

90 Years of Service!



Kiwanis
CLUB OF PIQUA

Chartered on 1/22/1936

THE PIQUANIAN

October 2026

6

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

Mark Wion (Immediate Past President), Open (President Elect)

Board Members: Mark Greenwood, Brent McKinney, Kelly Meckstroth, Warren Parker, Marijo Poling, Shane Schneider

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

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Part of Something Bigger

Ever hear the term "Cog in the wheel"? The term can be used in a positive way to emphasize that a person or group's role, while potentially small or routine, is **essential, vital, and necessary** for the overall success of a larger system, team, or project. It emphasizes being a functional and critical part of a mission. A "cog in the wheel" is a part of something bigger.

The Kiwanis Club of Piqua is a part of something much bigger; Kiwanis International. We are also a vital member of our local community and, at the same time, a contributor to the overall success of Kiwanis International. The numbers presented below show it.

We are 1 of 6,317 Kiwanis clubs worldwide. 1 is a tiny part of 6,317, but when you consider that there are nearly 20,000 towns in the U.S. alone, most communities are without Kiwanis. That makes our presence in Piqua special while supporting Kiwanis International by adding one more club to their total.

At last count, Kiwanis International reported 155,419 Kiwanis club members worldwide. We currently have 35 members which sounds like a very small part of Kiwanis International, but a closer look reveals a different picture. 155,419 Kiwanians spread over 6,317 clubs results in an average club size of 25 members. At 35 members, we contribute more members to Kiwanis International's total than the average club!

Let's look at our Student Led Programs (SLPs). We are 1 of 5,568 Key Clubs worldwide, 2 of 1,044 Builders Clubs worldwide, 4 of 1,182 K-Kids worldwide, and 1 of 429 Aktion Clubs worldwide. Again, numbers like 1, 2, 4, and 1 seem small compared to 5,568, 1,044, 1,182 and 429, yet our SLPs are present in every school in Piqua and impact the lives of a good portion of our students.

Kiwanis International states that the average Kiwanian impacts the lives of 99 children. Think about our club's impact on our community. We feed hundreds of kids and their families during our annual Pancake Day event and Kid's Day at the County Fair (hotdog lunches), plus we help serve free lunches to scores of children by participating in the Salvation Army's Summer Lunch program. We enrich the lives of our younger children through the CORE Head Start Reading Program. We also support our college bound seniors by providing scholarships.

In addition, our members make a positive impact on our children and the community via the Piqua City Spelling Bee, our annual Bicycle Safety Rodeo, and our Halloween Parade.

Finally, our financial support of the Piqua Top 100 Banquet, the Piqua Civic Band, Piqua Youth Sports Teams, and Hospice Camp Pathways add value to, and enrich our community.

Given all of that, it's safe to say that our members impact even more than 99 lives!

So, all in all, we are a small part of Kiwanis International but a vital part of the Piqua community. Whether you attend weekly meetings, hold an office, volunteer for things, or just keep an annual membership, you are a valuable part of our club and a participant of something much bigger than yourself.



House Cleaning

Birthdays

Erin Perks (10/8), Bill Parke (10/16), Jeni Greenwood (10/28)

Anniversaries

Mikaila Hall (10/14)

Wednesday Programs

- Oct 7 Family Abuse Center
Family Abuse Center Exec Dir Barbie Homan will share what is happening at the Center.
Short Board Meeting to approve next year's budget follows.
- Oct 21 New Officer Induction for Piqua and Sidney
Offsite meeting. Moose Lodge at 1200 N Broadway in Sidney.
Pizza buffet is available.
- Oct 28 Parents as Teachers
Program Director Kathy Booher will talk about the Parents as Teachers program which operates internationally and here in Piqua.

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.

See event flyer on page 6.

Kiwanis Halloween Parade - **Wednesday, Oct. 28. Starts at 6:30 pm**

The parade will begin on the corner of Greene and Main (between Papa John's and Hallmark).

Please see page 7 for more details, including categories for costume judging and prizes for winners!

Piqua/Troy Rivalry

Ed Purk and Duane Bachman were special guest presenters at our September 3rd meeting.

Former PCS Athletic Director, Purk, and former PCS Superintendent, Bachman, shared important facts about the long-standing Piqua/Troy rivalry.

Bachman was also the sports commentator for WPTW. He highlighted the rivalry tradition and shared special memories acquired over the years with WPTW.



Ed Purk (left), Duane Bachman (right)

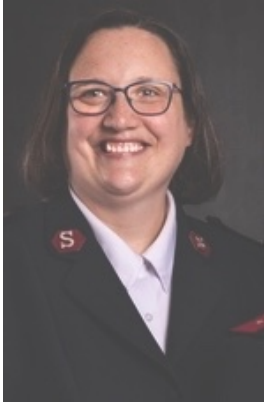


Duane just can't resist an open mic!

Double Bonus!

double bonus - *extra benefit received in addition to an expected one*

Our September 16th meeting last month featured Major Erin Perks from the Piqua Salvation Army. It was a double bonus. Not only did she deliver an entertaining and informative presentation on the Salvation Army but has agreed to join our club. A new presenter and a new member all in the same Month...now that's what you call a double bonus!

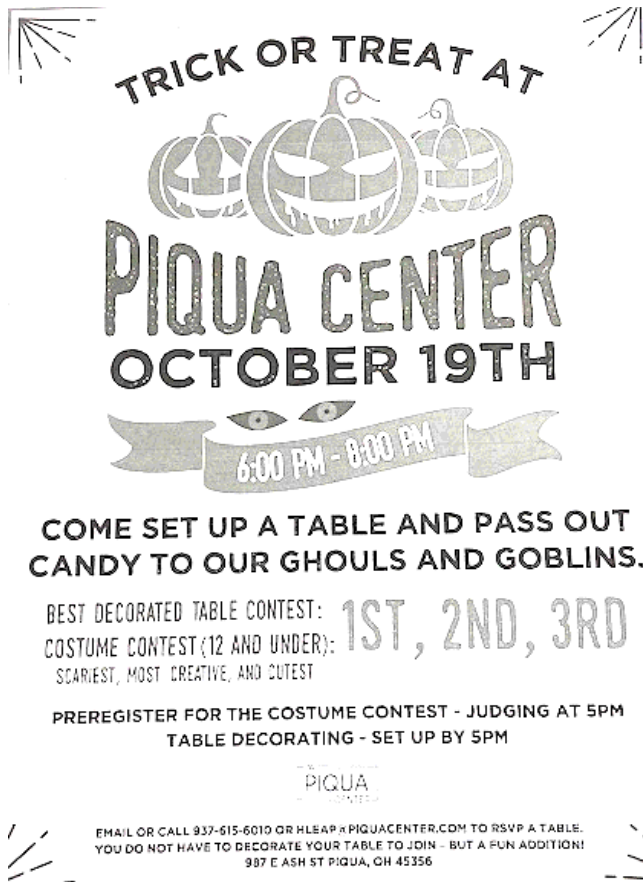


Major Erin Perks

Erin has been a Kiwanian for 14 years and most recently was with a Kiwanis Club in Connecticut before being assigned to the Piqua Salvation Army. We are excited to welcome her to our club and news of Erin's official induction will be announced soon.

FYI: During Erin's presentation we learned that her husband, Brian, is a Captain with the Salvation Army. According to Erin she outranks Brian in rank AND at home! Could that be another double bonus?

TRICK or TREAT!



TRICK OR TREAT AT

PIQUA CENTER

OCTOBER 19TH

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

COME SET UP A TABLE AND PASS OUT CANDY TO OUR GHOULS AND GOBLINS.

BEST DECORATED TABLE CONTEST: 1ST, 2ND, 3RD

COSTUME CONTEST (12 AND UNDER): SCARIEST, MOST CREATIVE, AND CUTEST

PREREGISTER FOR THE COSTUME CONTEST - JUDGING AT 5PM

TABLE DECORATING - SET UP BY 5PM

PIQUA CENTER

EMAIL OR CALL 937-615-6010 OR HLBAP@PIQUACENTER.COM TO RSVP A TABLE. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO DECORATE YOUR TABLE TO JOIN - BUT A FUN ADDITION! 987 E ASH ST PIQUA, OH 45356

Trick or Treat at the Piqua Center will include costume judging and treats available at tables set up by various groups. This year it all happens on Oct. 19 from 6 to 9pm.

Last year Builders Club and the Key Club set up their own tables and handed out candy to trick or treaters.

Anyone interested in setting up a table and handing out treats needs to arrive before 5pm.

Over 700 trick or treaters attended last year with a few Piqua Kiwanians in the mix.

Shane Schneider was there with his daughter Brielle, who was decked out in costume and ready to collect treats.

Ben Zimmermann and his family were also in attendance. Ben even showed up dressed as a snowman.

Trick or Treaters 12 and under can pre-register before 5pm to be in a costume judging competition.

Kiwanis Halloween Parade



KIWANIS HALLOWEEN PARADE



Wed., October 28, 2026

**Parade start corner of Greene/Main
(between Papa John's and Hallmark)
and will end at Post Office**

Registration behind Hallmark from 5:15 to 6:15 pm.
Participants **MUST** be registered by 6:15 pm, no exceptions.

6:30 p.m. – Parade Starts

Trunk or Treat following parade at the Post Office.

Contact Kelly Meckstroth (419) 348-4329 with questions



GRAND PRIZE

\$75.00 Gift Card for a Boy & Girl

Plus Cash prizes awarded in each category.

Those 14 yrs. Old and Under will be awarded prizes.



6 CATEGORIES

SCARIEST / UGLIEST

MOST ORIGINAL

BEST GROUP (2+)

PRETTIEST

CARTOON CHARACTER / SCIENCE FICTION

3 YRS. OLD & YOUNGER

Printing donated by Eagle Printing & Graphics



All for a Good Cause

The following quote is attributed to the 17th-century English writer and preacher, John Bunyan:

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you."

This month the YWCA is making it easier than ever to do something good for those less fortunate. The YWCA collecting paper products to support the family Abuse Shelter.

During the month of October, you can simply stop by the YWCA and drop off your donations in the big orange barrel in their lobby. That's all there is to it!

So the next time you go shopping do something for someone else and pick up one (or more) of the items listed on the flyer below.

YWCA Week Without Violence

...community support!

October 2026



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

FAMILY ABUSE SHELTER
OF MIAMI COUNTY, INC.

The Family Abuse Shelter
NEEDS:

**Paper Towels
Toilet Paper**



During the month of October,
help fill the big orange barrel in the lobby of the YWCA
with items for the Family Abuse Shelter of Miami County.



Exercise Those "Gears" Between Your Ears

(see bottom of page for answers)

1. When can you add 5 to 9 and get 2?
2. A word pronounced as one letter is also pronounced the same whether read forward or backward. What is the word?
3. What starts with a T, ends in T, and has T in it?
4. What is at the end of a rainbow?



----- answers -----

1) On a clock, add 5 hours to 9 o'clock to get 2 o'clock 2) eye 3) teapot 4) the letter W 5) tea bag