

August 7, 2018

KIWASSEE *SMOKE SIGNALS* KIWANIS

www.kiwassee.org

Chair: CarolAnne Guillemette

Invocation: Mike Feider

Greeter: Duane Townley

Editor: Briggs

CALENDAR

Wednesday & Thursday, August 8 & 9: Join Bruce Rayce at a Saginaw Kiwanis meeting; (Rayce)

Sunday, October 7: CROP Walk (Gartner, Clark, M Briggs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Roger Briggs: The Kiwassee Foundation will meet after next week's meeting (1:00 p.m.)

Jim Heffel: Pay your dues! While the men are up to 75% paid, the women are stalled at 60%. Pay up!!

Dick Jellum: Community Service committee meets after today's regular meeting.

Bruce Rayce: Senior Youth meets briefly after today's meeting. In other news, Bruce will DRIVE himself to two Saginaw Kiwanis meetings this week: Wednesday, he'll crash the Downtown club's meeting at noon, and Thursday, he'll visit the Thomas Township club at 7:30 am. Contact Bruce if you'd like to join him!

Duane Townley: It's Eagle Village Painting time again—sign up for either or both Thursday & Friday, August 23 & 24. Painters will meet at the Schade Drive Park and Ride in the morning, and raise an ice cream cone in Bruce Rayce's honor—he's the team's resident ice cream expert but is unable to paint this time.

Jim Young: The flags at Saginaw and Dublin that Mike Cronenberger installs each holiday were featured on the front page of the latest issue of Senior Services Prime Time. No mention of Kiwassee, though. ☺

Betsy Sullivan: The Golf Outing Committee will meet at 11 am before next week's meeting to review this year's event and look ahead to next year!

CarolAnne Guillemette: Remember to VOTE today!

MEMBER NEWS: Mike Cronenberger saw Max Bottomley at church last Sunday. He looks great and told Mike he plans to be back at our meetings next week! And Bruce Rayce's daughter-in-law Nikki's Cheeky Cheesecakes won TV5's Best Cheesecakes! Not only are they delicious, but Nikki generously donated no fewer than SIX cheesecakes to lucky door prize winners! Bravo!

PROGRAM: Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Great Lakes Region

Junior Youth Chair Rudy Phillips introduced Holly Miller, Executive Director; and Linda Lones, Director of Fund Development & Communication of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Great Lakes Region. BBBS serves children and youth ages 6-18 in Midland, Bay, Saginaw, and Isabella Counties. While the public may be most familiar with the one-to-one mentorships between a vulnerable child and a caring and responsible adult, BBBS includes one-to-one Lunchbox Learners and TEAMing Up With Youth as well.

A "Big's" mentoring of a "Little" can change a negative trajectory and set the child on a path to reaching their full potential by helping them stay in school and achieve their goals. For a "Big," spending time with a "Little" two or three times a month, sharing ordinary experiences like grocery shopping and playing in the park, helps the child develop confidence and compassion, a broader view of the world and a sense of possibility. The strong relationship that develops endures long after the youth ages out of the program at 18.

Lunchbox Learners addresses statistics that show that reading at grade level by 3rd grade is critical to graduating from high school; the Lunchbox Learners model of reading with an adult once a week at lunchtime helps a child catch up. The high school and college students who work with elementary children in TEAMing Up With Youth serve as positive role models. All 3 programs are based on one-to-one matches.

The majority of children and youth in the BBBS programs live in poverty or near poverty. They may be raised by a single parent, grand-parent, or other adult relative who needs the support of another adult in their child's life. BBBS served 700 children last year and has a waiting list.

Holly explained that BBBS wants to triple that number to 2100 in five years. To accomplish this lofty goal, BBBS needs VOLUNTEERS, especially MEN; resources, and continued collaboration with other non-profits, businesses, and community services throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region.

For more information, visit info@bbbsgreatlakesbay.org or email Holly at holly@bbbsgreatlakesbay.org or Linda at lindalones@bbbsgreatlakesbay.org.

REMINDERS: Golf Outing committee meets BEFORE & Kiwassee Foundation Board AFTER next week's meeting. Sign up to paint at Eagle Village! Invoker: Kim Clark. Greeter: Susan Love. Program: Senior Youth.