

**KIWASSEE**  
February 23, 2020

**SMOKE SIGNALS**  
kiwassee.org

**KIWANIS**  
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**CHAIR:** Renee Castellon  
**PIG:** Joe Malen

**INVOCATION:** Al Forester  
**MAILER:** John McClellan

**MUSIC:** D. Winegardner & Music Box  
**EDITOR:** Mike Briggs

#### CALENDAR

February 27 Walk for Warmth – 8 a.m.  
March 2 Travel and Adventure Program, 7 p.m. at MCFTA.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

\*\*\*Penny Ecarius had a last call for stuff animals for First responders. She is off for a month so if you missed bringing them this week, bring them in a month!

\*\*\*Jim Struthers reported that the last T&A is this next Tuesday and all volunteers are set – thanks to all who volunteered.

\*\*\*Stan Englund thanked all for donating magazines to Pinecrest and passed around pictures of the construction of the new facility at Pinecrest

\*\*\*Dick Jellum said the nut team is meeting after the meeting next week and is looking for ideas to improve the nut program. Send your ideas to Dick at [rjellum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjellum@sbcglobal.net) or [Jellum@mcfta.org](mailto:Jellum@mcfta.org)

\*\*\*Jim Schroeder had several thank yous – one from Carl Volz at ESA and Susan Putman at Big Brother and Big Sisters for donations from Young Children Priority One. Jim also reported a donation to Auburn Quilters for \$200.

\*\*\*Roger Briggs reminded us to bring pop tabs for the Key Club – it is a fund raiser every year

\*\*\*Roger Briggs sent around a sign up sheet to help with registration this Saturday for Walk for Warmth. It starts at 8 am. Volunteers need to be there by 7:30.

\*\*\*Roger Briggs is still looking for pledges to get the Older Briggs to walk! Please pledge!

\*\*\*Carol Rumba reported that a young Rumba, her daughter, will be walking as well this weekend and thanked us for supporting her.

\*\*\*Diane Stevens with help from Cindy Marks reported Don Peterson is at Bickford Cottage and is resting comfortably and in good spirits

\*\*\*Diane Stevens presented a check for \$300 for the after school program for Junior Youth aged kids at the Coleman Railway Center. Bridget Sullivan accepted the check and indicated it will go toward Wii and TV stuff that get the kids into the program and interested.

\*\*\*Cal Hoerneman introduced his guests Cindy Marks and Kathy Zaun

#### Main Topic

Diane Stevens – chair Of Junior Youth, introduced Gary Skory, Director of the Midland County Historic Society and donated 300 dollars to the Boy Scouting Exhibit. Gary gave us some interesting tidbits about the exhibit due to open March 15th at the Doan History Center – On My Honor – 100 years of Boy Scouts of America. They have put the exhibit together with the help of the Lake Huron Boy Scout Council. Gary sees history as about the future. Through this picture of history we see people that learn to live honorable lives. The real heroes are in our communities, not Hollywood or Washington and this exhibit portrays that. The Boy Scouts were founded in England in 1908 and it grew quickly as the first troop was founded in New York in 1910 and the first scout troops were organized in Midland (a town of only 3800 at the time) in 1913. The newly formed troop hiked through the “backwoods of Coleman”. In 1916 there was a story about a 16 year old boy that saved two drowning boys – he had learned to swim in the Boy Scouts! Gary has heard a lot of stories about how Boy Scouts changed people’s lives. A young scout in Midland learned to swim in the Boy Scouts and when his plane crashed in the ocean returning from WWII, he was able to swim until he was saved. Then he met a beautiful nurse in the hospital while recovering and she became his wife – our own Don Beckwith! Gary also commented on asking a young boy why he was a scout. One indicated his Dad had told him to. His Dad was dying on cancer and it was one of the last things he told the boy. He told him it taught him honor and helping others. Scouting teaches people a lot about good leadership – a lot about serving others and having a passion for things. It really gives kids a chance to learn about themselves. Most of the Kiwassee Kiwanians present had been in Scouts! Gary was still looking for good stories including and funny stories we may be aware of for his section called scouts aren’t saints! Gary also asked us to promote the exhibit when it opens on March 15th!