pool is gaining in popularity and is relatively inexpensive. "It's a cheap sport. It costs \$26 per year for a membership, and \$10 per night to play," Brian said.

When the Hodges started playing the game competitively, back in 1998, there were 35 teams. Now, there are 60. "When I was growing up your parents didn't want you hanging around the pool hall. Nowadays it's different. Our three kids and their spouses are all pool-players. Even our 9-year old grandson is showing a keen interest in the sport. And he's good!"

boasted his grandfather.

The couple who stay together play pool four nights a week. The players all have a handicap from two to seven. Brian's a seven and Mary Ann's a four, with seven being top of the ranking.

"We've built solid friendships playing this game. We're all good friends. You meet new people at the tournaments," Brian said.

Brian and Mary Ann are heading back down to Vegas later this month, after winning a summer incentive tournament. "We'll likely stay in the old part of Vegas this time, and take a side trip to the Grand Canyon," Brian concluded.

The award winning pool-playing duo recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

Gord Fessenden, who runs the Guelph/Wellington CPA, can be contacted at guelph.cpaleagues.ca. Anyone 19-yrs of age and older who may be interested in joining the league is encouraged to contact the Association.

*"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him."*  
St. John 4:23 KJV

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