



Kiwanis[®]

CLUB OF PIQUA

THE PIQUANIAN

June 2024

Kelly Meckstroth (President), Joe Gephart (V.P.), Gretchen Roeth (Secretary), Mark Wion (Treasurer & Past President)
Board Members: Dennis Carity, Mark Greenwood, Katie Loehr, Marijo Poling, Shane Schneider, Joe Shaffer

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President's Message

Fellow Kiwanian's!

Can you believe we are almost halfway through the year? We continue to be blessed as a club with member support whether it be frequent meeting attendance, volunteer work and/or participation in service projects. Thank you!

Our sponsored youth concluded their 2023-2024 school year with many successes. I can only imagine what the 2024-2025 school year will bring.

Over the summer, we are looking for member support as we volunteer for the Salvation Army food truck. Interested parties should let Gretchen and/or myself know. Please see "Salvation Army Summer Lunch Program" on page 3 for more details.

I wish you all an exciting June and amazing kick off to summer.

Kelly



House Cleaning

Birthdays

Wayne Thomas (June 19)

Anniversaries

Wayne Thomas (June 19), Joe Gebhart (June 20)

Wednesday Programs

- | | |
|---------|--|
| June 5 | Piqua Center
Off-site Mall visit
Meet in Conference room located off of the food court and down the hall beyond the restrooms |
| June 19 | Scholarship winners will be introduced and honored.
Board Meeting immediately follows. |
| June 26 | TBD |

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.

Newsletters are published at the first of the month. Please email news items to mark1greenwood@gmail.com.

Items must be received at least one week prior to the end of the month.

The Back Burner



Just a few things on the back burner that are worth noting:

Salvation Army Summer Lunch Program - **Tue August 6 & 20.**

3 Volunteers needed for Tue August 6 and 1 for August 20.

Every summer the Salvation prepares lunches for local children. Our club helps by distributing lunches from a mobile unit set up for food distribution. Volunteers arrive at the Salvation Army, 129 S Wayne St, about 10:15 and are done by 1pm. Family members, friends, and coworkers are welcome.

Contact Gretchen Roeth or Kelly Meckstroth for more details or to volunteer.

FULL CIRCLE & SCHOLARSHIPS

The term "full circle" often refers to a series of developments that lead back to an original situation. But how does that relate to a Kiwanis scholarshis? Read on.

I left high school in 1971 with a small scholarship in my pocket and attended a community college for two years. From there I transferred to California Polytechnic University, a.k.a. Cal Poly, and completed my B.S. degree. That led to employment at General Dynamic's (GD) Pomona plant. Fifteen years later the Pomona plant was sold and operations were moved to Tucson, AZ. I was faced with a move to Tucson or a layoff. I chose the layoff which led to a part-time teaching position at a community college. That experience led me back to Cal Poly where I worked until I retired.

I wound up retiring from the same place that I had attended as a student. I went "full circle"! But unknown to me at the time, there was a bigger circle in play, one that started with the small scholarship I received in high school.

That scholarship I received turned out to be a Kiwanis scholarship. Fast forward to my employment at GD where I met Bernadine. We were married just a few years before the Pomona plant closed. I didn't know it at the time, but she was born and raised in Piqua. She took me to a couple of reunions, and I really liked the area. I decided Piqua would be a good place for retirement. So, we moved to Piqua where I promptly met Fred Verceles. We became friends. Before I knew it Fred had me at a Kiwanis meeting and quickly signed me up for his Scholarship Committee. When Fred passed away a few years ago I became chair in his place. So, what started with a Kiwanis scholarship in CA led me to become a person involved in awarding Kiwanis scholarships in OH. Not only a "full circle" experience, but one that had its beginning and ending points nearly 2100 miles apart!

Last month our Scholarship Committee evaluated scholarship applications from PHS seniors. On May 22, during the PHS Awards Night ceremony, Mark Wion and Gretchen Roeth presented Marin Funderburg and Nataya Yaqub with \$1500 scholarships from our club. As a side note, Nataya was also a Key Club member.

FYI, my Kiwanis scholarship back in 1971 was a whopping \$250, but back in those days it was enough to cover my first 2 years at a community college!

Mark Greenwood

RODEO in Downtown Piqua?

If you're look'n for bull riding, calf roping, bronco riding, or steer wrestling you ain't gonna find it at this rodeo, pard'ner! This rodeo consisted of 6 to 12 year-olds riding bicycles.

Key Club hosted their sixth annual Bike Rodeo on May 17th during Piqua Taste of the Arts. Young cyclists rode a course designed to teach bicycle handling and safety.

Unlike professional Cowboy Rodeos, where participants must belong to a rodeo association and pay a hefty entry fee, the Key Club Bike Rodeo was free and open to all 6 to 12 year-olds, provided they could ride without the aid of training wheels.



Most cyclists arrive at the Rodeo wearing their own helmets, but for those who didn't, free helmets were available!

One such participant is pictured to the left. She arrived without a helmet and left wearing a new Ohio Kiwanis bicycle helmet.

This marked the 6th annual Bicycle Rodeo, and so far over 200 helmets have been given away!

St. Mary Catholic K-Kids - the Ultimate Collectors!

In the April newsletter these K-Kids were featured for collecting 281 boxes of cereal and were nicknamed the "Mighty 11" (more on that later).

They recently wrapped up their final project for this school year by collecting 304 hygiene items for the St. Vincent DePaul Tornado relief fund at Indian Lake. What a way to end their first year as a club!

Pictured below are the K-Kids flanked by Mark Wion and a teacher on the left, and two teachers on the right.



Now, back to the "Mighty 11" nickname. In the April newsletter (available on our website) a picture of this group featured a teacher to the left, 11 K-Kids in the middle, and two teachers on the right. Now take a closer look at the picture above. There are 16 heads. Three teachers plus Mark Wion equals 4 adults. But if my math is correct $16 \text{ minus } 4 \text{ is } 12$, not 11. What happened to the "Mighty 11"?

Eleven of the fourteen kids who had expressed an interest in the program became regular attendees. But somewhere along the way, one of the three that weren't attending decided to join in.

I guess they will be looking for a new nickname!

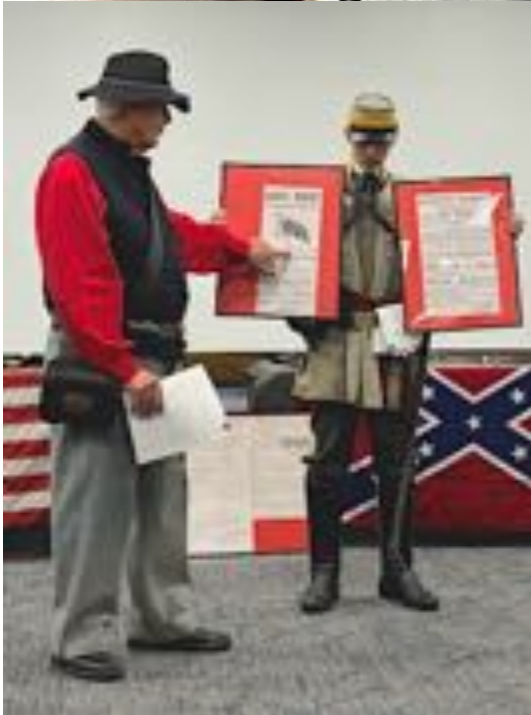
All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go



Well not quite!

Even though the Civil War ended 159 years ago, John Procutia (below) and his assistant George (left) came to our May 22nd meeting dressed in Civil War era clothing which made for a great presentation.

In addition to an array of rifles and swords from that time, John spoke about the 101 regiment from Ohio and the 18 battles they were in during the war.



What's in a name?

The American Civil War has been referred to as War of the Rebellion, War for Southern Independence, Secession War, War between the States, and War of Northern Aggression among other things.

But whatever you call it, it was a long time ago and John's presentation really brought it to life.



Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(answers will appear in next month's newsletter)

1. A cowboy rode into town on Friday. He stayed for three nights and rode out on Friday. How is this possible?
2. What has a neck but no head?
3. If you multiply this number by any other number, the answer will always be the same. What number is this?
4. Forward, I am heavy; backward, I am not. What am I?
5. Throw away the outside and cook the inside, then eat the outside and throw away the inside. What is it?
6. What is it that no one wants to have, but no one wants to lose either?

Answers to last month's riddles:

1. What is always in front of you but can't be seen?

Answer: The future.

2. What kind of coat is best put on wet?

Answer: A coat of paint.

3. What goes up but never comes down?

Answer: Your age.

4. If there are three apples and you take away two, how many apples do you have?

Answer: Two. You have the two you took!

5. What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

Answer: Short. Short+e+r is shorter!