



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, Sally Williams

Past President: Harold Wilkinson

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

March 4, 2026

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

Invocation: Jackie Evans

Piano: John Baird

Mike Runners: Harold Dausman, Dan Sebok

Photographer: Joel Hawkinson

Program: Mark Avery introduced Jim Hall, mentor & volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) 2026 vision, safety & outcomes

- Presented 2026 vision for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Illinois; national network serves up to **400,000** youth/year, founded **>120** years ago; local affiliate began in a YMCA basement **>30** years ago and is a **501(c)(3)**.
- Program model: one-to-one matches of community adults with youth **ages 5–14**; meet **2–4×/month** for **1–2 hours** with a **1-year** minimum; child safety enforced via interviews, reference and background checks, trained case managers, and monthly follow-up.
- Long-term outcomes from national studies: littles were **46%** less likely to use illegal drugs, **27%** less likely to use alcohol, **52%** less likely to skip school; littles were **20%** more likely to attend college; one-year mentorship correlated with **15%** higher lifetime earnings and closed about **two-thirds** of the opportunity gap.
- 2026 initiatives: partner with Decatur Home Builders to build ramps addressing a United Way backlog of **27** homebound residents; senior-home garden projects with ongoing mentorship; replace Mentor 2.0 with “Big Futures” for career/college readiness; launch small-group mentoring (1 mentor: **3–4** littles) and large-group programs to address a waitlist of up to **200** names.
- Funding and volunteer needs: lost federal funding equal to **25%** of annual budget; seeking fundraising, sponsors, event participants (Bowl for Kids' Sake, golf outing), one-on-one mentors, activity volunteers, board members, and community advocates.



For volunteer opportunities call 217-428-4240 or Doris Mabry said she'd connect you if you give her a call.

Health Report: Cathy Sebok - none

Attendance: Lynda Durnil

52 members 1 speaker 3 guests 4 Kiwanian guests 60 Total

Dick Virgin – word of the week – **munificence** – the quality or action of being lavishly generous, great generosity. Bob Lewis received a prize for the correct guess.

“Guess the Kiwanian” – Karen Sivils received a prize for correctly guessing Susan Rayhill.

Announcements:

Cheryl Boss – from Kyle Karsten (Macon Resources) – next Wednesday (3/11), Thursday, Friday is a fundraiser for MRI at the opening of Jersey Mike's Subs on Mound Road. She has tickets which allow you to receive their standard sub free for a \$3 donation to MRI.

Cathy Sebok – March 8 is the next Careage House meal.

Ralph Czerwinski – March 28, 29 is the Children's Play at the Virginia Rogers theater at Millikin. The title is Boxed In Out! It's especially designed for children & provides an opportunity for Millikin students to apply their talents. The play is our #3 fundraiser activity. Tickets are on sale now, donations are welcome.

Susan Rayhill

- Next Good Samaritan Inn is March 24
- She has trauma doll material & stuffing to take home
- This month we're collecting items for Dove's Domestic Violence & God's Shelter of Love. Think of the items you use when you get up in the morning (comb, toothpaste, etc.)
- Operation Enduring Support is collecting items to send to the troops until March 9. Drop off at Grace Methodist Church.

Jackie Evans – Scholarship applications are in. They have 66 college applications & 16 trade applications for the \$1500 scholarships. She recognized her committee – Sally Williams, Dan Sebok, Ron Black, Jacki Woodward, Kathy Thompson.

Paula Luckenbill – **lids workshop tomorrow, zoo, 9-noon, early birds – 8:30.** It's a crucial time – she has no bench orders. Flip tabs are going well. The file from the 9/11 Memorial has been found.

Karen Sivils – needs to borrow 1 or 2 large coolers for Kite Day, April 18

Tom McQuiston – By Laws committee today

- Board meeting next Monday, March 9, Central Christian Church, 1pm

Key Club Updates:

St. Teresa Key Club: meets 1st Sunday of the month, 6pm, All Purpose Room

Mt. Zion Key Club: meets 4th Sunday of the month, 6pm, cafeteria

Dates to Remember:

3/6/26 **Lid Workshop, zoo, 9-noon, early birds – 8:30**

3/8/26 Careage House Meal 6pm

3/9/26 Board meeting, Central Christian Church, 1 pm

3/24/26 Good Samaritan Inn, 11-1

3/28,29/26 Millikin "Children's Play"

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Kevin Cleary

Birthdays: Harold Dausman, Kevin Wilmot

Anniversaries: None

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

Quote from Bob Hope: I grew up with six brothers, that's how I learned to dance, waiting for the bathroom!

50-50 Drawing: Sherry Padgett (Kiwanis Guest) did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$75 rolls over. Get your tickets!

Up Coming Programs:

3/11/26 Denise Myers, Millikin University

3/18/26 Kent Newton, Sanitary District of Decatur

3/25/26 Elizabeth Riddle, Meals on Wheels

4/1/26 Bruce Nims, Group hiking trips to Switzerland & Italy

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

Speaker ideas...if you have an idea for a Golden K speaker, please let John Baird or Mark Avery know.

Story for today: Jerry Pelz

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

Substitute Editors: Lynda Durnil & Roberta Williams

Click to view meeting

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

Facebook:

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