

Fellow Kin of District 8,

This will be my final newsletter of 2010-11. Thank you for your support.

District Convention is done and we only have National Convention in Regina, Saskatchewan left before we begin a new Kin year. If you have the opportunity please attend; it will be an event you will never forget. The dates are August 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 inclusive.

Go to: <http://www.kinCanada.ca/kinsmen-pages/en/content/160/National-Conventions>

I wish to thank a number of Kin that have served District 8 with distinction this past Kin year. Let's work backwards from District Convention; starting with the Kin Club of Valley East who hosted an awesome convention on behalf of the members of District 8. Special congratulations to Kins' Scott & Manon Bolger for co-chairing an excellent event, the support of Kins' Jeanine & Darren Bolger for credentials, rules of order and the hospitality suite. To our stalwart members Kins' Mary Lou & Bob Bolger – thank you for having the passion and desire after 40+ years in Kin.

Let's not forget the special presentation of Kin Jeanine Bolger's Life Membership presented by past National President Doug Anthony. What a treat that was for the Bolger's; and all of us present at convention. Well deserved.

To our special speakers Jim Ruta & Earl Black – thank you. Jim - thank you for your support and enthusiasm for Kin – allowing us the insight of your many years of experience as an author and professional motivational speaker. Earl - your presentation was appreciated by all.

Congratulations to your Deputy Governors for their unselfish and dedicated support this past year, without their support the clubs and members of the respective zones would not have had the constant flow of information, guidance and support throughout the year. Zone A – Kin Denis Tambeau, Zone B – Kin Bob Fadock, Zone C – Kin Heather Peckham-Hughes, Zone D – Kin Deb Corpe, Zone H – Kin Kathy Alexander (acting DG) and Zone I – Kin Debra Foggetti.

Special congratulations Kin Heather Peckham-Hughes as the winner of the Outstanding Deputy Governor of the Year 2010-11.

Congratulations to our Zone Service Coordinators for their drive and determination allowing us a record year for Cystic Fibrosis donations - \$243,303.16. Thank you Kin Erin Thomson – Zone A, Kin Paula Mayer – Zone B, Kin Andy Hughes – Zone C, Kin Tony Foggetti – Zone I and to the Deputy Governors of Zone's D & H who had to complete dual roles this year. Thanks Kin Deb Corpe and Kin Kathy Alexander.

Congratulations to our public speaking competitors: Kin Dia Rissis (Kinsmen Club of Erin Mills), Kin Gary Gornik (Kinsmen Club of Stouffville) and Kin Jason Chessar (Kinsmen Club of Peterborough).

Kin Jason Chessar was our winner – good luck at National. And thank you to our judges: Jim Ruta, Past National President Doug Robinson and new member Kin Chantel Dupuis.

Congratulations to our new Vice Governor elect Kin Ron Lafreniere of the Kinsmen Club of Timmins. Good luck to you and your team in 2012-13. I know Kin Ron will put together a vibrant team for his term in office.

During this year we were supported by our Vice Governor Kathy Alexander who will start her Kin year as Governor in a couple of weeks. Kin Kathy has an excellent team in Kin Gary Gornik (District Treasurer), Kin Erin Thomson (District Service Director), Kin Andy Hughes (District Service Director), Kin Deb Corpe (District Secretary) and Kin Tony Foggetti (District Membership Director. All the best in 2011-12.

Thanks to Kin Ed Dawson (Past Governor) for your support and guidance during my term in office. It was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to all the staff at National Headquarters for your tireless and sometimes thankless efforts keeping the districts in line. We seldom say thank you but you are the best.

National President Kin Lee Burry; thank you for participating in our Governor calls during the year and providing your unique perspective on Kin; you are a good friend and mentor.

Thanks to Kin Gary Gornik for supporting our team as the webmaster this year. Albeit, Kin Gary has a heavy travel schedule he was able to support us all through the year. I cannot compliment Kin Gary enough for his outstanding work and fast replies to all of our queries.

For those members that brought in new members, thank you. You made a difference; 37 new members in 2010-11 – unfortunately we lost 50. While not the result we are looking for we are still tracking well with bringing in members. Our lucky winners for the “free registration” from the list of new members that joined District 8 during the course of the 2010-11 Kin year was Kin Ron Maybee and his sponsor Kin Mike Vanek of the Kinsmen Club of Peterborough.

A special event during the Kin year was the Hal Rogers Fellow designation given to Kin Larry Kendall for his tireless work in Kin. To make it more special Hal Roger’s daughter Diane Rogers awarded the HRF medal to Kin Larry who was more than surprised. Congratulations Kin Larry and to your family who was there to share it with you. A true gentleman and outstanding Kin member that I’m proud to say represents the best of District 8 members.

To my district executive – a HUGE THANK YOU. Kin Life Member Bill Brown (Past Governor), Kin Life Member Gary Newton (Past District Officer) and Kin Scott McKeown were my stalwarts throughout the year. Thank you Kin Bill for your support – an unselfish Kin member for years with a vast amount of experience, great sense of humour and brutal honesty. Kin Gary, your support was without question outstanding; running a tight ship for the District 8 members, getting dues paid on time and turning over a large surplus to the incoming team so they could reduce dues for our members. A true friend. Kin Scott - thank you for your commitment to the members of District 8 with good minutes while performing duties as required. Thanks Gilligan; without your rapier wit and excellent business sense we would not have been the team we were.

To all the members of my home club thank you for your support over the past 2 years allowing me the time to be a District officer for the best members of Kin in Canada; District 8. Thank you to Kin Dia Rissis, Kin Jodi O'Mara, Kin Kara Newton, Kin Gregg Little, Kin Bill Brown, Kin Gary Newton, Kin Scott McKeown, Kin Mark Allan, Kin Fred Sobie, Kin Bruce McKerracher, Kin Denis Godbout and Kin Paul Davies.

To my employer Teradata Canada ULC, thank you for the time off to complete this volunteer role. It was greatly appreciated.

To my family, a special heart felt thank you. Without your support it would have been a difficult 2 years. We're in the home stretch and Past Governor will be a walk in the park in comparison. Thank you to my wife Barbara, son Vincent & girlfriend Augusta and daughter Emily. Love you all.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Governor. I just want to leave you with a thought. Back in 1997 I was honoured with my Life Membership in Kin and one gentleman could not make it that evening. Instead he sent a telegram (yes back then it was telegrams, not an email, twitter or facebook) that sums up our work in Kin. It read – "service work is your rent for time on earth". Amen.

See you at National Convention.

Yours in Kin,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LP' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Len Ptak  
Governor District 8  
a.k.a. "the Skipper"