



Kiwaniis®
Monument Hill Club

K-News

October 25, 2025

Monument Hill Club - Service Since 1974

Today's Program



Leadership and Vignettes From Combat

Lt Gen (RET) Eric Wesley



President Jim Head began the meeting at 8:00 a.m. Zoomers participating were Rich Rima, Don Johnson, Marlene Bizub, and Barrie Town.

Larry White was Sergeant at Arms.

Jim Head led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rich Strom was this week's Scribe.

Member Concerns

Rich Hicks led member concerns and a morning prayer.

Gracious God, We thank You for the spirit of generosity that fills our community through the Harvest of Love project. Bless the hands and hearts of all who make this effort possible – Monument Hill Kiwanis, Tri-Lakes Cares, School District 38 and Monument Academy students and teachers, and the many caring neighbors who give so generously. May the food collected bring nourishment, comfort, and hope to those served by Tri-Lakes Cares. Please strengthen our shared commitment to care for one another. We also pray for good weather on pickup day. Amen.



Guests and Visiting Kiwanians

There were no visiting Kiwanians. Pete Petersen introduced our guest speaker, Lt Gen (Ret) Eric Wesley. Then Ed Hettler introduced Brady Hansen of Palmer Ridge High School, who told us about DECA. Bill Kaelin also introduced Chris Muench to the Club. Chris is a native Coloradoan, who retired earlier this year. Welcome, Chris!



Upcoming Programs

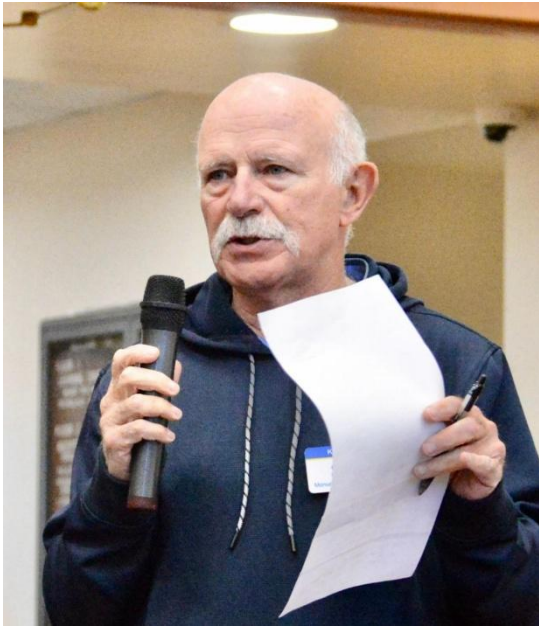
- Nov 1 - The Wizard of Oz - Palmer Ridge HS Drama Director Josh Belk
- Nov 8 - Into the Woods - Lewis Palmer HS Musical Director Kris Lilley
- Nov 15 - Angels of Americas Fallen - Joe Lewis

Membership Minute

Jim Wolf led the Membership Minute. Here are upcoming events for the membership.

- November 4 & 5 - Harvest of Love
- November 11 - Happy Hour at Pikes Peak Brewery 4:00 pm
- November 12 - Wine Seller Fundraiser
at the Margarita @ Pine Creek
- November 13 - Konnectors at Pikes Peak Brewery 5:30 pm
- November 18 - DECA in Castle Rock





Harvest of Love

Chuck Leggieiro updated us on the Harvest of Love food drive for Tri Lakes Cares. The food will be collected at the schools on November 4th and 5th and transported to the Tri Lakes Cares pantry. We have a good number of volunteers, but can always use more help. The details of who is needed at each school will be sent out this week.

There's been an E-blast that provides a link to Signup Genius.

Questions: Contact [Chuck Leggieiro](#) or [RF Smith](#)

In Vino Veritas Wineseller Fundraiser

Rich Strom told the Club about the upcoming In Vino Veritas Fundraiser which will be held at the Margarita at Pine Creek on Wednesday, November 12th from 6:30-9 pm. This has been put on each year by Dirk at the Wineseller. The funds raised will be going to the Heart of Monument Playpark, and all funds raised will be matched.



Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at the Wine Seller or by calling Dirk at 719 488-3019

THE
WINE
SELLER Presents...
In Vino Veritas!



Please join The Wine Seller for a special charity tasting event featuring fabulous wines & spirits paired with delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared by the chefs at..



7350 Pine Creek Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80919
Wednesday, November 12th 6:30 – 9pm
\$75 per person

A portion of the proceeds will benefit Monument Hill Kiwanis Club and their special project "Heart of Monument Play Park" making a positive difference for youth of all ages and our community.



Kiwanis
Monument Hill Club

Tickets Available at *The Wine Seller* or by calling Dirk at 719-488-3019



DECA


Ed Hettler's guest Brady Harrison told us about the upcoming DECA, the high school marketing competition. It will be held at its regional meet on Tuesday, November 18 at the Castle Rock Fair Grounds.




There are 92 students at Palmer Ridge participating in DECA. Lewis Palmer High School also has a large number of participants. DECA helps build confidence, public speaking skills, and helps these young people learn how to solve problems quickly and think under pressure.

The competition is from 7:30am until a little after 1:00pm and includes a free breakfast and unlimited coffee & tea. To be a judge, no experience is necessary. Those of us who have done this can attest that it is not difficult and it is a very rewarding experience. These young students have aspirations in business and their abilities will boost your confidence in the next generation.


Contact Ed Hettler with further questions.

**Kiwanis**
Monument Hill Club



DECA Judges Needed

- DECA District Competitions are Tuesday November 18th 7:30 - ~1:30
 - PRHS & LPHS DECA will compete in DECA District 11
 - Held at Douglas County Fairgrounds, 500 Fairground Drive, Castle Rock
 - Event cannot happen without the volunteer judges
- Looking for as many volunteers as possible
 - No experience necessary, Judging involves role playing with Students
 - Judges check in 7:30-8:00am; event ends ~1:30pm
 - Breakfast, lunch, coffee and tea will be provided
- If you know others who could judge, please share with them
- Signup from QR code or using this link:
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScNmSe_a3i4XZiZ-zIMu7EI0V6MNtOaIWLkVA/viewform



"Wow, that was impressive! I have a renewed faith in the next generation!"
Review from a DU professor who participated in DECA

Positive
A Difference for Youth and Our Community



Social & Interclub

Jim Wolf started by reminding folks that he is now the President-Elect and, as such, needs a volunteer to replace him as the social chairman. So all of you who love to socialize, look inside and see if you have the inclination to support your Club as Jim's successor.

Jim reminded folks that we will be back at Pikes Peak Brewing Company on Tuesday the 11th of November for our monthly Happy Hour. Come on out at 4 pm and swap some stories in general camaraderie.

Jim also pointed out that our annual Christmas Party will be held December 9th at the Bear Dance Country Club. The Buffoons from CU Boulder will be entertaining us again so it should be a great evening of entertainment and the traditional announcement of the Kiwanian of the Year.



NFL Pools

Dan Lopez updated us on the first week of our football pools. It was another tough week. For Sally's Challenge, we're down to the final two: Rich Rima and John Spidell. The Glen Scott competition this week had an extraordinary performance with Steve Sutherland picking 14 of 15 games correctly. The Sacagawea this week went to Greg Bielanski.

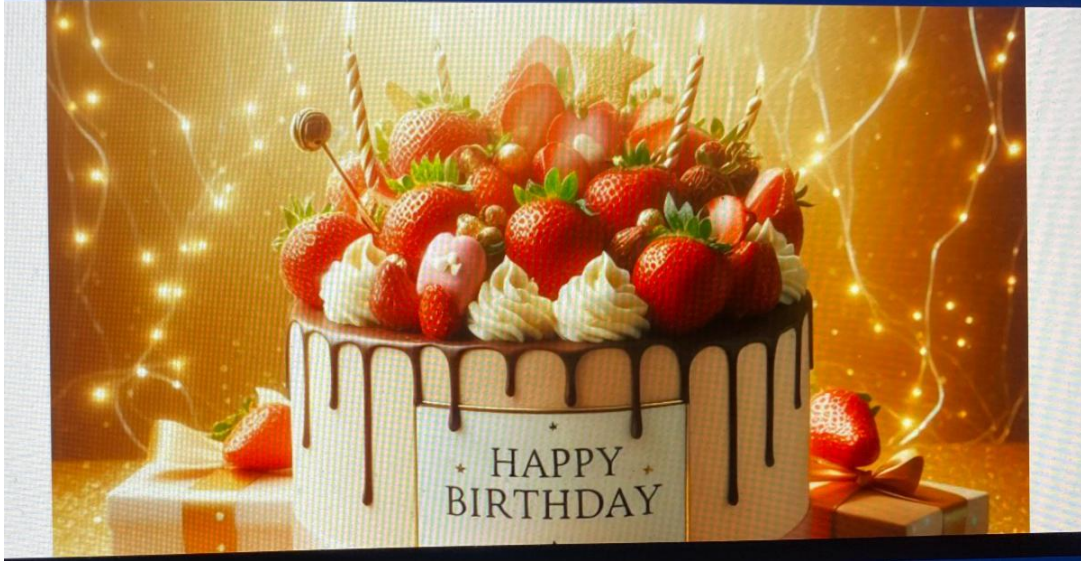
The SuperBowl will be coming up faster than we can imagine. Paul Gorley has done a great job for several years, but he won't be managing the boards this year. We will need a replacement. And we won't require that the person taking Paul's place have to produce several weeks worth of poetry.



News & Notes

Birthdays

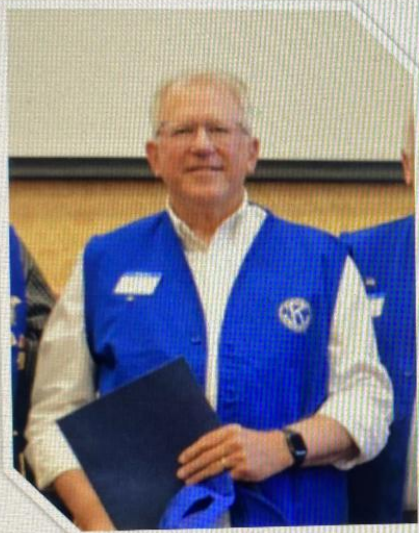
Birthdays 25 – 31 OCT 2025



Birthdays 25-31 October

Paul "Captain Dan" Zmuda OCT 25th

Joined 2022
Sponsor Bill Kaelin



On Oct 25th in HISTORY

- **1940:** Benjamin O. Davis Sr. becomes the first African American general in the U.S. Army
- **1973:** The Yom Kippur War ends in a ceasefire
- **1983:** The United States invades Grenada

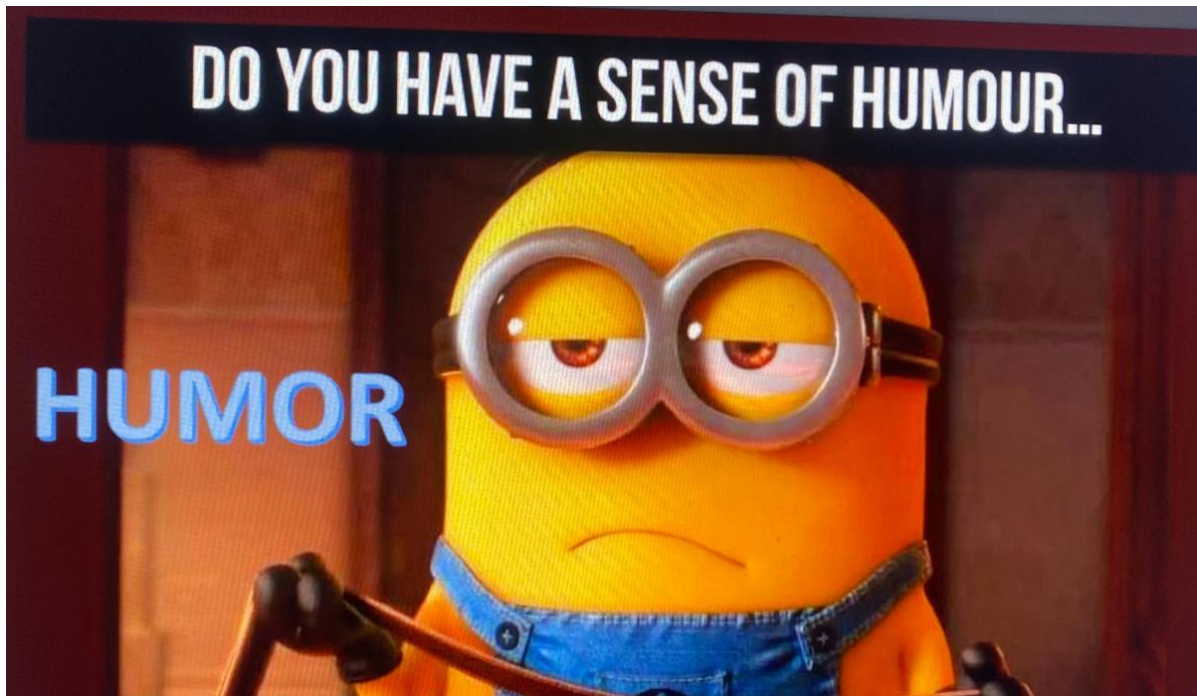
Sue Reinecke Oct 29th

Joined 2005
Sponsor Barb Broshous



On Oct 29th in HISTORY

- **1390:** First trial for witchcraft was held in PARIS.
- **1858:** The first grocery store was opened in Denver Colorado.
- **1960:** Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) wins his first profession boxing fight in Louisville KY



Humor

By Jim Wolfe

The local news station was interviewing an 80 year old lady because she had just gotten married for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation.

"He's a funeral director," she answered.

“Interesting,” the newsman thought. Then he asked her if she wouldn’t mind telling him a little about her first three husbands, and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After a short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20s, then a circus ringmaster when she was in her 40s, and a preacher when in her 60s. And now — in her 80s = a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such different careers.

“I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready and four to go.”

Happy Bucks



Mike McGrath had a happy buck because he's taking on bets for the upcoming Army-Navy game. He using it as a club fundraiser and told us that all money placed will be matched.

Dennis Beasley had a happy buck based on his observation that we must be the only club in America where a Loser Losers Club could make members happy.



Bill Kaelin had happy bucks for his recent travels, the fun he had on his trip, and then because he can always return to such a wonderful place.

Ed Hettler had two happy bucks. One congratulating Mark Anderson for the article about Mark and his business in this week's Tri Lakes Tribune, and another because the Palmer Lake Elementary K-Kids have already collected more than 1,000 items for Harvest of Love.

Weekly 50-50 Drawing

Ron Mangiarelli selected the right ticket. There were 5 chips, and \$68 in the jackpot, but Ron did not choose the right chip.

Program



Leadership and Vignettes from Combat

Lieutenant General Eric Wesley

Scribe: Rich Strom

Lieutenant General Eric Wesley

Leadership and Vignettes from Combat

Lieutenant General (Lt. Gen) Wesley began his presentation with a baby picture. He asked the members to identify who it was. It was Andy Reid. Andy was not a notable player in his football career. Since he was not a notable player, how did he become the 4th most successful coach in NFL history? Lt.Gen Wesley used a video of Brett Favre being chewed out by the Green Bay Packers head coach. Andy Reid comes to Favre's defense. A big smile is on Favre's face as Reid is talking to him. General Wesley's point is that Favre would go to hell and back for Andy Reid.

Lt.Gen Wesley made the point that there are over 50,000 books on Amazon on leadership. His favorite topic is leadership. He stated that there is no leadership certification. Leadership is the most important profession for which there is no certification that credentials you as a leader. He said that leadership is pursued throughout life. Leadership is applying every resource at one's disposal to get people to do something they wouldn't do without your leadership. He stated the problem becomes more difficult as the number of people you supervise increases. On top of that some leadership roles require you to influence people that might take them to their death. The magnitude of this is not understandable in many ways and that is why there are so many books written on leadership.

Lt.Gen Wesley showed a slide with a graph that shows toxic leadership is more effective initially but becomes less effective over time. Relational leadership (trust leadership) is initially less effective when the leader begins this approach but is much more effective in the long run.

He asked, “why is toxic leadership still plentiful today?” The answer is because it works. If you threaten, make fun of, or yell at someone, you will get their attention. However, there is a cost; ultimately it fails.

Relational leadership (trust leadership) takes time because it is based on trust. Once you have built it, it keeps on giving like a 401(k).

To build trust-based leadership, commanders have four tenets:

1. Vision – derive, communicate, and repeat. You want the members of the organization to be inculcated with the vision.
2. Resources – allocate and oversee the distribution of resources in accordance with vision.
3. Risk – assume, articulate risk mitigation, the commander owns risk. (You saw Andy Reid doing that).
4. Love your people – permeates every aspect of your relationship with subordinates.

Lt.Gen Wesley talked about the Third Infantry Division executing a fast attack during Operation Iraqi Freedom that placed three brigades on the south side of Bagdad.

The first move was to send one brigade on a raid through the southwest part of Bagdad, which was successful.

Then the commander decided to make the next move with two bridges moving into the center of the city, with the third to remain on the outskirts. The division commander recognizes this is a risky operation so there must be two things that had to happen for success. One, effective command and control had to be established. The second, was resupply into Bagdad. The commander said that if these two things were not established, withdrawal was necessary.

Lt.Gen Wesley shows a picture of the 2nd Brigade command post. It is located on the south side of the city. This is where his command post is going to operate and synchronize all the efforts of the 2nd Brigade going into Bagdad. This is where the soldier's behavior becomes like a 401(k).

As things appear to be going very well, a missile with a 1,000-pound warhead slams into the command post area. The whole place turns into an inferno. Five soldiers were lost, 23 wounded; there was much destruction including many vehicles and buildings.

A brigade headquarters has about 120 people. You can imagine the challenge of leading 120 people into reconciling this situation.

Lt.Gen Wesley's initial action was to walk around the area of destruction and talk with every leader. He told them that their priorities were to evacuate the wounded, establish security, and reestablish communications. I did not do anything; the only way the reconciling happens is because we had 120 Brett Farves.

The second thing the division commander told me was that we need to have resupply. Lt.Gen Wesley shows a picture of a resupply convoy that was ambushed and some of the vehicles are on fire. In the picture you see a young sergeant jumping into a resupply vehicle with thousands of rounds of ammunition on the vehicle and is next to a burning vehicle. He moves it to safety away from the burning vehicle. Then the sergeant leads a resupply mission to the two brigades in downtown Bagdad on his own initiative. Afterwards, the young sergeant was asked why he did it. His response was that he knew the vision and knew the brigades downtown needed resupply or they would have to come out. That is a 401(k) that keeps on giving.

In the end, the fundamental reason that the brigades hold the center of Bagdad is due to 5,000 individual soldiers who knew the commander's vision and mitigated any obstacles that would have prevented success.

Lt.Gen Wesley then loops back to the Andy Reid example and asks “how do you create the 4th all time winningest coach in football? Be the guy who embraces trust-based leadership.

He told one more vignette. He pulled a charred bible from a pocket. It was the only thing to survive the missile explosion and resultant destruction of his vehicle. He now keeps the bible in a fireproof box.

The book “Thunder Run” captures this whole story.

I would encourage you to watch the video of LTG Wesley’s presentation with a link: <https://youtu.be/C9Scwi7alDE>



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

Photographer: Warren Gerig

Media Support: Frank DeLalla and Liam Wynne



Virtual Meeting Reminder

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

K-News Crew

(click on a name to email us directly)

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!

Monument Hill Kiwanis Club | PO Box 102 | Monument, CO 80132 US