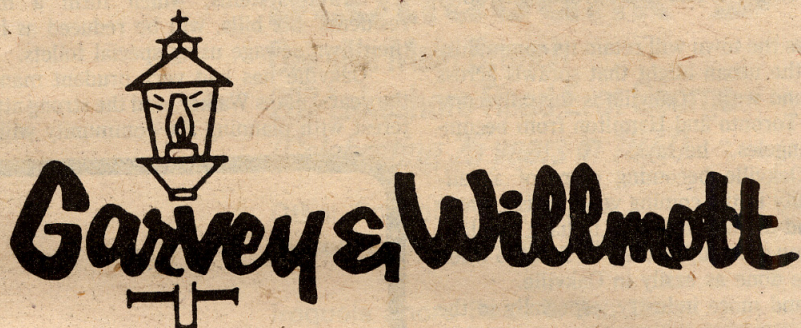


# Thank you Oakville . . .



where style and personal service  
is your preference and our pleasure

*S. Garvey*      *John P. Willmott*



## The Kiwanis Club (P.O. BOX 594 OAKVILLE, ONT.) of Oakville Inc.

An organizational meeting was held at the Riverside Lodge on Thursday, April 4, 1951 with District Secretary A. G. Savage helping the club during this formative meeting. The first slate of officers and directors were many of the prominent businessmen in the Oakville area:

President	Angus McMillan
Vice-President	Arthur Hill
Secretary	Allan Masson
Treasurer	James Peat

Directors Jack Pearson, Harold Stirling, Allen Keeley, Bruce Honeywell, George Fish, Lester Whiting, William Barron, Governor Ralph D. Steele presented the Club with its charter at a gala evening on May 21, 1951.

That first year was an active year as the 32 members raised funds and helped the young people in the area by sponsoring two Peewee baseball teams among many other activities. Through the next 24 years, the Club has consistently sponsored hockey, soccer, and baseball teams.

In 1951, the Garden Bros. Circus made its first appearance in Oakville, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, and, except for a few years lapse, has been an annual fund raising project for the Club as well as a tremendous source of entertainment for the local children who might not otherwise see a circus locally.

In 1952, the Club raised \$3,000 for the Oakville-Trafalgar Arena with part of the money raised through a turkey shoot. In 1954, the Club sponsored the Clarkson Kiwanis Club, helped to organize the local YM-YWCA and later led in sponsoring 100 members required for a charter for the YM-YWCA. The Kiwanis Bicycle Rodeo was started in this year and became an annual event until taken over by the Oakville Safety Council. As many as 500 children would pass through the course as they vied for prizes and trophies provided by the Club. This Rodeo received acclaim from all over USA and Canada and was the subject of a special film distributed through the National Safety Council.

In 1956, the Club purchased an audiometer for testing the hearing of grade school children in 25 area schools. In the first year, 1,120 children were tested and in the following years, upwards of 2,000 children would be tested in any one year. The Club assisted financially any family who could not afford treatment and hearing aids.

1958 saw the start of our annual Radio Auctions over Oakville radio station CHWO and these auctions proved to be entertaining and profitable both for the Club and the community. The annual Track & Field Day was started in 1959 in which athletes from 19 area schools participated. This meet was to

become the largest in Halton County and eventually became self-sustaining under the direction of the Oakville Recreation Commission.

In 1962, the Club established the Doug Wilkes Kiwanis Citizenship trophy, in memory of an outstanding charter member of the Club. This trophy and a \$150 certificate is presented to the Grade 13 student most exemplifying the characteristics of good citizenship in the Town of Oakville.

Dominion Day celebrations became a reality when the Club began sponsoring the annual July 1 affair, attracting as many as 10,000 people. The Club was also instrumental in bringing the Victorian Order of Nurses to Oakville, providing gas for their cars while on duty for the first two years.

In 1970, the Club became involved with the old granary in Oakville as they opened it to the town's young people by supplying them with an opportunity to learn crafts and meet in the coffee house. Although "The Mill" closed by the end of the year, it helped some young people through a drug oriented year in Oakville. The third annual Kiwanis swim meet was held that year in February bringing out the best of the swim teams from Oakville high schools and private schools. This event continues to grow in popularity and is always enthusiastically attended by swimmers and spectators.

In 1973, the Club took on the responsibility of organizing the Oakville Track & Field Club. The Track Club became an instant success with athletes competing in many countries around the world. As planned the Track Club became self sufficient in 1975 and the Club started looking for other projects. Grace House, a halfway house for adults readjusting to society after troubled times recently received the Club's attention and financial support. In tune with the times, the Club has brought its Radio Auction out of mothballs and updated it to a TV Auction. The first TV Auction held in December, 1975 on the local cablevision channel was successful enough to make it an annual event.

In 1976 The Kiwanis started the Meals on Wheels programme, which is featured elsewhere in this edition. Also in 1976 the Club made the first installment on its \$10,000 commitment for the furnishings of the Oakville Senior Citizens Drop In Centre.

In 1977 the Club has initiated a monthly Halton Regional Policeman of the month award.



The Club meets every Tuesday at 6:45 p.m. at the Glen Abbey Golf Clubhouse for a dinner meeting and speaker. An invitation is extended to any interested person to attend these weekly meetings. For further information contact Brian Bennett at 827-9533.