



Kiwanis®
Monument Hill Club

K-News

August 1, 2026

Monument Hill Club - Service Since 1974

Today's Program



Is Our Justice System Fair?

Mark Pfoff and John San Augustin



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

Zoomers were Rich Rima, Dr. Marlene Bizub, Don Johnson, Barrie Town, Bob Harrigan, RF Smith and Benny Nasser..

Dave Bailey was Sergeant at Arms.

Ron Mangiarelli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dennis Beasley was this week's Scribe

Member Concerns

Rich Hicks led member concerns.

In a preamble, Rich wanted to remind the membership that on August 1, 1876, President Ulysses S. Grant signed a proclamation admitting Colorado as a state. Happy 150th Anniversary!!

Rich led a morning prayer: Heavenly Father, As we begin this day, we do not know what joys or challenges lie ahead. Whatever comes our way, grant us the grace to receive it with faith and strength, learning from each experience. Remind us that we are united in service to our community, and we pray that our service enriches the lives of others. Amen.

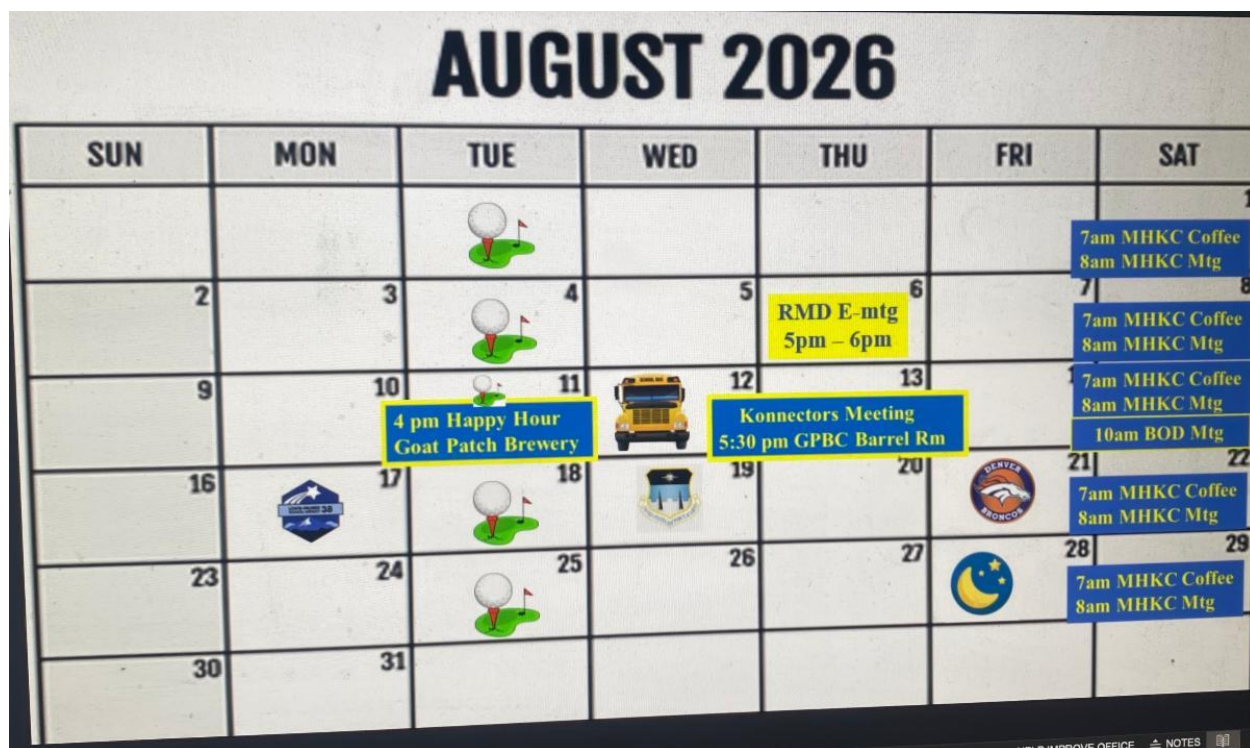


Guests and Visiting Kiwanians

There were no visiting Kiwanians. Our guests included Tricia and Abbey Ma, who were attending as part of a service project for Abbey, who's heading into 8th grade; and John San Augustin, who helped Mark Pfoff make today's presentation on Is Our Judicial System Fair. Welcome Tricia, Abbey, and John.

Upcoming Programs

- August 8 - Confederate Brigade Journey to Gettysburg - Bruce Clark
- August 15 - Citizens in Our Schools = Amy Matissek and Amber Whetside
- August 22 - The Retirement Reformation



Membership Minute

Jim Wolf gave us an update on upcoming events:

- Aug 6 - RMD E-Meeting 5:00 pm
- Aug 11 - Happy Hour, Goat Patch Brewery, 4 pm
- Aug 13 - Konnectors at Goat Patch Brewery, 5:30 pm

- Aug 19 - D 38 School Board Meeting, Big Red, 6:00 pm



Mike McGrath Presents Gift to Foundation from "Aid and Comfort" Author

Mike McGrath brought a book to today's meeting, "Aid and Comfort," which was written by Henry Mark Holzer and Erika Holzer. The book was about Jane Fonda's 1972 visit to Hanoi and her pro-North Vietnamese, anti-American activities at the time, which could have led to her being charged and convicted of treason. Mike was an advisor and a collaborator to Henry Mark Holzer on this book, which was first published in 2002.

Holzer was very grateful for the assistance Mike provided, and recently asked if there was anything he could do to express his appreciation. Mike told him about the great work our club does, and Holzer sent Mike a check for \$10,000 to our Kiwanis Foundation. We are grateful to Mr. Holzer and to Mike McGrath for facilitating this generous gift.





Golf Club Update

Ed Tomlinson gave an update on the Golf Club, which meets Tuesday mornings at Pine Creek Country Club. There were nine players that was one over for two foursomes playing, but it would be good to add three more players so there is room for another foursome. The club is having a very good time.





Local Tuba Player Featured in Palmer Divide Living, D38 Back To School

We also learned that our own MVTP, Most Valuable Tuba Player, Ted Bauman, will be the cover boy for the most recent issue of [Palmer Divide Living](#).

District 38 students will be heading back to school on August 12th. The District will also have a school board meeting on August 17th, here in Big Red, at 6 p.m. We will discuss our roles in helping the district at this meeting and club members are welcome to attend.



President's Request

Jim Wolf made an appeal to our members. We face some serious issues that have to do with membership, age and the willingness to take on leadership responsibilities. In October, we will be participating in the last Empty Bowls fundraiser with Tri-Lakes Cares. Times and circumstances have led to the decision to discontinue this long-running event.

We will also not be sponsoring another Stars of Tomorrow event in March 2027. That has to do with no one stepping up to take on the leadership roles to make this event possible.

These aren't the only examples of challenges we face. We also have board of director positions that need to be filled after members who have served in these positions for several years are now stepping down.

We have ambitious programs, but they need leadership. Larry Young, who has been our Director of Planning will be stepping down from this leadership role. So far, no one has volunteered to take his place. Larry will be happy to help mentor anyone who takes on his leadership role, but it's time for someone else to take on this role.

We are also facing a very important need to fill the SLP position. Mike Luginbuhl will be stepping down from that role, and it is the core of what we do as a club. Mike will be happy to help when advice is needed, but we will need to find Mike's replacement soon.

To be able to sustain the programs that help make our club special, we need to make a concerted effort to attract new members. Our sweet spot has always been for empty nesters and recent retirees who have a heart for service. It would be good to recruit new members who are a bit younger. An untapped source of new leadership would be women in our community.

Jim challenged us to each commit to finding another member to add to the club's membership rolls. And we need to commit to this goal with a sense of urgency.



Bonnie Nasser

Bonnie Nasser passed away Saturday after a long illness. Here's the message Bennie posted on Sunday:

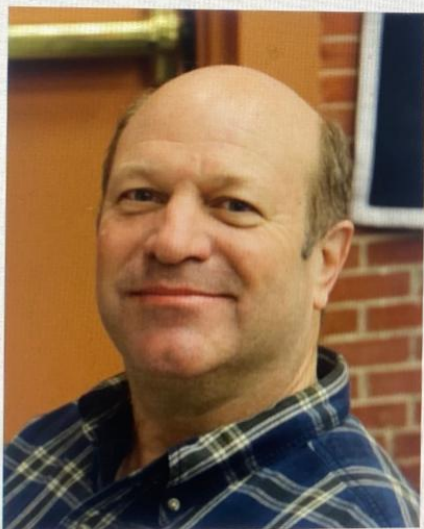
"I am sad to report to all our friends and family that Bonnie passed away on Saturday. Her family and friends were with her. She had been in home hospice care for 6 months when she finally succumbed to pulmonary fibrosis that she had been valiantly battling for more than 8 years. I will treasure and hold dear all the memories we shared together in my heart forever."

News & Notes



Ben Bellis Jr. 21st JUL

**Joined 2016
Sponsor Steve Stephenson**



On JUL 21st in HISTORY

- ❖ **1798:** Napoleon Bonaparte wins Battle of Pyramids in Egypt (Battle of Embabeh)
- ❖ **1853:** Central Park in New York created when New York State Legislature puts aside more than 750 acres of land on Manhattan Island
- ❖ **1973:** Braves Hank Aaron hits Philadelphia Phillies Ken Brett's fastball for his 700th HR, in Atlanta

Famous figures born on July 21st :

writer Ernest Hemingway, comedian and actor Robin Williams, and singer Cat Stevens (Yusuf Islam)

Mark Pfoff 23rd JUL

**Joined 2008
Sponsor Bill Walsch**

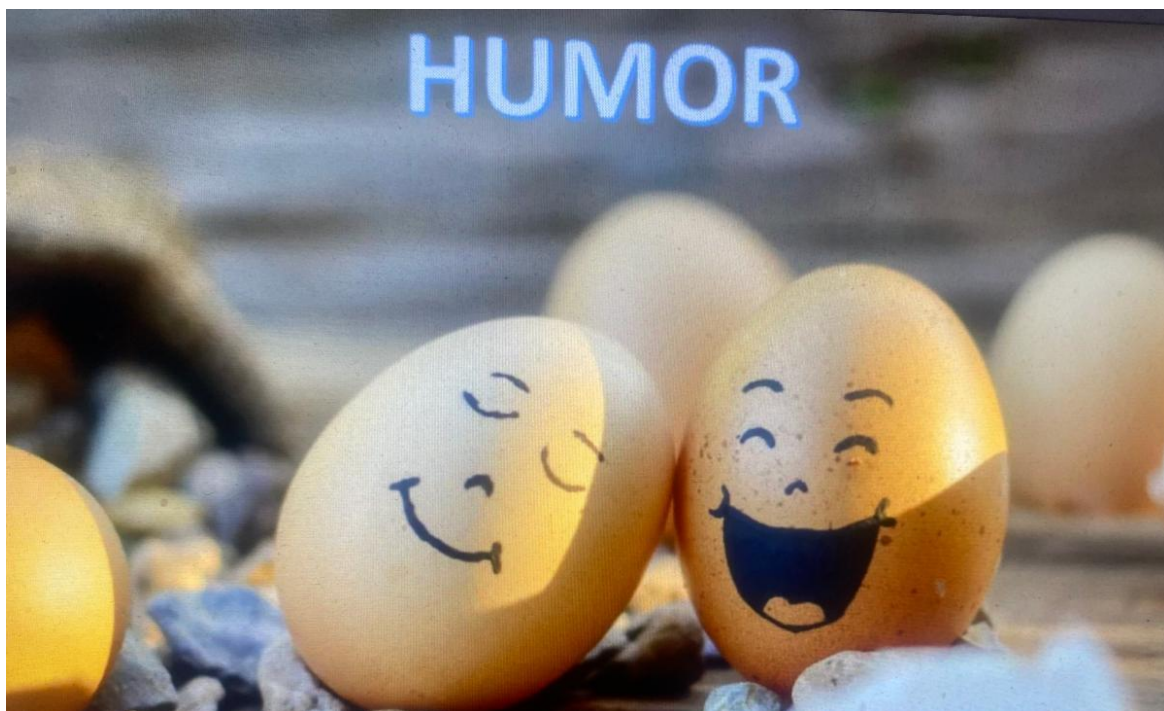


On JUL 23rd in HISTORY

- ❖ **1904:** Ice cream cone is created during the St. Louis World's Fair, reputedly first by Charles E. Menches
- ❖ **1966:** Frank Sinatra's album "Strangers In The Night" hits #1 on the US chart
- ❖ **1994:** Space Shuttle STS-65 Columbia 17 lands after a record 14 days and 55 minutes

Famous figures born on July 23rd :

Harry Potter actor **Daniel Radcliffe** (born 1989),
Cheers and *True Detective* actor **Woody Harrelson**





Humor,

Courtesy of Frank Wynne

Two hunters are out in the woods.

One hunter collapses and appears unresponsive.

The other hunter calls emergency services, exclaiming “My friend is dead! What can I do?”

The operator calmly instructs, “First, we have to be sure he’s dead.”

A shot is heard, and then the hunter asks, “Okay, now what?”

Happy Bucks



Dave Bailey had a happy buck for the upcoming Empty Bowls and began passing around a sign-up sheet for positions that need to be filled for this event.



Terry McMullen had a happy buck for not needing to do a peaches update. Then he gave us a peaches update. One of the people who purchased peaches called to say their peaches developed mold (which they will do if left unrefrigerated). Terry contacted CNR Farms and they sent a replacement box. Terry will meet with the customer at the farmers' market after today's meeting. Kudos to CNR for being a stand-up partner.



Rich Strom had 5 happy bucks for Mike McGrath and his “Aid and Comfort” friend Mark Holzer, for Holzer’s \$10,000 contribution to our Foundation.,



Weekly 50-50 Drawing

This week the drawing was up to \$89, and there were 7 chips. Larry Vliet had the winning ticket, but did not draw the winning chip.

Program



Is Our Justice System Fair?

Mark Pfoff and John San Augustin

Scribe: Dennis Beasley

Our speakers were MHKC member Mark Pfoff, assisted by John San Augustin. Mark and John are both retired law enforcement officers, and now have formed a partnership to provide expertise in technology and social media to Defense Lawyers whose cases may need such expertise.

Their presentation was an effort to inform the MHKC members about the current status of our Judicial System, and many of the problems they currently see in that system while working in it.

The first thing Mark pointed out is that we, the MHKC members, can be high risk to be placed in the wrong end of the legal system, because we work with children and we are mostly of an older age. Both of those circumstances have high chances of being charged for some legal offense. Further, we often have neither the means nor the expertise to defend ourselves when charged.

Mark then illustrated how the judicial system should work, the pitfalls that can happen from accusation to acquittal or prison, and with the aid of many questions and inputs from the audience, talked about what we can do about these pitfalls.

His presentation also included his perspective on Grand Jurys, how the Legal System can go sideways, and what perspectives the players in the system have...

- Cops think they work for God.
- Judges want to move on.
- Prosecutors are motivated to win.
- Defense lawyers want the best outcome for their clients.
- Defendants want to be acquitted, whether they committed the crime or not.

The presenters then went on to give numerous examples of problems with each of these players. Mark then gave his opinion of what it was like to work with attorneys:

"Attorneys are more arrogant than fighter pilots, more narcissistic than politicians, more irritating than a crying baby on a red-eye, more demanding than an ex-wife, and they want more attention than a bride on her wedding day."



Mark and John also discussed juries and the many problems juries have and face in their deliberations:

- How jurors are selected
- No training & not motivated
- Preconceived Opinions & Bias
- Assume prosecution integrity

- Trust prosecution witnesses
- Influenced by appearance & emotions,
- Personality conflicts; Bullies, Influencers, A-types, Introverts

The next element of their presentation was a brief thought about when the process becomes the punishment. Mark showed a compelling video as an example of this issue.

Mark and John wrapped up a very interactive presentation with the thought that...

80-90% of legal actions are fair,
Especially if you, as Defendant,
have money enough
to get a Good Lawyer.

This was an extremely interesting presentation about a part of our world that could affect any one of us at any time. Mark and John were invited back for a follow-up, and I suggest all our members will want to be there.

The video link will soon be accessible here. <https://youtu.be/6qqnZ83KZSI>



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!



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