

90 Years of Service!



Kiwanis
CLUB OF PIQUA

Chartered on 1/22/1936

THE PIQUANIAN

September 2026

6

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, Marijo Poling, Shane Schneider

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President's Message

Greetings!

It's hard to believe that our 2025-2026 year is rapidly coming to a close. I hope you are having a relaxing summer. Just a reminder that Gretchen, our wonderful secretary, will be sending out invoices for our yearly dues of \$130.00, which are due by the middle of September.

We will be holding our annual rivalry meeting with Troy on Wednesday, September 2, 2026 at noon at the YWCA. Our guest speaker is Duane Bachman who was the voice of the Piqua Indians for over 20 years. Piqua members need to wear blue shirts, while the Troy members will be wearing red shirts. If you would like a lunch, it will be from Susie's Big Dipper, please let Kelly Meckstroth know. The cost of the lunch will be \$10.

Some important information!

1. Our new officers take over on October 1. Their induction will be held in Sidney at noon at the Moose Lodge. The lunch will be pizza and the cost is \$10.00. Please let me know if you plan to attend and need to order a lunch.
2. Our monthly reading program at Head Start will begin on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 9:45am. We need four readers; it only takes about 15 minutes. Please let me know if you can volunteer.
3. We will again have our Pumpkin Patch in conjunction with the Main Street Piqua's Fall Festival. It will be held on Saturday October 17, 2026. We will be located in front of the Readmore Hallmark Store on Main Street. We plan to give away over 250 pumpkins this year. Recipients need to bring a receipt from a merchant, a canned good or a cash donation. The canned goods and the cash go to the Bethany Center.
4. If you would like to volunteer, we will be putting a new bed on a wagon at the Johnson Farm this fall.

At the Ohio District Kiwanis Convention on Saturday August 15, I was elected Treasurer for the State and President of the Past Lieutenant Governor's Association. This will require me to attend some meetings in Columbus; however, it should not cause me to miss any events.

It has been an honor to serve as your club president this past year. We have added 5 new members this year. Our new governor's project this year is to help clubs grow. If everyone brought a prospect member to our meetings and joined, we would have 68 members. Think about all the projects we would be able to run and the children we could serve. Remember the Kiwanis motto is "Serving the children of the World, One child at a time". Please, consider asking someone to attend one of our meetings.

Please show your support to the new board by helping with the various projects that we will be having during the 2026-2027 year.

In His Name
Mark Wion



House Cleaning

Birthdays

Jeff Smith (9/19), Char Tracy (9/27)

Anniversaries

Kelly Meckstroth (9/9)

Wednesday Programs

- Sept 2 Piqua Troy Football Rivalry
Duane Bachman will be our presenter. Duane has been reporting plays in the press box for over 20 years!
- Sept 16 Salvation Army Summer Feeding Program
Salvation Army officers will introduce themselves and share info on the feeding program.
Board Meeting follows.
- Sept 23 Health Care Industry
Piqua Kiwanis member, Kelly Meckstroth, will present on Health Care.
- Sept 30 Forest Hill Cemetery
Forest Hill Cemetery Superintendent, Logan Guillozet, will speak on changes at the cemetery.

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.

To order lunch:

Text your name and number of lunches requested to Kelly Meckstroth at 419-348-4329
no later than the Monday prior to the meeting.

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 Tuesday of each month during the school year at 9:45 am**

The Reading Program starts this month! If you would like to volunteer or get more information about the program, contact Mark Wion.

Trick or Treat at the Center - **Monday, Oct. 19 from 6 to 8 pm**

Decorate a table and hand out candy or come in costume to trick or treat.

Costume contest (12 yrs and younger).

5 pm cut-off time for table decorating and costume contest preregistration.

Judging starts at 5pm for best table and costumes.

PH and Piqua Catholic Builders Clubs along with PHS Key Club will set up tables and pass out candy to the trick or treaters. We'd love to have you join us!

Concession Stand for PJH Football Games - **Times and Dates listed below**

Kiwanis and PHS Key Club will again be running the concession stand during home Jr. High football games.

Volunteers are welcome any time between 5 and 8 pm on any of the following dates: September 2,

September 16, September 30 and October 7.

Contact Mark Wion to signup. It is always a fun time!!

A Cigar is Just a Cigar

Sigmund Freud supposedly uttered the phrase, "sometimes a cigar is just a cigar", around 1900. Back then a 50¢ cigar was common, a cup of coffee could be had for a nickel, ditto for a glass of beer, and a bottle of wine could be found for a buck.

Well, those days are long gone, and a cigar is no longer just a cigar. Though bargains are still out there, prices today average \$5 for a cigar, \$2 for a cup of coffee, \$3 for a non-craft beer on tap, and \$15 for an okay bottle of wine. Not only are prices up, but so is competition.

Today there are over 500 brands of cigars, dozens of different coffee franchises, about 10,000 breweries, and nearly 100,000 wineries worldwide. With so many options to choose from, many producers use professional "tasters" to rate their products. The ratings result in strange "tasting notes". Below are some actual tasting notes I recently came across.

"A nutty smoke with a lush draw that delivers a chewy, substantial smoke. There's a slight floral aspect as well, but the nuttiness builds to a rich finish reminiscent of a candy bar." - **cigar review**

"An approachable young wine that is expansive and juicy on the palate, with accents of pencil and clove." - **wine review**

I would expect the above comments from highfalutin cigar smokers or hoity-toity wine drinkers, but they're not limited to stogies and wines. Consider the following tasting notes from two businesses right here in Piqua.

"This creamy, buttery, medium-roast bean features notes of caramel, butterscotch, and oaken spice with just a little kick of scotch whiskey." - **Winans, Highlander Grogg coffee**

"Hazy with a tropical fruit-forward flavor profile. Smooth and interesting to the mouth." - **Crooked Handle Brewing Co, Trinity Haze IPA**

Now I'm not a cigar smoker, but I do enjoy a cup of coffee on a regular basis and a glass of wine on occasion. But what does "a little kick of scotch whiskey" have to do with a cup of Joe? Or for that matter, are "accents of pencil" something I am looking for in a glass of wine?

For me, "tasting notes" are pretty much useless, though entertaining to read. I started thinking about them and decided to write up a few "notes" from my high school years.

"mature yet unapproachable, with aspects of graying hair" - **my high school principle**

"young, athletic, showing notes of old gym socks and locker rooms with a Hai Karate finish" - **me as a wrestler**

"aggressive, full-bodied and expansive, with a heavy structure and backbone" - **Paul, one of our football team's linemen**

"older, reptilian style with a gamey nose and a very slow finish" - **my pet tortoise Speedy**

"heavy and underpowered, with accents of cheap vinyl and delivering substantial smoke" - **my '57 Ford Fairlane**

I think the above notes are probably more descriptive than the real notes I found on cigars, coffee, beer and wine. Here is one more "note" I came up with in honor of our Club's 90th birthday.

"Approachable, consistent, and reliable, with a solid structure. Showing hints of creativity and volunteerism with a with a community minded finish." - **Kiwanis Club of Piqua**

I think the above note captures the essence of our club and its members. After all, if you make it to 90 you've gotta be doing something right!

Mark Greenwood

Honoring Past Members through Memorial Scholarships

Our June 2026 newsletter (page 7) featured our PHS scholarship winners. Each year the winners are featured, but this was different. In addition to our club funded scholarships, we awarded a Don Smith Kiwanis Memorial Scholarship in memory of long-time Kiwanian, Don Smith. The scholarship was made available through the generosity of Don's daughter Kris Stewart.



June of this year, Piqua Kiwanian, Larry Quigley, peacefully passed away. Larry was a member since 1995 but moved to Florida to be with family in 2017 due to health reasons, so newer members may not have known him. Like Don Smith, Larry was a friendly and welcoming presence at meetings. Among other things, he was a regular at Kid's Day at the Fair, worked on our Hospitality Committee, and volunteered to take kids fishing once a year.



His family has established the Larry Quigley Kiwanis Memorial Scholarship which they have funded through donations from family and friends. Like the Don Smith Memorial Scholarship, our Scholarship Committee will select a PHS student to receive the Larry Quigley Kiwanis Memorial Scholarship.

To date, over \$9,000 has been donated!

We will award our first of many Larry Quigley Kiwanis Memorial Scholarships next May...stay tuned.

Kid's Day at the Fair and HOT DOGS!

Believe it or not, there is a "National Hot Dog Day". It's the third Wednesday of July, or July 15 this year. But as far as our club is concerned, "hot dog day" is always on Kid's Day at the Miami County Fair. That's when we team up with Troy and Tipp City Kiwanians to serve free hot dog lunches to kids and their families visiting the Fair. This year Kid's Day fell on August 17th.

Piqua Kiwanians Mark Wion, Mark Greenwood, and Joe Shaffer (pictured below) were joined by two Troy Kiwanians and three from Tipp. There was a threat of rain, so we setup shop under the grandstands. Despite the weather and our location we served nearly 800 lunches in two hours!

This year was pretty straightforward...no special requests...although one guy was concerned about our hot dogs. He was curious about the buns, so we let him read the ingredients on one of the packages. He gave them the "thumbs up" but also wanted more info on the dogs. We took him back to the grill where he read over one of the hot dog packages. Again, we got a "thumbs up". He took a lunch and a couple of packets of mustard for his dog. As far as this guy was concerned our product "passed muster", or in his case, passed mustard!



L to R: Wion, Greenwood, Shaffer



Ohio Trivia Quiz followed plus two Rebus puzzles
(see next page for answers)

1. Who was the first governor of the State of Ohio?

- a) Charles Bynd b) Grover Cleveland c) Edwin Tiffin d) Thomas Worthington e) Arthur St. Clair

2. What Ohio city was the capital on two separate occasions?

- a) Chillicothe b) Columbus c) Zanesville d) Marietta

3. What is Ohio's oldest college?

- a) Miami University b) Ohio University c) Kenyon University d) University of Cincinnati

4.



5. **Horobod**

1. Tiffin. St. Clair & Bynd were governors when Ohio was a territory BEFORE Ohio was a state.
2. Chillicothe. Ohio capitals were Chillicothe 1803, Zanesville 1810, Chillicothe 1812, and finally Columbus 1816. Chillicothe was the capital on two separate occasions!
3. Ohio U. (1804) followed by Miami U. (1809), then U. of Cincinnati (1819), and Kenyon (1824). These are also the four oldest in the state.
4. Eye shadow
5. Robinhood (the word "rob" in the word "hood")