

September 13, 2016

KIWASSEE *SMOKE SIGNALS*

KIWANIS

www.kiwassee.org

Greeter: Penny Ecarius **Chair:** Bruce Rayce **Invocation:** Mike Feider **Editor:** Martha Briggs

CALENDAR

Wednesday, September 14: AKtion Club meeting, MPS Admin Center, 5:30

Thursday, September 15: Wine-tasting party at Aaron Oberlin's, **6:00-8:00**. Bring a snack to pass.

Wednesday, October 12: AKtion Club Fourth Annual Talent Show and Fundraiser

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Martha Briggs: The CROP Walk pledge sheet is circulating. Sign up to attend an AKtion Club meeting.

Roger Briggs: The Thomas Township Kiwanis Golf Outing is this Thursday—meet at Apple Mountain at 9:00. The Kiwassee Foundation Board will meet after today's regular meeting.

Cal Hoerneman: Travel and Adventure ticket sales are an anemic \$5000; they were ~\$9000 at this time last year. Consider donating tickets for distribution to area non-profits; turn in those tickets ASAP so they can be processed.

Aaron Oberlin: The Wine-tasting Party is this Thursday at **1303 Foxwood**—be there at **6:00 pm** and bring a snack!

Bruce Rayce: Bruce shared thank 2 you notes—one from BigBrothersBigSisters' Linda Lones, the other from the kids who attended Family & Children's Services' summer Camp I Know Me. Roger Moll sent a message from Uganda, where he is implementing the program we chose as our Little Project. Kudos to Ben Tierney, who met many physical challenges as part of the "Real Men Wear Pink" initiative to raise funds for breast cancer research. Thursday is the last Board of Directors meeting Bruce will lead. The group will address 2 topics in particular: first, the Midland Foundation will match donations to the STEM playground 2/1, so this is a good opportunity to support a funding proposal for it. Second, the Longview pavilion will not happen on this year's calendar, so next year's Board can consider this project. Turn in your officer pin to Bruce: new officers will be installed September 27.

Membership News: Dave Bender is recovering from hip surgery. George Fromhold is in Ann Arbor undergoing several medical tests. Consider contacting John Mier to encourage him to return to meetings.

Special Presentation: Ray Senesac shared the history of the Pledge to the Flag. It was written in 1892 to address a diminishing sense of nationalism. Children across the nation recited it on October 12, 1892, the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of America. The phrasing of the Pledge has changed several times. The two most significant (underlined below) were the addition of "the United States of America" in 1924, to focus immigrants' attention on the country they were living in rather than the country they'd left; and "under God" in 1954, following a campaign by the Knights of Columbus. Today, the pledge reads, "I pledge allegiance to the flag of United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Many folks reciting the Pledge pause for non-existent commas.

PROGRAM: Committee Reports

Membership Development (Mike Cronenberger) Mike suggested members read Ben Tierney's thoughtful piece in last Sunday's Midland Daily News about the plans for the Downtown Midland area. As a result of resignations or deaths, Kiwassee has experienced a net loss of members in the past year, so membership development is especially important at this time. To that end, we are working with Young Leaders United on a holiday project focusing on children. Also, Allison Maloney and Mike are planning an evening get-together for young professionals interested in Kiwassee—details to follow. And Mike knows a young Dow employee with many work contacts—future members!

Senior Youth (Martha Briggs): Our strong commitment to the Dow High Key Club endures through financial support (conventions, Key Leader), sponsorship (meetings, activities), and partnering (sweat equity projects, fund raisers). We have strengthened our relationship with Northwood Circle K, attending meetings and providing financial support for projects and conventions. Meridian's Key Club is officially "inactive." We support the Legacy Center's marijuana initiative and the ROCK's programs for area middle and high school students. Eagle Village, Salvation Army's SHARE, and the WMFC's College Opportunity Program also benefit from our financial support.

Next week: Committee reports: Audit, Club News & Publicity, Human & Spiritual Values, Club Meetings, Fund Raising, Community Service, Junior Youth, and Young Children Priority One

Greeter: Mike Cronenberger **Invocation:** Fred Honerkamp