

KIWASSEE SMOKE SIGNALS KIWANIS

March 1, 2016

www.kiwassee.org

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CHAIR: Bruce Rayce

INVOCATION: Dick Skochdopole

MUSIC: Dave Winegardner

HAPPY \$: Jim "Vegas" Rajewski GREETER: Ron Graunke MAILER: Roger Briggs EDITOR: Diane Stevens

CALENDAR

March 5: Walk for Warmth, MCFTA (Millard Kent/Diane Stevens/Dick Jellum)

March 9: AKtion Club meeting, 5:30, MPS Admin Center (Martha Briggs)

April 5: Big Project proposals due to BOD from Committees

April 21: Top 2 Big Project proposals chosen by BOD.

April 26: Top 2 presented to General Membership, who then vote by ballot

May 3: Winning Big Project announced to General Membership

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vicki Briggs: Tall in the Saddle (TIS) starts soon. This program provides children (up to the age of 21), who have emotional or physical challenges, an opportunity to ride a horse, thus gaining confidence and improving their sense of balance. Volunteers are either leaders of the horse or walkers beside the riders, helping them maintain balance in the saddle and feel comfortable. Training for new volunteers will be 4/5 at Gypsy Hollow on North Sturgeon Road. The spring session begins 4/13. Another session will run in the fall. Contact Vicki Briggs for more information.

Mike Briggs: Our 49th anniversary article appeared in the Midland Daily News. Happy Birthday, Kiwassee Kiwanis!

Roger Briggs: Kiwanis Foundation meeting next week after the regular meeting. Funding requests will be considered.

Dick Jellum: Community Service meeting after general meeting today. Any further donations to Walk for Warmth to be made? If you volunteered to be at registration for Walk for Warmth on Saturday, 3/5, arrive at 8:15.

Jim Morgan: Thanks to all who shopped at Christmastime through the Kiwassee website. Jim received a check from Amazon.

Al Burmester: Carol Hyble, Director of Development for Eagle Village, attended our meeting as Al's guest. She spoke briefly about the important work of Eagle Village and thanked Kiwassee for their support, both financial and sweat equity. Eagle Village provides a school curriculum, consistency, and structure to youth who are assigned to the facility by the Courts. A stay of three to nine months is typical, however some stay longer, some go into the foster system, and some are adopted. Twenty-one children were adopted last year! The 681 acres near Hersey are also utilized by outside groups, such as retreats or sports camps. Consider participating in a painting expedition to the Village next time. There's an ice cream stop enroute, and you will learn more about your fellow Kiwanians, such as who splatters paint and who never takes a work break.

Bruce Rayce: Thanks to Publicity for the MDN anniversary article. There will be a short BOD meeting after today's general meeting. A flag route chairman is NEEDED for the Flag Project. Rogers Briggs has enough on his plate with the Foundation and the upcoming Golf Outing. A job description is available from President Bruce and also will be sent to Committee Chairs for distribution to Committee Members. There is a Kiwanis International contest to reward clubs who are the most interactive in social media. As Mike Cronenberger has pointed out, that is the primary way that younger Kiwanians communicate. Can we improve/enhance our Kiwassee communication systems, both public and private?

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jack Higgins had a risky heart procedure done, and it went well! Gene Woodward's family is in town for his 90th birthday! Next week we will circulate a birthday card for him.

PROGRAM: JUNIOR YOUTH, JENNIFER HERONEMA, THE LEGACY CENTER

Dick Skochdopole introduced Jennifer Heronema, Legacy Center President and CEO, who presented “2016 Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes & Behaviors Study”. The study was created from analysis of numbers/responses generated in an Attitudes and Behavior Survey, based on forty positive character traits (also called developmental assets) that teens should possess and twenty-four risk taking behaviors. It was administered to all Midland Public Schools’ sixth through twelfth graders, except those in the Midland Academy. This study has now been done three times in Midland County, in 2006, 2011, and 2016.

Within the category of developmental assets, there are 20 external assets and 20 internal assets. Risk-taking behaviors include nine related to substance abuse.

The three studies, done over a ten year period, have provided an encouraging result and reinforce the importance of fostering developmental assets in our youth population in an effort to reduce their risky behavior and foster personal success.

A link for the complete presentation, with all numbers and details, has been forwarded to all members.

NEXT WEEK: Program by Senior Youth/Key Club, Greeter Penny Ecarius, Invocation Vicki Briggs