

December 5, 2017 KIWASSEE SMOKE SIGNALS KIWANIS www.kiwassee.org
Chair: Snoddy Invocation: Goodwill Greeter: Rayce Pig Master: Jellum Editor: Stevens

Thursday, 12/7: Community Wishes Holiday Wishes Party (Congleton)

Sunday, 12/10: Men of Music concert, First United Methodist Church, 2pm & 7pm

Tuesday, 12/12: 11:15am, Christmas Party for first graders, Central Park Elem. (Townley)

Wednesday, 12/13: Aktion Club Christmas Party, MPS Admin, 5pm-6:30pm (M Briggs)

Sunday, 12/17: Last day to return nuts & candy product to store (Jellum)

Tuesday, 12/19: Kiwassee Christmas Luncheon (Snoddy)

Thursday, 12/23: Last day of sales, Nut Hut closes (Jellum)

Tuesday, 12/26: No meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Martha Briggs – NHV clipboard is available for final time to donate either item(s) or cash/check. All are welcome to attend Aktion Club Christmas Party, Wed., 12/13, 5-6:30, MPS Administration Bldg. Tickets are \$5/adult + bring a non-perishable food item for Open Door. If questions, contact Kathy Allen at allenks@paomidland.org.

Al Forster – Some members have not paid quarterly dues yet. If you are not sure if you have paid, contact Al.

Brian Goodwill – Bell ringing spots are available on 12/23. During the Kiwassee party, the Red Kettle will be passed for donations.

Dick Jellum – Community Service meeting after general meeting. Three weeks left to sell nuts & candy items. If you are working the Nut Hut and notice an item is almost gone, call Dick, 615-7460, so he can restock.

Jim Morgan - Use Kiwassee website for your Christmas shopping. We get \$\$ for that!

Gordon Rogers – Thanks to all who are working Nut Hut shifts. Next week's spots filled.

Doug Snoddy – Sign up for the Club Christmas Party, even if to say 0, i.e. not attending. Double check your signup if already done. HEATHER IS BACK!!!! Doug presented Martha with an official Kiwassee Kiwanis Martha Minute t-shirt! Our time limit for announcements is 1 minute, but then there is the Martha Minute for more involved announcements. Martha's "oratory longevity", as per our Facebook post, gives her the coveted #1 spot, with President Doug #2. Others can aspire to being Martha Minute members!

Diane Stevens – Thank you to December readers in the 9 preschool locations. This will be Diane's last year as leader for this project. Contact her if you are interested in taking over.

Duane Townley: Only a few gifts are outstanding. PLEASE take those to Duane or Diane ASAP. The review of Central Park Elementary's party venue went well. We will be UPSTAIRS in the Central Auditorium Building. BE IN THE ROOM BY 11:15 for a short business meeting prior to the party. Park on Reardon Street, on the Central Park Elementary side, or in the Memorial Presbyterian lot, or in the school parking lot. Come inside the doors under the Central Auditorium words, or the back door, and look for the Kiwanian who is directing you to the stairs. Our venue is on the second floor. No elevator is available. Martha is working to get us all approved and able to attend under "grandfathering" of BRAVO forms.

Guests – Kyle Clark, Kristi Bugosh's son, is Martha's guest again and has submitted his membership application. Mike Cronenberger was host for Rob Mortenson again and for Mike Rush, Junior Achievement. Lori Ireland, Midland County Habitat for Humanity, and Dagney Wysong, MI Vocational Promise, were guests of Gail Sarnowski.

PORTER BROWN & MAX BOTTOMLEY, HUMAN & SPIRITUAL VALUES

Brian Goodwill interviewed our youngest and our oldest members to give us insight into their lives beyond Kiwassee.

Porter Brown joined the Club in the summer of 2016. Martha met Craig Lang and Porter (both men work at Garber Chevrolet) in town and asked Craig where he had been lately, i.e. not at our meetings. Martha “talked up” Kiwassee Kiwanis to them (It was a Martha Minute!) and Porter expressed an interest in our Club. Porter grew up on Wixom Lake, and graduated from high school in 2015. He learned to water ski when he was about 8 years old, and later became a competitive slalom skier under the coaching of Craig Lang’s father, also a competitive skier. Porter has competed on the local, state, and national level in slalom, and was ranked second in regionals in 2016. Work hours have affected his ability to spend a lot of time practicing on the lake now, but he still plans to ski and compete again in the future. Asked about Garber, Porter said “There are some great deals this month!” (A few Kiwanians have worked with Porter to purchase new cars, and all have been pleased with his salesmanship.)

Max Bottomley is a Charter Member of Kiwassee Kiwanis, founded 50 years ago, and a member of the storied Greatest Generation. Graduating from high school in 1940, Max went to Michigan State University and enlisted in the ROTC, Army Coast Artillery Corps, thinking this would keep him in the United States during WWII. In April, during winter term, he was called to active duty and sent to Texas for basic training. After Officers School, he was sent back to finish his education at MSU, then to Ft. Benning, Georgia, to be an infantry officer. Max was told he would be shipped to England, but was sent to France to be part of Patton’s Third Army. From France, he went to Germany to “wait for the Russians”. Patton decided not to wait and invaded Austria. In Linz, Austria, a bridge had the American zone on one end and the Russian zone on the other. No civilians were allowed to cross the bridge. On a day when Max was officer of the bridge, 500 townspeople and the Mayor of Linz asked to cross to the American side. Max helped a young mother in the group cross and carried her baby for her. Years later, on a trip to Linz, Max’s tour guide turned out to be that baby! When Max returned to the States, he graduated from MSU in 1947. He had to adjust quickly to civilian life as he started his job at Dow and was a husband and father. Max was Kiwassee’s President in 1974 during the Dow Chemical strike. Meeting attendance dwindled to 6 and the Kiwanis District suggested the Club should be disbanded. Max and the members persisted, and the Club survived. Thank you, Max, for your military service and for holding the Club together during the Dow strike.

**NEXT WEEK CENTRAL PARK ELEMENTARY
FIRST GRADE CHRISTMAS PARTY
BE THERE BY 11:15AM**

**“You miss 100% of the shots you never take.”
---Wayne Gretzky**