



*Serving the Children of the World*

## ***The Nugget***

Golden K Kiwanis Club  
Decatur, Illinois

### **Club Officers 2025-2026**

**President:** Tom McQuiston **President Elect:** Dick Virgin **Vice President:** None

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

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

### **Directors:**

Cheryl Boss, Joel Hawkinson, Pat Riley, Cathy Sebok, Kathy Thompson,  
*Past President: Harold Wilkinson*

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

**Oct. 22, 2025**

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

**Invocation:** Linda Rowden

**Piano:** Larry Wade

**Mike Runners:** Harold Dausman, Kyle Anderson

**Photographer:** Joel Hawkinson

**Program:** Kyle Karsten, Director of Development Macon Resources

### **MRI's Mission, Programs, and Personal Stories**

- Kyle Carston, Director of Development at MRI, previously worked 9 years at Salvation Army.
- MRI (Macon Resources) mission: promote growth, independence, self-worth for persons with disabilities.
- Organization history: founded 1958 as Progress Resource School by parents; merged facilities in 1988 to form Macon Resources; current facility built 1991.
- Programs focus on employment, business partnerships, and community integration for persons served.

## History, Growth, and Community Integration of MRI

- About **200 individuals with developmental disabilities** attend daily programs at MRI.
- Day training includes life skills (kitchen, laundry) and socialization to support independent living.
- Employment programs include job assessment, training, and partnerships with businesses (e.g., license plate production, shredding, cleaning services).
- Clinical services provided by **4 registered nurses** and behavioral services staff; human rights advocacy included.
- MRI operates **9 group homes** for supported independent living; also offers services for children (speech, autism, social skills) and supports Special Olympics participation.

## Business Partnerships, Events, and Community Support

- MRI supports individuals with developmental disabilities through events and community engagement.
- Annual events include a September golf outing, Disability Employment Awareness Month in October, and "Paint the Town Orange" for Disabilities Awareness Month in March.
- Field Day and outdoor activities at Meaningful Meadows promote inclusion and community participation.
- December initiative supports 85 individuals in group or independent living with holiday wish lists and gifts.
- Opportunities exist for financial support and volunteering to impact the lives of those served by MRI.

For more information: [kkarsten@maconresources.org](mailto:kkarsten@maconresources.org) and Facebook.

**Sally Williams was inducted as a new member of the Board of Directors.**

**Grant Bullock (sponsor Dan Sebok) & Melanie Caputo (sponsor Joe Caputo) were inducted as new members. Welcome!!**

**Health Report:** Roberta Williams – Kathy Thompson fell & broke 2 bones in forearm, had surgery, hopefully released from hospital today, Bill Meyer (Early Bird) having knee surgery on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Attendance:** Lynda Durnil

54 members    1 Speaker    55 Total

**Dick Virgin** – word of the week – “jobfusticate”. Bob Lewis knew the meaning & got a prize.

### **Announcements:**

**Lynda Durnil** – she handed out directories today. Let her know any mistakes.

Paula Luckenbill was the winner of the Best Landscape at the Decatur Yacht Club in the Decatur Beautiful Contest. Congratulations!!

**Cheryl Boss** – Franklin Grove is having a “Bench Dedication” today at 2:30 for Noah, the little boy who was hit by a car. Wear green!

**Charles Smith** – There will be an interclub to Champaign, Nov. 6, 11:30. Sign up next week.

**Susan Rayhill** – Good Samaritan Inn, Oct. 28, 11-1

Trauma doll workshop soon

**Tom McQuiston** – Board notes:

\$349.45 to Muffley for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade dictionaries

Aktion Club was discussed

**Key Club Updates:**

**St. Teresa Key Club:** Next meeting reported Sunday, November 2, 6 pm.

**Dates to Remember:**

10/28/25 Good Samaritan Inn, 11-1pm

11/6/25 Interclub to Champaign

**Birthdays & Anniversaries:** Kevin Cleary

Birthdays: Bob Lewis

Anniversaries: None

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

**Bob Hope Quotes:** You know you're getting older when the candles cost more than the cake!

**50-50 Drawing:** Gary Goeken was the winner but did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$35 rolls over. Get your tickets!

**Up Coming Programs:**

10/29/25 Dr. Dean Pribbenow, Millikin University President & Lori Kerans, Millikin University Vice President for Athletics & Engagement

11/5/25 Jeff Daly, Salvation Army Development Director. Topic: Red Kettle Kickoff

11/12/25 Dan Miller, Macon County Health Department. Topic: Starting Point

11/19/25 Abby Helm, Community Relations Executive Ameren Illinois, topic: Scams

**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**

**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**

**Story for today:** Ron Black

A new camp commander was appointed and while inspecting the base, he saw 2 soldiers guarding a bench. He went over there and asked them why they were guarding it.

“We don’t know. The last commander told us to do so, and so we did. It’s some sort of regimental tradition.!”

The commander searched for the previous commander’s phone number to ask him why he posted guards at this particular bench.

“I don’t know. The previous commander had guards there, and I kept the tradition.”

Going back another 3 commanders, he found a now 100-year old retired general.

“Excuse me, sir. I’m now the CO of the camp you commanded 60 years ago. I’ve found 2 men assigned to guard a bench. Could you please tell me more about the bench?”

“What! Is the paint still wet?”

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Substitute Editors: Lynda Durnil & Roberta Williams



Click to view meeting

<https://www.youtube.com/@GoldenKKiwanisofDecatur>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071723247020>