



Kiwanis®
Monument Hill Club

K-News

August 15, 2026

Monument Hill Club - Service Since 1974

Today's Program



District 38 Updates and New Community Programs

Amber Whetstine and Amy Matisek

Bill Kaelin called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Zoomers were Rich Rima, Dr. Marlene Bizub, Don Johnson, Barrie Town, Jim Head, Benny Nasser, Greg Yamagucci, Ron Mangiarelli, Mike Luginbuhl, Steve Hall, and Ben Bellis.

Steve Sutherland was Sergeant at Arms.

Amber Whetstine and Amy Matisek led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mark Anderson was this week's Scribe.

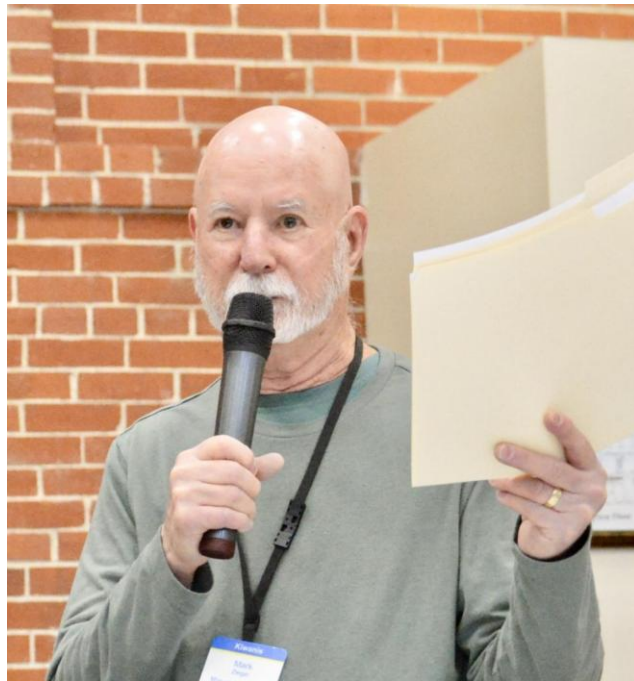
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Guests and Visiting Kiwanians

We were happy to welcome back Harry and Barb Brandon from Texas. Jack Fry brought his friend Jim Titus to join us today. Jack and Jim met when they were on active duty together in the Air Force, Jim came to the Air Force Academy and retired after a full career, and then went into education, completing his career on the USAFA faculty from 2002-2016. Jim expressed interest in becoming a member. Welcome Jim! We also welcomed today's guest speakers, District 38 Superintendent Amber Whetstone, and D38 Director of Communications Amy Matissek. We're happy to have you with us today.





Empty Bowls Update

Mark Zeiger let us know that we will begin soliciting restaurants for soup for the upcoming Empty Bowls. We also have needs for individuals to deliver the soup buckets and then pick them up the following day when the soup is ready. Mark reports that most of the volunteer positions have been filled.

Upcoming NFL Football Pools

Dan Lopez talked about the upcoming NFL football season, which will start in early September. That means the football pools will be starting too. Members who want to join in the prognosticating will get their chance, and the costs can be added to the club bill. We will again be participating in the Glen Scott Memorial, Sally's Challenge, and the Loser Pool. There will be some changes which should allow participants to extend their participation. This is always a great club competition, and we thank Dan for his leadership.

The first meeting that will have Glen Scott pools will be September 6.



Upcoming Programs

- August 22 - The Retirement Reformation, Bruce Bruinsma
- August 29 - Member Bios
- September 5 - Kiwanis Website, Mark Zeiger/Scott Ross
- September 12 - Leadership, Colonel Lorenz
- September 19 - Community Resource Officer for Monument PD, Kelly Reifel
- September 26 - Changing of the Guard

AUGUST 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	
						7am MH 8am MH
2	3	4	5	6	7	7am MH 8am MH
9	10	11	12	13	14	7am MH 8am MH
16	17	18	19	20	21	7am MH 8am MH 10am
23	24	25	26	27	28	7am MH 8am MH
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1	2	3	4	7am M 8am M
6	7	8	9	10	11	7am M 8am M
13	14	15	16	17	18	7am M 8am M 10am
20	21	22	23	24	25	7am M 8am M
27	28	29	30	1	2	



Membership Minute

Bill Stoner gave us an update on upcoming events. We were reminded that this Monday, August 17th, we are invited to attend the D38 School Board meeting where our Memorandum of Understanding will be signed, and where we can show our support for the districts programs for the school year that is just starting.

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- Aug 17 - D 38 School Board Meeting, Big Red, 6:00 pm
- Aug 19 - Meeting with Gleneagle Sertoma Club
- Sept 8 - Happy Hour at the Goat Patch, 4 pm
- Sept 15 - Konnectors Meeting at Goat Patch, 5:30 pm



Golf Update

Ed Tomlinson gave an update on the Golf Club, which meets Tuesday mornings at Pine Creek Country Club. This week the club will be playing Yellow Ball, where one golfer from the foursome will play the yellow ball, trading off each hole, and the player's score on that hole will count for the team for that hole. The club is having a very good time.



Groundbreaking for the Heart of Monument Play Park

Bill Kaelin reported on the Heart of Monument Playpark groundbreaking that was held this past Monday at the site at next to Monument Community Presbyterian Church. The ceremony was well-attended by Club members. Some work was begun earlier. It now appears that the park will be open this fall, hopefully sometime in October.



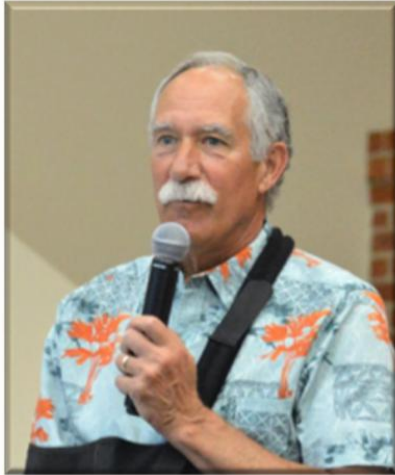
News & Notes



Bill KAelin

AUG 13th

**Joined 2013
Sponsor Jim Taylor**



On AUG 13th in HISTORY

- **1792:** Revolutionaries imprisoned French royals, including Marie Antoinette
- **1942:** The Manhattan Project commenced under the direction of US General Leslie Groves to develop an atomic bomb
- **1956:** Elvis Presley releases the music single "Don't Be Cruel"

HUMOR

Life is so
much easier
with a sense
of humour





Humor,

Courtesy of Bill Kaelin

An old man, living alone in New Jersey, was getting ready for summer time. He wanted to plant tomatoes, but was not physically able to dig up his garden. He wrote to his son, who was in prison, saying he wished the son was here so he could help dig the garden.

The son wrote back to, telling him, “Dear Dad. Don’t dig up the garden.”

Not long after the letter arrived, the police came and completely dug up the garden area. They found nothing.

A little later, the son wrote his dad back. “Sorry I wasn’t able to be there to help you. This was the best I could do under the circumstances.”



Happy Bucks



Dave Bailey had a happy buck for all the volunteers who will be soliciting restaurants for soup, and those who will pick up that soup for the upcoming Empty Bowls.



Jim Hatley had a happy buck for the mission trip he took to Costa Rica, where he also experienced kidney stones. He also had 25 Happy Bucks to celebrate his 25th anniversary of marrying Jill.



Greg Bielanski had a happy buck for the Stand Up For Comedy night that was held Saturday at Palmer Lake Town Hall.



Dan Lopez had a happy buck for his nephew. Dan and Ofie were in California last week to be there for his nephew's graduation from San Jose State University with a specialty in sports injury medicine, and he has accepted a job working on the San Francisco 49ers training staff.





Weekly 50-50 Drawing

We had a full new bag after last week's winner. This week Gov Vaughn had the winning ticket, but did not win the drawing. The school district also had coffee mugs as an addition to today's drawing, and Jim Hatley and Lloyd Mowery were winners.

Program



District 38 Updates and New Community Programs

Amber Whetstine and Amy Matisek

Scribe: Mark Anderson

School District 38 Superintendent Amber Whetstine and District Director of Communications Amy Matisek gave our club an update on what is happening in our school district. Students headed back to school this past week.

The first thing Superintendent Whetstine did was express appreciation from the district for their partnership with our club. It's a partnership that has produced wonderful results for the district's students.

As we begin the 2026-7 school year, the district has 6,168 students. Those numbers are down just a bit from highs in enrollment in 2018. The reasons for that decline have to do with lower child-birth rate for the demographic ages, the fact the state of Colorado has recently lost 11,000 students, and the relatively high property values in the region.

Because of this contraction, there were some lost positions in the district, but, due to good management and some attrition, there have been no layoffs. The district continues to be below the average in teacher salaries for this region, and this has been an issue in retention. Leadership continues to look for innovative ways to increase revenue streams.

As we begin the new year, new programs are starting to meet the needs of our learners. The needs of homeschoolers are being addressed, with homeschooled students now being able to access programs in music, art and socialization.

There's also room for transitioning students (special needs) with a modular facility opening up at Lewis Palmer High School, and new capabilities will be opening up at the new Career Innovation Center we visited last September, with Home Sciences and Health, and computer sciences opening as phase 2 at the CIC.

There will also be new programs for students with interests in agriculture and a Falcon Aerolab affiliated with the USAF Academy.

The district's current graduation rate is 98%.

The goal is to meet educational needs for all our learners. The district's vision of "Elevating Every Student Every Day," will lead our work in this district. Our club is

encouraged to join the journey together to continue to uphold D38's reputation as an exceptional school district.



Director of Communications Amy Matissek then told the club about the District's new program called Citizens In Our Schools. The district hopes to tap into a

district resource — a large number of retired Tri-Lakes residents with talent and a motivation to help.

D38 would like to engage these seniors with opportunities in the schools and use these folks to show, not just tell, students in our schools, serve on committees, help with various projects and events, and help out in classrooms.

We can help by spreading the word to our neighbors and directing volunteers to the District. One way to do so is by contacting Amy at amatisek@lewispalmer.org.



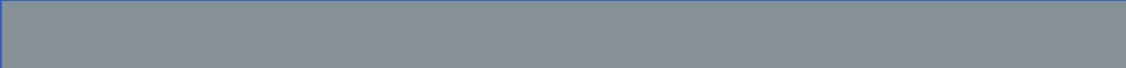
The video link is here: <https://youtu.be/02ERII8b1O4>”



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