



Kiwaniis[®]

CLUB OF PIQUA

THE PIQUANIAN

February 2025

Kelly Meckstroth (President), Marijo Poling (V.P.), Gretchen Roeth (Secretary), Mark Wion (Treasurer)

Kelly Meckstroth (Immediate Past President), Mark Wion (President Elect)

Board Members: Mark Greenwood, Mikaili Hall, Brent McKinney, Warren Parker, Shane Schneider, Joe Shaffer

Address: P.O. Box 738, Piqua, OH 45356

website: www.piquakiwanis.org

President's Message

If January is the month of change, February is the month of lasting change. January is for dreamers...February is for doers.
– Marc Parent

Kiwanians,

January has been bitter with frigid temps so it is questionable what February may bring. I know that we have not had a meeting for quite sometime which I apologize for as I look forward to the gatherings as many of you do too. However, member safety is a priority so I would rather ease on the side of caution than risk anyone's health or safety. Thank you for your patience and understanding with last minute meeting changes.

It is hard to believe but we are in the early stages of Pancake Preparation. As always, we will need member support in selling tickets and volunteering on March 8th (7a-1p). Please save the date and plan on attending while inviting family, friends, and neighbors to join us. I am working to solidify our date for 2026 as well so stay tuned. Check out page 4 for an interesting history of the "pancake"!

We will be gearing up for some service projects as well in the Spring so please let us know if you have any ideas and/or suggestions. Right now, we are looking at building some shelves for the Bethany Center and possibly helping out with Neighbors Helping Neighbors.

As a reminder, Sidney Kiwanis Club has asked us to participate in an interclub on June 5, 2025, by attending a Dayton Dragons game. Ticket cost is \$15/person, game is at 7:05pm but they will need a head count by March 1st. I kindly ask you RSVP to Gretchen and/or myself no later than February 28th so we can provide an appropriate number of member interest. What a great opportunity to invite friends and/or bring the family to an event where Kiwanis is celebrated all while cheering and having a good time at the ball field. I would love to see support from the Piqua Club at this event.

Lastly, I know everyone's time is valuable and limited in our chaotic day to day, but I would like to possibly coordinate a gathering for our members and their families late Spring and/or Summer. Although I have some suggestions, I would love member feedback on interest level and suggestions if you have any. We have several members with young children so an environment where we all can just enjoy some downtime and each other's company is good for the soul.

Thank you for being a Kiwanian and continuing to support our community!

Kelly



House Cleaning

Birthdays

Joe Gebhart (Feb 9), Jimmie Reedy (Feb 16)

Anniversaries

No February anniversaries

Wednesday Programs

- Feb 5 Miami County Mentoring Partnership
Program Coordinator Carragan Klawon of the Mentoring Partnership of Miami County will be our presenter.
- Feb 19 Piqua Economic Development
Chris Schmiesing, Director of Piqua Economic Development, will present.
Board Meeting immediately follows.
- Feb 26 Pancake Day
We will discuss our upcoming March 8th Pancake Day.
- Mar 5 Joint Meeting with Key Club
We will join Key Club at the Piqua High School for a joint meeting. Lunch will be served in the Student Union. There will be someone at the main entrance to take folks there.
- Mar 19 Piqua Police K-9 Unit
Officer Lotz and his dog from the Piqua Police K-9 Unit will join us.
Board Meeting immediately follows.
- Mar 26 Piqua Arts Council (PAC)
PAC's new Executive Director, Sara Wilson, will talk about what's happening at PAC.

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.

For a lunch reservation notify Kelly Meckstroth by Monday.

Call/text (419) 348-4329 or email KMeckstroth@trio-healthcare.com.

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:

Head Start Reading - **Third Tuesdays of each month at 9:45 am**

If you would like to volunteer or get more information about the program, contact Mark Wion.

Children's Traveling Opera - **Thursday, March 13th at 8:35am and 9:45am**

Dayton Performing Arts Alliance (DPAA) will once again put on two performances of *The Pirates of Penzance* at Piqua Central Intermediate School. Performances includes Dayton Opera Artists-in-Residence along with randomly selected 4th graders playing various parts.

Performances run 45 minutes and are open to parents and Kiwanians!

Dragons Game Interclub with the Sidney Kiwanis Club - **June 5th at 7:05 pm**

Tickets are only \$15 per person. Please include family and friends!

Please RSVP to Gretchen and/or Kelly no later than February 28th so we can provide a count to Sidney.

PANCAKES

Hotcake, griddlecake, flapjack. A pancake by any other name is still just a flat cake made from a batter cooked over heat. Next month will mark our 71st Pancake Day. In one sense seventy-one years is a long time, but compared to the history of flat cakes, 71 years is a mere drop in the bucket.

Recent evidence suggests that Neanderthals may have been flipping cakes as early as 70,000 years ago. Their "batter" may have been different and they weren't cooking on a metal griddle or using a spatula, but there is evidence that our ancient relatives were cooking flat cakes on heated rocks. Their batter was most likely made by soaking and pounding plant seeds. Rather than poured onto a cooking surface, the batter was mashed into flat cakes and then cooked on their version of a griddle, a hot stone!

There is very strong evidence that Stone Age cooks were making "pancakes" some 30,000 years ago. Research suggests that these ancient cooks made flour out of cattails and fern which was mixed with water and baked on a hot stone.

While it is likely that a version of the modern-day pancake existed tens of thousands of years ago, it is based on archeological finding, scientific analysis and conjecture. But what about something more definite? Enter the Greeks.

The Greek poet Cratinus provided us with the first known written record of a pancake. Around 500 BCE he wrote, "a [flat cake] hot and shedding morning dew", and thereby acknowledged the existence of the "pancake" in his day.

Fast forward 600 years to the 2nd century and Greek physician Galean provides us with a written recipe for a pancake, or *tiganitai*, as he called it. The tiganitai was an unleavened pancake made with flour, water, oil, salt and honey. The recipe was included in his book, "De alimentorum facultatibus", which translates to "On the properties of foodstuffs".

In this country we can thank early Dutch settlers for pancakes. In the 1700's these settlers brought with them their recipe for what we consider the American-style pancake that we not only enjoy today but will be serving next month at our 71st pancake breakfast!

Mark Greenwood

What's all the BUZZ about?

The BUZZ last month came from a bee, but not the stinging insect variety, this was a spelling bee! Once again our club sponsored Piqua City School's annual Spelling Bee.



Eight participants went 9 rounds and spelled 48 words correctly before leaving two finalists standing.

All participant received a trophy for competing.
They are pictured (left) with their trophies.

If you look carefully you will notice two participants holding two trophies each. These were the two finalists. More about them below.

Pictured below are Spelling Bee Champ Espen Atha (left) from Piqua Jr Hi along with runner up Jaxon Kemp of Piqua Central Intermediate school.



Springcreek K-Kids Get Creative



Springcreek K-Kids watched a video about the Meals On Wheels program and learned what it means to the folks that benefit from Meals On Wheels.

After watching the video, the kids went to work creating magnetic canvases for Meals On Wheels folks.



The canvases can be set out or attached to refrigerators and will add a bright spot for these folks!



To the left are three completed canvases ready for display!.



Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(see bottom of page for answers)

1. A man and his boss have the same parents but are not siblings. How is this possible?
2. LE
VEL

Use the letters in KIWANIS to answer 3 through 14 below.
(example, **Transgression** - answer **sin**)

3. relatives
4. a flightless bird
5. wagon or cart
6. briefly close one eye
7. be victorious
8. Squid defense
9. question
10. become submerged
11. elegant
12. large waterfowl
13. Hit the slopes
14. The body's largest organ

answers: 1) he's self-employed 2) split level 3) kin 4) kiwi 5) wain 6) wink 7) win
8) ink 9) ask 10) sink 11) swank 12) swan 13) ski 14) skin