

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

CHAIR: Dick Jellum

FIG: Don Winger

INVOCATION: Bill Burk

MAILER: John McClellan

MUSIC: Wendell Meyer/Bill Burk

EDITOR: John Mier

CALENDAR

Nov./Dec. Nut House open (1:30 to 5:30 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays).
December 15 Salvation Army Bell Ringing. Please sign up. Lots of open slots. Paul Walker.
December 15 Last day for return of Candy and Nut product.
December 18 Annual Kiwassee Christmas Party. Spouses welcome.
December 20 Board of Directors meeting, noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church.
December 20 Final day Nut House is open (1:30 to 5:30).
January 2 Special meeting, regular time in Garden Room of MCFTA. No meeting on Dec. 25 & Jan. 1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Al Burmester said that Thursday, Dec. 20, will be the final day the Nut House is open. Also, Saturday, Dec. 15 will be the last day that product can be returned for credit. About \$24,000 has been dispersed so far with 71 members participating. Al still needs volunteers to tend the store for the final four days. Please call him if you can help. Call Jim Rajewski or Jim Young for product after Dec. 20.

***Wendell Meyer is accepting checks for the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation through today. Each Michigan Kiwanis Club is committed to support the Foundation with \$40 per member each year. It has been our tradition for members to have the opportunity to make individual contributions with the balance paid by the club. Make (tax deductible) checks to “Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation”. The Foundation supports four children’s hospitals in the State.

***Gordon Anderson announced that there will be a Holiday Party at Pinecrest on Dec. 13 from noon to 2 p.m..

***Al Klashak reminded members that the Coleman Christmas Party will be tomorrow, Dec. 12.

***Jack Higgins reported the final totals for Travel and Adventure ticket sales are up over \$2,000 from last year, plus the extra sponsorship revenue obtained by Cal Hoerneman. Great job by all.

***Diane Stevens presented a check for \$100 to Vicki Rutledge from Head Start, to buy coats for children.

***Paul Walker urged members to sign up for Bell Ringing on Dec. 15—still have many openings.

***Jim Morgan reminded members to use the kiwassee.org web site for their Christmas shopping.

***Penny Ecarius asked members to buy Teddy Bears for the MPD’s “Teddy Bear” program.

***Don Winger presented a \$100 check to Major McPherson for the Salvation Army’s programs to help children at Christmas. Major Pat thanked the club for this and everything we do for the Army.

***Duane Townley reported 100% of our members contributed gifts for the Kid’s Holiday Party last week.

President Jellum gave special thanks to Don Petersen, Duane, and others for the outstanding job by Don and his team in making the Annual Kid’s Holiday Party the very special event that it is.

***President Jellum reminded members of the Annual Club Christmas Party next week for spouses and guests. Dick also said there will be a special meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 2 (regular time and place) since we will not meet on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. It will be an “Open Mike” meeting. He also asked Board members to remember the Board of Directors meeting on Dec. 20 since there is considerable business to transact.

MPS MUSIC COORDINATOR JIM HUBER SPEAKS TO KIWASSEE

Jim Schroeder introduced Jim Huber, who is the K-12 Music Coordinator for the Midland Public School System and is also principal of Cook Elementary School. Jim has been Music Coordinator for fourteen years, and he gave an outstanding presentation about the excellence and tradition of the music program in Midland Public Schools. (Jim was first hired into the MPS by our own Bob Ralston). Children in grades 1 through 5 all get about 35 minutes a week in music education, but after that music is elective. However, most sixth and seventh graders elect to take band, orchestra, or choir. High school participation is about 25%, and will be enhanced by the new International Baccalaureate Program which offers music programs dealing with music appreciation and history on a world scale—a course that is outside of actual music performance. Jim said that technology—computers and software—are becoming an important part of music education in terms of music composition and in teaching basic music theory. The future challenge of continuing this tradition of excellence includes, of course, a financial challenge. MPS has over 1500 band and orchestra instruments that are well over 30 years old. Again, Kiwassee’s Bob Ralston has stepped up to help in a big way. Bob has been a leader in establishing a special fund called “Tuning Up”, which will be used to purchase new instruments for the MPS music program. Contributions, which can be made through the Midland Area Community Foundation, already total over \$250,000. Midland high school bands, orchestras, and choirs have consistently scored superior ratings at regional and state competitions, and the program received an excellent evaluation in the recent MEAP ratings. Jim is also Director of the Chemical City Band (again, following Bob Ralston). He commented that Midland itself has a tradition of excellence in music, and that he is only the fifth director of the Chemical City Band in its 100 year history.