Serving the Grants Pass/Josephine County Community

June 2023 Newsletter -- Second Quarter



GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

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President's Corner

Happy June my fellow Kiwanians!

Our second Newsletter! How cool is that, huh?!? As we enter the summer BBQ and camping season, I think of the good times we can all have when we gather for food, fun, and family.

Our club is indeed a family – whether we are related or not. We have adopted others in our community who want to see our city and county improve, and even if we have differing opinions of all other topics, that is one in which we can all agree.

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Introduction

This past three (3) months have been very busy for our Club and we're looking at an even busier summer ahead! **March 1st**, the Club hosted its first *Grants Pass Chamber Greeters* meeting which was well received by our local business community. The meeting was packed and this venue gave the Club an opportunity to update and inform those in attendance of the progress of the many youth based service programs *Grants Pass Kiwanas Club* sponsors.



April 22nd, another successful *Chili Cookoff & Auction* fundraising event organized by member, Nancy Swain was held at the Fruitdale Grange. More details on Page 2.



April 29th, the Club participated in the *YMCA's Healthy Kids Day* for a day of fun and healthy activities for the entire family.

May 6th, Kiwanis and Key Club members met up at Wildlife Images for the quarterly spruce up and cleaning of

Yak, the Alaskan brown bear's pen enclosure and surrounding area. Donning their work clothes, boots and gloves, they tackled the clean-up with smiles and good humor. Well done team!



May 9th, the Club hosted this year's

Biz for Kidz's Give-A-Palooza event, which was a huge success! More details on Page 4.

Our mission is to keep members, partners, and our community informed and up-to-date on the status of the Grants Pass Kiwanis programs, such as Biz for Kidz, Reading is Fun, Peanut Butter, Quilts for Kids, Kaden's Kids, grants and scholarship awards. The Newsletter will be distributed quarterly and posted on our website at <u>www.grantspasskiwanis.org</u>.

We thank our *Biz for Kidz* Partners and our *Kaden's Kids* Partners for their generosity in supporting the many youth-based programs we support.

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Partner Profile

Read our Partner Profile and get to know our Partners. Each issue, we will recognize several partners to thank them for supporting our **Biz for Kidz** program!



Thank you to long term Partners, *AllCare Health,* a locally owned physican–led medical organization headquar-

tered in Grants Pass. It's focus is to help make healthcare simpler and better for the people of Southern Oregon while controlling costs for both patients and tax payers.

President's Corner

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Our club has seen recent successes, sudden losses, and significant differing of opinions - and these events only makes the feeling of family stronger.

I just want to tell each member of our club how honored I am to be part of this group and how leading this club has been one of the highlights of my career, even if it is for a brief time. Please continue the difficult work we have ahead of us, and be good humans!

"Frank In Stein" Boothby Grants Pass Kiwanis Club President 2022-2023 Thank you to our Partner, Redwood Glass whose business offers glass and related services in a timely and professional manner, with customer satisfaction being their top priority. Your satisfaction as a customer is their Number One Goal!



Annual Chili/Cornbread Cookoff & Auction

Another successful and fun *Chili/Cornbread Cook-off & Auction* held this year at the Fruitdale Grange, organized by our very own Nancy Swain! The wide



variety of chili and cornbread entries made voting challenging. All were delicious! After tasting every single one of the 14 chili entries, first place went to Melinda Matson whose chili knocked it out of the ballpark! Coming in a close second was Past-President, Joe Henner's daughter, Stephanie with her delicious chili! Robert Jackson, reigning Cornbread Champion won again this

year and wasn't even going to enter the competition! All winners received a \$25 giftcard to Applebee's!

Auctioneer Joe Henner, aided by his grandson, Garrett started off the bidding. What a great team they make! Many wonderful items were auctioned off bringing in a whopping \$2,800 towards Club funds. As Nancy stated: *We always seem to come through for the kids of our community and the place we love to call home. We Rock!!*

A big shout out and thank to all who helped with the many tasks involved in making this another successful and fun event! Thank You!

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Biz for Kidz 2023 Give-A-Palooza Event

On May 9, 2023 the 13th annual Give-A-Palooza awards presentation along with the Grants Pass Kiwanis Club's 75th anniversary celebration

were a tremendous success! The event is our annual opportunity to **THANK** our *Biz for Kids* partners who, through their continued generosity, helped us achieve and surpass our 2022 fundraising goal of \$62,000. 100% of donated funds are



distributed to Josephine County youth-based programs, grants and scholarships. We were privileged to have all grant recipient representatives in attendance, and each spoke to the impact and importance of the grants to their youth-based non-profit organizations. Subsequent to our celebration, the 2023 scholarship awards were presented to the following students at the four high schools in Josephine County.

2023 Grant Recipients

Boys & Girls Club of the Rogue Valley **Crossing Bridges Therapeutic Riding Center** Canine Angels Support Teams **Fusion Performing Arts Alliance** Grants Pass Family YMCA JOE'S Place Ministries Josephine Community Library Foundation Josephine County Foundation Our Foster Kids Project Youth+ - Kid o'Copia Sleep in Heavenly Peace - Josephine County Chapter Wildlife Images Rehabilitation & Educational Center



Congratulations to the 2023 Scholarship Winners!

2023 Academic Scholarship <u>Awards</u>

Zinnia Figueroa, HVHS Brisa Murillo, NVHS Khiara Thomas, GPHS Alyssa Trotter, IVHS

2023 Vocational Scholarship Awards

Cindy Barbosa, GPHS Caleb Christian, HVHS Rebekah Merrill, IVHS Anna Young, GPHS

2023 Kiwanis Project Youth+ Awards

Nya Cooke, NVHS Sunny Giroux, IVHS Morgan Neill, HVHS Lorraine Selvas, GPHS

2023 Dick Hall Service Award

Khiara Thomas, GPHS

2023 Justin George Scholarship

Mia Maier, GPHS



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Spotlight On Our Members

Featured Kiwanian: Curt Rossknecht

<u>Birth Place</u>: Born in Hot Springs, South Dakota, famous for its *Mammoth Site* and *Evans Plunge* hot springs, also known for its world famous bison burgers!

<u>Family</u>: Curt's immediate family is his best friend and beautiful wife, Julie, his brothers Bill and Dan and his sister, Jane. He is very proud to share that his parents were happily married for 50 years.

Best Advice from Parents: Max out your 401K. It was a crazy thought but the tax advantages minimized the lower amount of take home pay.

Favorite Movie: Curt loves his movies and *Wrong Missy*, *The Other Guys*, *Jeremiah Johnson*, and *Shawshank Redemption* are among his favorites.

Favorite Book: Grand Canyon Thunder by Gary McCarthy

This book is a story about the first exploration of the Grand Canyon by white men who started out in Green River, Wyoming and traveled in what was described as Bulls Boats made partially from animal hides. The Green River eventually drains into the Colorado River where the roaring white waters are scary and dangerous. Three members of the party felt is was too dangerous and decided to leave the expedition party at a place later named Separation Falls. The story is about those three members (in real life, they were never heard from again). Two were killed by Indians but the third, William Dunn, a mountain man survives and lives a successful life. It's a story of fearless river adventurers, brave and beautiful women and early Mormon pioneers all of whose lives are interwoven with the Navajo, Hopi and Havasupai people. An epic tale of undying courage and although the story itself is fictional, it contains lots of historical facts. Worth the read!

<u>Favorite Quote</u>: If you tell the truth, you don't have to have a good memory. This comes in handy as the older I get, my memory isn't quite as good as it was.

<u>Most Interesting Place Visited</u>: My visit to Bear Tooth Pass, Montana in the Springtime. Considered one of the most beautiful drives in America—it really is! You can access Yellowstone's north east entrance from there.

Experiences: When I was in my thirties, our family travelled to Germany for a family reunion where I met cousins and relatives who lived there. As a kid, I had heard stories from my father about a cousin owning a hotel on a lake in Germany. It turned out to be a true story! We got to visit and stay at the lovely **Hotel Schiff** in Langenargen on beautiful **Lake Constance**. What an amazing adventure that trip was!

Funniest/Most Interesting Experience: In 7th grade, my sister, Jane who was in 5th grade, happened to be the same size as me. One morning I tried on her red denim pants which had a zipper in the back. My brothers said, they look wonderful on you Curt, you should wear them to school. After a lot of praise and convincing, I headed to school on the school bus along with my brothers who assured me I looked really good in those red denim

pants. As a stepped off the bus, they both started yelling and screaming: **He's wearing his sister's pants**, **he's wearing his sister's pants**! That was a very long day!

<u>Unique Characteristic</u>: I love to tell people a lot of useless trivia. Did you know that Pablo Escobar was so rich that he spent \$2,500 a month on rubber bands to wrap his bundles of money? I am kind of a Cliff Claven!!!

The Grants Pass Kiwanis Club is successful because of its many volunteer members who give so freely of their time and effort.

CURT, THANK YOU FOR BEING A LONG STANDING AND VALUED MEMBER OF OUR CLUB!







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Current & Upcoming Events

June 10 - *Kid O'Copia (*Kid's Dash and Frog o"Faire) events held Saturday at Grants Pass High School's Russ Werner field — a day of FREE super fun activities for the kids. All are welcome to swing by the *Grants Pass Kiwanis Club's* tie-dye booth where kids can create their very own tie-dye designs. All tie-dye materials will be provided at the booth. Event is from 9 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

June 16 - Dutch Bros Give Back Day! \$1 from every drink sold will be donated to the Julie Horowitz Reading is Fun Biz for Kidz Program. Support this wonderful program that helps children in K - 3rd Grade learn to read so that by the time they reach Grades 4-12, they can read to learn and develop a love of learning which may help them succeed in school. Last year, this program distributed 10,000 books to Josephine County Schools. Approximately 134 Grade K-3 teachers in 13 public schools actively participate in the Julie Horowitz Reading is Fun Program in Josephine County and Wolf Creek Charter (Three Rivers). Mark your calendars!





Imagine a nation where every child from birth to Kindergarten is surrounded by books, has an adult who reads with them every day, and has access to high-quality early education that provides a foundation for a lifelong love of reading and learning!

Calendar of Events — For an updated list of club events and meetings, please visit our

website at www.grantspasskiwanis.org.

Board Members-2022/2023

Noreen Griffin Beth Harden Robert Jackson Debbie Johnson Lonnie Johnson Melinda Matson Julie Rossknecht Nancy Swain

Officers

President, Frank Boothby Treasurer, Dan Horowitz Secretary, M Diedre Wilton-Kuna Past President, Joe Henner

Grants Pass Kiwanis Club PO Box 801 Grants Pass, OR 97528 Club Contacts President, Frank Boothby frank@pyplus.org

Membership Chair, Lonnie Johnson damaro@budget.net

Programs and Meetings Chair, Robert Jackson rjslowtyper@yahoo.com

The Grants Pass Kiwanis Club meet Tuesdays for lunch from NOON — 1 PM at Elmers Restaurant, 175 NE Agness Ave., Grants Pass, OR.

The 3rd Tuesday of each month is an evening meeting currently scheduled at 6 PM at the Black Bear Diner, 1900 NW Sixth Street, Grants Pass, OR. See online calendar for location and details. You are welcome to join us!

Newsletter submissions may be emailed to Noreen Griffin at nicnoirin@gmail.com. Visit our Website: <u>www.grantspasskiwanis.org</u>

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