



# Changing Times

Changing the World Through Service, Friendship & Fun



## Kiwanis®

SOUTHEAST METRO DENVER

Meetings at Landmark Place, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 6:30pm

May 28, 2024

### 2023-2024 Kiwanis Club of Southeast Metro Denver

Gail Coombs	President
Melissa Schupp	Immediate Past President
Glen Wagner	Treasurer
Lizzie Coombs	Secretary
Dave Rich	Director
Rosy Olivares	Director
Jim Terpstra	Director
Mary Forhan	Newsletter
Mary Forhan	Club History

#### Committee Heads

- Pints & Pinots – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wind Fundraiser  
Gail & Lizzie Coombs -May1, 2024
- Colorado Feeding Kids  
Dave Rich, Gail Coombs
- Sweet Dream in a Bag  
Shavon Forte
- Kiwanis One Day – Gail Coombs
- Mix and Mingle – Rosy Olivares
- Website  
Melissa Schupp
- Parker Days – Mel & Keith Schupp,
- Ronald McDonald House – Jim Terpstra,  
Melissa Schupp
- Clothes to Kids – Rosy Olivares

#### Websites

KiwanisInternational <http://Kiwanis.org>

Kiwanis Rocky Mountain District  
<https://www.rmdkiwanis.com/>

Kiwanis DTC and SEMD  
[Kiwanissemd.org](http://Kiwanissemd.org)

[kiwanissemd.org](http://kiwanissemd.org)

**NEXT MEETING DATE WILL BE TUESDAY, June 25, 2024, 6:30 PM**  
**5455 Landmark Place, Community Room (Contact Jim Terpstra)**  
**Note Change of Time to 6:30 instead of 6:00**

Together we can change the world, one child and one community at a time.



#### Message from our President:

We had great meeting on May 28, with a delicious dinner provided by Mary Forhan. Club members discussed our very successful "Pints & Pinots" Fundraiser to Prevent Youth Suicide. It appears that everyone had a fun evening at the AMG Dome on May 1, many thanks to Joe Willingbring who certainly helped the event run smoothly. The SEMD Board of Directors will be meeting this month to discuss our donation to the Second Wind Fund.

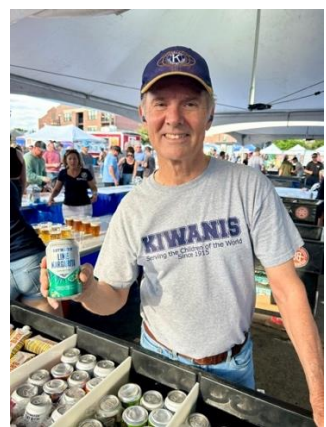
~gail



*Message from Melissa Schupp, organizer for Parker Days  
THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!*

Parker Days Festival was a great success raising money for our Kiwanis Club. We had 19 members serving beverages at 3 different shifts. I don't have the exact amount yet. I would estimate we earned \$920 + tips. Mary and Jack took some great pictures when they weren't pouring beer or opening up cans. Hope you all had a fun time serving drinks and meeting people in the Parker community. This is a great opportunity to get the Kiwanis name out in the community. We'll be doing this again for 2025!





# Pints & Pinots



Great Leadership and Organization

## *Message from our President:*

Hello Valiant SEMDers!

Thank you for such a wonderful Pints & Pinots event last night. Our club couldn't have put on such a fantastic fundraiser without all your help, whether it was through pushing ticket sales, finding donors or helping before, during and after the event.

The new floor plan worked extremely well; the games were heavily used and the VIP room could enjoy the great piano player!



The Volunteers who made it all happen! Thank you! Apologies to those who left before the photo.



Paul Reich, Executive Director Second Wind Fund



Gail & Lizzie with Second Wind Founder, Marjorie Laird



Melissa, Rosy, Joe (Kitchen coordinator & chef), Robin(Photographer) Melissa's brother & sister from Minnesota



Coombs Family Team



Jack and Mary Forhan Team



Jamison Family Team



Hard at work in the kitchen – food prep



The Piano Mon – Pete Vrazsity



Austin Good – Young Professionals (he brought more volunteers with him)



High bidder for Mary's painting (Annette Cates – Michael's Mom)





Clowning Around

**If you have a King Scoopers Card - select Kiwanis Southeast Metro Denver Club Community Rewards recipient**

How to do this:

Go to the Kings Scoopers app on your phone.  
Click on the three red lines on the upper right corner.

Select Rewards.

Select Community Rewards.

Search for Kiwanis Southeast Metro Denver Club

Save it.

**\$80 accrued in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2023 -More people involved means more earnings for the club!**

**Miss Colorado Opportunity**

My name is Sara Carlson, and I'm the executive Director for the Miss Colorado Opportunity. We are the state organization that advances to Miss America. Our program focuses on leadership development and community service while giving girls the chance to compete for scholarships. This year our Miss Colorado won Miss America! Our state competition will be this July 12-14th at Denver Christian School in Lakewood. We are looking for some volunteers and didn't know if anyone from your organization would be interested and available. Some volunteers would just be for a couple of hours, others could be for the whole weekend. Either way it's a great way to encourage and mentor the young women of Colorado, and support educational scholarships, all while being around excitement of the iconic Miss America.

If you have anyone who is interested I would love to have a conversation with them. My email is [executivedirector@misscolorado.org](mailto:executivedirector@misscolorado.org) and my phone number is: 303-519-6626



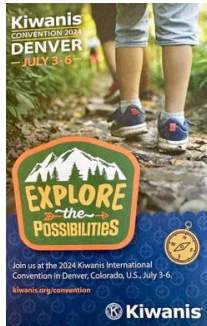
# Sweet Dream 2024

Sweet Dream is so excited to start the New Year with a new facility for Packing, Gifting and Storage! Sweet Dream recently moved into the new East Community Center, formally Littleton Public Schools East Elementary School. The school was closed at the end of 2023 school year and has reopened as a Community Center funded with foundation dollars for residents in the Littleton Community. Sweet Dream has use of a large classroom for bedding storage, a gym for packing and the library area for gifting! What a wonderful opportunity for Sweet Dream to reach other children, living in poverty, with new bedding packages, while networking with other charities at the East Community Center.

The address is:  
LPS East Community Center  
5933 S. Fairfield Street  
Littleton, CO 80120

Enter at the main office door on the south side of building. We will meet in the library and then moved into the gym for packing. – Mid-morning snack bars and water will be provided.

# 2024 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION •



## JULY 3-6 • DENVER

Embark on an extraordinary journey at the 2024 Kiwanis International Convention in Denver, Colorado, U.S. Discover the pathways to expanding your club's membership and magnifying its influence on your community. Delve into innovative fundraising concepts. Learn how to transform service projects in ways you never thought possible.

Receive hands-on guidance in becoming a skilled Kiwanis leader.

And the best part? The chance to connect with fellow Kiwanians and swap fresh ideas. You'll leave inspired to make a difference.

So, grab your gear and join us for the most exciting and educational Kiwanis event of the year. You don't want to miss out on this adventure of a lifetime! See you in Denver!

## Hello from Governor Dawn!



***Wow, the 2022-2023 Kiwanis year is half over!!***

Your RMD Leadership team, administrators and chairs have been working hard for you and our district. I have such gratitude for their time and talent spent to keep our district strong while serving children and families all over the district and worldwide!

### **Here are some highlights of what has been happening:**

- \* Spring Rally was April 1st! 150 registered members had some fun, fellowship and training!
- \* Division realignment to be effective Oct 1, 2023. Reducing our district divisions from 15 total to 9 total.
- \* Annual review of Policy and Procedures

\* Review of financials and changes made to strengthen our investments.

\* Our members heard the call and accepted challenging key positions as District Treasurer, Key Club Administrator, Assist Key Club Administrator, K-kids/builders club administrator and Youth Protection Manager. It is so important to keep our leadership pipeline healthy!

\*Creation of a quarterly SLP Administrators meeting along Governor and Governor elect to enhance communications and coordination of these programs.....they are our future.

\*Membership has seen slow growth, data from KI indicates we have growth of 77 but have lost 22. Please keep reaching out! We need new members to keep us strong, vibrant and serving kids!

\*We are in the process of opening two new clubs, one in Bailey, Colorado and one in Thornton, Colorado. Our Lt. Governors identified a need in those communities so we will move forward.

\*District Convention is being planned right now! Convention will be held at Great Wolf Lodge in Colorado Springs on August 4-6. This site was chosen because of their amenities, great food and family friendly environment! Your children and grandchildren will have a blast. We were able to get an awesome room rate so save your room now as it is already filling up.

**This year, Circle K International's UNICEF Partnership is with an organization called Brick x Brick.**

## CKI Fundraiser



Brick x Brick is a new sustainable organization that provides support for women and children in Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa (the Ivory Coast of West Africa). CKI helps raise money for this innovative project that transforms plastic waste into bricks to build classrooms for children and trains women to be teachers in the schools.

The Rocky Mountain District of Circle K International is contributing to this cause by hosting a District-wide Brick's Got Talent Competition.

Clubs and members from all over our District decorated bricks and have been entered into our Donate-to-vote-Fundraiser! A vote is \$1, and there is no cap on the number of votes.

- For just \$10, you're helping provide backpacks filled with essential school supplies for 3 students.
- A mere \$24 can contribute to crafting five plastic bricks from recycled materials.
- \$110 goes towards building a bathroom stall at a school — a game-changer for maintaining a healthy school environment, especially for girls.

All the raised funds from voting will be donated directly to Brick x Brick. The brick that raises the most money will be recognized at our CKI DCON at the end of February. CKI wanted to share Brick x Brick and our fundraiser with Kiwanians to bring awareness for Brick x Brick's mission, raise more money for the cause, and show everyone our amazing decorated bricks!



# Passing the Gavel...



Hello Kiwanis family!! Yep, grab a coffee....its a long one, but hey, its the last one!

Time for me to say so long and pass the gavel to Governor Ann.

I am going to take just a few minutes to tell you what YOUR district leadership team and our members together have been able to achieve during the 2022-2023 year.

First a heartfelt thanks to the entire board of directors and chairs!

There is a lot of work that goes on each day in this district! It takes a team!

Your Lt. Governors have worked hard to serve the members of their division. I am humbled by their devotion, commitment, service, passion and follow through. Each month they identified a rock star whom we could acknowledge and thank for their efforts! Rock stars are our future!

Thank you to our District chairs (membership, policy, youth protection, Key Leader, leadership educator, KCgraduate, Service leadership administrators, Aktion club administrator, risk manager.

I have relied heavily on those whose experience has helped guide me. I am so very grateful to you; Past Governor Robin, Executive Director Josephine Young, Governor-elect Ann Stelling, Policy Chair George Kinzer, and Treasurer Jim Ignatius.

So...here we go down the 2022-2023 memory lane!

We have welcomed 178 new members (you asked a lot of people!!) but we said good-bye to 150...and two clubs closed in the Denver area.

We have 2 opened two new clubs (Platte Valley and Anthem Ranch) with a third on the way in Thornton.

We developed a strong Leadership pipeline;  
We added a new Key Club Administrator, Shane Miller  
A new Assistant Key Club Administrator, Cheryl Sheets  
Administrator for K-Kids and Builders Club Michelle Hoffner  
A new Youth Protection manager, Heidi Lynch  
Treasurer Jim Ignatius  
Governor Elect -Kathryn Williams  
and our first ever....a Webmaster!! Leslie Gray

We accomplished a much needed DIVISION ALIGNMENT. Moving from 16 divisions to 9, this change is a reflection of our membership numbers and available leaders.

Thank you to the hard working team for the many hours committed to this project.

We will evaluate this change, its pros and cons during 2024.

We have seen an increase in satellites and Friends of Kiwanis.

We submitted several signature project entries to the KI contest and celebrated a win! Congratulations Glenwood Springs!

Our Kiwanis family grew:

Two new K-kids clubs

Four new builders club

Two new Aktion clubs

One reinstated CKI and one new club will open at Colorado College.

One Key Leader event

For the first time we reached out for corporate sponsorships allowing the business community to partner in providing a fun and educational District convention that was family focused and so many kids on our main stage! We achieved our goal of staying in the black by receiving cash and in-kind donations.

This year as your governor I have been able to visit every division and it renewed my love and passion for Kiwanis; the service projects, the commitment to the community, the friendships with fellow Kiwanians and especially the love for all children and the desire to do the right thing.....always!

I know you have provided hours and hours in fundraising and service. We don't do well at tracking these achievements, but we could on the secretary dashboard.

Thank you for trusting me to do the right thing. I have been blessed by strong support, honest critics, great ideas, laughter, sleepless nights and the relentless desire to do more!

**Here is what I have learned this past year:  
Impossible is just an opinion!**

A very special thank you to Jim Ignatius, my rock!

And now, an end of year summary from our District Foundation president (2023-2024) Chris Scurto.

In 2023, the RMD Kiwanis Foundation supported many projects. I would like to highlight two of the projects to show the type of good work Kiwanians, the District and Foundation are teaming up to do around the Rocky Mountain region:

1. Your district foundation provided a grant to the Glenwood Springs Kiwanis Club to assist with upgrading the primary services building of the YouthZone. This upgrade improved the energy efficiency, saving utility costs, reducing climate impact, and improving safe, supportive services to local youth.
2. Your district foundation supported Broomfield North Metro Kiwanis club's launching of **a new signature project**, the Kiwanis Mobile Resource Trailer. This trailer will be stocked with much needed supplies like backpacks and school supplies in the fall, and cold weather items during the Winter. The trailer will distribute items at local community events and be taken directly to communities of need. The club intends to expand the use of the trailer as needs arise in the community and will allow them to partner with many different organizations.
3. Your district's Foundation provided financial support to Key Leader, Key Club and Circle K. In the 23/24 year the Foundation will embark on an aggressive outreach program, with the goal of meeting with every Kiwanis Club in the Rocky Mountains to discuss our mission and how we can better support Kiwanians around our amazing district.



*#Kids Need Kiwanis*

