



Kiwanis
Monument Hill Club

K-News

April 25, 2026

Monument Hill Club - Service Since 1974

Today's Program



Member Bios

Mark Galle and Mike Aspenson



Jim Wolf called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Zoomers were Dan Lopez, Rich Rima, Benny Nasser, Frank Bittinger, Barrie Town, Gov Vaughn, Marlene Bizub, Ben Bellis, and Donald Johnson.

Dick Salverson was Sergeant at Arms.

Mark Galle led the Pledge Of Allegiance.

Dennis Beasley was this week's Scribe.

Member Concerns

Rich Hicks led member concerns.

Larry Young visited with Steve Keefer on Friday. Steve wanted give his greetings to everyone and he misses being at the meetings on Saturday mornings. Steve is now on the rehab floor at Memorial Central, and he is open to having guests if you'd like to visit him. He anticipates being released from the hospital this coming Wednesday, and will be at home for a while as he continues to recuperate from his

stroke. So, if you have opportunity to give him a call or stop by and see him, he would much appreciate that.

Rich led a morning prayer. Gracious Father, we are thankful for the many blessings in our lives. We ask for your guidance and strength in sharing that abundance with those around us, remembering that no effort is in vain. Give us patience and continue to fill us with courage and wisdom as we work together to better ourselves and our community. Amen.



Guests and Visiting Kiwanians

Ed Tomlinson introduced his daughter, Susan Seyler, who is visiting from California. Welcome!



Upcoming Programs

- May 2 - Monument 2040 Strategic Plan

Membership Minute

Bill Stoner emphasized the need for us to recruit new club members. He asked us to remember that we are all recruiters. In the past few months, most of the people that we have brought in have been friends. He encouraged us to talk to our friends, our neighbors, our neighbor's friends, and colleagues to come and visit us. We need help and we need people.



Bill gave us an update on our upcoming events:

- April 31 - Golf at Pine Creek Golf Club
- May 2 - Rocky Mountain District Foundation Service Day, Ronald McDonald House (Cleanup)
- May 6 - RMD E-Club zoom meeting 5-6 pm.
- May 12 - Happy Hour at Goat Patch Brewery, 4-6 p.m.

- May 14 - Konnectors at Goat Patch Brewery
- May 15 - D38 Last Day of School
- May 16 - Colorado Springs Kiwanis Club Car Show in Falcon
- May 19 - Graduation for Lewis Palmer and Palmer Ridge High Schools.



SLP Notes

Mike Luginbuhl updated us on the latest in SLP activities. First, Ed Tomlinson and Steve Sutherland were at the Bear Creek Elementary School talking to the sixth graders about meteorology and the school's weather station – a great success.

Next, members of our club were helping Raquel Vasquez at Lewis Palmer Middle School with two leadership classes. The effort went really, really well. Dan Lopez then provided his perspective on the line dancing that was conducted with the leadership class at the middle school. Dan said the lesson for that session was **perseverance**, which you really needed to have for those sessions. Dan thanked himself, Chris Muench, Sue Reinecke, Mark Anderson, Greg Bielanski, Mike Luginbuhl, and Scott Ross for helping out. It was a lot of fun, but it was really a workout!

There is one more opportunity to assist the leadership class at the middle school on May 6th. There are two times: 7:45 - 10:30 a.m. and from 11:00 a.m. - 2:40 p.m. Mike passed around a signup sheet for to help with this finals assistance involving leadership characteristics and qualities. See Mike if you can help (719-313-8532).

Also, coming up next Friday afternoon is a bash led by Raquel to introduce 7th graders to the leadership opportunities at LPMS that include Junior National Honor Society, welcome ambassadors at LPMS and our Kiwanis Builders Club.

Mark Anderson also told us about a project being conducted by the Lewis Palmer elementary School K-Kids called Wholly Kicks, which is an effort to collect new shoes for those in need. Since 2019, Wholly Kicks, has collected over 40,000 pairs of shoes, focused on kids. We will have a box at our meetings on May 2nd and May 9th to support this effort with new shoes. Mark asked us to consider picking up a pair of new shoes to donate on these dates.



Independence Day Parade 2026

The theme for this year's parade is "250 years of Freedom; 150 years of Colorado Statehood." This is our club's largest manpower project and is a joint effort between MHKC, the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, and the Town of Monument. There are a lot of events going on that day including the Monument Street Fair, Palmer Lakes Fun Run, Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast, Monument beer garden, and Palmer Lake fireworks.

The following charts show which are the major parade teams and where team leads are needed. Frank would also like to have someone as a deputy parade

director to shadow him this year. If you can fill any of these needs, please contact Frank (719 339-3567, fdelalla@aol.com).

Major Teams/Functions (in no particular importance)

- Parade Marshals – 45
- Lineup Team – 10 to 12
- Judges - 5
- Announcers – 2 or 3
- Infrastructure - 2
- Greeters – 2 to 3
- Starters - 3
- Public Relations - 2
- Children's Parade – 2
- South-side Parking - 4 to 6
- VIPs – 2 or 3
- Directors

Team Leads

- Parade Marshals – RF Smith
- Lineup Team – Ted Bauman
- Judges – Greg Bielanski
- Announcers – Scott Ross, Ed Tomlinson
- Photography – ???
- Infrastructure – Rich Strom
- Downtown Greeters – Alan Thompson and ??
- LPHS Greeters – Brian Bush, John Spidell
- Starters – Jim Murphy
- Childrens' Parade – Ofie Lopez, Becky Hicks
- South-side Parking – ???
- Van Driver – ???

Upcoming Parade Schedule

May

- Parade participant registration starts May 1 – Publicity and eBlast to previous participants

June

- Registration ends June 28
- Prepare Line-up and Documentation for announcers
- Publicity

July 1 - 2

- Send line-up information to: Participants, Line-up team, Lead Judge Announcers

July 3

- Port-a-Potties and Trash Containers Delivered and Deployed

July 4

- Parade!!!



**PIKES PEAK
SOAP BOX
DERBY**



Brad's House

IMPORTANT DATES

- Registration Deadline: May 1, 2026
- Practice Day: June 6, 2026
- Final Inspection: June 6, 2026
- Race Day: June 7, 2026

The complex block features a black background with a white torn-paper effect down the center. On the left side, there is the Pikes Peak Soap Box Derby logo, which includes a yellow car and the text 'PIKES PEAK SOAP BOX DERBY'. Below it is the Brad's House logo, featuring a green house icon and the text 'Brad's House'. On the right side, the text 'IMPORTANT DATES' is centered at the top, followed by a bulleted list of four key dates: Registration Deadline (May 1, 2026), Practice Day (June 6, 2026), Final Inspection (June 6, 2026), and Race Day (June 7, 2026).



Soap Box Derby

We'll have one entry for the upcoming soap box derby this year, and the warm ups are set for Saturday, June 6th with the finals scheduled for Sunday, June 7th. Greg Bielanski told us he is looking for a truck that could be hitched to a trailer to transport the soapbox car. Contact Greg to help (719-761-1875).



Kiwaniis
CLUB OF COLORADO SPRINGS



Support our kids!

“CHECKERED FLAG CHARITY CAR SHOW”



SATURDAY
May 16, 2026
10:00-2:00



Metcalfe Park-Fountain, CO
704 E. Ohio

CLASSES:

Antique (1981 or older)/Classic
Sport
Other
Awards given for each class



SPONSOR

CAR REGISTRATION

\$20 for Pre-registration
\$25 for Same Day Registration

For more information please
email:coskiwaniscarshow@gmail.com

“People’s Choice Award” to be presented

Get involved and vote for \$1.00 per vote!

Sponsorships available—\$250

COME AND HAVE SOME FUN!

****** Food Trucks Will Be On Site ******



Scan the QR code to register!
Coskiwanis.org/event-6151275

Colorado Springs Club Car Show

Jim Wolf reminded us that the Colorado Springs Kiwanis Club will hold their annual Car Show on May 16th at Fountain’s Metcalf Park. Scan the QR code above to register your car in the show.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT
FOUNDATION**

SERVICE DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 2
10 AM-2 PM
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
4223 ROYAL PINE DR.
COLORADO SPRINGS



REGISTER HERE  DONATE TO THE PROJECT
WISH LIST BY
CLICKING THE QR CODE 

Rocky Mountain District Foundation Service Day

May 2nd at Ronald McDonald House

Next Saturday after our club meeting, Scott Ross encouraged us to help fix and clean up the Ronald McDonald House playground which Kiwanis helped build many years ago. It is near the Children's Hospital Memorial North just off of

Briargate Parkway. A bunch of us are going to help, and we're also installing a grill and having some fun. Lunch will be served.

Also next Saturday, the Governor-elect for Kiwanis Rocky Mountain District, Andrea Weule, will be at our club meeting.

News & Notes



Humor

Courtesy of Jim Wolf

A lawyer runs a stop sign and gets pulled over by a sheriff. He thinks he's smarter being a big shot lawyer from New York City and has a better education being lvey

League educated working for Cohen & Cohen (the exclusive Jewish law firm in NYC) than a sheriff from West Virginia.

The sheriff walks up to the driver and asks for license & registration.

The lawyer asks, "What for?"

The sheriff responds, "You didn't come to a complete stop at the stop sign."

The lawyer says, "I slowed down and no one was coming."

"You still didn't come to a complete stop. License and registration please," says the sheriff impatiently.

The lawyer says, "If you can show me the legal difference between slow down and stop, I'll give you my license and registration, and you can give me the ticket. If not, you let me go and don't give me the ticket."

The sheriff scratches his chin and says, "That sounds fair, please exit your vehicle."

The lawyer steps out and the sheriff asks him to put his hands on the trunk of his car. Next the sheriff takes out his nightstick and starts beating the lawyer from the middle of his back to mid-thigh.

The lawyer begins to protest and asks what he is doing. The sheriff replies, "Do you want me to stop or just slow down?"

Happy Bucks



RF Smith told us he is not going to be at the meeting next Saturday. It's his privilege to pin Colonel on his nephew, Daniel Graham Smith.



Bill Stoner had 15 happy bucks. One each for his daughter and granddaughter, Evelyn, whose 5th birthday was on Saturday. Bill also had 13 more bucks, one for each year his lovely wife has resisted every temptation to throw him out.



Dennis Beasley had five happy bucks since he and his wife, Sherrie just returned from a cruise up the East Coast and the inland waterway which was very interesting. They saw Rich and Donna Rima when they were in Charleston. They also visited their granddaughter, Katie, in Blacksburg, Virginia. While she is working on her Masters degree, she and four classmates have started a small company to develop electronic games. Of note, four of the five were in Kiwanis SLP clubs when they were growing up!



Terry McMullen had a happy Buck to pay back RF Smith for the buck he lent him last week.



Steve Sutherland had two happy bucks. 1) He announced our second coffee pot has died, but we have enough money in the coffee fund to pay for a new one. 2) Steve and Ed Tomlinson were happy for the weather presentation they gave to Lewis Palmer Elementary School. The kids asked a lot of great questions and were very attentive.



Ed Tomlinson was happy that we had eight players for the golf league last week and would now like to get it up to twelve. See Ed if you would like to play (719-650-3522).



Mark Anderson was really happy for three outstanding faculty advisors at LPES, Kris Scarsbrook, Rachel Showalter and Noah Bonser. Mark also thanked Mike Luginbuhl for all the behind-scene work that he does. He really cares about the direction of these kids. Mark highly recommends your involvement in SLP!





Weekly 50-50 Drawing

There were 4 chips and \$130 up for grabs, but Mark Pfoff drew a red chip. Next week the chances will be one in three!



Program

Member Bios

Mark Galle and Mike Aspenson

Scribe: Dennis Beasley



Our speakers today were two relatively new MHKC members giving their biographies.

"Once upon a time..." was how Mark Galle opened his presentation and then showed a picture of his family migrating from Germany in the 1920's, settling eventually in Colorado.

Mark's father volunteered for the Army in WWII, becoming a translator since he spoke German, and ended up translating during the Nuremberg trials. He stayed in the Army and had two tours in both Germany and France, so Mark was a true Army brat.

Mark went to the Univ. Of Northern Colorado, taking ROTC and being commissioned in the Air Force. Unfortunately, due to an ear problem, he could not finish UPT and thus transferred to the Army.



Soon he was in Germany again, as an Ordnance officer. Eventually he ended up as an S3 staff officer in Desert Storm, where he had an opportunity to brief Generals Schwarzkopf and Powell, and to lead a Scout unit during the invasion of Iraq.

After being the Europe Supply Center Commander, Mark retired from the Army and joined the Missile Defense Agency in Colorado Springs. He spent the next 22 years in that agency before retiring to enjoy life with his family, which includes a son who is an officer with the Colorado Air National Guard, and an 105 year-old Uncle, who is the last living survivor of the USS Nevada, sunk during the Pearl Harbor Attack.

A very informative presentation of an interesting life.



Our next presentation was by Mike Aspenson, who grew up in a small town in Wisconsin, which makes him one of the few Packers fans in MHKC. He introduced his talk by saying, "This is the story of a Nerd!"

His boyhood days were spent in school and on the river, but he finally had to learn to swim at the YMCA.

His wife-to-be was a fellow life guard and swimming instructor in their home town, and became a Health/PE teacher, eventually at Lewis Palmer HS.



He went to the University of Wisconsin, majoring in computer science, which led to an early career with Sperry Univac working on Navy Frigates & Submarine Combat Systems.

Later career stops included...

- Martin Marietta – working on technology for Solar Energy Power Plants, Intelligence, Army Comms, and Cheyenne Mountain Programs.
- Raytheon – as Director of Commercial Satellite Programs – on Ground Stations systems

Mark then got an Executive MBA from University of Denver, he then went to work for:

- Schlumberger Co. – Electric Utilities - Grid Management System
- Lockheed Martin – Director and then VP of C4ISR Programs

After retiring from Lockheed Martin, Mike went to Consulting with Raytheon and LMT, and had the privilege of Working with All Branches of DoD and Intel, and some fellow MH Kiwanians along the way: Dean Snow, Ed Hettler, Alan Feldcamp, Mark Pfoff , R.F. Smith, Frank DeLalla, and Mike Luginbuhl.

After finally hanging up the working hat, Mike took up the efforts that are familiar to most of us... maintenance of home, marriage and body; golfing, scuba diving and travel; and service to family, the community and Kiwanis.

It is nice to get to know our fellow Kiwanians and this mornings presentations were a big step in that direction.



The video of today's meeting is at this link: <https://youtu.be/W4xLly5i8Yc>

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.

Monument Hill Kiwanis Supporters

Partners in Service

Sponsors



THANK YOU!



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