

a great tribute to Canada." After hearing Greg's introduction which was bilingual, Mr. Mulroney said he was going to send half of his caucus down to learn French.

Mr. Mulroney described how unemployment has dropped from 11.7 per cent in his three years as prime minister. He stressed the gains in youth unemployment, which has declined by 6%. This drew loud cheers from the audience.

On free trade, Mr. Mulroney renewed his position that the agreement would create jobs, 120,000 of them, and said he viewed the agreement as a major ingredient in his program to reduce unemployment.

Outside the school, a handful of farmers and others protested the free trade deal.

Following his short speech Mr. Mulroney answered some tough questions from the students. A number of subjects were covered, including abortion, free trade, unemployment, acid rain, South Africa, his government scandals and agriculture (at which time he was assisted in answering by John Wise).

Two questions were directed to Mila as Lise Begin asked her, in French, if she in any way promoted a clothes designer. Mila answered, in French, saying no that she purchased only Canadianmade clothes. The other question to Mila was asked by Carolyn Quinton as to why she chose Cystic Fibrosis as her charity.

Students offering other questions were Carvell Loomis, Hedwig VanAsten, Jennifer Bol, George Prieksaitis, Dianne VandenBiggelaar, Connie Baptista, Andrew McCallum and Susan Fisher.

At the close, Student Council Vice-President Margie Young presented flowers to Mila Mulroney, Anne Wise and Mary Hockin. She also gave Mila a donation, on behalf of the school, to her charity, Cystic Fibrosis.

Another roar went up as the Mulroney's departed but not before shaking many more hands and picture taking on their way out.

This was the first visit to the area by a prime minister since John Diefenbaker 25 years ago.

# John Wise honoured

The John Wise appreciation dinner, held Saturday, Sept. 16, was successful in raising several thousand dollars for the John Wise Scholarship Fund. About 2,000 came to the event held at Gary and Ronnie Balthes' farm in Norfolk County.

"It was more than we expected despite the weather," said Mrs. Balthes.

"It's a great night," said Mr. Wise at the dinner. "We said we were going to go, rain or shine . . . I appreciate all the support, not just tonight, but over the last 30 years."

Deputy-Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture Don Mazankowski was on hand to honor Wise. He described Wise as "the best Minister of Agriculture Canada has ever had." He said John and Anne Wise have both put in a lot of hours in the past 30 years.

"They really deserve the tribute they're getting tonight," said Mazankowski. "Many people wouldn't be farming today if it wasn't for John Wise."

The John Wise Scholarship Fund scholarships will be awarded to top graduating students interested in pursuing post-secondary education in the agriculture

field. Donations to the fund may be sent in care of the Elgin PC Riding Association, Box 604, St. Thomas.

St. Thomas Times-Journal



John Wise



# Forty years of W.L. Kiwanis activities recalled

By Lynn Lashbrook

The 40th anniversary of the West Lorne Kiwanis Club was celebrated at Thursday night's meeting, when the club's community activities through those years were recalled by Kiwanians Bill Graham and Harley Lashbrook.

The meeting was the first in the new Kiwanis year, when third-time president, Peter Ayling, took over.

He reminded members that Kiwanis International's major objective for the next three years is: "Young Children Priority One." Bill Graham was named chairman of the committee.

The president also warned that several new members are required if the club is to continue and increase its community service. In this regard, a roster of 50 names of prospective members has been submitted, with invitations to join to be sent out immediately.

## RESUME

Kiwanian Graham's resume of activities went back to the early '70s, when the club needed to raise a lot of money for the arena, so gambled on contracting with Guy Lombardo and The Royal Canadians to play for a dance in the arena.

"It was such a success Lombardo returned four times, and the Duke Ellington band played one year, when it was impossible to contract Lombardo," Kiwanian Graham recalled.

In the early '50s the club held Hobby and Talent Shows in the arena, which were very successful in giving local and district merchants opportunities to display their wares. However, only the Talent Show has survived, the 37th to be held in April at WESS, he explained.

## AMAZING

Kiwanian Graham found it amazing that a small club from such a small village could get members to go on six international interclubs into Ohio and attend evening, breakfast and noon meetings before returning.

"They were good ambassadors for Ontario and Canada," he said, "because they took along 'peace offerings' of Canadian bacon and cheese, and a bottle of Crown

Royal for each club's president."

Through the years the club raised considerable money with projects such as a walkathon from West Lorne to Dutton, Wallacetown, Eagle and home. It raised \$600 for the arena. In addition, the club spearheaded raising \$200,000 for the arena floor's replacement.

## APPRECIATION NIGHT

In another line of endeavour, Kiwanian Graham recalled the club, and Rodney's co-organizing the first appreciation night, when former Aldborough boy, Bob Barden, then president of Canadian National Railways, was honoured with a banquet at the International Club, which a capacity crowd attended. Other appreciation nights were held for Kiwanians Earl Lemon, Wilfred Johnston, Wolfgang Liepmann, Ray Peckham, Dr.

Bruce Cantelon, Norman Schlarbaum and Mark Quinton.

Kiwanian Graham assured he is always pleased when knocking on doors and canvassing for the Cancer Society, to say: "I am a Kiwanian." And he admitted particularly so when the club raises around \$3,000 for the worthy cause in such a small village, and by a club with so few members.

## LASHBROOK

Kiwanian Harley Lashbrook, a 36-year member, said he has enjoyed every minute in Kiwanis, including all the work and money-raising events.

"West Lorne's is one of the smallest clubs in the division, but I doubt there is any service club with so few members who have raised more money and accomplished more for their community."

"However, we require more

members to continue the projects for the community the club wants to achieve. Fortunately there is a second club in the village doing other things, that so few Kiwanians can't achieve," he said.

## ARENA

Kiwanian Lashbrook recalled the major role the club played in replacing the old arena, which he said was a Godsend, because now the community has a modern arena for all to enjoy.

He also recalled Santa Claus parades, cider-making, pancake breakfasts and geranium sales, and other such activities which not only raised money, but kept club members working together, and interested in continuing to do good works for the community.

He reminded that through the years, the club has continued to sponsor ball, hockey

and soccer teams, and was the first around to sponsor hockey showdown contests.

Visiting Kiwanian Harvey Miller recalled when both West Lorne and Rodney clubs had so few members for two years they combined for dinner meetings at New Glasgow Restaurant. Then, when Rodney got a new president who enticed 10 young members to join, the clubs split up, the Rodney club continuing with over 20 members.

Visiting Kiwanian Lynn Lashbrook reported always having promoted club activities in the Sun and Mercury, and will continue when asked and available.

Charter Pres. Prevett concluded the meeting, Pres. Peter Ayling wishing the club well on its 40th anniversary, together with the wish that the club continues its community service for another 40 years.



Charter members of the West Lorne Kiwanis Club (1950) were recalled at Thursday night's meeting, when two charter members — Charter President Ron Prevett, and Wilfred Rewbotham — attended. Possibly eight or 10 of the original 26 members are alive. From left to right in the front row, are: Norman Thomson, charter treasurer Gordon Stephens, Basil Fisher, Pres. Ron Prevett, 1st Vice-Pres. Maynard Hopper, secretary Vincent McHale and Archie

"Baldy" McKillop. Middle row: Norval Murray, Larry Hosey, Archie McMillan, 2nd V-P Emerson Woodruff, Gabriel Gat, Tom Dymock, Wilfred Rewbotham, Stuart Ronson, Earl Lemon, and Wilfred Johnston. Back row: Wilfred Livermore, Peter Kemp, Jim Lemon, Dr. Bruce Cantelon, Jim Cowan, Cecil Reid, Jack McDonald, Orval Gibson and John Atkinson.

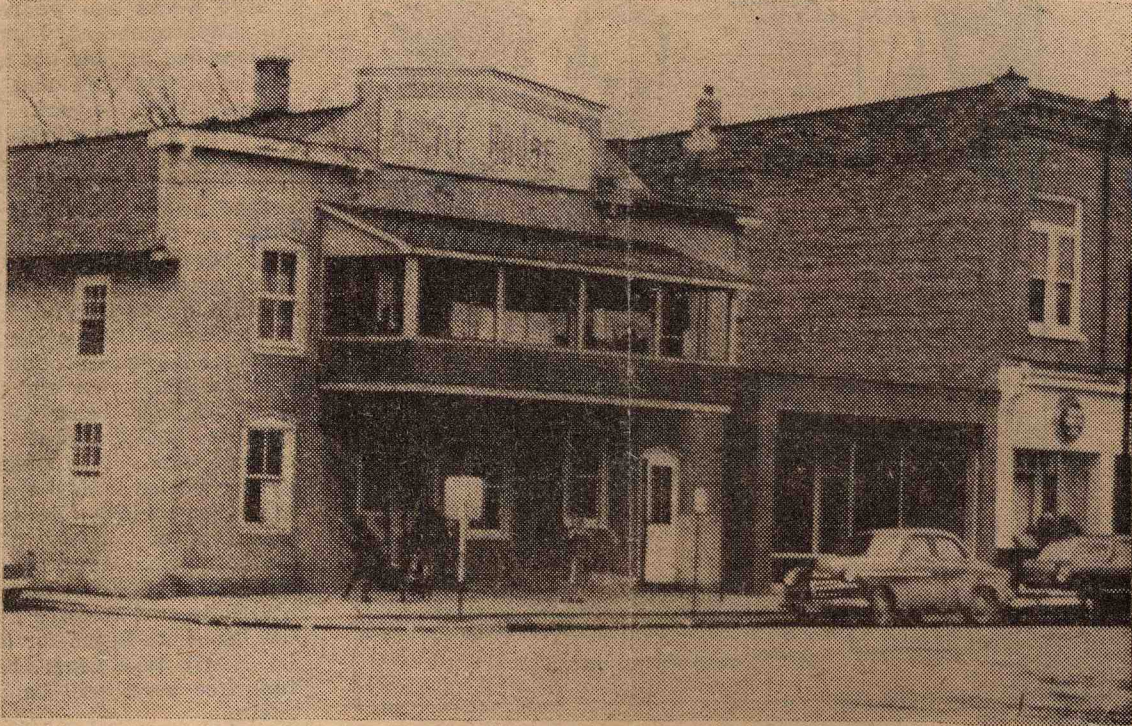
## Former West Lorne Kiwanis presidents

1950 - 51 Ron Prevett. 1952 Emerson Woodruff. 1953 Maynard Hopper. 1954 Wilfred Johnston. 1955 George Johnston. 1956 Ray Peckham. 1957 Doug Todd. 1958 John Quigley. 1959 Harley Lashbrook. 1960 Wolfgang Liepmann. 1961 Jack Curruthers. 1962

Caron. 1975 Robert Johnston. 1976 Darryl Swain. 1977 Ray Jobson. 1978 Harley Walker. 1979 Ray Peckham. 1980 Jim Hardenbrook. 1981 Dave Lawley. 1982 Bill Graham. 1983 Harley Lashbrook. 1984-85 Peter Ayling. 1986 Bill Graham. 1987 Bob Walker. 1988 Ray Peckham. 1989 John Lawrence. 1990 Ralph Chambers.



# Many changes



**THIS PICTURE OF ARGYLE HOUSE CAN NEVER BE DUPLICATED** now as the old hotel at West Lorne's main intersection is fairly well demolished. The back third of the building has been completely torn down with work progressing on removing the roof and the upper storey of the building. Contractor Alex. Parker is doing the work. Villagers are particularly pleased with the manner in which he is going about the job. He has kept the streets free of obstruction, with lumber and debris being carted away every day.

— Mercury-Sun photo.

*This is now where the Bank of Montreal is located*



Royal Theatre closed 30 years ago

*Now EMA Grocery Store*