



Kiwanis®
Monument Hill Club

K-News

February 17, 2024

Monument Hill Club - Service Since 1974

Today's Program

Partners in Housing

Catherine McKinley



Scott Ross called our meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Zoomers:

Bob Evans, Larry Young, Pete Peterson, Rich Rima, Tony Trifiletti, Barrie Town, Donald Johnson, Jim Head, Jo Carroll, Mike Luginbuhl, and Benny Nasser.

Scott Ross is looking for a temporary Sergeant at Arms since Mahlon Lang will be gone for the next couple of weeks.

Upcoming Programs

February 24: Wildfire Preparedness - Lisa Hatfield, To Starve an Ember, available to sign her book

March 2: Ann Stelling, RMD Governor, Kiwanis International Convention

March 9: Kiwanis Kids, Bert West

Member Concerns

Barb Brandon led member concerns.

Warren Gerig let us know that February 16th is Warren Moore's 96th birthday! On the following Tuesday, February 22, there will be a birthday surprise breakfast at Omelets Etc. on Interquest Parkway. If you are interested, join the group at 7:45 that morning to help celebrate Warren's birthday. There was a show of hands for those interested in attending so the restaurant will be able to set aside space.

Barb led us in prayer. Each in our own faith and tradition. For friends in fellowship we give thanks. With open hearts and minds, we embrace the privilege of serving others. Each brought here with their individual gifts and talents, and there are many, while working together to better our community, fortunate we are. Let us work together to carry the lantern and light the way in our communities and in our families. Amen.

Barb also led the Pledge of Allegiance

Visiting Kiwanians

No Visiting Kiwanians today.

Guests



Larry Vliet's son Garrett joined us. He's back for this weekend, from Boulder. We got to know him when he and his a capella group, the CU Buffoons, joined us, performing for our Christmas party. Welcome back, Garrett!

Announcements

Quick Reminders

Prairie Winds K Kids Coat Drive at Prairie Winds Elementary School. Contact Sue Reinecke for info.

Wednesday, February 21: **STEAM** evening at Bear Creek Elementary supported by 40 Key Club kids helping teachers - RF Smith.

Saturday, February 24: **Chess Tournament** at Bear Creek Elementary - RF Smith.

Retrieving Our Bell

Scott Ross and a few recruits visited the Ute Pass/Woodland Park Kiwanis Club to retrieve our bell taken by said Club. The group left at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday morning, heading up the hill, and were able to recapture our bell and bring it back to its rightful home.

Soap Box Derby

Greg Bielanski still needs one volunteer to help with the Soapbox Derby to help with the car build effort. Car building for the Derby will take a couple of hours per week beginning in April. The first weekend in June are the trials, and the second weekend will be the big race. Contact Greg if you'd like to volunteer for this event - 719-761-1875.





Farewell to Harry and Barb Brandon

Harry and Barb will be leaving us; next week will be their last week. They will be moving to Boerne, Texas in the San Antonio area. They found a single-level home that was exactly what they were looking for, and it was time for a new adventure. Harry said he would miss all of us except for one, and he would know who he was. Barb said she would miss the people the most.

Scott presented them with Monument Hill Kiwanis President's Award. The Brandons have been involved in so many club activities. Harry was the Past President and Lieutenant Governor of our division. And Barb has been involved as our Member's Concerns leader for the past six or seven years. We hate to see them go. They will be greatly missed.



Stars of Tomorrow

Rich Strom updated us on Stars of Tomorrow. As of Saturday morning and the last day for entries, we had 58 contestants for the Stars of Tomorrow show! This will probably put a strain on the audition schedule, but it's a good problem to have. Rich Strom is looking for volunteers to help with the auditions. Auditions will be held in Big Red, beginning at 9:30-5 on Saturday, Feb 24th, and Sunday, Feb 25th. The show will be held Sunday, March 17, with a dress rehearsal Saturday, March 16. Rich is also asking for Club volunteers to contact businesses to be sponsors for the show. Contact Rich to help - 719-963-4464.





The Monument Hill Kiwanis Club
presents
The 2nd Annual



**Stars of Tomorrow
Talent Show**

Come Celebrate our D38 Performing Arts Students



Sunday March 17, 2024
Palmer Ridge High School
2:00 - 5:00 pm

Tickets only \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for students
Hosted by famed Colorado Springs radio celebrity Captain Dan
For tickets, go to: mhkc.booktix.com or scan this QR





The upcoming DECA State Competition will be held at the Broadmoor on February 26th (7:00am-5:00pm) and 27th (7:00am-1:00pm). Judges are needed.

Ed guarantees that if you do this, you'll be impressed with the young people of today. Winners of this competition get to go to Anaheim,

CA, to participate in the National DECA competition.

Volunteers interested in being judges (no experience necessary) can sign up using the QR code, or by contacting [Ed Hettler](#), 719-641-3349.



50th Anniversary

Our Club's 50th anniversary is coming up in a couple of months, and Scott Ross is looking for pictures of members from 50 years ago. He will assemble pictures into a collage for a video/slide presentation to help us celebrate. His example is below! In today's meeting, we were asked to guess with MHKC members were in the pictures show.

Super Bowl Boards

Paul Gorley made the final Super Bowl Boards report in poetic form.

Well now it's all over, the season is done,
And Kansas City is again the team that won!
And our Super Boards again performed very well,
Thanks to all of you, and Mr. Lopez and Mr. Spidell!

A rare overtime occurred and we actually needed that 5th board,
In fact, the game was so good, no one could possibly get bored.
Our winners this year were Rima, Hall, Wittman, Smith, and Spidell,
But the students who get scholarships are the real winners, I must tell.



The boards and even the poetry for me were lots of fun,
But I couldn't have done it without you all, each and every one!
I hereby retire from this Kiwanis project for yet another year,
And thus, this ridiculous poetry you will no longer have to hear!

Thanks again!!

Below are three of the \$250 winners: John Spidell, RF Smith, and
Dave Wittman. Winners not present are Steve Hall and Rich Rima.



Scribes

Pete Peterson is looking for a few more scribes. All you have to do is summarize the program so that those members who don't attend get a good sense of what the program was about. Reach Pete at 714-271-5947.



Tutoring Youngsters and other SLP Initiatives

Mike Luginbuhl told us that the Children's Literacy Center has more clients than expected and added a second session from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. or 5:30 - 6:30 on Mondays and Wednesdays. They are seven tutors short. Palmer Lake Elementary School is looking for help with two kindergarten classes, reading in the morning and math in the afternoon. Palmer Lake is now seeking math tutors. See Mike if you would like to like to volunteer - mike.luginbuhl@comcast.net or 719-313-8532. If you are interested in participating in a Key Club event at the high school level, here is a link to their events for the next few months: [PALMER RIDGE/LEWIS PALMER KEY CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS](#).

Mike also spoke about a project the Circle K Club is involved in called Brick by Brick, which is being coordinated through UNICEF. It's a fundraiser where plastic waste will be taken to make bricks which will then be used to build schools in Africa. The fundraiser is raising money, \$1 a vote. School of Mines currently leads the money raised, but the UCCS chapter is only \$10 behind. Mike passed his hat to raise money for this project.

Mike also mentioned that Monumentaries — documentaries by our local high school students, will be upcoming soon. They are 15 minute films, usually around some tough subject matter, like suicide. Very well done. Mike will be giving out details on when the Monumentaries will be scheduled in upcoming meetings.

Mike also thanked Jared Vliet for attending today's meeting, on his short break from studies at the University of Colorado. Mike said Jared was one of the best Key Clubbers he's ever had.

Help to Rotary

Scott Ross offered a chance to help support our Rotary partners through a program they are sponsoring: Give Without Spending by sharing your opinions on popular brands and companies. Feedback isn't a survey. It's a quick hitting emoji-based review that takes only 60 seconds of your time. Each opinion you share creates up to \$1.60 towards your cause! Here is a link to the survey website: <https://hundredx.com/givewithoutspending>

Submit surveys on as many local businesses/brands, etc. as you wish, complete the survey indicating that North Colorado Springs Rotary is the beneficiary, and that's it. The Tri-Lakes Rotary splits the proceeds 50-50 with the Springs club. Per the site's FAQ - <https://programs.hundredx.com/faq> your personal data is NOT shared with external parties and you should not receive solicitations following your participation in the survey.

News & Notes

Happy Birthday

Courtesy of Pete Peterson

No birthdays noted this week

Humor

No humor this week.

Happy Bucks



Harry Brandon had two happy bucks, both related to his new home in Boerne, Texas. His wife Barbara tried out St. Peter the Apostle Church in Boerne and spoke with one of the ladies at the church as she was leaving the service. The lady told her she had



Rich Strom had a \$50 gift card, donated from Jarrito Loco to raise funds for Stars of Tomorrow, given in lieu of a cash contribution. There was an auction and bidding was stopped at \$45 that RF Smith bid.

grandchildren who were students at Palmer Ridge. The other happy buck is for the fact that the temperatures will be in the 70s and 80s this week in their future home town.



Scott Ross contributed a happy buck in honor of Caitlyn Clark, from his home state University of Iowa Hawkeyes women's basketball team. She broke the all time women's scoring record Thursday night with 49 points. Everyone in Iowa is proud of Caitlyn's accomplishments.



Larry Stevens had a happy buck is for good health. Larry and his wife Patrice just got back from Cartagena, where she caught pneumonia on the way back. She's out of the hospital now and is on the road to recovery.



Two happy bucks from Larry Vliet, one for him and one for his wife for having their son Jared back home for the weekend from Boulder. (Jared was part of the fine CU Buffoons a cappella group that performed for our Christmas party).



Weekly 50-50 Drawing

Rob Knoth had a chance of winning \$94, but a red chip showed up in his hand - 5 chips remaining. Maybe next week.

Program

Partners in Housing

Catherine McKinley

Scribe:



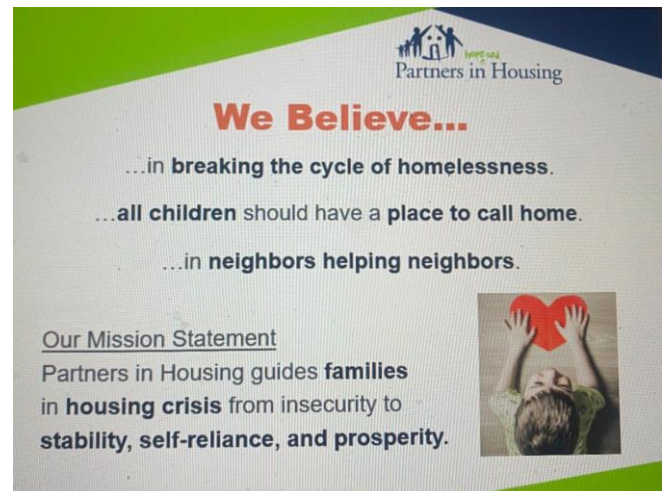
Our program today was Partners In Housing, Moving Families Forward. Catherine McKinley, who is their Community Engagement Manager, made the presentation remotely due to the snowy weather.

Partners in Housing is working to serve the Colorado Springs community to meet a critical need working to break the cycle of homelessness and provide children a place to call home in a neighbor where they can count on neighbors to help, and where they can help neighbors.

The program looks specifically to help families at imminent risk of being homeless. Families don't have to be homeless to begin to receive help. But there is a waitlist to provide transitional housing for eligible families.

Who does Partners in Housing serve? Primarily single Moms with children. In the past 32 years, 3,400 families have been helped, including 7,200 children. Last year 139 families and 301 children were helped.

The goal is to provide stability, self-reliance and, eventually prosperity. Currently offering one year of transitional housing and supportive services. There are 68 units of housing ranging from motel-style apartments to single family homes, scattered locations and trying to match family size. Partners in Housing can only serve about 10% of the applications they receive.



To build self-sufficiency, counseling is offered budgets and credits, and career readiness, as well as life skills. Collaborative organizations build a coalition to help Partners in Housing.

The process of acquiring transitional housing properties was discussed. Some are bought outright, some through foreclosures, some by other non-profits. Much of it is done being in the right place at the right time.

The program is funded through private grants, earned income, contributions, in-kind donations and various other sources.

The most expensive budget item is supporting the self-sufficiency program. Transitional housing and affordable housing are next on the list. General administration is 5% of the operating budget.

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities. Landscaping, painting, delivering furniture, maintenance and repair on the houses, life skills facilitation.

Partners in Housing can be followed on FaceBook and Instagram.

Here is a link to video of the program: <https://youtu.be/dw1oZ5l1Vko>.

Volunteer Opportunities

1. **The Dream Team-** Landscaping/Painting Projects
2. **The People Person-** Donation Acceptance
3. **Nice & Neat-** Donation Tidying, Occasional Shopper Support
4. **Delivering Hope-** Light-Medium Furniture Pickup/Delivery
5. **Money Mentor-** Budget Counseling
6. **The Job Coach-** Employment Readiness
7. **The Fun One-** Child Enrichment Center Volunteer
8. **Maintenance Magician-** Housing Maintenance/Repair
9. **The Facilitator-** Life Skills Facilitation
10. **The Task Type-** Donation Administration
11. **The Thoughtful Thanker-** Donation Calls





Other Ways to Give

- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
- Sign up with King Soopers Community Rewards or Walmart's Spark Good Round Up
- Donate to a [Cause Bucket](#)
- Coordinate a drive or a fundraiser
- Host a Q&A presentation

Save On Your Taxes*

- Homeless Contribution Tax Credit – 25% state income tax credit; minimum \$250
- Childcare Contribution Tax Credit – 50% state income tax credit; minimum \$500

*Always consult with your tax preparer.



Bully Pulpit 02/17/2024

Send Your 1970s Photos

I am putting together a 50th birthday members video slideshow. Several of you have already sent me your photos from the mid 1970s, including this young fellow.

Please send me one or several pictures of you and I will pull images together along with a recent image of you into a slide.

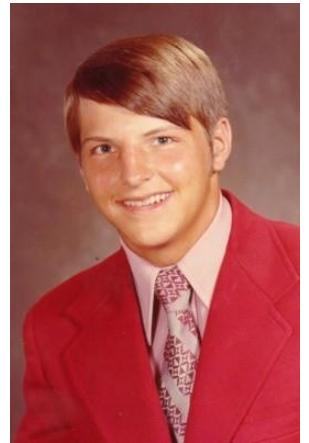


Old Guys! New Faces!

Some of us celebrated Warren Moore's 96th birthday today (Tuesday). Major General Moore resigned from Kiwanis in 2021 after years of Sertoma/Kiwanis service and decades of leadership for our country and is still a friend to many.

We benefit by having so many veterans bring what they learned to make us a better Club.

We also are adding new members monthly which strengthens us for service. The fellow in the red jacket has only been a member for a couple of years and is making a big difference in leading us in service.



The Privilege to Serve

Early May will see our Club's annual meeting when we elect Board members and vote to affirm the nomination for President-Elect. Now is the time for you to give thought to stepping up and volunteering for one of our Club leadership roles.

I was asked to go through the chairs up in Greeley and know the mixed feeling that most of you would have – of being honored to be asked and of having thought about doing it at "some point in the future" – but being just too busy right now, and it just being not the right time.

I knew that I would learn a lot by going through the experience, and that I would hopefully become a better Kiwanian/employee/person by having taken on the challenge and of contributing to my Club and community. It is an honor to be considered worthy of the responsibility of leadership. It is also an unusual opportunity to influence and contribute to our community.

Now that I am well into my year as Monument Hill's Club President, I can assure you that I am a better leader, that I more effectively organize myself and others, and that the time I have invested in Kiwanis has been returned to me in the satisfaction of accomplishing worthwhile goals.

You don't have to wait to be asked to volunteer to help lead, I volunteered this time around and am glad I did.

Scott
719 661-9078

See you on Saturday @ BIG RED!!!

Yours in fellowship,
Scott Ross
President

The video for this week's program can be viewed at
[THIS THIS LINK](#)

Quick Links

[Monument Hill Kiwanis Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Monument Hill Foundation Website](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

Special Thanks

Senior Meals Drivers & Scheduler - Jim Murphy

Deliveries: Tues, Wed, Thurs; Senior Center; Grace Best Education Center

Photographers: Warren Gerig, Bonnie Nasser

Media Support: Scott Ross, Mark Zeiger, Jo Carroll, Frank DeLalla

**We need YOU to help with the K-News weekly.
It's FUN and a great way to support the club's communications efforts. Contact one of
us to learn more!**

[Rich Hicks](#) * [RF Smith](#) * [Mark Anderson](#)

K-News Crew

(click on a name to email us directly)

Virtual Meeting Reminder

Members receive a link to each week's meeting via email.
In-person attendance is encouraged. Zoom is available.

Monument Hill Kiwanis Supporters

Partners in Service



Sponsors



THANK YOU!