

GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB

Serving the Grants Pass/Josephine County Community

September 2023 Newsletter— Third Quarter



GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

In this issue:

- ◆ President's Corner
- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ Partner Profile
- ◆ Kaden's Kids
- ◆ Member Spotlight
- ◆ Current & Upcoming Events
- ◆ Board Members, Meetings & Contact Information

Introduction

After a relaxing and fairly quiet Summer, we are gearing up for a busy Fall season!

July 8: This year's Division BBQ was held at Blue Heron Park in Phoenix. It was well attended with members from each of the following five (5) Clubs attending: Ashland, Caveman, Grants Pass, Siskiyou and Table Rock. The BBQ event was a great opportunity for members to connect with other Division club members, and share ideas while enjoying some excellent food.



August 26th Foster Family Picnic.

Our Foster Kids and Every Child joined together to provide 18 foster families with a picnic of hot dogs, snow cones, watermelon and cake.

Activities included bingo and a water castle. There was a section set up with school supplies where each child chose their own back pack and filled it



with school supplies so they were prepared for back to school day. Also, along with the help of parents and volunteers, they shopped for coats, shoes, boots and other clothing items.

August 9th—13th Grants Pass Fair Parking :

The 2023 Fair Parking managed by Kiwanians was a record-setter. Kiwanis travelled from all over the Pacific Northwest from as far away as British Columbia, Washington and northern Oregon. A total of nine (9) Kiwanians, including our very own President-Elect, Debbie Johnson managed this year's Fair Parking. With high temperatures over the 4-day period, it was hot, sweaty work, and as true Kiwanians, they stood their watches, ate "Fair Food" and persevered! During the Josh Turner concert, the parking lots were filled to overflowing. Every dollar raised as a result of their work went to the PNW District budget. Those funds will help offset the possibility of raising member dues to avoid costing Club members more to serve their communities, and those children we seek to serve.



President's Corner

I have a very special **THANK YOU** to all my fellow Grants Pass Kiwanians for putting up with my shenanigans for the last year! What can I say – it has been an absolute whirlwind of work, play, stress, and a lot of agenda creation! I have enjoyed 99% of it! I kid, it was all a wonderful experience I would not trade it for anything.

I do have a couple special shout outs:

Nancy Swain who planned and hosted all of our parties this year! Thanks Nancy – they were awesome!

Melinda Matson – I mean our club would implode without her meticulous organization and
Continued on Page 2

GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB

Serving the Grants Pass/Josephine County Community

September 2023 Newsletter— Third Quarter



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 Partner, **Evergreen Federal Bank**, a local Grants Pass bank serving Southern Oregon for 89 years. With conservative business practices and progressive leadership, **Evergreen** has established

itself as a viable, homegrown financial institution that has not lost sign of its mission — **Community Matters!**

President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)
willingness to step up.

Lastly to our **Kiwanian of the Year**, Curt Rossknecht. He is the definition of what our club holds dear – participation, volunteerism, and a deep desire to help our community and youth thrive! Thanks Curt for being so friggin' awesome!

I did it everyone! I made it a year as President and kept my sanity. It has been an honor and privilege. Here's to many more years of success from the Grants Pass Kiwanis Club!!!

"Frank In Stein" Boothby
Grants Pass Kiwanis Club President
2022-2023



Let Us Remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world!

Malala Yousafzai

Thank you to our long term Partner, **The Kitchen Company**. It is



the store to visit when shopping for the perfect gift for the chef in your family. Peruse the wide variety of kitchen-related products available for purchase and enjoy the amazing in-store experience when you shop at **The Kitchen Company**.



In 2022 the **Grants Pass Kiwanis Club** formed Kaden's Kids in memory of Kaden Hopkins who succumbed to cancer at age 5 in 2007.

The Club received a generous \$10,000 endowment from the **Amaranthus Family Foundation** specifying the funds be used to help families with children battling cancer defray travel and lodging expenses for medical treatment required outside of Grants Pass,

Our Club's goal is to continue to help families cope with expenses incurred in the immediate and stressful aftermath of a child's cancer diagnosis by continuing to raise money and awareness for children battling cancer in Josephine County.

On September 24th, the 1st Annual **Rex on the Rogue Race** was held at the Grants Pass Downs. 40 runners in T-Rex costumes participated in this very successful and fun event. It was a huge success thanks to **Laurel Tucker** who organized this event. More details and photos will be covered in our next Newsletter issue.

Get ready for the 2nd Annual **Kaden's Kids Dine-to-Donate** event scheduled for the month of November. Visit participating restaurants in Downtown Grants Pass and order the Special of the Day. \$1 from each Special of the Day sold will go towards Kaden's Kids.

GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB

Serving the Grants Pass/Josephine County Community

September 2023 Newsletter— Third Quarter



Spotlight On Our Members

Featured Kiwanian: Quin Collins Pehrson

Birth Place: Born in Grants Pass, Oregon, home of the Caveman! Our lovely hometown, Grants Pass situated on the Rogue River and renowned for its fishing, white water rafting, climate and burgeoning wine region!

Family: Married 3 years to my wonderful husband, Greg Pehrson and our 8 month old son, Mason.

Best Advice from Parents: *No one is thinking about you as much as you are.* This has helped me to manage my anxiety and overthinking conversations, interactions, or situations.

Favorite Movie: *Shawshank Redemption.*

Favorite Book: *Being Mortal* by Atul Gawande

It examines the limitations and failures in our culture and medical system as people age, and that the ultimate goal is not a good death, but a good life until the very end. This book considers our experience of living and dying in the 21st century and is a meditation on how people can better live with age-related frailty, serious illness and approaching death.

Favorite Quote: *Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better!* by Maya Angelou

Most Interesting Place Visited: Costa Rica

Meaningful Experience: *I have been very fortunate to have several mentors that have absolutely changed my life - the willingness of key people to invest and care about me has been such a gift.*

*As a result, I feel a strong sense of responsibility to pay that forward, and have been blessed with a career where I get to do that. I still remember my first six months working for **College Dreams** (now **Project Youth+**), where I was able to see the impact that could be made on young people who just needed support, consistency and resources. Seeing the difference that could be made with an individual student was inspiring.*

Unique Characteristic: *I have the ability to form connections between people or opportunities, and see where things align in unique ways.*

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

QUIN, THANK YOU FOR BEING A VALUED MEMBER OF OUR CLUB!



GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB

Serving the Grants Pass/Josephine County Community

September 2023 Newsletter— Third Quarter



Current & Upcoming Events



September 9 - YAK, the Alaskan brown bear's pen and enclosure clean up. Kiwanis Club and Key Club volunteers will don their work clothes, boots and gloves to tackle cleaning up and making his den cozy and comfy for the winter months. Event was from 9 a.m. — noon.

September 24th, *Dinosaur races for a mighty good cause!* This past Sunday, the first annual **Rex on the Rogue Race** took place at the Grants Pass Downs racetrack and was a tremendous success!! 40 runners in T-Rex costumes flew out of the gate and made a true run for charity! This FUNdraising event's purpose was to raise funds for the Grants Pass Kiwanis Club's **Kaden's Kids Program** to help Josephine County families defray the cost of travel, lodging and other related expenses when medical treatment is required outside of Josephine County for a child diagnosed with cancer. Check our December Newsletter edition for more detailed information and event photos!



November TBD: Partnering with **Sleep in Heavenly Peace**, Kiwanis Club members assist with building bunk beds so *that no kid sleeps on the floor in our town!*

November 9th: 'Tis the season when Club members volunteer their time participating in the annual bellringing with Salvation Army.

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.

See online calendar for location and details. You are welcome to join us!

Newsletter submissions may be emailed to Noreen Griffin at nicoirin@gmail.com.

Visit our Website: www.grantspasskiwanis.org

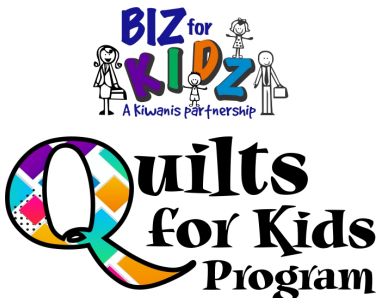
GRANTS PASS KIWANIS CLUB

Serving the Grants Pass/Josephine County Community

September 2023 Newsletter— Third Quarter



Julie Horowitz*



SUPPORTING JOSEPHINE COUNTY FAMILIES
WITH CHILDREN BATTLING CANCER