



Kiwanis[®]

CLUB OF PIQUA

THE PIQUANIAN

March 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

Kelly has been extremely busy this month work and knee deep in Pancake Committee duties. So, in lieu of a **President's Message**, we offer the following on our Kiwanis roots.

KIWANIS 101

Unlike a Math or English 101 course, you will not be required to study or take a test to pass "Kiwaniis 101". The only requirement is to read the following and learn more about our parent organization, Kiwanis International.

CLASS IS IN SESSION!

IN THE BEGINNING. According to Kiwanis International, the organization was originally founded in 1915 in Detroit, Michigan. Some Kiwanis club websites and Wikipedia claim that the organization originated in 1914 as a conversation between Allen Browne and Joseph Prance. Browne's idea was to solicit business and professional men, asking them if they would be interested in organizing a fraternal organization. But they go on to say that Browne's organization didn't receive its "not for profit" status until January of 1915. So, 1915 is considered the year that Kiwanis officially started. But it didn't start out as Kiwanis.

WHAT'S IN A NAME. On January 21, 1915, the *Supreme Lodge Benevolent Order Brothers* was formed. A year later the organization's name was changed to *Kiwanis*. But why Kiwanis? Per the Kiwanis International website, the name was selected by the organization's founders based on their understanding that the word was translatable to "we build" from the Algonquian Native American language family. But there were many tribes using the Algonquian language including the Ojibwe (or Chippewa). The origin of *kiwanis* is more likely from the Ojibwe word *giwanizi* which translates to "fool around". On the other hand, Random House Dictionary states that *kiwanis* comes from the Algonquian language and means "to make oneself known". Bottom line, the meaning is unclear. What is clear is that "we trade" was the original motto, followed by "we build" in 1920, and finally "serving the children of the world" in 2005. Why the motto changes?

FOCUS. Kiwanis was originally a fraternal organization focused on business networking. The change from "we trade" to "we build" is unclear, but Kiwanis change their focus in 1919 from a fraternal, to a service organization. The change in focus probably led to the change in motto. As a service organization Kiwanis's focus turned more and more toward children. In 2005 members voted to change the motto to "Serving the children of the world." Why the world?

BEYOND OUR BORDERS. In 1916, just a year after Kiwanis started, the Kiwanis Club of Hamilton in Ontario, Canada was formed, and Kiwanis became an international organization. Kiwanis clubs continued to form in communities across the U.S. and Canada until the 1960s, when worldwide expansion was approved. Today, Kiwanis clubs exist in nearly 80 nations and geographic locations.

CLASS DISMISSED!

Mark Greenwood (with Kelly's permission)



House Cleaning

Birthdays

No March Birthdays

Anniversaries

Ben Zimmerman (3/9), Steve Wells (3/28), Paul Doak (3/30)

Wednesday Programs

- 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!

PREDICTIONS

Predictions include forecasts, foretelling, hunches, guesses and any other method of discerning the future.

My "go to" as a kid was the Magic 8 Ball. Step 1 - Shake it up. Step 2 - turn it over. Step 3 - read prediction. And of course, if you didn't like what you read, repeat steps 1 through 3 until you get the "prediction" you want. Example, "Will I get an "A" on my next math test?" Shake, turn over, read "outlook not so good". Not what I wanted, so shake, turn over, read "you may rely on it". Walla, my Magic 8 Ball predicted an "A" on my next math test!



Last month, on Groundhog Day, Punxsutawney Phil made a prediction - *Six more weeks of winter*. But how good are Phil's predictions? The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) calculated the accuracy rates of 13 "winter predicting" groundhogs and Phil didn't do too well. In fact, my Magic 8 Ball could give him a run for the money!

NOAA Groundhog Rankings

Rank	Groundhog	State	Accuracy
1	Staten Island Chuck	NY	85%
2	General Beauregard Lee	GA	80%
3	Gertie the Groundhog	IL	65%
4	Jimmy the Groundhog	WI	60%
5	Woodstock Willie	IL	60%
6	Buckeye Chuck	OH	55%
7	French Creek Freddie	WV	55%
8	Malverne Mel	NY	55%
9	Octoraro Orphie	PA	52.6%
10	Dunkirk Dave	NY	50%
11	Holtsville Hal	NY	50%
12	Punxsatawney Phil	PA	35%
13	Woody the Woodchuck	MI	35%

March 8th is our annual Pancake Day and I don't need a Magic 8 Ball to predict that it will be a success. Our Pancake Committee has everything planned out and our members are lined up to help with everything from setup to check-in to serving and cleanup!

Be sure to check out next month's newsletter for more on Pancake Day and how we did.

Mark Greenwood

KIWANIS, CHRISTMAS, and the BETHANY CENTER

Kiwanis, Christmas, the Bethany Center? What's the connection? The pictures below offer a clue. The Bethany Center has a room full of shelves that are bursting with all sorts of children's playthings. Every year items from these shelves become gifts to provide children in our community with a special Christmas!

But where does all of this come from? Enter Piqua Kiwanis. Annual donations from our club help keep these shelves full!

Shawn Richter, director of the facility, says this special Christmas tradition will continue for years to come, and continued support from our club will help make that possible.



SPRINGCREEK K-KIDS KEEPING BUSY

The K-Kids at Springcreek Elementary collected 137 boxes of cereal which they promptly used to line a long hallway and create a large-scale domino effect (pictured below).



When the last box fell, they were gathered up and donated to local food pantries.
Who says you can't have fun while doing a good deed!



Afterward, they continued the fun by playing Valentine Bingo (above).



Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(see bottom of page for answers)

1. I have a neck, but no head. I have two arms, but no hands. What am I?
2. What comes down but never goes up?
3. What goes up, but never comes down?
4. It has keys, but no locks. It has space, but no room. You can enter, but can't go inside. What is it?
5. Why did the golfer show up with an extra pair of pants?
6. jobsinjobs

w

answers: 1) a shirt 2) rain 3) your age 4) a keyboard 5) in case of a hole in one 6) in between jobs