

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

CHAIR: Dick Jellum

INVOCATION: Vicki Briggs

MUSIC: Bill Burk/Mike Merrill

PIG: Don Winger

MAILER: John McClellan

EDITOR: John Mier

CALENDAR

July 8 Annual Pinecrest Picnic, 5:30 p.m..
July 8 Noon Roundtable at Shirleen's.
July 14 3rd Annual Kiwanis Charity Golf Classic, 12:30 at Midland Country Club.
August 8 Kiwassee Night at the Ball Park (in the “Landing”), meal included.
August 13 Kiwanis night at the Loons. Event for all Michigan Kiwanis members.
August 21-24 Michigan District Convention, Kalamazoo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Bob Davidson asked members to fill out meeting attendance sheets accurately so we can improve our meal planning.

***Jim Schroeder read a letter of thanks from the MCFTA for our participation in the Art Fair.

***Renee Yates reminded members that our Charity Golf Classic fund raiser less than two weeks away on July 14. Renee said we need more players and foursomes to sign up. Please help this important fund raiser any way you can.

***Ray Senesac presented a check to Cathy Devendorf who is Director of Volunteers for Outreach for the Chippewa Nature Center. Cathy thanked Kiwassee and said the contribution will be used to help fund the Center's expansion. Cathy said the \$9 million expansion will double the size of the Center to increase classroom space, increase auditorium capacity to 300 people, and provide a separate building for preschool. The new facility will use geothermal heat, solar power, and other environmental improvements. Bill Lauderbach added that the Center now has educational arrangements with 34 Michigan school districts and has become a much more significant and important part of our community than most people realize.

***George Fromhold reported that we still need more folks to sign up for the Kiwassee Night at the Ball Park on August 8. Mike Cronenberger added that members unable to attend might consider donating tickets to WMFC, Big Brothers, etc.

***Duane Townley thanked the members who helped with the successful Eagle Village project last Friday and Saturday. Duane said there are six more cottages to paint.

***Phil Sarnacke reported that Walt Rupprecht, who has been in the hospital since May 8, had successful abdominal surgery yesterday and is looking forward to returning home in a week or so. Please keep Walt and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

***President Jellum reminded members that the Pinecrest Picnic will be at 5:30 p.m. next Tuesday evening. There will be a noon Roundtable at Shirleen's.

***President Jellum presented a Certificate of Appreciation from Kiwanis International to Don Petersen for his sustained support of Kiwanis International's Children's Fund.

DR. RON ENGLUND TALKS ABOUT PACIFIC ISLAND BIODIVERSITY

Stan Englund introduced his son Ron, who gave a very interesting talk about biodiversity studies in the Pacific Islands. Ron, who now lives in Hawaii, grew up in Midland, graduated from Midland High School, and earned degrees from Michigan State, Utah State, and the University of Hawaii. Ron's presentation was about biodiversity studies in certain Pacific Islands, primarily the Solomon Islands. He is working with the Bishop Museum in Hawaii, and the studies are funded by the Smithsonian, Conservation Institute, and others. The work is prompted by the current wave of extinction (caused by man) of plant and animal species, and the studies are being done by multidiscipline teams of scientists from around the world. The goal is to learn as much as we can about these species, including DNA analysis, before they become extinct. The work in the Solomon Islands is particularly rewarding because the large number of species that are endemic even to single islands in the chain. Many are useful to man. The research also identifies specific threats from invasive species and from human activities. One particularly interesting piece of information Ron gave us was that they discovered a fish that is able to climb a waterfall 1000 feet high!