

Plainfield Chatter

Mayors' Challenge Golf Tournament— It's More Than Just a Game

Sixteenth Edition
 June 2005

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The Plainfield Community Homes 22nd Annual Mayors' Challenge Golf Tournament, which took place on a warm and sunny May 31st, was much more than a game of golf. It was even more than a charity event. It was a community effort and the great success of the tournament bears witness to the wonderful community we live in.

The Tournament was held at the Bay of Quinte Country Club, with 156 players—the most ever—participating. Each person paid an entry fee of \$125 and funds were also raised through hole sponsorships, and various prize and raffle donations.

There was a silent auction, with auctioned items including round-trip tickets from VIA Rail, a Boston Bruins goalie stick autographed by Andrew Raycroft, Blue Jays tickets from Medigas, Green Fees from the Bay of Quinte Country Club, a nine-piece patio set from Dewe's Independent and Smylie's Independent Grocer and a one-of-a-kind handcrafted butterfly sculpture from Christine Vos.

Congratulations to Mayor Mary-Anne Sills

and her Winning Mayors' Team, who went home with the trophy returned to the tournament by last year's winners—Quinte West.

Prizes were awarded to the Winning Mayors' Team, the First and Second Place Teams and Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive in both men's and women's categories.

However, as Golf Committee member, Jim Blaind of Wilson Sports Equipment said, *"It's really not about the tournament, the golf winners, the scores or the prizes. The real winners are the people supported by Plainfield Community Homes. This tournament allows the organization to purchase and upgrade accessible transportation that in turn helps those people to be an important part of the fabric of our community. We thank all those who contributed as sponsors, donors, players and volunteers. The tournament truly is a community effort and we are so privileged to have incredible community support."*

The 2005 Tournament raised \$14,100!

Let's Celebrate!

Rights Education and Support Team

What does advocacy mean to you? The Rights Education and Support Team would like to thank all of the staff at Plainfield Community Homes for your efforts in advocating for people supported. Do you know of a staff member who is a strong advocate for others every day? If so, please forward their name to **Christine Vos**.

This September, we will all join together to celebrate. The Rights Education and Support Team will host a barbeque and we can talk about advocacy, provide information and celebrate people's success stories. We will be recognizing everyone's advocacy efforts and honouring those most selected. More information will be forthcoming.

CanAm—An International Experience

Kim Schamerhorn, Rights Education and Support Team

The joining of two countries sharing their expertise: Those attending this exchange are people who work with and support individuals who are developmentally challenged. It focuses on the individuals and provides them with ready-to-use tools which can be incorporated into daily living.

This year's Spring Conference—held at Queen's University in Kingston—focused on Health and Wellness. Sessions included Workplace Wellness, Infection Control, What is in the Box (Reading Labels), Communicating and so much more. Plainfield Community Homes was represented at the Conference and in fact participated in presentations.

Nicole Guindon presented "Keeping Fit to Keep Healthy." She demonstrated and led participants through exercise routines that will keep you limber and in healthy physical shape. **Nicole** reviewed routines for those who depend on some form of mobility support as well as exercises that can be done in a work environment.

Members of our Rights Education and Support Team—including **Christine Vos**, **Sandra Coates**, **Donna McKeown** and me—provided a session on "Rights Education - Enhancing Personal Freedom." We expressed the experiences and educational strategies used by our team. Our Vision and Mission Statement was emphasized, along with the educational ideas used to encourage people to exercise their rights and the advocacy needed to help people do so.

It was stressed that education is an ongoing process which we continue to provide by offering monthly sessions through Day Options. These workshops are open to people supported as well as the support staff who have become advocates through their jobs. Plainfield's Rights Education and Support Team will continue to enhance the knowledge that has already been introduced. **November** has officially been declared "**Rights Education Month**" at Plainfield Community Homes.

Both sessions presented by Plainfield Community Homes were well attended and resulted in a large response of positive feedback. I was proud to represent our agency at the conference and feel that the *Canadian-American Expertise Exchange* is one that all should experience at some point during their career.

Profile of a Donor

Patti Gillman, Executive Assistant



Patti and the Baroness

Baroness Gudrun Von Ledebur has been a close family friend for many years and she has brought such joy to our lives. To know **Gudrun** is to love her and we cherish the time that we are able to spend with her which, simply due to geography, is never often enough for any of us.

Gudrun was born on May 25, 1914 to Baron Thilo and Baroness Katerina Von Ledebur in Tilsit, Germany. She is the middle child of three daughters - her sisters Dorthea and Ingeberg continue to live in Germany. **Gudrun** spent most of her youth in Berlin and then in Westfalen, where she studied nursing. She began working as a pediatric nurse in 1935 and she nursed during the Second World War in Germany. In 1956, **Gudrun** came to Ottawa in what was to be a two year stay, once again working as a nurse. But she loved the country so much that she and her mother, Katerina, immigrated and lived in Smith Falls for a time. **Gudrun** retired from nursing in 1970.

During a visit to Prince Edward Island that same year, **Gudrun** and her mother were so taken with the beauty and laid back lifestyle, they decided to move to the island the following year. They settled in Summerside, where **Gudrun** spent several years teaching art classes to children and adults alike. **Gudrun** estimates that she has painted over 300 pastels and oil paintings in her life, her favourites being flowers and the four seasons.

Gudrun's mother, Katerina, passed away in 1982 in her 94th year. **Gudrun** continues to maintain her own home in Summerside where she continues to paint and care for her feline friend Cati, one of 11 cats that **Gudrun** has cared for over the years. If you are lucky enough to possess one of **Gudrun's** paintings, you are considered a friend. And she has many friends, some of whom came together on May 24th to help **Gudrun** celebrate her 91st Birthday.

Gudrun contributes to over 50 charitable organizations and Plainfield Community Homes is privileged to be one of her favourite causes!

Family Home Share Program— Associate Family Living

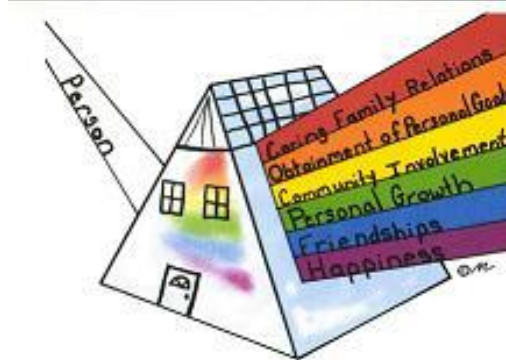
Shannon Sturgeon, DSW

“A Prism Service”

Supported by Plainfield Community Homes

The Family Home Share Program is looking for both full and part-time families who are willing to provide accommodation and care in their home, to a child or an adult with a disability. Plainfield Community Homes is great at providing supports and the Family Home Providers will have opportunities to experience that support. Family Home Providers will be rewarded with positive outcomes and enriching life experiences. They will gain new skills, build on their own professional skills, meet new people and become more involved and knowledgeable about their community and the resources it has to offer. Financial compensation will also be provided to the Family Home Providers.

This is a wonderful opportunity for families to participate in a valuable activity which benefits their family, the person supported and their community, while gaining new skills, experiences, and the joy and fulfillment that come from an enriched life. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Family Home Share Program, please contact Michele Macfarlane at Plainfield Community Homes at (613) 969-7407, Ext. 32.



Outcomativity—Destroying the Box

Christine Vos, Personal Outcomes Trainer/Accreditation Specialist

On the journey toward accreditation, personal outcomes have become the basis to the support provided by Plainfield Community Homes. We must listen and learn from people with disabilities in order to discover what is important to them. Those individuals with more life experiences, greater skills and ability make our task easier because they are able to express themselves in determining the level of support they want from us. However, others may be more challenging to the support team because they have fewer life experiences and may not have as much skill and ability to be more independent without additional support. This is where we have to use creativity to develop the supports necessary to assist the individual to achieve his or her outcomes. By “thinking outside of the box” we are able to break away from traditional thinking and planning.

Outcomativity not only encourages you to think outside the box; outcomativity has no box!!! There are no impossibilities to bring us down. Outcomativity dares us to destroy the box and look at the impossible. It demands that we practice the impossible every day. In order to guide our thinking, three phrases should be used. “What if we...”, “What else...” and “Why not...” are powerful tools that we can use to encourage creative thinking. Traditional thinking in itself often creates more barriers than solutions. By using these prefixes, the “box” of traditional thinking will be destroyed, freeing our creativity.

Getting “out of the box” of traditional thinking

“What if we...” presents unlimited possibilities to brainstorm ideas that surround the individual with creative thinking. With this, the team takes a “no idea is wrong” approach to experience real outcomativity:

What if we tried... ☞ What if we did... ☞ What if we acted... ☞ What if we believed...

“What else...” enables us to break away from traditional thinking that simply retreads old ideas. With this, the team tends to look beyond what has been tried before:

What else can we do... ☞ What else can we see... ☞ What else do we hear...

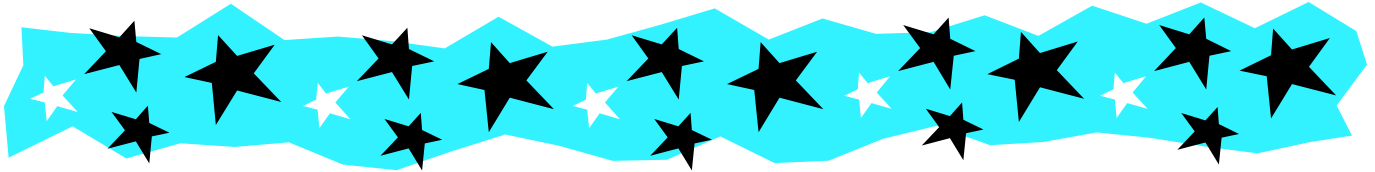
“Why not?” really destroys the box challenging the team to become creative. It commits us to find solutions by adopting a “can do” or a “whatever it takes” attitude of support and action:

Why not do... ☞ Why not create... ☞ Why not be...

I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.

- Michelangelo

Upcoming Events



The next **Regular Meeting** of the Plainfield Community Homes **Board of Governors** will be held on **Thursday, June 23rd at 11:00 am** at the Administration Office of Plainfield Community Homes. The **Annual General Meeting** of the Plainfield Community Homes **Board of Governors** will be held on **Saturday, September 17th at 11:00 a.m.** at the Administration Office of Plainfield Community Homes.

In **September**, the **Rights Education and Support Team** will host a barbeque to recognize and celebrate the advocacy efforts of Plainfield Community Homes staff. More information will be forthcoming.

The Buy Locally Owned Group is planning a gala **Canada Day Celebration** at West Zwick's Park on **July 1st** that will feature everything from children's entertainment and activities, a fun run and a tug of war, to various demonstrations, musical entertainment and closing fireworks. There is no charge for these activities, although there will be a nominal \$2 fee for parking. The celebrations begin at **10:00 a.m.**

The Belleville Waterfront Festival will be held from **July 8th to July 10th**. Call the **Festival Hotline** at 969-1980.

The Rotary Club of Belleville is holding a **Rockin' Street Dance Party** downtown in Market Square on **July 15th**, featuring **The Dawn Tyler Watson Blues Project** and **The Weber Brothers**. Tickets for a Dinner (7 pm)/Street Dance Party (8:30 pm) combo are \$35. Tickets for just the Street

Dance Party are \$25. This is a liquor licensed event, but all ages are welcome. Tickets may be purchased at various locations in the downtown area, including most banks. For more information, contact Jamie Trudeau at 968-4151.

The **Eastern Ontario Mud Drag Racing Association** will hold **Mudfest 2005** on **Saturday, July 16th** with races beginning at **12:30 p.m.** For more information, call Rob Schreider at 395-2985 or 391-4740. As in past years, all of the proceeds from the races will be donated to Plainfield Community Homes!

The **Special Service of Praise** at **Eastminster United Church** will not be held during the summer months, but will resume in the Fall.

The **White Cane Club** hosts an **Entertainment Night** on the first Tuesday of each month at the Rec Centre on Pinnacle Street, just south of the Legion. Plan to be there by 7:45 pm—the meetings begin at 8:00 pm. A light lunch follows the meeting and the evening ends at around 9:30 pm. A **Games Night** is held on the third Wednesday of each month. For more information, call Ruth Stratton at 968-5896. Membership fee is \$10.00 per year.

QVSS hosts **Rally One** dances on a frequent basis. The dances are held at **St. Michael's School Gym** from **7:00 pm until 9:00 pm**. For further information, call Linda Bosley at 968-5211, ext. 225.

PLAINFIELD CHATTER

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