



# Kiwaniis<sup>®</sup>

## CLUB OF PIQUA

### The Piquanian

NOVEMBER 2023

**OFFICERS**

President  
Kelly Meckstroth

Vice President  
Joe Gebhart

Secretary  
Gretchen Roeth

Treasurer  
Mark Wion

Immediate Past President  
Mark Wion

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dennis Carity  
Mark Greenwood  
Katie Loehr  
Marijo Polling  
Shane Schneider  
Joe Shaffer

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

1st, 3rd and 4th Wednesdays  
of the month at noon

**WORK PROJECTS**

2nd Saturday of the month

**BOARD MEETINGS**

3rd Wednesday of the month  
following the Regular Meeting

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

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**WEBSITE**

www.piquakiwanis.org

**President's Message**

Fellow Kiwanians!

Over the last couple of years, Mark Wion has lead our club with extraordinary dedication and guidance. It is an honor to follow his foot steps as I only hope to achieve that caliber of awesomeness. As a club, we were fortunate to have Mark as our President and Treasurer while we rebounded from the unforgettable pandemic. Mark – thank you for your service within our club as it has been an honor as I look forward to continuing our collaboration this upcoming year!

As we embark on a new Administrative year, we are already off to a great start welcoming a new member, Kathy Graeser and honoring Wayne Thomas, Bill Parke and Steve Wells for their 25+ years of service as members of the Piqua Kiwanis Club. We have new board members and officers set to guide and lead our club to great things. I don't know about you but I am beyond blessed to a member and now your President of the Kiwanis Club.

Fall is upon us which means we hosted yet another Annual Halloween Parade – successfully I might add. We had 101 participants, the Pride of Piqua Marching Band, volunteers from the Builder's Club and Key Club along with community support. Although a couple sprinkles tried to defer the ghostly mood, the evening turned out to be spooktacular. The following were winners recognized:

**Grand Prize Girl:** Elenor Anderson (Woodland Fairy)

**Grand Prize Boy:** Ezra Zimmerman (Pirate Ship)

**3 years & younger:** 1<sup>st</sup> Deklin Cox (Farmer), 2<sup>nd</sup> Rexton Stevens (Hershey Kiss), 3<sup>rd</sup> Everleigh Small (Princess)

**Prettiest:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lallah Snyder (Elsa), 2<sup>nd</sup> Brielle Schneider (Cinderella), 3<sup>rd</sup> Lillian Hiler (Cinderella)

**Funniest:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jackson Gray (Weatherman), 2<sup>nd</sup> Jaylin Rudy (Cow), 3<sup>rd</sup> Helena (Axalotle)

**Scariest/Ugliest:** 1<sup>st</sup> Ariyah Bolden (Corn Goblin), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lydia Petty (Art the Clown), 3<sup>rd</sup> Jaylynn Scott (Dark Angel)

**Most Original:** 1<sup>st</sup> Journey Tobe (Hippy Van), 2<sup>nd</sup> Carson Taylor (Beekeeper), 3<sup>rd</sup> Troy Wildenhaus (Jesus)

**Best Group:** 1<sup>st</sup> Keymarhi, Kingston and Kinnison Jacomet (Car Wash), 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordyn, Wendy and Tasha (Annie), 3<sup>rd</sup> Royce and Andrew Mann (CSX)

**Cartoon Character:** 1<sup>st</sup> Bowen Pooler (Rubble Bob Builder), 2<sup>nd</sup> Carson Bryant (Lightening McQueen), 3<sup>rd</sup> Arianna Wale (Ugi Boogie Man)

**Science Fiction:** 1<sup>st</sup> Arabella Fox (Wednesday Addams), 2<sup>nd</sup> Naiym and Kingston Beard-Williams (Future Aliens), 3<sup>rd</sup> Luke Thomas Stearns (Traffic Alien)

**Marching Band:** 1<sup>st</sup> Kimber Patten (Mr. Potato Head), 2<sup>nd</sup> Seth Nickles (Mr. Pricklepants), 3<sup>rd</sup> Marie (Pokeman)



## HOUSE CLEANING

### **BIRTHDAYS**

Kelly Meckstroth (November 5), Mikaila Hall (November 15), Kathy Graeser (November 19)

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Kathy Vogler (November 10)

### **WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS\***

- November 1 Miami County Health Department  
Health Commissioner Dennis Propes will be our presenter.
- November 15 Business Meeting  
**Board Meeting** immediately follows.
- November 22 Thanksgiving Break  
NO MEETING
- November 29 Piqua Edison Electric Illuminating Co.  
Keith Bowman will talk about the old Edison Building on Water St. and the history of the Piqua Edison Electric Illuminating Company.

\* Wednesday meetings are held from noon to 1pm at the Piqua YWCA, 418 N. Wayne St., unless stated otherwise. Currently, we do not meet on the second Wednesday of the month.

In the event of a program change, emails will be sent out with updated information.

Lunch reservations must be made by noon on the Monday prior to the Wednesday meeting.  
Contact Dennis Carity at 937-418-8478 to order a meal.

***DID YOU KNOW...***current and back issues of the newsletter and up to the minute meeting info can be found on our website at [www.piquakiwanis.org](http://www.piquakiwanis.org).

Newsletters are published at the first of the month. Please email news items to [mark1greenwood@gmail.com](mailto:mark1greenwood@gmail.com).  
Items must be received at least one week prior to publication

## NEW OFFICER INDUCTION AND MORE...

We don't normally meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, but on October 11 we made an exception and had our "new officers induction" meeting at Crooked Handle Brewery in Piqua. John Coffield, our Lt. Governor, was on hand to present our new officers, welcome a new member into our club, and honor three Legion of Honor recipients.

John started things rolling by presenting pins to the following officers: Treasurer and Immediate Past President Mark Wion; Vice President Joe Gebhart; President Kelly Mechstroth. Gretchen Roeth was recognized as our Secretary but was unable to attend the meeting. This is a dedicated group of officers. Mark, Joe and Gretchen are all continuing in their roles from last year and Kelly is a past president (2015).

Next up, John was joined by Kelly to officially induct Kathy Graeser into our club. Kathy was sponsored by Gretchen. She retired after 36 years of teaching 4th and 5th graders at the Piqua City Schools. She is married to Bob and the mother of Chad and Cole. She was inducted into the Piqua Athletic Hall of Fame after an outstanding high school career playing basketball and softball. Kathy is excited to be part of the Kiwanis family and is already involved as a Kiwanis advisor for Springcreek K-Kids.

John wrapped things up by welcoming three of our members into the Legion of Honor Society. The Legion of Honor Society recognizes Kiwanis members who have achieved 25 or more years of service. Legion of Honor recognition is given at 25 years of membership and every five years thereafter. First up was Wayne Thomas, who was unable to attend, but was recognized for 25 years of service. Next, Bill Parke received a pin and certificate for 40 years of service and last, but not least, Steve Wells received a pin and certificate for 50 years of service! Not only do Bill and Steve represent a combined 90 years of service, but they have flipped an untold amount of pancakes over the years and were top peanut salesmen back when Kiwanis International had their Peanut program. In fact, notwithstanding Don Smith, the granddaddy of peanut sales, Steve was a very close second in sales. Congratulations to our Legion of Honor members!

Below are a few pictures taken by Joe Gebhart on his cell phone. Although the lighting wasn't ideal, Joe managed to snap a few usable pictures.



John presenting Kelly as our new President



John and Kelly welcome Kathy to our club

Legion of Honor recipients present at the meeting



John recognized Bill for 40 years of service



John recognized Steve for 50 years of service

( FYI: Steve is taller than Bill, thus the taller picture! )

## PIQUA K-KIDS ARE OFF AND RUNNING!

October 13 was the first meeting of our latest student service program, Piqua Catholic K-Kids. With K-Kids programs at Piqua Central, Springcreek, Washington, and now Piqua Catholic, we are the only Kiwanis club in the area to cover all of the elementary schools in our town.

Chartered in 2009, Springcreek is our oldest K-Kids program. Two years later, both Piqua Central and Washington were formed. It took a while, but twelve years later Piqua Catholic joined our K-Kids family with 14 kids signed up for the program.

K-Kids is a student service program geared for children ages 6 through 12 with a focus on teaching the value of serving others.



Pictured above are some of the new K-Kids hard at work thinking about what projects they should take on to improve their school, our community, and the world. This was also the time to consider running for a club office and working on required speeches for the next meeting.



## EXERCISE THOSE "GEARS" BETWEEN YOUR EARS

Do the math! Try these simple problems.

(Keep your solutions handy to compare with the answers in next month's newsletter).

1)  $3 + 5 \div 4 = ?$

2)  $\frac{10-2}{5} = ?$

3)  $12 \div 3 \times 4 = ?$

4)  $\frac{3}{2} + \frac{2}{3} = ?$

5) How many fence posts are needed to build a 20 foot fence if the posts are each 4 feet apart?

----- answers to the puzzlers in the October newsletter -----

1. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday?

answer: **Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow**

2. What word is the same backwards and upside down?

answer: **NOON**

3. Bill bets Craig \$100 that he can predict the score of the hockey game before it starts. Craig agrees, but loses the bet. Why did Craig lose the bet?

answer: **Bill said the score would be 0 - 0, which is always true before a game starts.**

4. A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?

answer: **The river was frozen**

5. Four cars come to a four-way stop, all coming from a different direction. They can't decide who got there first, so they all go forward at the same time. They do not crash into each other, but all four cars go. How is this possible?

answer: **They all made right turns**