

April 4, 2017    KIWASSEE    *SMOKE SIGNALS*    KIWANIS    [www.kiwassee.org](http://www.kiwassee.org)  
Chair: Roger Moll            Invocation: Brian Goodwill            Editor: Diane Stevens

**April 8:** Spring Divisional, 10:30am, Mt. Brighton (Roger Moll, Bruce Rayce)

**April 12:** TIS sessions begin (Susan Love)

**April 13-15:** SVSU Robotics Competition (Carolanne Guillemette)

**April 18, 11:45am:** Kiwassee Kiwanis Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (Dick Skochdopole)

**April 19:** Children's Grief Center fundraiser, Great Hall, Valley Plaza (Brian Goodwill, Cal Hoerneman)

**July 17:** Kiwassee Kiwanis For Kids Golf Outing, Snow Snake (Betsy Sullivan, Porter Brown)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Martha Briggs:** Aktion Club meeting attendance signup sheet circulated. Next meeting 4/12.

**Al Forster:** New quarterly bills sent out. Audit Committee has recommended Al have a backup for his job. A video has been created to explain the process. Folks can sign up to "shadow" Al for a quarter for hands-on experience to see how it all works.

**Carolanne Guillemette:** SVSU will be the site of robotics competition for 160 teams, with 8000 spectators expected, 4/13-15. Volunteers are needed! Sign up online at the following website:

[http://my.usfirst.org/FIRSTportal/login/VIMS\\_login.aspx](http://my.usfirst.org/FIRSTportal/login/VIMS_login.aspx)

**Gene Moore:** A patent has been filed regarding Gene's Alzheimer treatment discovery. Investors are needed to pursue this. Congratulations, Gene. This has been a labor of love, and science.

**Dick Skochdopole:** A signup sheet will be circulated today and next Tuesday for the April 18 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon. Members + a guest are welcome.

**Betsy Sullivan:** YCP1 meeting today. Golf committee meeting next week.

**Roger Moll:** Welcome back, Warren Frank, and we're glad to hear you have applied for membership.

President Fred is in Brittany Manor for Rehab from knee surgery. Check out the website [100people.org](http://100people.org) for food for thought. Spring Divisional for Michigan Divisions 9, 10, 17, 18 and 19 will be Saturday, April 8 at Mt. Brighton. Roger and Bruce Rayce will attend and report on the event next week.

### PROGRAM BY YOUNG CHILDREN PRIORITY 1 – MARCH OF DIMES

Karen Adams introduced Jennifer Gracy, Executive Director for March of Dimes of Michigan. In 1938, Franklin D Roosevelt created the March of Dimes (MOD) to combat infantile paralysis, or polio, caused by the poliomyelitis virus. Funds amassed from nationwide donations supported the research conducted to discover a polio vaccine. Dr. Jonas Salk and his research laboratory developed a life-saving vaccine, which effectively ended the frightening polio epidemic in the United States.

March of Dime's focus has since changed to supporting research which benefits the health of infants, providing educational opportunities for pregnant women and support groups for parents of babies who need time in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Some of the major concerns for parents and MOD are premature birth (One of 8 babies born in the United States is premature, which takes an enormous emotional and financial toll on the family.), birth defects, premature infant respiratory distress, folic acid benefit for pregnant women, and newborn screening tests.

Fundraising is done by the traditional "March for Babies", with upcoming walks in Bay City (4/29), Lansing (4/29) and Flint (4/30), and with a Signature Chef Auction evening event, which brings in corporate support. Historically, Kiwassee supported the Midland MOD walk every spring. For more information, the website is [marchofdimes.com](http://marchofdimes.com).