

KIWASSEE
July 24, 2007

SMOKE SIGNALS
kiwassee.org

KIWANIS
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“Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to
changing the world one child and one community at a time.”

CHAIR: Duane Townley
PIG: Don Winger

INVOCATION: Penny Ecarius
MAILER: John McClellan

MUSIC: B. Burk/W. Meyer
EDITOR: John Mier

CALENDAR

July 31 Community Services Committee meeting, 1:00 p.m.. Dick Jellum.
Aug. 21 Regular meeting on Aug. 21 has been reinstated.
Aug 23-26 Michigan District Convention in Midland.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Dick Jellum scheduled a Community Services Committee meeting for 1:00 p.m. on July 31.
***President Duane announced that the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 21, has been reinstated.
All Kiwassee members are encouraged to register for the Michigan District Convention which will be held in Midland on August 23-26. Members must register before August 8. Duane said the Club will pay (up to 50 members) for the luncheon on August 24 for those Kiwassee members who are registered to attend the convention

MARK ROYER TALKS ABOUT PINECREST

Stan Englund introduced Mark Royer, who has been the Administrator for Pinecrest for the past 2 ½ years. Mark has been in the extended care and nursing home business for 25 years and currently teaches at C.M.U.. He commented on the strong link between Kiwassee Kiwanis and Pinecrest, and thanked the club for significant contributions in terms of both volunteer time and money over the years.

Mark said that Pinecrest is one of only two institutions in Michigan that is currently licensed as a County Infirmary. The building was constructed in 1969/1970 and is based on 1960's nursing home design as a 50 bed facility with 4 beds in each room. It has been well maintained but has never been upgraded. Operating costs last year totaled \$1,200,000 with \$700,000 funded by the County and the remainder by Pinecrest revenue which includes support from foundations. Many of the residents are mentally ill and developmentally delayed, and many are elderly with forms of dementia. It is unclear where all these people would go if Pinecrest did not exist. Some would go to more expensive nursing homes, some to adult foster care, and some “back to the street”. The County is considering a proposal for a 1/3 mil tax (about \$18 per year for a \$100,000 home) that would renovate the facility to today's standards as well as expand it to 60/62 beds. Mark said he believes this would provide the potential for attracting more private pay patients that could eventually eliminate the need for operating cost funding from the County. He believes there is a strong case to support the mileage increase.