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### **President's Message**

Greetings to all of you!

I hope everyone is having a great start to the summer.

I want to share some great news: Kiwanis gave three \$1,500.00 scholarships this year. Don Smith's daughter donated the funds for one of the scholarships in his name. See page 7 for more info and pictures of our winners.

Our SLP's (Student Lead Programs) all finished the year with a bang! Together they collected over 3000 items for the local food and hygiene banks. They also created place mats for the residents at the Piqua Manor, worked school events and made comfort bags for children in need. Twenty-five bags were delivered to Isaiah's Place in Troy. Pages 9 and 10 show pictures of K-Kids and Builders Club members wrapping up their final projects.

Our summer projects will include:

1. Working the Salvation Army's summer lunch program. Our first date is Tuesday June 23 followed by June 23 and August 18. We currently have volunteers for all dates (see page 3).  
We also donated \$2,000 to the lunch program along with \$500 to the Piqua Youth Soccer Association and \$500 to the UVCC student fund.
2. Working on two future projects at the Johnston Farm. We will repair barn doors and rebuild the bed on an old hay wagon. If you would like to help, please let me know. And speaking of Johnston Farm, check out the gates on page 6 that our club recently provided.

Enjoy your summer.

PS. Go easy on Ralph as he fills in as president while Yvonne and I are traveling and visiting family out West.

In His Name

Mark Wion



## House Cleaning

### Birthdays

Jerry Sowers (6/4)

### Anniversaries

Joe Gebhart (6/20)

### Wednesday Programs

- June 3      MainStreet Piqua  
Main Street Piqua executive director Staci Roth will share future activities planned and highlight new businesses downtown.
- June 17      TBD  
TBD
- June 24      French Oil Mill Machinery Co  
Tayte French Lutz will talk about the history of French Oil along with current operations and future manufacturing plans.  
**Board Meeting** follows. Please note that this is the fourth Wednesday.

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



Something to keep on the back burner that is worth noting:

Salvation Army Summer Feeding Program - Tuesday **June 23, July 21 and August 18**

We currently have volunteers for all time slots!

A big thanks to Brent & Tracy McKinney and Bonnie Jackson (June 23),

Nate Funderburg & 2 family members (July 21), and Mark & Gay Reedy and Mark Greenwood (August 18).

## Flag Day & our Flag's History

In honor of the country's upcoming 250th birthday, I thought it appropriate to do a deep dive into one of our country's symbols: the American Flag.

**1777** - On June 14, 1777, Congress passed the country's first flag law: "Resolved. That the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." The 13 stars stood for the 13 colonies, but the law said nothing about the flag's size or shape, the ordering or size of the stripes, and the arrangement of stars.



**1794** - Act of January 13, 1794, provided 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.

**1818** - Act of April 4, 1818, provided 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of the new state. As stars were added to the flag, their arrangement varied according to the flag-makers' preferences.

**1912** - President Taft's Executive Order, dated June 24, 1912, established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.

**1916** - In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14, the date that Congress passed the first flag law in 1777.

**1949** - In 1949, President Harry Truman signed a law designating June 14 as national Flag Day.

**1959** - President Eisenhower's Executive Order, dated January 3, 1959, provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.

**1959** - President Eisenhower's Executive Order, dated August 21, 1959, provided for the arrangement of nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically. This arrangement is still used today.



**1960** - Hawaii became the 50th state on August 21, 1959, which led to the current version of the flag on July 4, 1960.

On to the **BIG QUESTION**. Did Betsy Ross create the original flag of 1777?

According to legend, George Washington commissioned Philadelphia seamstress Betsy Ross to create a flag for the new nation. Scholars, however, credit the flag's design to Francis Hopkinson, who also designed the Great Seal and first coin of the United States.

In 1870, over 90 years after the appearance of the original flag, Betsy's grandson, William J. Canby, told the tale of Betsy Ross and the creation of the flag, thus starting the famous legend. In the years since this tale first came to light, historians have not been able to verify the claims of Canby, even after numerous and vigorous searches through diaries, letters, and journals of the Continental Congress. But a handful of Betsy's relatives still believe in the family tradition.

So, did Betsy create and or sew the 1777 flag? Probably not...but who knows.

Something to keep in mind the next time you salute the flag at one of our Wednesday meetings!

*Mark Greenwood*

## Is 90 Really that Old? *(by Piqua Kiwanian Newsletter Editor, M. Greenwood)*

January 22nd of this year our club turned 90! We officially celebrated this milestone at the Covington Eagles. Ninety years sounds pretty old, and it is, but how do we stack up to the animal kingdom? The ocean contains some of the longest living creatures on Earth. In fact, the *Turritopsis dohrnii*, or "immortal jellyfish", can potentially live forever! But Kiwanians are land-based, so what about land animals? One of the oldest is a giant tortoise that is over 190 years old. It looks like we've got another 100 years to go to catch up to that tortoise.

So much for the animal kingdom. How do we stack up to other Kiwanis Clubs in Ohio? I have a 2017-18 District Directory from when I was president of our club. Back then there were 226 clubs in Ohio; 225 not counting ours. 36% of those were older than our club, meaning our club was older than 64% of the clubs back then.

So when it comes to Ohio Clubs, we are one of the older clubs in the state!

Pictured below are some attendees enjoying our 90th celebration.



Tipp City Kiwanis Pres, Stacy with husband Michael



Lt. Governor, Michael (light shirt) and Tony, brother of past Lt. Gov, John



Members from the Troy Kiwanis Club



Piqua Kiwanian Steve and wife Gail



Piqua Kiwanian and Past Pres, Kelly cutting the anniv cake!



Seated front is Piqua Kiwanis Pres Mark & wife Yvonne  
Piqua Kiwanis Sec. Gretchen (back)  
Sandy, w/glasses (also pictured below)



Piqua Kiwanis member Bonnie and past Key Club Advisor



Left, Past Lt Gov John seated with Ohio Kiwanis incoming Gov Judy and her husband Bob



Left, Kiwanis Int'l Trustee Amy with her mom Sandy

## GATES

One of the most well-known "gates" these days is probably Bill Gates. You know, the guy who co-founded Microsoft and became a billionaire at the age of 31. Impressive? Yes. But if you are looking to be impressed by a more local "gate", check out the new gates at the Johnston Farm and Indian Agency site.

The gates were funded by, built by, and installed by Piqua Kiwanis. The gates are pictured below, and even though we may not be worth a billion bucks, these gates look like a million bucks and are much appreciated by the Farm!

A special thanks to Kiwanian Mark Wion for taking on this project. But then again, when it comes to working with wood and his woodworking tools, he couldn't resist!



## "and the Winners are..."

Page 4 of our April newsletter (still available on our website under the Newsletter menu link) described our process for scoring scholarship applications and selecting winners based on those scores.

Last month, applications were scored and winners were selected. In addition to the two \$1500 scholarships we had budgeted for, we were able to award a third \$1500 thanks to the generosity of Kris Stewart. Kris wanted to set up a special memorial scholarship in honor of her father, and long time Piqua Kiwanian, Don Smith. The scholarship was awarded to our top scoring applicant.

All three of our winners joined us at our May 27th meeting and our pictured below.



Jack McMaken (left) and Emery Kuhlman (center) each were awarded a \$1500 scholarship.

Gianna James (right) was our top scorer and was awarded the Don Smith Memorial scholarship also worth \$1500.

All three were very strong applicants and their scores were very close.

As a side note, Emery and Gianna were both Key Club officers.

Jack will be heading to Wright State while Emery and Gianna will both be attending Miami University (Oxford, OH), not to be confused the University of Miami (FL).

As they say, "Miami was a university before Florida was a state!"

*(Miami U chartered in 1809 ... Florida becomes a state in 1845)*

From left to right, and in order of height:  
Jack, Emery, Gianna

Pictured right:

Jack flanked by his parents Jim and Kelly,  
Emery with her mom Abby,  
and Gianna with her mom Janae



## CONCESSION STAND

The English word "concession" goes back to the 15th century as the act of surrendering or yielding something that someone else requests. Fast forward to the 19th century and it refers to a privilege granted from one entity to another to operate a facility under certain conditions. Add the word "stand" and you've got Concession Stand.

At the high school, Key Club is allowed to sell snacks at the concession stand during track meets and football games. During the past school year, the girl's basketball team helped run the concession stand on three separate occasions. They all happened to be track meets.

To show their appreciation, Key Club made a cash donation to the girl's basketball team. It was a win-win scenario for all!



Three girl basketball players are pictured above with their coach (in gray shirt)

## Washington K-Kids Getting Creative



**Bookmarks**



**Coffee Cup Sleeves**

The Washington K-Kids have been busy creating bookmarks and coffee cup sleeves during their past few meetings. Bookmarks will be donated to Indigo Books - a new bookstore in downtown Piqua. Coffee cup sleeves will be given to their teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.

More action shots of members working on bookmarks and coffee cup sleeves.



Once all the bookmarks were completed and ready to go, the group celebrated with doughnuts!

## Piqua Catholic Builders Club Wraps up their School Year

Builders Club members at Piqua Catholic came up with the perfect activity wrap up the school year and express their appreciation for their teachers. They created thank-you notes for their teachers for Staff Appreciation week.

Pictured right are club members busy creating their thank-you notes in the comfort of the Cavalier Cafe!

Their final service project of the school year, however, was not in the comfort of the Cavalier Cafe. That project occurred out-of-doors and required a lot more physical labor than making thank-you notes.

They decided to mulch all of the flower beds around the school and on the church grounds. They completed the mulching on schedule.

Now that's a big project!





## Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(see bottom of page for answers)

1. What word meets the following requirements? The first two letters signify a male, the first 3 letters signify a female, the first four letters signify one with great courage, and the entire word signifies a great woman.
2. Which weighs more, 16 ounces of Styrofoam or a pound of solid gold?
3. What can you put between 6 and 7 to make the result greater than 6 and less than 7?
4. An apartment building has the number of each apartment painted on its door. There are 100 apartments, numbered from 1 to 100. How many 8's were painted?
5. camping  
night

----- answers -----

1) heroine 2) they weigh the same 3) a decimal point (6.7 is more than 6 and less than 7)  
4) 20 (8,18,28,38,48,58,68,78,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,86,87,88,89,98) 5) camping overnight