

KIWASSEE
July 21, 2009

SMOKE SIGNALS
kiwassee.org

KIWANIS
Volume XX No. 38

CHAIR: Renee Castellon
PIG: Don Winger

INVOCATION: Jim Morgan
MAILER: John McClellan

MUSIC: D. Winegardner/W. Meyer
EDITOR: John Mier

CALENDAR

July 23 Board of Directors meeting, noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church.
August 12 Kiwanis night at Loons game, 7 p.m..(tickets are \$9 each).

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Jim Heffel announced that an ARC of Midland fundraiser will be held in the Dow Gardens on August 15. Tickets will be \$50 each.

***Vicki Briggs thanked the five members who helped with the "Tall in the Saddle" program this year. Vicki also reminded members that clothing items are now available for purchase with the Kiwassee Kiwanis logo.

***Joe Downey reported that he will again chair the CROP WALK this year for Kiwassee. The event is scheduled for October 4. Joe does need a co-chair to help him. Please contact him if you would like to help.

*****CONGRATULATIONS** to Stu Bender for again winning a gold medal for tennis at the National Senior Olympics at Stanford University in California. (Stu did add that he was the only contestant in his age group---whatever that was).

***President Elect Renee reminded members that the Board of Directors meeting will be on July 23 (this Thursday).

RENEE CASTELLON REPORTS ON INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Renee gave us an excellent report on 94th Kiwanis International Convention, which was held on June 25-28 in Nashville, Tennessee. The convention was attended by over 6,000 people from Kiwanis clubs throughout the world. Membership, she said, was a key issue throughout the meeting. Kiwanis International has set a goal of one million members by 2015 (which is the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis). New officers were elected, and there were no major changes in the bylaws. One interesting feature, she said, was the use of a new electronic method of voting, which gave instantaneous results. The old method was based on paper ballots which took two days to count. An important highlight of the meeting involves the search for a second world service project, to follow the successful Iodine Deficiency project. The project must be "child focused", must be compelling and relevant, and must be a "solvable problem". The Michigan delegation suggested that "Kids Against Hunger" would be a good candidate. Other subjects involved leadership improvement, using a recent book called "Good to Great" as a theme. Also, "Bridging the Gap" addressed relating to teenagers and getting them involved in Kiwanis. A DVD of key portions of the convention is available, and Renee said she will schedule that for one or our future meetings. The next International Convention will be in Las Vegas, followed by Geneva in 2011.