

90 Years of Service!



**Kiwanis**  
CLUB OF PIQUA

Chartered on 1/22/1936

## THE PIQUANIAN

February 2026

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Mark Wion (President), Mikaili Hall (V.P.), Gretchen Roeth (Secretary), Mark Wion (Treasurer)

Kelly Meckstroth (Immediate Past President), Ralph Tracy (President Elect)

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

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### President's Report

Greetings, hope you are still keeping some of your New Years resolutions, while staying safe and warm through the frigid, snowy weather. Hopefully this cold weather keeps the bug population down this summer.

Congratulations to those who participated in our Kiwanis sponsored City-Wide Spelling Bee. Details of the event, including the identity of the grand champion and runner up can be found on page 5. After watching contestants spell some very challenging words, I am convinced that my spelling abilities are no match for a 6<sup>th</sup> grader!

Remember, our most important fundraiser is rapidly approaching. Tickets will be ready soon for our Pancake Day to be held next month on Saturday, March 14, at the Upper Valley Career Center from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please plan on working on this day. We will also need volunteers to help set up on Friday March 13, at 2:30 PM. Remember please sell those tickets.

Our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary party is coming up on Saturday, May 2, 2026. It will be held at the Covington Eagles on State Route 36. We are planning on inviting our past presidents and former members to this event. If you have addresses for any of them, please share this information with us. More information to follow as the date gets nearer. As a thank-you for using their facility, the Eagles made a \$1200 donation to our club. We will donate this sum to the Salvation Army hygiene bank which benefits all of Miami County.

In His Name

Mark Wion

President



## House Cleaning

### Birthdays

Joe Gebhart (2/9), Jimmie Reedy (2/16)

### Anniversaries

none

### Wednesday Programs

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Feb 4  | Spelling Bee Winners<br>Introduction to our spelling bee winners followed by an open discussion on guest speakers everyone would like to see.   |
| Feb 18 | Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Safety<br>Fire Chief Lee Adams will speak about smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.<br><b>Board Meeting</b> follows. |
| Feb 25 | Mental Health<br>Brad Reed from the Tri-County Board of Mental Health will discuss mental health.   |
| Mar 4  | Pancake Day<br>Discussion of our upcoming March 14 Pancake Day.   |

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.

Text (preferred) 419-348-4329 or email [KMeckstroth@trio-healthcare.com](mailto: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](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 the end of the month.

## The Back Burner



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

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

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

### Pancake Day - **Saturday, Mar 14**

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year! Volunteers are needed for Friday, March 13 setup and during the day of the event itself. Watch for volunteer signup information in your email. You can also contact Gretchen Roeth.

### Children's Traveling Opera - **Tuesday, March 17**

Once again the Dayton Children's Traveling Opera will perform at Piqua Central Intermediate. There will be two performances (8:30 and 10 am) with randomly selected student participants. This year's performance will be The Pirates of Penzance. Guests are welcome at either performance.

### Piqua Kiwanis 90th Anniversary - **Saturday, May 2, time TBD**

Our Club will be celebrating its 90th anniversary on May 2, 2026. The location will be the Covington Eagles at 715 East Broadway, Covington. More info to follow.

## PANCAKE ACHIEVEMENTS

Pancake Day, our biggest fundraiser of the year, occurs next month. We served our first pancake breakfast back in 1955 and have flipped thousands of cakes since. You could say that we are experts when it comes to pancakes, and that would be a valid claim. But what are others claiming when it comes to flapjacks? Below are some verified "pancake" claims.



Our round griddle

According to Guinness World Records, the largest pancake ever made was in England in 1994. It was 49 feet 3 inches in diameter, 1 inch thick, and weighed in at 6,614 pounds. The Co-operative Union Ltd in Rochdale, England, was responsible for the pancake.

Our cakes are made using hand-held batter dispensers and five foot rotating griddles. The Co-op used a 50 foot pan and filled it with batter from a tanker truck.

Our pancakes are flipped by hand. The Co-op used two cranes to turn their record-breaking pancake.

Our cakes take a few minutes to cook, whereas the Co-op needed 4 hours to cook theirs.

So, what happened to the giant pancake? It was cut up into 15,000 portions and sold off with the proceeds going to local charities.



cranes flipping cake

Guinness World Records also recorded the world's highest pancake toss (or flip). While we gently flip our pancakes a few inches off the griddle, Dominic Cuzzacrea managed to toss a pancake 31 ft 1 in into the air. The feat was achieved at Walden Galleria Mall in Cheektowaga, New York, USA, on 13 November 2010.

We like to limit our servings to a couple of flapjacks. After all, it's all you can eat, so folks can return for more. **Pancakes On The Rocks**, a restaurant in Australia, had a different idea of serving size. In 2025 The restaurant snagged a Guinness record by successfully stacking 230 pancakes on a plate. The stack measured just over three and a half feet tall.

Pictured right is a **Pancakes on the Rocks** member standing next to their record breaking stack of pancakes and proudly displaying their Guinness World Record plaque.



There are many other pancake records out there, but I only have space for one more.

We run our pancake breakfast from 7am to 1pm. That's six hours of serving pancakes. We also serve over 400 breakfasts. To estimate the number of cakes we probably serve, let's assume 430 breakfasts and an average of 2-1/2 pancakes per breakfast. That comes out to 1,075 pancakes. It's a rough estimate, but I'm pretty sure we flip over 1,000 pancakes in six hours. That sounds like a lot, and it is. But the Chinook Centre mall, in Canada, set a record for the most pancakes served during its Stampede Breakfast event.

They served 26,994 pancakes cakes in just under 4-1/2 hours. Until then, an IHOP in Santa Monica, California had the record at 25,689.

We may not serve the biggest pancake or the most pancakes, or even set a Guinness record, but we will continue to provide a top-quality breakfast to our guests and in the process raise funds that allow us to benefit our local community.

*Mark Greenwood*

## Let It BEE

January is the month for the Piqua city-wide spelling bee. This year, the contest was held on January 21 at Piqua Central Intermediate School. Seven students representing Springcreek, Washington, Piqua Central Intermediate, Piqua Catholic and Piqua Junior High went head-to-head for 12 rounds before a winner could be declared.

Our club presented each participant with a trophy for participating in the spelling bee (pictured right).

The runner up and grand champion were presented with a second trophy, but it's difficult to spot them in the picture.

The runner up and grand champion are the boy and girl standing next to each other in the middle of the group. Don't see their two trophies, try looking at the closeup below!



Pictured in the blowup (left) is runner up Blake displaying his trophies along with the grand champion Leni showing off hers.

Even in the blowup it's hard to spot all four trophies, so yellow arrows pointing to the tops of each trophy were added.

**Congratulations to Leni, Blake, and all of the spelling bee participants!**



## Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(see bottom of page for answers)

1. If you drop me I'm sure to crack, but give me a smile and I'll smile back. What am I?
2. It turns into a different story. What is it?
3. Open us, and you can't see us without a mirror. Close us, and you can't see us at all. What are we?
4. What rock group has only 4 members and none of them sing?
5.     give     get  
      give     get  
      give     get  
      give     get

----- answers -----

1) a mirror 2) a winding staircase 3) your eyes 4) Mt. Rushmore 5) forgive and forget