



# Kiwaniis

Hastings • Nebraska

## Astonisher

A newsletter of the Hastings Kiwanis Club  
[hastingskiwanis.org](http://hastingskiwanis.org)  
[myclub@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto:myclub@hastingskiwanis.org)  
[facebook.com/hastingskiwanis](https://facebook.com/hastingskiwanis)

*"I do not know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know, the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve. ~ Albert Schweitzer*

January 2025

If you have items you wish to be included in the Astonisher, you can send them to [marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto:marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org) OR [Astonisher@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto: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 ~ January

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

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

Wed. 8 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room ~ All members welcome

Thur. 9 - Heartbeat Creative District, Lily Teeple and Ember Batelaan  
*Meatballs in Marinara Sauce, Penne Pasta, House Salad, Garlic Bread, Cookie*

Thur. 16 - Cybersecurity, Lauren Bliss and Blake Skolaut  
*Lunch and Drinks provided by Allo*

Thur. 23 - Hope 4 Liberia Ministry, Kelly Wagner  
*Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Baked Beans, Cookie*

Thur. 30 - Doerr Center for Civic Engagement, Dr. Wayne Riggs  
*Turkey Club Sandwiches, Potato Salad, House Chips, Fresh Fruit Salad, Cookie*

#### **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 Wednesday, January 15th.  
Email to Dave Kempf at [davek@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto: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 from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. ~~~**

*Wednesday, January 8 ~ 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.  
Home School Group*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Saturday, January 18 ~ 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
United Methodist Church – Red Cloud Youth Group  
20-30 people*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sunday, January 19 ~ 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
First United Methodist Church Mission Committee  
20+ people*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Wednesday, January 22 ~ 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
Sandy Creek FBLA / FCA / NHS  
25 high school students*

**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. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. (block east of the Post Office ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> & Minnesota) and delivery usually takes 30-40 minutes. They have the routes set up for the most efficient delivery.**

**January 3 – Neil Grothen – Dale Musgrave**

**January 10 – Russanne Hoff – *Need 1***

**January 17 – *Need 2***

**January 24 – *Need 2***

**January 31 – *Need 2***

**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 ~ December 2024**

### **December 5 – Beyond 175 Program at Adams Central Elementary, Libby Lollman**



Libby is a 5th grade teacher at Adams Central and the high school volleyball coach. She grew up in Hastings and graduated from Hastings College.

She helped organize the **Beyond 175 Program**, a non-traditional summer school for K thru 5th grade students outside of the normal 175 days allotted

for the school year.

This past summer was its first year, held during the first 3 weeks in June. The program ran 8:00 a.m. till noon, Monday through Thursday, 1-hour sessions. The kids could come for all 3 weeks, or just sign up for classes as they were available.

It stemmed from the thought of “where can we grow the school community,” and “what can we offer to kids who are not interested in summer sports.”

Summer school has a negative connotation, and is usually used as a consequence for bad grades. They looked at how to rebrand that and make it more fun, with learning opportunities for all students.

There was still the academic focus on core reading and math skills. But in addition, there were 30 different classes for additional learning where sometimes those skills were embedded in the activity without them realizing it.

The teachers were asked what other things they could teach beyond the classroom content. They could pick what they wanted. There was book club, board games, robotics, crocheting, charcuterie boards, baking, art, movement, and chess as examples. In the Tech 101 class they took apart an Xbox and researched its history (reading!). They saw a lot of growth in the students who participated. Over 150 students enrolled for this first program – 54 academic, 105 extra-curricular.

The program was self-funded through small fees for each class - \$10/session, \$40/class. It needed to be sustainable on its own. In order to entice the teachers to devote time during their summer for further teaching, 80-90% of the registration fees went to the teacher.

They're hoping to expand the program next year and come up with ways to incorporate reading and math into sports. In addition, they are looking at ways to provide it at no charge for those students who qualify for the free and reduced lunch program.

A new program started this academic year was **Kindergarten Boot Camp** held two days before school started. It ran from 8:00-10:00 a.m. at a cost of \$20. It gave the students and their parents a chance to meet their teacher and tour the school.

They learned the rules of the classroom (like standing in line), rules of the cafeteria and playground. Parents could figure out the drop off and dismissal routines. Of the 76 new kindergartners, 47 signed up for the boot camp ... and the first day of class went much smoother.

## December 7 – Bell Ringing for Salvation Army at Walmart

Weather was fabulous for us this year! Captain Rachel Irvine reported that we collected \$1,817.16 for the Red Kettle Campaign.

*The Grinch (aka Weston) brought along his grandparents Val & Al Erickson to assist.*



*Elizabeth & Dale Musgrave always ring true!*

## December 7 – Salvation Army Shopping Spree & Gift Wrapping at Walmart

This annual fun time is co-sponsored by the Salvation Army, Walmart, Hastings Ford, and Kiwanis. I was provided with 53 photos for this event ... I apologize if you didn't make the cut!





## December 12 – Viking Cruise from Rome to Athens, Dale Schultz (and Kathy)



Dale and Kathy gave an awesome Powerpoint presentation of their 19-day cruise in the spring of 2024. They booked themselves two days ahead of the cruise for extra time in Rome, and then two days at the end of the cruise in Athens for some additional sightseeing.

In Rome, the tour included the Coliseum, the Vatican Museum, and St. Peter's Square, which is a plaza directly in front of St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, Rome. They had booked themselves a 3-hour private tour in Rome and saw lots of extra sites.

From Rome they went to Naples, Italy and toured the site of Pompeii following the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. The entire city was buried and not discovered till centuries later. At least 2,000 residents died, but some estimates are as high as 16,000.

Messina, on the east coast of Sicily near the active volcano of Mount Etna, was another stop.

Another excursion was the Salem National Park, part of Crotona, Italy. Then on to Croatia.

A 1½ hour gondola ride from the ship to Venice was necessary because ships cannot dock in Venice. Venice is also gradually sinking, so there can be no more new construction there.

Easter Sunday was spent in Italy. They observed glass blowing on the island of Murano, in Venice.

They toured part of Kotor, Montenegro and part of Corfu, Greece. Lots of olive trees!

A very interesting stop was at Olympia, Greece where the Olympics began. Final stop was in Athens, Greece where they saw the Acropolis, among other things.



## December 19 – Induction of New Members



*New members sponsored by John Boltz are Patty Boltz and Kathryn Boltz. They were inducted December 19 by George Howard, who also read the Six Objects of Kiwanis.*

*L-R: Kathryn Boltz, John Boltz, granddaughter Oakley, Patty Boltz, George Howard, President Frank Koch*

## December 19 – Check Presentation – Tribune Goodfellows, Laura Beahm

President Frank Koch presented a check for \$400 to Laura Beahm from the Tribune for its Goodfellows food and gift distribution program.

She expressed appreciation for all volunteers who will be helping to pack and deliver boxes prior to Christmas. There are 200 families this year, 83 of those with children.

They will be getting everything they need for a holiday meal, plus a week's worth of food to get through the end of the year. And of course, gifts for the children.



## December 19 – Christmas Sing-Along, Dr. Mike Johnson and LaVila VanBoening



Dr. Mike Johnson led those in attendance with singing of Christmas carols, accompanied by LaVila VanBoening

on the keyboard. As always, we ended with “We Wish You a Merry Christmas.”

## December 26 – No Meeting

**December 28 ~ Youth Bowling Tournament, Pastime Lanes**

I don't have a report on this event, but a quick count of the group photos indicates 67 children participated.



**BOWLERS**

**TROPHY WINNERS**



**AGE  
4**



**AGE  
5**







AGE  
6



AGE  
7



AGE  
8



AGE  
9





AGE  
10



## 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

## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

2 Les Harms  
7 Kathy Hohensee  
14 Kristine Kasperbauer  
23 Gary Aadland  
25 Darla Bruna  
25 Ryan Samuelson  
26 Valerie Erickson



### **Ways to Ring in the New Year**

**America ~ Fireworks**

**Puerto Rico ~ Throw buckets and dishpans of water out the window to rid their homes of evil spirits, negative energy, and bad luck.**

**Spain ~ Eat 12 grapes at the stroke of midnight, one for each month of the year. If eaten, in full, before 12:01, you will have good luck, good fortune, and prosperity all year.**

**Denmark ~ Smash plates and glasses against the door to banish bad spirits and hope for a lucky year. It is also a tradition to drop those broken pieces at the doorsteps of friends as a way to wish them good fortune.**

**Greece ~ Hanging onions on doors is believed to bring good luck for the rest of the year. They symbolically represent continuous growth since onion roots keep growing.**

**Turkey ~ Sprinkling salt on the doorstep at midnight is believed to invite prosperity and peace to that house throughout the year.**