



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

April 9, 2025

God Bless America /Pledge of Allegiance / Kiwanis Pledge: Ron Black

Invocation: Cathy Sebok

Piano: Larry Wade

Mike Runners: Dan Sebok, Harold Dausman

Photographer: Joel Hawkinson

Program: Marty Williams introduced Shyler Brianne Kraus, Marketing & Development Manager, Heartland CASA. Shyler was born & raised in Mt. Zion/Decatur area. She is a Millikin alum & loves Decatur. She told us growth comes from community partnerships. Macon County CASA is expanding & now includes DeWitt, Moultry, & Christian counties. Macon County CASA's mission statement is that Macon County CASA advocates for the best interest of abused & neglected children who are in custody of the state of Illinois & under the protection of Macon or DeWitt County court. That is expanding into Christian & Moultry County as well. When an incident happens & the police take custody of the children, CASA has an arsenal of advocates who step up & help.

They service over 600 children in Macon County, 50 in DeWitt, 50-75 in Moultry, & over 50 in Christian. CASA has a staff of 10 which includes programming, recruitment & advocate supervisors. They have 62 active advocates currently for nearly 800 children. Sometimes the advocate is the most

consistent in a child's life. Court cases can last on average 2 to 3 years. Every case with a CASA advocate closes 6-8 months earlier than usual. Most of their cases are a result of abuse, neglect, & domestic violence.

Cathy Sebok presented Kiwanian of the Month of March to John Baird. Congratulations!!

Health Report: Roberta Williams – sent lots of cards last week

Attendance: Lynda Durnil

44 members 1 speaker 45 total

Announcements:

Dan Sebok – Charity Mania tickets he sold had 5 winners which included John Baird & Dan.

Lynda Durnil – Early Birds will soon have their Teach a Kid to Fish. Ask about dates.

- Little Free Libraries yesterday had the ribbon cutting at the Children's Museum. She has handouts to give elementary schools if you visit to solicit books.
- From Paula Luckenbill – yesterday's workshop processed 350 lbs. of lids! She is taking all we have Thursday to Green Tree. She thanks everyone. Will need more workshops soon.

Mary Jean Bauer – Spring Luncheon, KC Hall, May 2, 1pm, \$15. Sign up with her.

Susan Rayhill – April 13 is the meal at the Careage House.

- April 22 is the next Good Samaritan event – sign up.
- Next trauma doll workshop April 14, 9-2, Police Benevolent Hall (cut, stuff, sew, & eat!). She has fabric to take home to cut.
- Collecting items for Ronald McDonald House in Springfield. They need sugar packets, single serve creamers, hot & cold drink cups with lids, T.P., paper towels, 13- & 30-gallon bags with strings ties, & individual wrapped snacks.

Kyle Anderson - - Saturday, April 12 (note change of date) is Adopt a Street, 9-11. Meet at Oakland & Harrison

- April 26 fundraiser breakfast at the Elks, 8-11, \$7, need a few volunteers
- April 26 is the Rock Springs Festival & helping park cars
- June 20 is the golf outing. Passing out envelopes now to deliver to businesses. Hole sponsors needed. Need silent auction items & volunteers

Karen Sivils – she's helping with the Silent Auction. Hold onto your items until the middle of May. When you visit businesses, ask first for hole sponsor & then for a Silent Auction item.

Harold Wilkinson – each meeting there is a different donation we can give to. Don't forget a can of food for the Salvation Army's food pantry.

- Read a thank you from KNRF for our donation.
- April 24 is KNRF Division 25 & 26 Kick Off Event, Champaign
- June 25-28 Kiwanis Convention in Pittsburgh
- Check out our website
- Invite someone to a meeting or one of our activities

Key Club Updates:

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

- They meet last Sunday of the month, 6:30pm, high school cafeteria (join them – they get points for our participation).

St. Teresa Key Club (Erinn Sweeley, 30 members, Dan Sebok, GK Advisor)

- 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 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 2:20pm, All Purpose Room (join them – they get points for our participation).

Dates to Remember:

4/10/25 St. T Key Club meets, 2:20 pm, All Purpose Room
4/12/25 Adopt a Street
4/13/25 Careage House meal
4/14/25 GK board meeting, Central Christian, 1pm
4/22/25 Good Samaritan Inn
4/24/25 St. T. Key Club meets, 2:20 pm, All Purpose Room
4/24/25 KNRF Kick Off Event, Champaign
4/26/25 Pancake Breakfast at Elks, 8-11
4/26/25 Rock Springs Festival of Spring
4/27/25 Mt. Zion Key Club meets, 6:30, high school cafeteria
5/2/25 Spring Luncheon, 1pm, KC Hall, \$15
6/20/25 Golf Outing Fundraiser

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Kevin Cleary

Birthdays: Ralph Czerwinski

Anniversaries: Frank Ciastko, Joel Hawkinson

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

Famous Quotes: Highway: Our national flower is the concrete cloverleaf!

50-50 Drawing: Jim Kramer was the winner but did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$91 rolls over. Get your tickets next week!

Up Coming Programs:

4/16/25 Regan Deering, Representative Illinois 88th District, topic: What Is It Like Being a Freshman Representative

4/23/25 Mark Tupper, Retired Executive Sports Editor, topic: March Madness

4/30/25 Melinda Rueter & Gambit, and Linda Strubbe & Ellie (Gambit & Ellie are dogs), Paw Print Ministries

5/7/25 Melissa Hon, Decatur Deputy City Manager, topic: Responsibilities of Deputy City Manager

Ongoing Projects

- Collecting Food Coupons for the 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**, 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

1st – Food Bank

2nd – K.N.R.F.

3rd – School Support

4th - Trauma Dolls

5th – Scholarship Fund

Humor for today: Bob Lewis

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

Substitute Editors: Lynda Durnil & Roberta Williams



Shyler Kraus



John Baird