



Kiwanis

Hastings • Nebraska

Astonisher

A newsletter of the Hastings Kiwanis Club
hastingskiwanis.org
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facebook.com/hastingskiwanis

*"Brighten the corner where you are."
~ from a hymn by Ina D. Ogdon*

December 2024

If you have items you wish to be included in the Astonisher, you can send them to marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org OR Astonisher@hastingskiwanis.org

Inclement weather policy ~ If HPS is closed on a given Thursday, there is no Kiwanis meeting that day. It will also be displayed on the Channel 10-11 scrolling closing information.



Upcoming Meetings & Events ~ December

YWCA, 2525 W. 2nd St. ~ \$13.00 per meal

Catering by Emma Baker *(meals subject to change)*

Thur. 5 - Beyond 175 Program at Adams Central, Libby Lollman
Pork Loin, Roasted Carrots, Roast Potatoes, Cookie

Sat. 7 - Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Sat. 7 - Kiwanis/Salvation Army/Walmart/Hastings Ford Shopping Spree

Wed. 11 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room ~ All members welcome

Thur. 12 - Viking Cruise from Rome to Athens, Dale Schultz (and Kathy)
Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Baked Beans, Cookie

Thur. 19 - Christmas Sing-Along, Dr. Mike Johnson & Lavila VanBoening
Turkey Club Sandwiches, Potato Salad, House Chips, Fresh Fruit Salad, Cookie

Thur. 26 - NO MEETING ~ Enjoy the holiday with Family!

Sat. 28 - Youth Bowling Tournament, Pastime Lanes

Thur. Jan. 2, 2025 ~ No Meeting

New member invitation opportunity... Thursday, January 23, 2025.

In an effort to bring previous members back into the club, this is a special luncheon to invite someone that you know was a previous member, or anyone else you feel is a potential new member.

Reservations for your guests need to be in by Monday, January 20th. Email to Dave Kempf at davek@hastingskiwanis.org or text to 402-469-3704.

***** VOLUNTEER POSITIONS *****

If you are unable to attend Thursday noon meetings to sign up for volunteer opportunities, you can do so on the website.

Ongoing service projects include:

- **Hearts & Hands Against Hunger** – dates and times TBA
- **Meals on Wheels** – every Friday, 11:15 a.m. – 2 routes, approx. 30-40 min.

HEARTS & HANDS AGAINST HUNGER

PEACE Center, 622 N. Lincoln, South side
(former Middle School manual arts bldg)

****Please arrive 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time****



~~~ Regular Monday packing has begun from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. ~~~

*Thursday, December 19 ~ 9:15 – 11:15 a.m.
Silver Lake School ~ 110 people*

*Friday, December 20 ~ 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
ESU 9*

20-30 Staff & Family members

Hearts & Hands Against Hunger, P O Box 1293, Hastings NE 68902-1293 * 402-460-8627



MEALS ON WHEELS – This is quick and easy!
We have two (2) routes on Fridays for this service project.
Two volunteers from Kiwanis are needed.
Sign-up sheets are available at Thursday noon meetings
or sign up on the website.

Meals are picked up at 11:15 at the Senior Action office, 212 W. 3rd St. (block east of the Post Office ~ 3rd & Minnesota) and delivery usually takes 30-40 minutes. They have the routes set up for the most efficient delivery.

December 6 – Heather Bolte – Russanne Hoff

December 13 – Need 2

December 20 – George Howard – Need 1

December 27 – Dale Musgrave – Need 1

Marge Ormsby is the Club Coordinator. Please notify me by text or call if you cannot make it or will be late. 402-469-3296

ICYMI ~ November 2024

New member Rachel Irvine is shown with her sponsor, Roger Selley on 11-7-24. Rachel was inducted October 17 at our regular noon luncheon.



November 7 – Our Place After School Care, Amanda Nielsen

Amanda Nielsen is a part-time executive assistant for this program that serves special needs teens ages 13 through 20. She has been with them for one year. The public school system cannot serve these youth beyond a certain point.

It was started by Adeline Johnson, who is the executive director and founder, back in 2018 in the basement of a church. They needed somewhere for their own daughter to continue training, and realized there were others who needed the same opportunity. The program offers help with academics, safety knowledge, social skills, and life skills.

Our Place After School Care receives very little State funding due to state regulations. They receive some support through grant writing, but there are very few grants available. Donations are very important to their continued mission.

They opened a store called the Freedom Factory in 2022. Some items are made by the teens and others are

consigned. They learn to count change, work with the public, food safety, and cooking skills. The store is located at 1117 East South Street, in the ESU 9 building across the highway from the Barrel Bar.

They would like to find a new location since this building is not fully handicap accessible; they do have some wheelchair bound participants. They would also like to obtain a van, with a wheelchair lift, to transport the teens. It would open up many more opportunities for them.

You can learn more at www.ourplacecare.org. Amanda can be reached at 402-519-5197 or freedomfactory2022@yahoo.com.



November 14 – Check Presentation



Check presentation to Chuck Hastings of \$5,000 for Hearts and Hands Against Hunger.

November 14 – The Possibility Project, George Cook



George is lieutenant governor for Kiwanis Division 21, the Lincoln-Waverly-Hickman area. He is a volunteer for the Nebraska-Iowa District Children's Fund and is designated as "Champion" for the new initiative called **The**

Possibility Project.

It is designed to help solve the urgent need for more funding resources to address the needs of kids and communities worldwide. The goal is to reach more than 10 million children by raising \$25 million over the next 5 years.

In the past, Kiwanians have raised \$105 million to help eradicate iodine deficiency disorder worldwide. For the Eliminate project, our Hastings Club raised \$72,750

of the \$119 million total to combat maternal and neonatal tetanus. Both of these were Kiwanis Children's Fund campaigns in partnership with UNICEF.

Support is currently needed for these focus impact areas:

- Health and nutrition
- Education and literacy
- Youth leadership development

It only takes \$2.25 to positively impact the life of one child. It is estimated the average cost of necessities in the first year of a baby's life is \$15,000. One in seven children live in a household where there is not enough food to eat. One in three low-income families do not own any books. If a child is not proficient in Reading by the end of grade 3, they will have difficulties in later grades and the rest of their life.

The Possibility Project has been developed to amplify the impact of local club service projects. It is the first in Kiwanis International history focused on raising money specifically to help kids through Kiwanis clubs' local service projects. More grant funding will be available to



support local service projects in the three impact areas mentioned above.

Over 23% of the \$25 million goal has already been reached with \$5,890,000 in gifts and pledges. Over the last few years, however, requests for help from the Children's Fund have grown 10 times. They have not been able to support every request that comes in.

They are asking every Club to become an Impact Club by pledging to donate \$500 per member over the next 5 years. No, you're not going to get a bill for \$500. There are a number of ways to accomplish this through fundraising efforts, matching funds etc. and yes, personal donations.

The club pledges a total amount based on number of members x \$500 each. That does not mean each member is expected to donate \$500, although that does figure out to be only \$0.28/day over 5 years.

The board will be discussing this at its meeting on December 11 to see if they want to make this pledge to become an Impact Club.

Kiwanis Leadership:

*John Boltz, Governor, Nebraska-Iowa District;
George Cook; Frank Koch, Hastings Kiwanis
President*

November 21 – Area Substance & Alcohol Abuse Prevention Coalition (ASAAP), Rhonda Hiebert

Rhonda is project coordinator and joined the program this past August. ASAAP serves Adams, Clay, Nuckolls, and Webster counties. It began in the 1980's under the guidance of Norma Spady. She was the founder of the Hastings Area Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.

They are trying to bring awareness to adults that drugs process at different rates as we age. We must also be alert that kids use different terms to refer to drugs that we may be familiar with. For example, the street names for Valium/Diazepam are eggs, jellies, moggies or vallies. Other drugs may be referred to as downers, candy, lunch money, footballs, french fries, ladders, roofies. Substance abuse begins mostly in the middle school age.

Vaping is more addictive than cigarettes. When inhaled, the high levels of nicotine hit the bloodstream and brain more quickly. The average amount of nicotine in one device equals 1-2 packs of cigarettes. Other ingredients can include formaldehyde, lead, acetone, nickel, arsenic, naphthalene and dozens of other nasty things. Some ingredients in vaping products can explode; that's why they are not allowed on planes.



*Heather Bolte, Exec. Director
Rhonda Hiebert, Project
Coordinator*

Vaping instruments can be disguised as asthma inhalers, lipstick, keychains, markers, and cell phone cases, among others.

Typically a student caught vaping would be suspended from school. ASAAP is pushing an alternative to that by offering life skills training and addiction recovery. Some retailers are not helping the situation because they display tobacco and vaping products alongside candy. That gets kids used to seeing them at an early age.

When ASAAP speaks at schools, they have goggles that can be adjusted to different levels of alcohol consumption to demonstrate to students how it affects their reflexes, walking, etc.

There is a lending library with materials about drug and alcohol abuse, as well as materials for AA and NA. They are giving every new teacher in the four-county area material on mindfulness to remind them that they are appreciated. It also has tips on how to deal with the stress of teaching.

November 21 ~ The Kiwanis Club Christmas tree at the Museum was decorated immediately following this meeting by Ashley Hajny, Rachel Irvine, and Marge Ormsby.



November 28 – No Meeting

Christmas is the season of Joy, of Holiday Greetings exchanged, of Gift-Giving, and of Families united.

Norman Vincent Peale, American writer and minister



May you all find Joy this holiday season!!

2024-2025 Hastings Kiwanis Leadership

Officers

President ~ Frank Koch

franklink@hastingskiwanis.org

Immediate Past President ~ Michelle Musgrave

michelle.musgrave@hastingskiwanis.org

President-Elect ~ Mike E. Johnson (Dr. Mike)

michaelj@hastingskiwanis.org

Vice President ~ Russanne Hoff

russanneh@hastingskiwanis.org

Treasurer ~ Jim Krebsbach

jimk@hastingskiwanis.org

Secretary ~ David Kempf

davek@hastingskiwanis.org

Assistant Secretary ~ Susan Price

susanp@hastingskiwanis.org

Board of Directors (# of years)

John Boltz (2)

johnb@hastingskiwanis.org

Brandon McDermott (2)

brandon.mcdermott@hastingskiwanisd.org

Casey Mohler (2)

casey.mohler@hastingskiwanis.org

Dale Musgrave (2)

dalem@hastingskiwanis.org

Kathy Hohensee (1)

katherineh@hastingskiwanis.org

George Howard (1)

georgeh@hastingskiwanis.org

Taylor Musgrave (1)

taylor.musgrave@hastingskiwanis.org

Marge Ormsby (1)

marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4 Jim Karloff
13 Michael A. Johnson
19 David Mendyk
27 Jim Heyen
27 Duane Johnson
?? Eric Barber