



*Serving the Children of the World*

## ***The Nugget***

Golden K Kiwanis Club  
Decatur, Illinois

### **Club Officers 2024-2025**

**President:** Harold Wilkinson   **President Elect:** Tom McQuiston   **Vice President:** None

**Secretary:** Lynda Durnil   *Asst. Secretary: Roberta Williams*

**Treasurer:** John Baird   *Asst. Treasurer: Karen Sivils*

### **Directors:**

Joel Hawkinson, Dave Johnson, Pat Riley, Cathy Sebok, Kathy Thompson, Marcia Uchtorff,

*Past President: Kyle Anderson*

Regular Meeting each Wednesday at 9:30 A.M. at Salvation Army Reception Hall

## **February 19, 2025**

**God Bless America /Pledge of Allegiance / Kiwanis Pledge:** Roberta Williams, Guitar: Joe Turek, Joel Hawkinson

**Invocation:** Kathy Thompson

**Guitar:** Joel Hawkinson, Joe Turek

**Mike Runners:** Dan Sebok, Harold Dausman

**Photographer:** Joel Hawkinson

**Program:** Cheryl Boss introduced Jamila Wicks, Executive Director of the Illinois State Museum. Amanda Bryden, Registrar of the museum also spoke. Jamila started with the museum society 5 years ago. The museum contains 14 million items. Headquarters is in Springfield. They have a Research & Collection Center in Springfield, a museum in Lewistown, and gallery in Joliet. They do fundraising for the museum's initiatives & exhibits. Several celebrations will take place in 2026. One of these is Route 66 which will be turning 100. They are collecting oral histories of people who traveled Route 66 before I55. These 100 stories will be available online on their website. They also plan to talk to teachers to have them incorporate the stories in their classrooms. Illinois State Museum is supported by a National Park Service federal grant. Route 66 is 2500 miles long, built in 1926 from Chicago to L.A. and goes through 8 states. It follows where I55 is now. It was built to move people & goods and to connect small towns to big cities. It started in 1926 & was decommissioned in 1985. They want to capture firsthand

accounts of Route 66. They're hearing about neon signs, diners, motels, roadside attractions, hitchhiking, Jim Crow, Prohibition, music, and mishaps.

The museum also collects items for the exhibits. The Society does a lot of field trips. They do free lectures and travel series. They've been exploring Illinois. They've done the Supreme Court, architecture, department of transportation, been to Memphis & Alton. In March there is a bus trip to LaSalle County, Starved Rock, Chicago's South Side. You can sign up for this at [kate.suits@ismsociety.org](mailto:kate.suits@ismsociety.org). They have grant funding to take 2 educators and 2 high school students for free.

The Society is recruiting judges for the 2025 Illinois History Day on May 1, 2025. Contact [laura.mitchelle@illinois.gov](mailto:laura.mitchelle@illinois.gov) if interested.

**Kyle Anderson inducted a new member, Mary Clare Cummins. Welcome!** Lynda Durnil was her sponsor.

**Health Report:** Cathy Sebok reported Chip Donahue lost his wife, Gay. Charles Smith has influenza A, Ron Black – back/hip problems & now shingles, Jack McCoy to start chemo tablets, Mike Wortman is home after surgery, returning soon.

**Attendance:** Lynda Durnil

39 members    2 guests            2 speakers            43 total

**Announcements:**

**We are no longer collecting medicine bottles. The organization at St. Mary's is no longer taking them.**

**Karen Sivils** – when reporting volunteer hours, please include how many children were helped. Use new reporting categories found in the back of your club directory. #1 Community service (no kids), 2 Activities with kids, #3 Golden K Administrative

**Dan Sebok** – has 7 Charity Mania tickets, \$20

- Next St. T. Key Club meeting Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>, 2:20pm, All Purpose Room at St. T. Fun meeting, doesn't last long. They get points for our visit. Next year they're starting a basket project for foster care families.

**Lynda Durnil for Charles Smith** – Mt. Zion Key Club update:

- They had a Panda Express fundraiser on 2/8, 20% went to Careage House.
- This Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>, dessert fundraiser, 6pm, \$5, cafeteria Mt. Zion High School. Proceeds to Paw Print Ministries. A generous donor will match all donations. Jazz band plays.
- March 9 they'll provide dessert for our meal at Careage House

**Susan Rayhill** – See above about Mt. Zion dessert fundraiser & dessert to Careage House

- February 24<sup>th</sup>, 11-1, serve lunch at Good Samaritan Inn. Sign up
- Last month served 17 women & 4 children at Careage House. March 9 is the next meal date, sign up to help.

**Ralph Czerwinski** – Children’s Play is Saturday March 29, 10am & Sunday March 30, 2pm at Virginia Rogers Theater (new dance building). Denise Myer & students are ready for rehearsals.

**Mike Heger** – Project Linus is March 24, 25, need 6 volunteers for each section of the project. Sign up next week.

**Paula Luckenbill** – Update on the 9/11 flagpole – everything is good.

- Flip tabs going well. Partnership with Hillside Bethel & Earthmover Credit Union successful
- Plastic lids – taking 400 lbs. lids next Thursday for benches for NE Community Fund & Mt Zion Grade School.
- **Next Monday, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> zoo room scheduled 9-noon to sort lids.**
- Need organizations or individuals who want benches
- Have any old puzzles? Bring them for MacArthur High School’s Life Skills program

**Mary Jean Bauer** – let her know if you would be willing to sell 50-50 when she can’t be here

**Harold Wilkinson** – Feb. 25 is Kiwanis Day of Giving for the Kiwanis Children’s Fund. We will be collecting donations at our meeting on Feb. 26. Checks can be made out to the Children’s Fund & put our club number (K10369) on it so we get credit for the donation.

- If you’d like a copy of board minutes let Lynda Durnil know.
- We currently have 6 Little Free Libraries in partnership with Early Birds. We always need books. Hickory Point Bank locations are drop off locations. If you could volunteer to visit a school near you to ask for books, let him know. Handouts are available to help you with information.
- Remember to bring a guest to meetings, invite a friend to a service project

### **Key Club Updates:**

**Mt. Zion Key Club** (Elisa Lewis, 154 members, Charles Smith, GK Advisor)

- Feb 8, Panda Express Fundraiser, 20% of proceeds to Careage House.
- Feb 9 provided desserts that GK delivered to Careage House meal. Will provide March dessert, too.
- Saturday, Feb 22, dessert fundraiser, 6pm, cafeteria, \$5, proceeds to Paw Print Ministries
- They meet last Sunday of the month, 6:30pm, high school cafeteria (join them – they get points for our participation).
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**St. Teresa Key Club** (Erinn Sweeley, 30 members, Dan Sebok, GK Advisor)

- Feb 8, Snowball Dance proceeds to God’s Shelter of Love (\$400)

- Feb 11, set up an information table at Open House to attract new members
- Mar 28, "Dress Down" day at school to honor national "Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Key Clubs". Will hand out 100 Grand candy bars at lunch to all students.
- Going to start a "Birthday Joy Basket" program next year to provide baskets with gifts, cake mix, toys, etc. for children in foster care.
- They meet 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, 2:20pm, All Purpose Room (join them – they get points for our participation).

### **Dates to Remember:**

2/22/25 Dessert fundraiser, Mt. Zion High School, 6pm, \$5

2/21-23/25 I-I District Mid-Year Conference, Springfield, IL

2/21/25 Franklin Grove Family Breakfast, volunteers needed, 2 shifts, 8:15-9:15, 9:45-11

2/23/25 Mt.Zion Key Club meeting, 6:30, cafeteria

2/25/25 Good Samaritan Inn, 11-1 pm, Kiwanis Day of Giving

2/27/25 St. T. Key Club meeting, 2:20pm, All Purpose Room

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries: Kevin Cleary**

Birthdays: Pat Durnil

Anniversaries: None

\*\* Due to a directive from International we are not to publish personal information.

### **Famous Quotes: "A hen is only an eggs way of making another egg."**

**50-50 Drawing:** Gary Moore was the winner but did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$165 rolls over, get your tickets!

### **Up Coming Programs:**

2/26/25 Laura Cullison, Community Relations Coordinator at Evergreen Senior Living

3/5/25 Lelah Ray, Director of Social Services Salvation Army

3/12/25 Andrew Taylor, Economic Development Officer for Decatur & Macon County

3/19/25 Denise Myers, Retired Professor in the School of Theatre & Dance at Millikin University

### **Ongoing Projects**

- Collecting Food Coupons for military - Cheryl Boss
- Collecting clean plastic caps & lids for school benches & tables - Paula Luckenbill
- Collecting pop tops for Ronald McDonald House, Springfield - Paula Luckenbill
- Turn in hours to Karen Sivils - [itcpa96@gmail.com](mailto:itcpa96@gmail.com), estimate #children helped
- Kiwanis clothing - Roberta Williams
- Golden K board meetings - 2nd Monday each month, 1:00 pm, Central Christian Church
- Decatur Lakeside 9/11 Memorial Flagpole and Flowers

**Wednesday Donations**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Food Bank**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – K.N.R.F.**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – School Support**

**4<sup>th</sup> - Trauma Dolls**

**5<sup>th</sup> – Scholarship Fund**

**Humor for today: John Dunn**

Editor: Linda Thomas, lthomasxq@aol.com, 217-454-2605

Substitute Editors: Lynda Durnil & Roberta Williams





*Mary Clare  
Cummins*

