

KIWASSEE

February 7, 2012

CHAIR: Penny Ecarius

PIG: Dick Jellum

SMOKE SIGNALS

kiwassee.org

INVOCATION: Duane Townley

MAILER: Gordon Rogers

KIWANIS

Volume XXIII No. 18

MUSIC: Dave Winegardner

EDITOR: Bill Burk

CALENDAR

- Feb 14 Valentine's Day Lunch – Chippewa Nature Center : 11:30 arrival to start buffet at 11:45.
Speaker: Janea Little, Senior Naturalist
- Feb 25 Walk for Warmth, 8:30 at Trinity Lutheran—need volunteers for registration.
- Feb 16 Board Meeting: Noon, Memorial Presbyterian
- Mar 30 Kiwassee Dinner Dance – see Cal Hoerneman

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Millard Kent/Diane Stevens: Walk for Warmth: Diane is our official Kiwassee walker—checks to MMCA or get pledge sheets from Millard and join the walk.
2. Bill Burk: Forms for memorial gifts to Kiwassee Foundation are on the table to especially remember Don Beckwith.
3. Ray Senesac: Membership program is Feb 21. Speaker is John Lynch, City Manager: Issues facing the city
4. Mike Cronenberger: Reminder to go see good women's tennis at the DC Classic this week—free during the day

Guests –None today

Member News:

Doug Lake was remembered as a charter member: He is doing ok at 96.

Wendell Meyer: Currently at Stratford, hopes to be home Thursday but will need in-home care. Suggested sending cards, very limited visitation.

Ben Baily: Has a new baby boy, Christian: card was circulated.

History: President Ecarius read more Kiwanis history indicating that in 1915 Kiwanis emerged with two cornerstones at Detroit and Cleveland and from that began its growth. Penny said the organization was small but spirited just like our current president.

Program by Junior Youth and Young Children Priority 1:

Topic: Kids Against Hunger (KAH) and a KAH food packaging project on March 10 at Central Intermediate School cafeteria.

Jim Schroeder presented a check for \$400 from YCP1 and Diane Stevens put out an early call for volunteers.

Mike Mastic made the presentation:

KAH started in Minnesota as a food program but quickly determined their effort was not sustainable. So in cooperation with food companies they developed a rice based meal that could be easily packaged, stored, and shipped and would economically provide a nutritious meal. To date 200,000,000 meals have been provided. After packaging distribution is 1/3 locally, 1/3 for US disaster situations, and 1/3 globally.

The meal is a mixture of rice, soy, a vegetable/mineral mix, and chicken protein. The materials are provided by the National KAH at a cost of \$0.28/meal and there are 6 meals in each package.

Mike Mastic initiated the local KAH program and with support from the Thrivent Financial Board that he was a member of. He has gained approval from the Midland Public Schools to implement KAH meal packaging programs in the schools and this requires fund raising and actual packaging as follows:

1. Fund Raising: Dow and Midland High Schools have raised about \$2500/yr. Key Club and National Honor Society are key organizations in the schools. Recently the Dow Chemical Foundation donated \$5000, and Thrivent continues to donate as well as individual churches who joined the program through efforts from their youth. **Individual donations can be made with a check to KAH Coalition and sent to Mike Mastic at 4612 Autumn Ridge Circle N, Midland, MI 48642.** The money is first sent to National KAH which defines the number of meals for each project based on the total amount that was raised.
2. Packaging Project: The next one is scheduled for March 10 at Central Intermediate cafeteria. Volunteers are needed for setup at 8 AM and for monitoring the packaging in 1 hour shifts from 9AM-1PM. About 120 students per shift will be doing the packaging.

Benefits of the projects: They provide food to those needing it. They teach students about the hunger needs globally and locally. They are a wholesome, fun activity for youth. They give a sense of making a difference.

More information: National: www.kidsagainsthunger.org Michigan KAH: www.Kidsagainsthungercoalition.com .