

# German-Canadian Club marks 10th anniversary



GERMAN-CANADIAN club of Halton County celebrated a happy 10th anniversary with a dinner and dance at Holy Rosary Hall Saturday evening. Halton East MPP Jim Snow, Minister of Government Services, presented the club with an Ontario flag and a plaque of tribute from Premier William Davis. Club president Edmund Petrich, right, accepted the gifts. (Photo by R. Downs)

It was a 10th anniversary party the German-Canadian Club of Halton County held Saturday at Holy Rosary Hall in Milton, and over 200 members and invited guests came from near and far to join in the big birthday dinner and dance.

"Ten years ago in Milton a few newcomers from Germany got together and decided it was time to form a social club," emcee Rudy Arbeiter of Milton recalled. As newcomers, they were confronted with a number of problems coping with and adjusting to a new country. Besides the obvious social cultural involvements, the club is "filling a gap" in helping immigrants

overcome their initial homesickness, he said.

**Presents flag**  
On behalf of the government of Ontario, Halton East MPP Jim Snow, Minister of Government Services, presented an Ontario flag and a plaque from Premier William Davis. "Canadians of German origin have brought their adopted country many valuable traditions and customs which have become a rich part of the Canadian way of life," the

plaque said. Milton Mayor Brian Best also brought greetings from the people of the town and thanked the club for the part it has played in bringing new aspects into the life of the community.

Greetings from the Federal Republic of West Germany were brought by Klaus Hoefler, Vice-Consul from the German Consulate. Henry Weisbach, president of the Trans-Canada Alliance of German-Canadians, said the work the local club has done here is typical of the work by Alliance members across the land and "I think we have made a tremendous contribution to the cultural, economic and political life of Canada."

**Honor workers**

Silver pins were presented to seven members who have remained active workers with the club during the past 10 years—Dieter Geissler of Acton, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Schicht, Mr. and Mrs. Werner Weber and Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Arbeiter, all of Milton.

Edmond Petrich of Mississauga is president this year, Mr. Schicht is vice-president and Mr. Geissler is secretary-treasurer. Also introduced were Willy Schaub of Guelph, public relations officer for the Trans-Canada Alliance, and Deputy Reeve Bob McCuaig of Milton. Halton MP Rud Whiting arrived later in the evening, after attending another function in Acton.

Tribute was also paid to Mr. and Mrs. Lou Reichert, who helped the club get organized 10

years ago and hosted many of their first dances at Peru Park dance hall.

The history of the club shows it has been an active one. Members come from all over Halton and Peel Counties plus Hamilton and Toronto, but the club has always had its nucleus of members in the Milton district and, according to emcee Arbeiter, "Milton is our home."

**Club history**

Its "hofbrauhaus" show and dance held in Milton Arena every labor day weekend since 1963 has been a popular event, with as many as 1,200 attending. The club holds monthly dances open to all,

plus Christmas parties for members' children, hikes, fishing trips and picnics. For six years it ran a German language school on Saturdays, to teach the mother tongue to children, and the club hopes to revitalize the project this year.

Mr. Arbeiter pointed out that only 60 per cent of the members are of German descent—Dutch, Polish, Italian, Latvian, British and Canadian names are also found on the membership lists.

There have been just five presidents during the club's 10 years of operation—Hans Neyers, Rudy Arbeiter, Fritz Schicht, Ernst Hammans and Edmond Petrich.

Following the buffet dinner and speeches, the remainder of the evening was spent dancing to two orchestras.

## Children to Denyes school

### Parents concerned about safety

Concern for the safety of young children who will attend the J. M. Denyes School in September rather than Bruce St. was expressed to Milton Council Monday by members of the Bruce St. Home and School.

Mrs. G. H. Willoughby pointed out small children would have to cross a footbridge on Parkway Dr. to get across the Sixteen Mile Creek to the Denyes School or go north to Pine St. and then south to the school. She pointed out it was a steep slope to the stream and steps up to the bridge made it difficult or impossible for them to ride bicycles.

**Cross railway**

Mrs. Willoughby also expressed concern for pupils crossing the narrow Pine St. bridge. For those who must go to the W. I. Dick School it means crossing the CPR railway. Members told the delegation the Court St. footpath would be restored when the current storm sewer construction is concluded.

Councillor G. Krantz maintained council should seek a report from the Board of Education on their intentions when Bruce St. School is closed. He suggested the group should contact trustee John Doble.

Mrs. Willoughby noted however, the group was not happy about the closing of the school but she felt the streets were a matter for the town council, not the school board. She emphasized that it was children

from kindergarten age to grade five they were concerned about.

She said she hoped children would not have to be driven to school. One of the advantages of living in a small town was the ability of the children to walk to school.

Reeve Ron Harris promised the delegation the works committee would look into the Parkway bridge and its access. Council will also ask the Board for a report.

One mother told the council some parents of children in special classes had been told their children would have to be bussed to Pineview.



TABLES WERE HEAVY LADEN with delicacies Saturday when the German-Canadian Club of Halton County marked its 10th anniversary with a dinner and dance. Former presidents, charter members and long-time workers in the group gathered to celebrate the occasion. Above, some of the crowd of over 200 line up at the buffet table for desserts. (Photo by R. Downs)

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—Plans for the Martin St. sewer had been completed to the preliminary stage and easements were necessary.

## Milton Council briefs

From minutes of the meeting of the Works Committee of Milton Council on April 24 it was learned:

—Conditions at the dump commented on by the Halton County Health Unit were the result of a bulldozer breakdown and a shortage of earth fill. The Works Superintendent told the committee these would be overcome with fill from the Ontario St. storm sewer.

—There would be no change in the five garbage collections in the commercial areas. Merchants had earlier suggested the need for a pick-up between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. so garbage would not have to remain on the street overnight or through the day.

—The tree planting program had received an excellent response and the initial allocation of funds was raised to \$400.

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