



**Kiwanis®**  
CLUB OF BOWLING GREEN

<http://www.kiwanisbg.org>

## **Bowling Green Kiwanis Club Newsletter**

### **FEBRUARY 2026**

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**Weekly Meeting: Thursdays - 11:30 am**  
**Slater Family Ice Arena Lounge, BGSU**

#### **Officers 2025-26**

**PRESIDENT \* Paul Herringshaw**

**PRESIDENT-ELECT \* Eric Myers**

**SECRETARY \* Cindy Hofner**

**TREASURER \* Andrew Kalmar**

**PAST PRESIDENT \* Chad Plontz**

**DIRECTORS 2024-2026**

**Bruce Corrigan, Liz Eilberg, Jeff Schooley**

**DIRECTORS 2025-2027**

**John Calderonello, Sharon Libby, Tina Ohmart Mendoza, Gale Swanka**

*NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Geoff Howes*

### **FEBRUARY 2026 PROGRAMS: INSPIRATIONAL EDUCATOR MONTH**

*Program Chair: Lee Meserve*

**February 5**

**TWENTY YEARS TEACHING SCHOOL**

***Steve Aungst***

*Math Teacher*

*Bowling Green Middle School*

**February 12**

**JUST LUCK: WHEN PERSISTENCE MEETS  
OPPORTUNITY**

***Rachel Shell***

*Intervention Specialist*

*Crim Elementary School*

**February 19**

**LET'S GO ON A TRIP:  
LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

***Kimberly Stevens***

*Language Arts Teacher*

*Bowling Green Middle School*

**February 26**

**BOWLING GREEN CITY SCHOOLS  
AN UPDATE**

***Ted Haselman***

*Superintendent*

*Bowling Green City Schools*



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## Speakers in January

Agriculture Month, organized by Paul Herringshaw



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

1. **Jordan Hertzfeld and Thomas Hertzfeld** tell the club about the complex operations of the Hertzfeld Poultry Egg Farm in Grand Rapids.
2. **Dusty Sonnenberg** of Ohio Ag Net discusses the future of farming in rapidly changing times.
3. **Landon** was a great host on our outing at Ag Pro, where we learned about all phases of operations.
4. **Dustin Brown**, CEO of Luckey Farmers, Inc., talks about how a large agricultural cooperative works.
5. President **Paul Herringshaw**, who organized the January series of agricultural talks, introduces a guest speaker.

## PROGRAMS for FEBRUARY 2026

### INSPIRATIONAL EDUCATOR MONTH

*Program Chair: Lee Meserve*

#### **FEBRUARY 5, 2025** **TWENTY YEARS TEACHING SCHOOL**

Speaker:

***Steve Aungst***

*Math Teacher*

*Bowling Green Middle School*

Greeters: Todd Waggoner, Sp. J. Miles  
Meals: Mike Sibbersen  
Raffle: Geoff Howes  
Inspirational Moment: Gerry Kallenbach  
Guest Recognition: Becca Ferguson  
Birthdays/Anniversaries: Colleen Smith  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Cindy Hofner  
Introduction of Speaker: Lee Meserve  
Speaker Recognition: Darlene Petkwitz

#### **FEBRUARY 12, 2025** **JUST LUCK: WHEN PERSISTENCE MEETS OPPORTUNITY**

Speaker:

***Rachel Shell***

*Intervention Specialist*

*Crim Elementary School*

Greeters: Liz Eilberg, Sp. C. Hofner  
Meals: Nadine Edwards  
Raffle: Scott Seeliger  
Inspirational Moment: Bob Callecod  
Guest Recognition: Geoff Howes  
Birthdays/Anniv.: Linda VanBlaricom  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Gary Saunders  
Introduction of Speaker: Alice Calderonello  
Speaker Recognition: Sharon Libby

#### **FEBRUARY 19, 2025** **LET'S GO ON A TRIP: LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

Speaker:

***Kimberly (Kim) Stevens***

*Language Arts Teacher*

*Bowling Green Middle School*

Greeters: Chris Smalley, Sp. A. Kalmar  
Meals: Eric Myers  
Raffle: Maria Simon  
Inspirational Moment: Jeff Schooley  
Guest Recognition: Steve Libby  
Birthdays/Anniversaries: Bob Callecod  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Inge Klopping  
Introduction of Speaker: Eric Myers  
Speaker Recognition: Gerry Kallenbach

#### **FEBRUARY 26, 2025** **BOWLING GREEN CITY SCHOOLS AN UPDATE**

Speaker:

***Ted Haselman***

*Superintendent*

*Bowling Green City Schools*

Greeters: Ted Haselman, Sp. E. Myers  
Meals: Inge Klopping  
Raffle: Dana Nemeth  
Inspirational Moment: Mike Shertzer  
Guest Recognition: Eric Myers  
Birthdays/Anniversaries: Joan Callecod  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Sharon Libby  
Introduction of Speaker: Lee Meserve  
Speaker Recognition: Becca Ferguson

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY



#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5

*Saturday, February 7*  
**Alex DelPiombo**

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12

*Saturday, February 14*  
**John Fawcett**

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19

*Thursday, February 19*  
**Christine Mayle**  
*Wednesday, February 25*  
**Sandy Campbell**

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26

*Friday, February 27*  
**Ashley Vetter**  
*Sunday, March 1*  
**Melanie VanDyne**  
*Wednesday, March 4*  
**John Calderonello**

### ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY



#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5

*Saturday, February 7*  
**Brooke and Travis Harrison**

*Tuesday, February 10*  
**Bob and Joan Callecod**

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12

*No anniversaries*

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19

*Sunday, February 22*  
**Matt and Leslie Oestreich**

#### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26

*No anniversaries*



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***Happy Valentine's Day!***

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## Kiwanis News



President **Paul Herringshaw** presents **Pete Rappold** with his certificate for **Kiwanian of the Month** for December.

*Pete's close connections with the man up north helped raise money for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.*



**Drew Hanna** pays tribute to the memory of our late member **Steve Riewaldt**, who passed away in October 2025.

*Here, Steve's wife **Marilyn** listens with our guest speakers to Drew's heartfelt words.*



Club Secretary **Cindy Hofner** honors **Becca Ferguson** and **Dick Edwards** for their success in recruiting new members.

*Becca recruited **10** new Kiwanians, and Dick recruited **5**.*

*Let them be an inspiration!*



## Kiwanis in the Community

*Cocoon Executive Director (and Kiwanian) **Kathy Mull** accepts the 2026 Drum Major for Peace Award from Bowling Green Mayor **Mike Aspacher**.*

*The award was presented during the City of Bowling Green Human Relations Commission's 37<sup>th</sup> annual tribute to Martin Luther King, held on January 16 at the Wood County District Public Library.*

*(Photo: BG Independent News)*



*Kiwanis President **Paul Herringshaw** was guest coach of Bowling Green State University Women's Basketball team on January 21. Here he poses with Head Coach (and previous Kiwanis guest speaker) **Fred Chmiel**. Paul reports that it was a great experience even if the outcome wasn't what he hoped for.*

*As Wood County continues to be in the "high" category for respiratory illness, Kiwanian **Clint Corpe** of the **WBGU Morning Show** asked Wood County Health Department Deputy Health Commissioner (and Kiwanian) **Rachel Aeschliman** (r.) and **Katlin Medjesky** (l.), Health Department Community Outreach Coordinator, to talk about current illness trends and vaccinations.*

*(January 15)*

*(Photo: Clint Corpe)*



## Kiwanis in the Community *(continued)*



*The Wood County District Public Library Board of Trustees met on December 8 to discuss recent legislative developments in Columbus that could affect the library, as well as the petition to place a constitutional amendment on the ballot that would abolish property taxes. Kiwanian **Mike Sibbersen** was elected to continue as board secretary. Library Director and Kiwanian **Michael Penrod** gave his final report of the year and summarized achievements during the WCDPL's 150<sup>th</sup> year. The board heard the wonderful news that Youth Services Coordinator and Kiwanian **Maria Simon** will be one of 15 librarians across the country who will choose the 2026 winner of the Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished children's picture book of the year.*

*(Photo: BG Independent News)*

## Conneaut K-Kids

*Conneaut K-Kids worked on a project in January called "DIY Dog Toys." Advisor **Samantha Lowy** had the students make dog toys for both the Wood County Dog Shelter and Wood County Humane Society. They made 76 tug toys for the dogs. Thanks to Kiwanis Sponsor **Inge Klopping**!*



## Bowling Green Kiwanis 100 Years Ago

The Daily Sentinel Tribune, Thursday, February 18, 1926, page 1:  
"TELLS KIWANIS OF BLACKFEET"

FEBRUARY 18, 1926

### TELLS KIWANIS OF BLACKFEET

Frank E. Thompson, of Columbus, was the speaker at the Kiwanis luncheon this noon and gave a most interesting tale of the Blackfoot Indian reservation in Montana.

He told how Uncle Sam had gone in, parceled out the land and aided them in raising crops for their own consumption and distribution and told many stories about the Indians.

A quartet, composed of Bob Ray, Hunter, Heiby and Richards sang many songs, which were well received by the club.

The Ohio State Journal, of Columbus, has the following to say about Mr. Thompson, the lecturer at the Kiwanis luncheon today noon:

Frank E. Thompson is Chief Ascestro of the Blackfeet tribe. Thompson has made it his hobby to study conditions of the American Indian and lecture on "The Indian of Today," before church organizations and clubs in Ohio cities. His Indian title Ascestro, which he received August 12, 1925 means lecture.

During the summers of 1924 and 1925 he spent his vacation at Glacier National Park, where many of the Blackfeet Indians had come to entertain tourists. During these vacations he became friendly with those bronze-faced Americans and made a study of their needs under guidance of their superintendent, C. F. Campbell, Browning, Mont.

One evening the Indians invited 400 guests of the hotel near the main entrance of the park to come out-of-doors and witness the initiation of Thompson as a chief. He was accepted "because of his sincere friendship for the Indians." The tribal initiation ceremony lasted 90 minutes.

Chief Bull Calf, judge for the tribe and member of the National Indian Council, also the Indian who is said to be pictured on one side of the Buffalo nickel, presented Thompson with a pipe of peace. Curly Bear passed a sacred blessing.

Among the Indians who attended the ceremony were Chiefs Big Plume, Walk To, Little Chief and Lazy Boy.

The Indians, represented by Chiefs Split Ears, Big Mountain, Many Tail Feathers, Bad Marriage, Round Face, Bull Calf and White Dog announced to Thompson that they have peacefully accepted the advance of Western civilization; that they are anxious to learn modern farming methods, have their children receive good educations and will accept Christianity.