

KIWASSEE
August 10, 2010

SMOKE SIGNALS
kiwassee.org

KIWANIS
Volume XXI No. 42

CHAIR: Rene Castellon
PIG: Joe Malan

INVOCATION: Vicki Briggs
MAILER: John McClellan

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

CALENDAR

August 31 Membership Roundup.
Sept. 7 "Tall in the Saddle" program season starts. Training on Aug. 24.. Vicki Briggs.
Sept. 12 Deadline for Travel and Adventure ticket donations to charitable institutions.
Sept. 28 Deadline for Travel and Adventure season ticket sales.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

***Ray Senesac reported that over \$1,500 in Travel and Adventure ticket sales have already been turned in. Good start! He and Cal Hoerneman have extra posters and tickets available if members need them. Ray also announced that the next Membership Roundup will be on August 31 and will feature a speaker from the Alzheimers Association. We have gained six new members this year, but lost seven (which is about normal). Membership Roundup is a great opportunity to attract folks to Kiwanis.

***Mike Briggs distributed updated copies of the Member Brochure and asked folks to make sure addresses and phone numbers are correct. Mike also distributed a list of Kiwassee projects over the past two years and asked members to review for possible corrections or additions. (The list includes 57 funded projects and 27 volunteer projects---a very impressive list).

***Vicki Briggs announced that the "Tall in the Saddle" program will start on Sept. 7 and will continue for 8 weeks. A training session is scheduled for Aug. 24 (7 p.m. to 9 p.m.) for those volunteers that are new to the program. Tall in the Saddle helps give self esteem and confidence to developmentally disabled children up to age 21. Vicki circulated a sign up sheet. Vicki also announced she is again taking orders for clothing items with the Kiwassee Kiwanis logo. Please see her if you're interested.

***Penny Ecarius thanked members for their support of the Preschool Tool Tote project. We completed our goal of funding the two year program for one child in the Upper Peninsula ahead of schedule.

***Diane Stevens said the United Way and others are sponsoring a Food Drive for the community from Aug. 11 thru Aug. 31. Please bring non-perishable food items to remaining meetings this month if you wish to contribute.

***Several members reported that Stan Englund and Bill Marklewitz are recovering from recent illnesses. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

***President Renee reported that the club made \$3,539 for community projects from the recent Golf Outing—better than last year! Renee said she and her committee will be discussing ideas for even more improvements next year, with a goal of \$6,000. Congratulations and thanks to Renee and all those who worked on this important fund raiser for Kiwassee.

CLUB NEWS AND PUBLICITY

Mike Briggs, Chair of the Club News and Publicity committee, gave an excellent presentation of what Kiwanis is, what we stand for, and what we do. Mike asked for feedback from members for possible improvements to the presentation, which will be available on our website and can be used on various occasions to explain ourselves to the community and to attract new members. History and organization of Kiwanis is covered, including the formation of the Midland Kiwanis Club in 1921 and the spin off of Kiwassee in 1967. The operation of our committees is explained, and how they bring speakers from the community to meetings to inform members of community needs, and how the committees address those needs with funding and volunteer projects. Over 50 community projects are identified that Kiwassee helps fund with about \$20,000 each year from three major fund raisers. (All fund raising goes to the community—members are assessed separately to cover operating costs). In addition, members contribute about 1,700 volunteer hours per year for "sweat-equity projects". Operation of our three major Kiwanis Foundations (Kiwassee Kiwanis Foundation, Kiwanis Foundation of Michigan, and Kiwanis International Foundation) is explained along with examples of projects they support. Operation of Kiwanis Key Clubs at Dow and Midland High Schools is also covered along with the Circle K Club at Northwood. (Key clubs contribute approximately another 1,700 volunteer hours to community projects).

This presentation makes us all proud to be Kiwanians.