



Kiwanis

Hastings • Nebraska

Astonisher

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

"At the county fair you can taste the flavors of summer, hear the sounds of laughter, and see the beauty of our agricultural heritage on full display." ... Unknown

August 2025

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



Upcoming Meetings & Events ~ August

YWCA, 2525 W. 2nd St. ~ \$13.00 per meal
Catering by Emma Baker

Thur. 7 - Report on 2025 Kiwanis NE-IA District Conference, John Boltz

Saturday, August 9 ~ 18th ANNUAL 4-PERSON GOLF SCRAMBLE Elks Golf Course ~ 9 a.m. shotgun start

This is our second largest fundraiser after Pancake Day!

- **\$75/person (\$300/team)** ~ includes 2 team mulligans, 1 raffle ticket/player, light breakfast, green fees, cash payout to winners, door prizes, and lunch
- **\$100 Hole Sponsorships** include sign with business logo and information on tee box ~ Hole sponsors needed by July 31



Team Registration & Hole Sponsor form on website ~ Contact Greg Schultz 402-469-6897

Wed. 13 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room ~ All members welcome

Thur. 14 - Watch your email

Saturday, August 16 ~ Kool-Aid Days Parade ~ We have an entry!

- We need skateboarders, scooter riders, rollerbladers, and BMX riders.
- We also need adults to help supervise, carry signs, and hand out mini skateboards and flyers.
- The Key Club has been contacted ... but we still need adults to help wrangle kids. We could have 10 kids ... could have 30.

Thur. 21 - South Central Townhall Caregiver Coalition, Ashleigh Drudik

Thur. 28 - Watch your email

LOOKING AHEAD ~ Thursday September 25, Installation Banquet
for 2025-26 Officers and Board Members, & Recognition Awards

Lochland Country Club ~ 5:30 Social 6:30 Dinner ~ Italian Buffet and Dessert
\$32/person includes tax and tip

Reservations to Dave by September 18, 1:00 p.m.

Italian Dinner Buffet ~ Pastas: Fettuccine & Penne ~ Sauces: Bolognese & Alfredo
Beef Lasagna ~ Garlic bread sticks ~ Caesar Salad with Italian Dressing ~
Green Beans Almondine ~ Peach Crisp A la Mode



SKATEPARK NEWS

Committed to raise \$200,000 total ~ \$50,000 from the Club

Total Club Donations to date: \$9,338.50 (18.68%)

Total General Public Donations to date: \$5,723.73 (3.82%)

The County Commissioners approved our grant request for \$50,000 from the Convention and Visitors Bureau. This is a reimbursement grant payable half in January and half in July.

The final design of the skatepark is complete. The horseshoe bowl is 4-ft deep with two levels, and a pump track in the center. Items 2, 3, 4 and 5 on the legend are the beginner elements. You are free to use the drawings for promotion. We can get some to you.

PLEASE NOTE: This skatepark can be used by scooters, rollerblades, and BMX bikes, in addition to skateboards. Nothing that is motorized is permitted.

A NEW "ASTONISHER" NEWSLETTER REPORTER IS NEEDED.

Format as you wish. Scale it back. Make it your own.

I will provide my template as a starter.

Marge

***** 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****

**** There will be no further packing events until September. ****

Jim reports that during the 2024-25 packing season:

500,848 meals were packed

26 Monday events accounted for 111,000 of those meals

24 other community packing events completed the other 389,848

An average of 10-15 Kiwanians worked each event, representing 22% of 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.
(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.**

August 1 – Need 2

August 8 – George Howard – Kathy Schultz

August 15 – Need 2

August 22 – Need 2

August 29 – 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 ~ July 2025

July 3 – No Meeting

July 10 – HPS 2025 Distinguished Senior Educator, Dave Johnson



Dave was born in Omaha to parents who were both teachers. Most of their teaching careers were in Kearney. Dave and his sister both now also teach.

He developed a love of history and social studies and wanted to emulate his teachers and coaches. They are the best people he knows.

He attended Kearney State College, now UNK, and student taught at Elm Creek. After graduation he was hired in Hayes Center. After only one year there he saw that Hastings had ads for three social studies teachers. It was a very competitive time when there were more teachers available in the hiring pool. As a new teacher, he didn't think he had much of a chance.

Dave is now in his 40th year at Hastings High School. In addition to social studies, he started as assistant basketball coach, then as assistant track coach. He is now head track coach.

He had no aspirations to be a coach, but he did want to teach in a small school and that seems to go with it. He feels that coaching has taught him to be a better teacher.

Coaching has given him an opportunity to know kids in a different way and relate to them in a different way. Coaching has helped him with patience and learning to work with different personalities.

Things he's learned:

- Show an interest in students outside of the classroom. He goes to as many activities as he can... sports, music, drama. The kids know you are there and are interested in them.
- Try to be positive. He was more negative when he started his career. For every negative comment, he tries to make three positive ones.

- Be consistent with students. You can't treat each student the same because they are not the same people. Just be courteous and respectful of each of them. It is not human nature to like everyone, and he tries to get that across to his students.
- Be available; stay around after school for the students who want help or advice. He is annoyed with teachers who immediately race out after the last bell.
- Parents want to see their children succeed. He has seen that parents have changed and households have changed over the last 40 years. There is more stress on parents today who are not home as much as previously. When he contacts a parent about a struggling student or assignments not being turned in, most parents are very appreciative. They want to know how their child is doing and want to help them succeed.
- Let students know you care about them. Students don't care how much you know, they just want to know that you care.
- Be well versed in your subject. Students are impressed if they see that you know your stuff; they respect that. Many newer teachers rely on Google to help them answer student questions.
- Share personal experiences. Students like to know their teachers are human and see that they are real people. They like teachers to be open with them. It draws you closer to them.

The most beneficial aspect of his teaching career has been his relationship with students and fellow teachers ... not the actual teaching of his favorite subject.

July 17 – Kiwanis International Youth Protection Training, Dave Kempf

Youth Protection Training is required annually by Kiwanis International for anyone participating with Service Leadership Programs (SLPs). These are the sponsored youth programs from elementary K-Kids through college-level Circle K, and Aktion Club for adults with disabilities.

A 30-minute video was presented entitled "Policies in Practice" that outlined the objectives of the Youth Protection policies and how they must be implemented.

Those at today's meeting will be submitted as trained for this year.

Abuse can be in person or online. According to the World Health Organization in 2022, abuse occurs worldwide for one in five girls and one in 13 boys, across all ages and socioeconomic levels, ethnicities, and big or small communities. It is important that all



adults in Kiwanis who work with youth understand the policies and desired culture necessary to protect the youth with whom we come in contact.

29% of abuse is by a family member, 60% by someone else the youth knows, and only 11% by strangers. Abuse erodes the trust youth have in adults, and can cause mood swings, loss of interest and activities, and acting out in sexual ways. They often feel it is their fault, causing them to feel sad, angry, guilty or confused.

Kiwanis Youth Protection Goals are to:

- Protect youth from predators.

- Educate youth with skills and tools designed to inspire and engage future leaders to be their best.
- Engage all Kiwanis members and empower them with best practices when working with youth.

More information can be found at www.kiwanis.org/youthprotection for those who did not attend today's meeting and wish to work with any SLPs. A background check is required. Guidelines are presented for chaperones, for preventing false allegations, social media and communications, and reporting troubling behavior, among other topics.

Adams County FairFest July 16-20, 2025

[photos next issue]

A huge **THANK YOU** to all members who promoted the skatepark and our club during this community event. A total of 18 members participated, donating 67 hours.

We did not garner a lot of donations but we got a lot of exposure. And received a lot of positive comments

about a new skatepark being badly needed. "Thanks for doing this."

I was also able to recruit some kids to participate with us in the Kool-Aid Days parade, August 16th.

We handed out 211 mini skateboards and a few club brochures.

Members who lent their time to this project were:

John Boltz
Patty Boltz
Darla Bruna
Cheryl Burr
Val Erickson
George Howard
Mike A Johnson
Dave Kempf
Karen Kempf

Frank Koch
Jim Krebsbach
Michelle Musgrave
Taylor Musgrave
Marge Ormsby
Kathy Schultz
Linda Stark
LaVila VanBoening
Murray Wilson

July 24 – Tour of Schnase 1906 District and Hastings Community Foundation Office, Dan Peters

About 18 Kiwanis members toured this new entrepreneurship facility at 620 W. 2nd Street. Dan has been the executive director of HCF since 2020 and is also on the board for the non-profit Schnase 1906 District.

The Hastings Community Foundation has existed over 35 years. It opened its new doors on June 2nd after previously being located in the Heritage Bank building.

These two entities share space in the Stein Building, which was built in 1906. Each organization has its own operational space, with shared office machine work space and lunch bar. There are several other gathering spaces throughout.

It was a \$2.5 million capital project, including purchase, renovation, and build out. The project finished on time, on budget, and fully funded.

They kept the original creaky wooden floors (now covered by carpet, but still creaky) and the staircase to the lower level. There are also many design elements throughout with a nod to the lion head sculptures that originally held up the awning outside. Some original

lavender window blocks were incorporated into the block windows facing 2nd Street.

There is a map of Hastings etched on the glass entryway doors. Hastings landmarks are etched on all other glass office doors.

The goal of the 1906 District is to help open new businesses in Hastings. It is available for anyone who wants to start or grow a business by supporting those entrepreneurs with beginning workspace at under market value.

Scott Snell, the entrepreneurship director at Central Community College, is the first office you come to. He provides guidance and services to help launch a business, and the 1906 District offers the workspace to facilitate that.

Though not open yet, the 1906 District portion will be available 24/7 by use of your phone to unlock the door. There are cameras throughout so they are always aware who is in the facility.

There are private offices, both micro size and standard, with short-term leases. The rate gradually

increases and they expect that you are in a position for your own location by 3 years.

The lower level offers flexible workspace with sit/stand desks. There is a podcasting studio equipped with high-quality audio and lighting equipment.

There are additional rooms where any business can host workshops, meetings, or trainings.

The HEDC and CRA are providing operational support for a limited time until revenue gets going. Funds for an endowment are being raised to cover ongoing building expenses in order that 100% of donations can be applied to the program.

[photos next issue]

July 31 – Update on Plastic Surgery in Hastings, Dr. Keli Kolegraff - *I am on vacation for this meeting*

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

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

5 Mike Howie

9 Russanne Hoff

16 Kathryn “Kat” Boltz

25 Casey Mohler

27 Dave Kempf

29 Mark Moul

29 Susan Price

30 Roger Wright

31 Tim Jacobi

