



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

April 1, 2026

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

Invocation: Mark Avery

Piano: John Baird

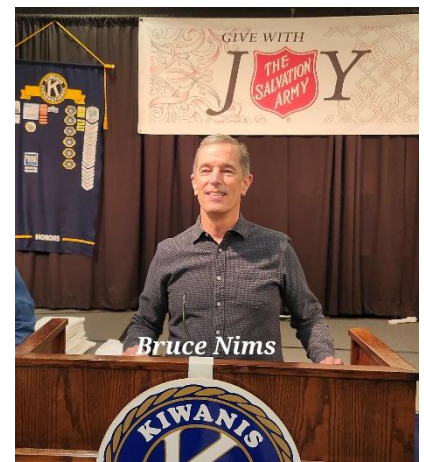
Mike Runners: Harold Dausman, Dan Sebok

Photographer: Joel Hawkinson

Program: John Baird introduced Bruce Nims.

Guest talk — Bruce: Switzerland & Italy hikes

- Took two hikes in **2025:** Way of St. James (Switzerland) and Alta Via 2 through Gran Paradiso National Park (Italy); trips occurred in early/mid-summer (**July–August**).



- Both hikes covered roughly ~**100 miles** total; Italian route had substantially greater elevation change and high-alpine terrain (up to ~a couple miles high) while Swiss walking stayed around ~**1,400 m** in valleys.
- Swiss hike was outfitter-organized, luggage-supported, hotel-based, well-marked pilgrimage trail with a phone navigation app; group size ≈ **10**; one participant became ill mid-trip and later recovered.
- Italian hike was self-planned from a guidebook and maps, required carrying backpacks for nine days, used mixed refuges and hotels, started with **5** participants (one withdrew after 2 days), and included technical 'EE' sections requiring ropes, poles, and caution; one minor injury (leg scrape) was treated on trail.
- Notable logistics and experiences: day trip to Liechtenstein; lake boat crossing; wildlife encounters (cow, eagle); refuges with dormitory bunks and communal meals; practical tips—bring earplugs, poles, pack covers, and plan alternate transport options.

Health Report: Roberta Williams – Marcia Uchtorff still in hospital. Betsy Herald & Kathy Ferguson appreciate cards, Rich Wessel improving.

Attendance: Lynda Durnil

42 members 1 speaker 1 guest 44 Total

Dick Virgin – word of the week – **nudiustertian** – the day before yesterday.
Harold Wilkinson received a prize for a creative answer!

Announcements:

Dan Sebok – 2 people still in the money in Charity Mania, but not in GK.

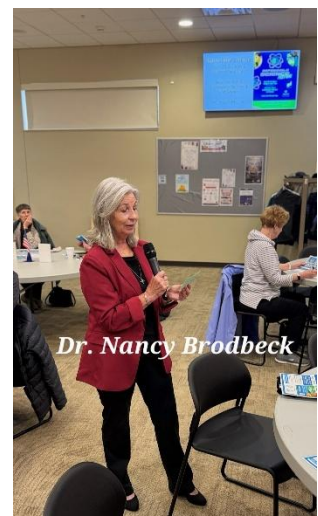
- St. T. Key Club meets this Sunday, 6pm, All Purpose Room at St. T.

Mary Jean Bauer – Taking reservations for the Spring Luncheon, Wednesday, April 22, 1pm, KC Hall, \$15. Spouses, guests welcome. Sign up.

Ralph Czerwinski – Children’s Play was last Saturday & Sunday. Total of 100 children attended. Financial information is not in yet.

Karen Sivils – April 18 is Kite Day, Sinawik Park. Signup – 3 different shifts. Bring a chair & enjoy the day!

Nancy Brodbeck, Assistant Superintendent, Regional Office of Education (guest) – April 29,30, May 1, 9-2pm each day, needs 16 volunteers each day to help monitor approximately 800 4th & 5th grade students at 15 stations during the Impossible Science Festival at the Decatur Civic Center. Email Jill Reedy at jreedy@roe39.org to help.



Dr. Nancy Brodbeck

Tom McQuistion – read thank you note from Vanessa Duncan, Assistant Director of Special Olympics Polar Plunge. We donated \$500.

- Kite Day, April 18 – everyone participate!

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:

4/12/26 Careage House meal

4/13/26 Board Meeting, Central Christian Church, 1pm

4/15/26 GK elections

4/18/26 Kite Day, noon-4pm, Sinawik Park

4/22/26 Spring Luncheon, KC Hall, 1pm

4/25/26 Rock Springs Festival of Spring, park cars

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Kevin Cleary

Birthdays: Sandra Walker

Anniversaries: None

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

Famous Quotes: Grand children: By the time the younger children are old enough to keep the place tidy, the oldest grandchildren are on hand to tear it to pieces again!

50-50 Drawing: Jacki Woodward did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$227 rolls over. Get your tickets!

Up Coming Programs:

4/8/26 Debbie Bogle, United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois

4/15/26 Grant Bullock, Master of Science in Education, Suicide Prevention

4/22/26 Crystal Hoadley, Sunshine School Supplies

4/29/26 Linda Boles, Decatur Quilters Guild

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>