



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 8, 2026

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

Invocation: Ron Black

Piano: John Baird

Mike Runners: Harold Dausman, Dan Sebok

Photographer: Joel Hawkinson

Program: Mark Avery introduced **Debbie Bogle, President of United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois.**

- Operates as a tax-exempt nonprofit (**501(c)**) while functioning as a business to evolve with community needs.
- Prioritizes measurable outcomes and return on investment over one-time charity; about **50%** of activities remain annual fundraising and local program investments.
- Conducts volunteer-led, jury-style investment reviews of agency applications, budgets, and measurable outcomes.

- Provides **211** information-referral hotline for non-emergency services; free, confidential, nationally accessible; collects caller demographics and needs.
- Uses **211** data to identify service gaps and seasonal trends (domestic-violence calls rise in **August** and around the **holidays**); **10 years** of local operation.

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

- Partner in Dolly Parton Imagination Library across **six counties**; **over 4,000** children receive books mailed monthly from birth to age **5**.
- United Way funds the books; local organization pays shipping; Dolly Parton Foundation handles mailing.
- First responder and veteran counselor program covers fire, police, ER nurses, EMTs, and dispatch.
- Program focuses on retention and early intervention to prevent self-medication and job departure; has served many first responders and veterans.



Alice program deep dive (data & strategy)

- Program started during the pandemic with a donor **\$30,000**, created a landlord-association partnership, then grew with **\$100,000** and an annual grant from the **Howard G. Buffett Foundation**.
- Alice = Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed; describes working-class families one small shock from falling into poverty.
- Program provides one-time short-term crisis aid (rent/mortgage, utilities, furnace/auto repairs, transportation, childcare) and coordinates in-kind help from local businesses.
- Impact and community data: served over **1,000** people in ~6 years with only **5–6** repeat clients; Macon County **44%** in Alice or poverty (**29%** Alice).
- Long-term strategy focuses on moving families to self-sufficiency across the life cycle (pre-birth, early education, K–3 reading, high-school college/work readiness, adult training), uses a benefits-cliff calculator, and targets community change over a **10-year** horizon.

Volunteer investment review process

- Investment process occurs **annually**; volunteers receive training.
- Review sessions last a whole day, sometimes **a day-and-a-half**, previously **week-long** per line of effort with site visits.
- Volunteers typically use **one day off** to participate.
- Volunteers review program budgets, outcomes, and applications; agencies present and answer questions.
- Presentations run back-to-back with a new organization every **30 minutes**; group discussion and decisions occur at the end of the day.

Dick Virgin – word of the week – yarborough – is a hand of cards you are dealt in a card game in which your hand has no cards above a nine. No one guessed the meaning.

Health Report: Roberta Williams – Mike Wortman doing fine after surgery. Marcia Uchtorff at Mt. Zion Health & Rehab Center.

Attendance: Lynda Durnil

51 members 1 speaker 1 guest 53 Total

Announcements:

Charles Smith – April 25th is the Festival of Spring at Rock Springs. Sign up to help park cars

Kyle Anderson – announcements about golf outing, June 12: pick up envelopes to deliver to businesses & be thinking about the silent auction.

Dan Sebok – 3 people won money in Charity Mania (2 in GK) – John Baird, Linda Thomas, one from VFW. GK made \$1400 on this!

- 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. Next week is the last sign up.

Susan Rayhill – She & Steve delivered our donated items to Dove's Domestic Violence & God's Shelter of Love. Took 18 trauma dolls to Dove & 15 to God's Shelter.

- Good Samaritan Inn – April 28, 11-1pm. Sign up now
- April 23, 4-6pm is the Good Samaritan Appreciation Dinner. GK will be honored. RSVP at the Inn, call 217-429-1455, or email office@goodsaminn.org.

John Baird – The Sanitary District of Decatur's newsletter featured an article on GK (3 weeks ago, our speaker was their Executive Director.)

Karen Sivils – April 18 is Kite Day, Sinawik Park. Signup – 3 different shifts. Bring a chair & enjoy the day! She showed several kites that will be given to children.

Mark Avery – The QR code given last week by Nancy Brodneck to volunteer at the Impossible Science Festival, April 29-May 1 is not functional. Contact Mark for the new one:

Paula Luckenbill – we're invited to a booth at the Rock Springs Festival of Spring, April 25. The flip tabs will be highlighted & the bench program.

- **This Friday, April 10th, lids workshop, zoo, 9-noon, 8:30 early birds.** She appreciates all the help. Orders are picking up, but still not ready to accept lids.
- She's going to Green Tree Friday, April 17 to take lids & get a couple more benches.

- Flip tab collection is going well. The Devon will be collecting this year at their performances. Melanie Schelling is donating all the containers to collect them.

Harold Wilkinson – The Millikin Homestead is sponsoring a chess activity. If you have a chess set you'd like to display or play in a competition, sign up next week.

Tom McQuiston – he displayed a sweatshirt the Special Olympics donated to us as a thank you for our donation. Giving it to Dick Virgin to use as a prize.

- Read a thank you from Tuscola for those GK who helped stuff Easter eggs
- Read a thank you from Kiwanis Children's Fund for our \$1,000 donation.
- Former member, Jerry Hunt, passed away in California on April 3.

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:

4/10/26 Lids workshop, zoo, 9-noon, early birds at 8:30.

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

4/23/26 Appreciation Dinner, 4-6pm Good Samaritan

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

4/28/26 Good Samaritan Inn, 11-1pm

Birthdays & Anniversaries: Kevin Cleary

Birthdays: Bill Peveler, Ralph Czerwinski

Anniversaries: Frank Ciastko

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

Famous Quotes: Bob Hope: "Don't tempt me, I can resist anything but temptation!"

50-50 Drawing: Linda Thomas did not draw the Queen of Hearts. The \$261 rolls over. Get your tickets!

Up Coming Programs:

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

5/6/26 Vanessa Duncan, Special Olympics

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: Bob Lewis

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>