



Kiwanis[®]
Monument Hill Club

K-News

March 8, 2025

Monument Hill Club - Service Since 1974

Today's Program



Monument Fire Department and Fire Mitigation

Jonathan Bradley and Dr. Gayle Humm



Jim Head began the meeting at 8:00 a.m. Zoomers participating were Marlene Bizub, Barrie Town, Ron Mangiarelli, Bob Harrigan, Rich Strom, Rich Rima, Sue Reinecke, Cay Price, and Steve Hall. Dave Bailey was Sergeant at Arms. Jeff Baker was this week's Scribe. Harry Brandon led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Member Concerns

Rich Hicks spoke with Bob Evans last week. Bob has severe emphysema and is now in hospice. He is at home, being taken care of by his wife, Debbie. Please keep Bob in your thoughts and prayers.

Rich led a morning prayer: Heavenly Father, We thank You for the gifts and talents of each youngster performing in our Stars of Tomorrow talent show. May they use their abilities not only to succeed but also to inspire and uplift others. May this event bring our community together in support and admiration of these young students. In Your name, we pray. Amen.



Member Recognition

Ted Bauman several members for their longevity in the club. Don Johnson was recognized with the Legion of Honor pin for 25 years of membership. Gov Vaughn was also recognized for 25 years of membership but was not in attendance today. His pin will be presented when soon. Ted also recognized Charlie Brown and Jack Frye for 30 years of membership. Scott Ross was recognized for 40 years of membership (having started in 1985 with the Greeley Kiwanis Club when he was 26 years old. Congratulations to Don, Gov, Charlie, Jack and Scott.



Visiting Kiwanians and Guests

Visiting Kiwanians today were Barb and Harry Brandon, joining us from Texas. RF Smith introduced Jonathan Bradley of the Tri-Lakes Fire Department, and Gayle Humm, who were here for today's program on Wild Fire Prevention. Welcome back Barb and Harry, and Jonathan and Gayle!

Upcoming Programs

- March 15th - 100th Birthday Celebration for Jim Clemans at Jackson Creek Assisted Living
- March 22rd - Member Biographies

Announcements



Membership Minute

Jim Wolf updated the membership minutes.

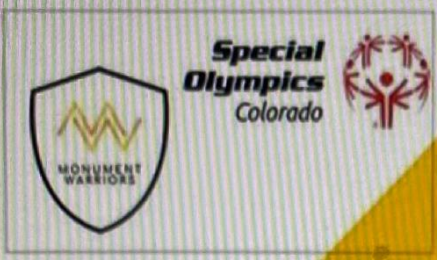
- March 11th - Happy Hour at Pike's Peak Brewery, 4 pm
- March 13th - Konnectors at Pike's Peak Brewery Barr Room 5:30 pm
- March 14th - Pi Day
- March 15th - Jim Clemans 100th Birthday Celebration at Jackson Creek Assisted Living
- March 16th - Stars of Tomorrow, Palmer Ridge HS Auditorium, 2 pm
- March 17th - St Patrick's Day
- March 19th - Monument Warriors All Abilities Classic at Palmer Ridge Gymnasium, 5:30 pm
- March 20th - Sponsorship Night, Monument Community Presbyterian Church, 4-7 pm



Monument Warriors Vs. D38 Unified Team, March 19th 5:30 PM

Palmer Ridge High School Gymnasium





Special Olympics Unified Sports®

Special Olympics Basketball

All Abilities Classic

Monument Warriors vs. D38 Unified Team

Wednesday, March 19th at 5:00 p.m.

Palmer Ridge High School Gymnasium



FREE ADMISSION

THANK YOU

to our partners who cheer us on & make our team strong!



CrossFit 7070/7070 Athletics-Mark & Shannon VanderMeer ** Stephanie Gonzales, Photographer
The Country Club at Woodmoor ** Monument Fire District ** Monument Police Department
Monument Academy: Spirit Band ** Lewis Palmer High School: Men's & Women's Basketball, Volleyball,
Key Club, Soccer ** Palmer Ridge High School: Men's Basketball, STUCO, Cheer Team, Key Club
Trinity Lutheran Church ** USAFA: Academy Lanes
Many Individual donors ** Parents & Caregivers ** Volunteer Coaches

Sheila Ferguson told us that on Wednesday, March 19th at Palmer Ridge High School, the Monument Warriors will be conducting and all abilities classic basketball tournament. Monument Warriors is a Special Olympic team that has grown to 100 athletes participating in eight different sports.



Stars of Tomorrow

Ticket sales are up and running for the Stars of Tomorrow Show, featuring youngsters from D38 schools showcasing their performing arts skills . On our homepage you can find a link to the Booktix site to buy a ticket. Adult tickets are \$10 and kids are \$5, all with reserved seating.

Dress rehearsals will be held on March 15th at Palmer

Ridge High School.

The show goes on Sunday afternoon, March 16th, at the Palmer Ridge High School auditorium at 2 p.m.



March Madness

Dennis Beasley reminded us that March Madness is coming. Next week, will be selection Sunday, March 16th. Brackets will be drawn up then, with a charge of \$10 per pool bracket entry. Contact information will be coming out on an E-Blast. You can also check our website. We will be using the CBS Sports website to fill out our entries.

News & Notes

Happy Birthday

Courtesy of Liam Wynne



Steve Sutherland, March 8th

Joined 2019, Sponsors Ben Bellis, Jr. and Steve Stephenson

March 8 History:

- 1817: New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is founded.
- 1862: The ships The Monitor and The Virginia battle one another in the first ironclad clash.
- 1936: The first oval stockcar race is held in Daytona Beach, Florida.



Marian Taylor, March 8th

Joined 2010, Sponsor - Jim Taylor

MORE March 8th History

- 1965: 3,500 Marines are the first ground combat troops to go to Vietnam.
- 1971: Joe Frazier defeats Muhammed Ali in the "Fight of the Century"
- 1983: Ronald Reagan calls the Soviet Union the "evil empire."



Alan "Al" Feldkamp, March 11th
Joined 2023 Sponsor Jim Wolf

March 11 History

- 1702: The first daily newspaper in England is published.
- 1824: The Bureau of Indian Affairs is created.
- 1918: The first case of Spanish Influenza is discovered at Fort Riley, Kansas.



Warren Gerig, March 11th
Joined 2008, Sponsor Dick Durham

More March 11 History

- 1894: Coca-Cola is bottled and sold for the first time.
- 1933: Franklin D. Roosevelt addresses the nation with his first "Fireside Chat."
- 1993: Janet Reno becomes the first female US Attorney General.



Scott Andrews, March 14th

Joined 2018 Sponsor Jim Hatley

March 14th in History

- 1794: Eli Whitney patents the cotton gin.
- 1900: The Gold Standard Act is ratified.
- 1985: The first internet domain name is registered.



Humor

Courtesy of Mark Zeiger

The New Golf Family

Ed and Carolyn met while on a singles cruise and Ed fell head over heels for her. When they discovered they lived in the same city only a few miles apart Ed was ecstatic.

He immediately started asking her out when they got home. Within a couple of weeks, Ed had taken Carolyn to dance clubs, restaurants, concerts, movies, and museums. Ed became convinced that Carolyn was indeed his soul mate...and true love.

Every date seemed better than the last. On the one-month anniversary of their first dinner on the cruise ship, Ed took Carolyn to a fine restaurant. While having cocktails and waiting for their salad, Ed said, "I guess you can tell I'm very much in love with you. I'd like a little serious talk before our relationship continues to the next stage. So, before I get a box out of my jacket and ask you a life changing question, it's only fair to warn you, I'm a total golf nut. I play golf, I read about golf, I watch golf on TV. In short, I eat, sleep, and breathe golf.

If that's going to be a problem for us, you'd better say so now!"

Carolyn took a deep breath and responded, "Ed that certainly won't be a problem. I love you as you are and I love golf too; but, since we're being totally honest with each other, you need to know that for the last five years I've...I've been a hooker."

"That's alright." Ed said, "I bet it's because you're not keeping your wrists straight when you hit the ball."

Happy Bucks



Barb Brandon had two happy bucks, one for returning for a visit from Texas and the other for the welcome they've received for their visit here.



Harry Brandon had three happy bucks. One because he feels lucky to be alive after an icy ride to Castle Rock last night, another for the Texas HEB supermarkets where he's been learning

variations on the word y'all, and the third being happy to be back with friends.



RF Smith had two happy bucks. One for the six hour AARP Defensive Drive Course that he took and for the fact he will never had to take that training again, and the other buck for returning from three weeks in Spain visiting his son and family, and the news they will be returning this summer to spend a year here.



Dennis Beasley had two happy bucks. One for his trip to Florida and visiting spring country, where they were able to observe over 700 manatees. Another was for the cruise they took that sent them for a first visit to the Panama Canal.



Jim Head had two happy bucks, one for visiting each of his daughters, one in Austin who'd just broken here wrist, and the other in Flagstaff, who'd fallen and broke her pelvis. Both are mending. Jim also informed us that the plural of y'all is: all y'all.



Weekly 50-50 Drawing

There was \$134 in today's 50-50 drawing. Don Johnson got the right ticket and also made the correct drawing, so he not only was a Legion of Honor honoree, but also the drawing winner.

Program

Monument Fire Department and Fire Mitigation

Jonathan Bradley and Dr. Gayle Humm

Scribe: Jeff Baker



Jonathan Bradley of the Monument Fire Department spoke to the club about wildfire safety and community hazards and risk assessment. He was accompanied by Dr. Gayle Humm, a retired army surgeon and community ambassador for fire mitigation.

Jonathan's talk focused on four topics:

Hazard management

Vegetation management

Area features and challenges

Problems with ingress and egress of firefighting equipment

Negotiating the challenges around property insurance

Jonathan began by noting how firefighting has changed since he began his career. At that time training was centered around fighting structure fires, when the focus was on taking away heat. Now, however, with increasing frequency of forest and grass fires, the focus is on taking away the fuel.

In a forest fire the greatest threat to homes is not from the flames but from the embers. Embers can travel as 1.5 miles to land on or near a house and initiate a fire. It is therefore critical to minimize the fuel around your home and harden the structure of the house against the risk of fire. Of major importance is the management of vegetation around the house. We are all likely to be familiar with the three zones of vegetation management:



1) Zone 1 – zero to five feet from the structure. There should be no vegetation or other fuel in this area. Yew trees are especially bad. Pay attention to the space underneath decks. Take note of where the snow accumulates in the winter – that is where embers will go. If you need to replace windows, consider using tempered windows. These break at 400° F versus 200° F of untampered windows.

2) Zone 2 – five to thirty feet from the house. In this zone there should be limited vegetation with good separation of trees and attention to “crown spacing”. Trees or groups of trees should have a minimum of 18 feet between treetops. Larger trees should be pruned so that the lowest limb is 15 feet from the ground. Smaller trees should be limbed to one-third of their height from the ground. Ponderosa pine growths are often much too dense. Not only does this present a fire hazard, but it is also unhealthy for the trees. Ideally, there should be no more than 60 trees per acre. Jonathan noted that after a fire it takes hundreds of years for Ponderosa pines to regrow. When culling large trees, consider leaving a variety of species and leave some dead vegetation for the benefit of wildlife.

3) Zone 3 – thirty to 100 feet from the home. The focus in this space should be on removing “ladder fuels”, scrub oak in particular. The scrub oak bushes should have the appearance of lollipops after pruning. Dead bushes should be removed. The crowns of larger trees should be at least 12 feet apart (zone 30 to 60 feet) and at least six feet (zone 61-100 feet).



Jonathan also discussed ways to harden a home against fire. These include:

- 1) Favor asphalt shingles when replacing your roof
- 2) Cover vents/eaves with mesh (1/8 inch or smaller) to prevent embers from entering the house
- 3) Clean out gutters at least twice per year. Pay special attention to the corners.

4) House siding – wood shake is the worst. Concrete fiber, stucco, steel, and stone are better. Make sure that paint is not peeling.

5) Outdoor furniture and fences should be fire resistant. This applies especially to the fencing sections closest to your home.

Problems with ingress and egress:

1) Access roads should be as wide open as possible. The dog-hair pines that line the roads should be culled. During a fire, if access roads are overgrown, fire trucks will not risk using them. They will bypass your street. It is also difficult to evacuate residents if access routes are too narrow.

Insurance issues:

1) Colorado is in the top five states with highest insurance premiums. More than 50% of the population lives in areas at risk for wildfires. Northern El Paso County is a high-risk region.

2) Insurance companies say that they have lost money in five of the seven years on the property insurance business. The insurance companies look at regions, not individual houses, when making decisions about insurance.

3) The state is considering ways to support the insurance companies. California currently subsidizes their providers.

4) Solutions are not easy to come by. Funding is limited for fire mitigation. Community chipping days are too infrequent, and it can be difficult to transport brush and logs to the chipping location.

Jonathan reassured us that they are doing all that they can. Our fire district is rated in the top 10% across the country in terms of fire protection.

The Saturday Meeting video is available here - <https://youtu.be/MvyQwJwPhJg>

Quick Links

[Monument Hill Kiwanis Website](#).....[Monument Hill Foundation Website](#)

[Facebook](#).....[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.

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THANK YOU!



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