

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

CHAIR: Dick Jellum **INVOCATION:** Renee Yates
PIG: Don Winger **MAILER:** John McClellan **EDITOR:** John Mier

CALENDAR

May 22 Board of Directors meeting, noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church.
June 7, 8 Art Fair. Volunteers needed for Kiwassee booth. Dick Skochdopole.
June 27, 28 Eagle Village work project. Duane Townley.
July 14 3rd Annual Kiwanis Charity Golf Classic, 12:30 at Midland Country Club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Diane Stevens presented a check for \$250 to Peg Gilstad from the Red Cross to be used for their annual Safety Town program. Peg thanked Kiwanis and said the Safety Town program, which is in its 31st year, teaches kindergarten aged children good safety rules for streets, bikes, traffic, etc..

***Diane Stevens thanked the six Kiwanians, plus six Key Club members, who helped with the petunia planting last Saturday. She especially thanked Ray Senesac for his miraculous high tech machine that saved everyone from a lot of trowel work and knee pain. Diane also announced that the Kiwassee Kiwanis tee shirts are now available as ordered. Additional shirts are also available at a cost of \$7. Let her know if you want one.

***Ed Flagg thanked members who participated in the Special Olympics last Saturday.

***Dick Skochdopole announced that volunteers will be needed for the Kiwassee Kiwanis booth at the Art Fair on June 7th and 8th. Times will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in two hour assignments.

***Duane Towley announced a work project (cleaning and painting cabins) is planned for June 27, 28, and 30 at Eagle Village. Please let him know if you are interested in helping.

***Pig Master Winger announced that we collected \$360 from the PIG AUCTION last week.

***Carl Inman from the Kiwanis Evening Club invited Kiwassee members to participate in their annual fund raising rose sales, available for \$20 per dozen.

***It was reported that Don Petersen is back in the hospital for additional abdominal surgery. Walt Rupprecht is still in the hospital, also recovering from abdominal surgery. Sam Choo's wife is having significant chemo therapy treatments. Please keep these folks and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

***President Jellum reminded members of the Board of Directors meeting this Thursday, and the “Super Interclub” meeting with the Evening Club next Tuesday, May 27. Dick also gave special congratulations to Stan Englund for the recent honor he received from the University of Kansas College of Engineering as an outstanding alumni.

CLUB ELECTIONS

President Jellum conducted the club elections for the 2008-2009 Kiwanis year. Nominations were: President, Al Klashak; President Elect, Renee Yates; First Vice President, open. Board of Directors, Dick Skochdopole, Roger Briggs, and Diane Stevens. Jack Higgins moved and Alex Rapanos seconded that the new officers be approved by acclimation, which was done.

MID-YEAR REPORT FROM THE KIWASSEE KIWANIS FOUNDATION

Ray Senesac gave a brief mid-year report from the Kiwassee Kiwanis Foundation. Total assets have increased from \$92,000 to \$97,000 in the past six months, with members contributing \$5,500 during that time. Grants have been given to the Community Center for their new project, and to the 4H club for camping equipment. Ray added that about 40% of Kiwassee members contribute to the Foundation each year. Foundation policy is to award 5% of assets (at the end of the previous year) to new grants.

DAVID WAITE TALKS ABOUT THE “FRIENDS OF THE PERE MARQUETTE RAIL-TRAIL”

David Waite, who is the President of the Friends of the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail organization, talked about the Rail-Trail and his organization. The Trail first opened in 1993 from the Farmers Market to Dublin St.. It was extended to Coleman and Clare in 1998. Original funding came mostly from foundations. Operations are controlled by Midland and Isabella Counties and the City of Midland. It is currently used by 178,000 people each year, and is truly an asset to the community. The mission of the Friends of the Pere Marquette Rail-Trail is to promote the non-motorized recreational trail between Midland and Clare, and make it one of the best in the State. Their activities include marketing the trail and educating the public, supporting upkeep and maintenance and encouraging improvements, and promoting and managing events on the trail such as the bi-weekly bike ride for families, and the annual bike ride and skating event. The organization is engaged in fundraising that is used to improve and promote the Rail-Trail. David said there is interest in connecting the trail to Bay City and Saginaw, and also to extend it north from Clare. David encouraged folks to visit their web site at www.lmb.org/pmrt.