



Kiwaniis Korner

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

.....Serving the children of the world

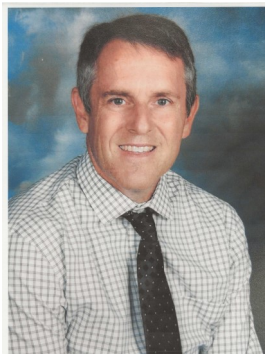
1921

103 YEARS OF SERVICE TO KIDS AND THE COMMUNITY

December 2, 2024

PRESIDENT'S KORNER by Matt Grant

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone in the Kiwanis organization. Your unwavering dedication truly makes a difference in our community, especially in the lives of students. The impact of your efforts is something I've witnessed firsthand, particularly through the *Achieving by Believing Award*, a program that recognizes students who have overcome adversity, shown exceptional leadership, and persevered through difficult times. As a principal, presenting this award is one of my greatest joys. Together, we're making a lasting impact—one student, one story, one life at a time.



This award changes lives. I've lost count of how many parents have been brought to tears because it was the first time their child had ever been acknowledged in such a meaningful way. One parent shared that there wasn't a dry eye in her house when her daughter won the award—it was a powerful moment that validated her kindness and determination. Another parent expressed gratitude for the recognition her son received after battling through a concussion that sidelined him from soccer. She told me how deeply it meant to her family to have his strength noticed and celebrated.

The stories don't end there. A former student recently reminded me of the time I took him to receive his award at a Kiwanis meeting. He recalled it as a highlight of his high school years, even remembering how I bought him a coat because he was cold on the ride. That student is now a parent with a child at our school, continuing the legacy of perseverance and gratitude.

We've honored students who have faced unimaginable challenges—like one who lost both parents to drug overdoses and is now about to graduate from college, or another who endured bullying because of his smell (he was homeless and couldn't shower) and is now a mechanic in our community. Many of you will remember Andrew Hughes, a wheelchair-bound student and the number one fan at OHS games. His positive spirit inspired everyone, and today, he's a greeter at Home Depot, still spreading joy.

Some of our former recipients have even gone on to become leaders in our schools, like Anthony Brock at Marshall Middle School and Condee Wood at Capital High School—both now principals in the Olympia School District.

(continued on page 2)

CLUB INFORMATION ~

Officers:

President: **Matt Grant**
President Elect: **Karen Fraser**
Vice President: **Anna Knudson**
Treasurer: **Nicole Muegge**
Secretary: **Jonathan Lindsay**
Immediate Past President: **Shawn Myers**

Board Members: through 2026—Derek Harris, Steve Hall, Mackenzie McCall
Through 2024—Curt Steigers and Sarah Beth Hernandez Huot
Through 2025 Kathy "KT" Thompson, Derek Valley email: info@olympiakiwanis.org
DIVISION 37 LT. Governor Vacant

Board of Directors Meetings:

Monthly during the 4th Wednesday of the month at noon via Zoom. Next meeting: December 5th.

MAILING ADDRESS:

P O BOX 1847 Olympia 98507-1847

LUNCH MEETINGS:

**2nd and 4th Monday at 12 noon at TUGBOAT ANNIES
VIEWPOINT ROOM—2100 West Bay Drive NW, Olympia**

DON'T MISS THESE MEETINGS!

December 2nd—NO MEETING

**DECEMBER 9th—JOINT MEETING
WITH OLYMPIA ROTARY AT
INDIAN SUMMER—OHS BAND AND
CHOIR**

**December 16th—We're meeting at TBA!
Downtown for the Holidays**

December 23rd—NO MEETING

December 30th—NO MEETING

January 6th—NO MEETING

**January 13th—K-12 Education, by Roz
Thompson, WASP**

January 20th—NO MEETING

January 27th—Medical Equipment Bank

All Programs are tentative.'

**Kiwanis is a global organization of
volunteers dedicated to changing and
improving the world one child and one
community at a time.**

Kiwanis defining statement, adopted October, 2004

No longer forward nor behind
I look for hope or fear;
But, grateful, take the good I find,
The best of now and here.

John Greenleaf Whittier

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO

December 1—John Rumsey
December 9—Sam Hunt
December 20—Don Leaf
December 20—Dave Halverstadt
December 29—Bob Lien



*Did I miss your birthday? If so, please let
me know so I can add you to the birthday
list. Thanks, the Editor
janiceleebritt@comcast.net*

The best time machine is a song.



KIWANIS OBJECTIVES

To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than the material values of life.

To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business and professional standards.

To develop by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.

To provide, through the club, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build a better community.

To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will.

In 1924, Kiwanis International adopted the Six Permanent Objects of Kiwanis. One hundred years later, the Kiwanis Objects still guide our service. Celebrate the anniversary.

PRESIDENT'S KORNER by Matt Grant continued from page 1

Olympia Education Foundation's breakfast video featured one of our winners last year. The video can be accessed at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46zhUjiSM5Y>

In closing, I want to extend my deepest thanks to the Kiwanis Club for sponsoring the ***Achieving by Believing Award***. This program is a shining example of the transformative power of recognition, offering hope and encouragement to students who might otherwise go unnoticed. Your commitment to this award not only changes individual lives but also strengthens our community as a whole. Thank you for believing in the potential of our young people and for reminding us all that perseverance, kindness, and leadership are worth celebrating. Together, we are creating a legacy of resilience and success that will resonate for generations to come.

Matt Grant, President, Kiwanis Club of Olympia, and Principal, Olympia High School

When I'm worried and I can't sleep,
I count my blessings instead of sheep,
And I fall asleep counting my blessings.
When my bankroll is getting small,
I think of when I had none at all,
And I fall asleep counting my blessings
.....Irving Berlin © 1952



Did you know - Some ancient cultures, such as the Celts, believed that benevolent and helpful spirits lived in trees. Knocking on tree trunks roused a spirit for protection, which led to the saying "knock on wood."



Contributed by **Kathy Thompson**

OCTOBER SERVICE HOURS

Committee Work—46 Newsletter—4 Service Projects—282.5 Conventions—72 SLP Key Club—13 Events—14

CELEBRATE COMMUNITY—Olympia Rotary and Kiwanis Club of Olympia

Happy holidays, Kiwanians,

If you haven't registered already, please sign up today for our wonderful, annual holiday luncheon. Once again, it will feature the talented, fun Olympia High School chamber choir and jazz band. As has been our tradition for the past few decades, it will be a joint meeting with our fellow century-old service club, the Olympia Rotary Club.

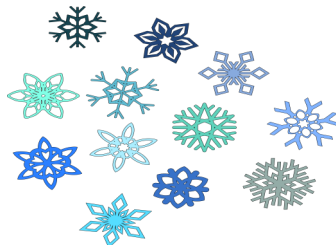
For many of us Kiwanians, it's the favorite program of the year. **It is set for Monday, December 9th, at the Indian Summer Golf & Country Club. Doors open at 11:30. The buffet starts at 11:45. Matt Grant will get the program underway at 12:15.**

For the special holiday buffet, the charge is \$35 a person.

We encourage you to register online. You can either do it at [Holiday Party](#). You can pay at the door but please arrive early. In either case, let me know. I need to get a good count of the Kiwanians attending.

Yours for getting in the spirit of the season,

Sam Reed



MARK YOUR CALEDARS!

Bell ringing for the Salvation Army red kettles will be on **December 14, 2024**, 10 am to 6 pm at the Tumwater Fred Meyer. **Jonathan Lindsay** will be sending out a sign up notification later this month.

Meanwhile, start singing those Holiday carols! Make sure your KI background check is up to day so you can chaperone our Key Clubbers who will be joining us. And, get ready to "Ring those bells!"



OLY ON ICE

As one of our sponsors, you must know that we could not do this without your support. Community events like Oly on Ice are reliant on the business community's support. And at the City of Olympia, we are so very grateful for your commitment to the community by choosing to be a sponsor for this joyful 8 week run of a seasonal ice rink.

I hope you truly realize the collective impact you, along with all of our sponsors, make. And feel the same sense of pride that I feel knowing our community can come together and do good things. Thank you so much for your support this year. And I hope we get to see you at the rink during this year's run.

.....**Scott River**, Oly Parks and Rec

Join OHS/CHS Key Clubs and fellow members for time on the ice on **Sunday the 12th January from 2-5pm.**

Wrap up your holiday season with some cheer and a skate. We will be promoting Kiwanis and Key Clubs and will have some fun activities for young kids to craft on while they visit. Bring your grandkids bring a neighbor kid and celebrate our collaboration with the City.

Questions? Contact **Joellen Wilhelm** or **Jonathan Lindsay**.



Olympia Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship

Phillip G. "Phil" Paulsrude 1916-2013



Phil Paulsrude started the Olympia Kiwanis Food Bank Garden which has produced over 350,000 pounds of fresh vegetables for the Thurston County Food Bank since 1991. Phil was awarded the highest Kiwanis honor, the *George F. Hixon Service Award*, and in 2008 he received the *Kiwanis Lifetime Achievement Award*.

Phil was many things during his lifetime. He graduated from St. Olaf College in 1934 and was active in his church and with music. Phil sang tenor in the world famous St. Olaf Choir. He worked in materials research at Boeing, and was a professor of zoology at Everett Junior College. He was also a product line engineer with the Simpson Timber Company. He later developed businesses and worked in construction and property development.

A member of the Olympia Kiwanis Club since 1984, in 1990 Phil proposed that the club grow vegetables for the hungry in our community. This could be accomplished on extra property he had at his then 11th street home. Thus started the Olympia Kiwanis Food Bank Gardens. When Phil sold later sold his property it was with the condition that the Olympia Kiwanis Garden be allowed to continue at the site.

The initial harvest was small compared to those that continue to this day, but it started a tradition of service and volunteer opportunities, while also providing educational experiences for children and others. In 1997, Phil was always supportive of students and education. The garden sites have been used to teach children from preschool through colleges and universities about botany, biology, and where our food comes from and how helping others builds character.



"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do... Explore. Dream. Discover."
- Mark Twain

AP 16 continued from right column

remove original records.

- Records older than seven (7) years of age will go to the Club History committee for use or archiving.

POLICIES OF THE OLYMPIA KIWANIS CLUB

May 2022

AP15: FISCAL CONTROL and CHECK SIGNING

- When collecting or receiving cash at Club fundraisers or service activities, there shall be at least two Kiwanis Club members who verify and document by signature and date, the starting, ending and deposit amounts of all funds handled.
- All disbursements or withdrawals from Kiwanis banking or investment accounts shall have two authorized signatures on the checks or other documents.
- A club debit and/or credit card may be used by designated officers / members as approved by the Board.
- Each new fiscal year, the new Board of Directors will approve and record in the minutes, the names of those who will have check signing authority on behalf of the Kiwanis Club for that fiscal year.

- The Finance Committee shall review the Club's bank account transactions and records at least once a month.

- Authorization to incur debt or expend Club resources comes through the adopted annual Budget.

AP16: FINANCIAL AND MEMBERSHIP DATA BASE ACCESS AND CONTROL

All Club and Foundation records will be maintained and secured by the Club Secretary for at least seven years, except current year financial records will be held by the Treasurer, and except past year financial records will be held by the Treasurer until the IRS Form 990's or equivalents are filed.

- By appointment with the Club Treasurer, Club financial records are available for review by any member.
- By appointment with the Club Secretary, all Club and Foundation records for the immediate past 7 years are available for review by any member. A member may make copies of the records, but may not

OLYMPIA KIWANIS CLUB COMMITTEES	Chairpersons and some members
Membership Growth and Education	Anna Knudson and Dan Myers
House Reception and Club Meetings	Curt Steigers
Human and Spiritual Values	Matt Grant
Circle K	Sharon Schnebly
Community Service	Jonathan Lindsay
Law Enforcement Youth Camp	Sharon Schnebly
Youth Services and Grants	Jane Field
Interclub Relations	Jonathan Lindsay
Programs	Sam Reed and Dave Peeler
Fundraising / Caring for Kids	Terry Bergeson, Mary Gould
Fire Wood for Needy	John Tobin
Garden	Don Leaf, Derek Valley
Newsletter	Jan Britt
Sponsored Youth and Key Clubs	Joellen Wilhelm
Communication and Social Media	Open
Club History	Sam Reed
Website:	Jonathan Lindsey
Nominating Committee	Mark Johnson and Sam Reed
Risk Management	Bob Lien

KIWANIS KUTTERS WOOD CREW SO FAR by John Tobin

This past year found our Kiwanis members working hard to gather, split and season a little over 100 cords of firewood.

Since October, your OKC Team delivered **34 firewood cords** for low income family's subsistence heating needs. That's over \$10,000 of firewood so far this heating year as a return on a \$1,400 budgeted expenses. We expect to triple that value between now and early Spring.

Always looking to build our club, your Firewood Bank members recruited two community members who donated wood to the Bank and are now hard-working Kiwanians! We also continue to partner with the Salvation Army, local Arborists and the other Agencies to collect wood and to connect to our neighbors in need.

As the days grow shorter and the nights colder, your fellow Kiwanians are bringing warmth to hearths throughout South Sound!



Giving Tree for LP Brown Elementary - Donate Gift Cards to Needy Families

LP Brown Elementary has asked that we help with their Giving Tree. LP Brown serves a high population of low income students - we can directly help families in need this holiday season.

Provides families who sign up with gift cards to purchase holiday gifts for their children, along with extra food support during the extended school break. This approach not only supports our families but allows them the autonomy to choose what works best for their needs.

We welcome \$25 gift cards to Target, Walmart, Safeway, Fred Meyer, and Grocery Outlet, or similar retailers.

Olympia Kiwanis has been a significant supporter of our Giving Tree event in previous years, and I am hopeful you will consider supporting us again this year.

Any contributions will directly assist families in need this December. If you would like to donate, please contact Jonathan or call Genevieve at (360) 596-6883.



JOIN US FOR GARY'S LAST RODEO

A retirement celebration for Commissioner and KCO **Member GARY EDWARDS** on December 17, 4-6 PM at the Atrium, Room 110, 3000 Pacific AVE SE, Olympia, 98501

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL REPORTS: We have launched [The Possibility Project](#), our first fundraising campaign dedicated solely to Kiwanis and the children we serve.

Your gift ensures clubs can receive urgent and necessary funds, helping Kiwanians positively impact even more children's lives. By donating today, you can reach the kids who need us the most.

1-800-549-2647 | +1-317-875-8755 helpline@kiwanis.org

DECEMBER SUNDAY 1	MONDAY 2- NO MEETING	TUESDAY 3	WEDNESDAY 4	THURSDAY 5	FRIDAY 6	SATURDAY 7—0900 West Garden and
8	9—MEET WITH ROTARY AT INDIAN SUMMER 11:30 AM	10	11	12	13	14- 0900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting
15	16-NO MEETING	17 4-6 PM Gary Edwards Retirement reception— 3000 Pacific Ave.	18	19	20	21—0900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting 0800-1000am
22	23— 12 Noon Tugboat Annie's	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY HANUKKAH Begins	26	27	28—900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting
29	30—NO MEETING	31—NEW YEAR's EVE	JANUARY 1	2	3	4—0900 West Side Garden And Wood Cutting

Kiwanis Korner

Published by the 10th of each month
 Editor Jan Britt
 P O Box 2362
 Olympia, WA 98507-2362
 janiceleebritt@comcast.net
 Also available on the website:
 Olympiakiwanis.org

Lord, most giving and resourceful, I implore you: make it your will that this people enjoy the goods and riches you naturally give, that naturally issue from you, that are pleasing and savory, that delight and comfort, though lasting but briefly, passing away as if in a dream.

Aztec, Mexico

HOW OUR GARDEN GROWS by James Wirth

Thanks everyone for a great Gardening and Gleaning Season. **Together, through the Kiwanis Gardens, Gleaning, and Community Gardens, we provided 48,031 pounds of produce for TCFB clients.**

The Kiwanis Gardens have been seeded with cover crop and ready to rest for the winter, with the exception of garlic that will grow throughout the winter at the Capitol Campus, and brussel sprouts that will get harvested in a couple of weeks at the West Side Garden.

We have to give our snaps this month to the nearly 507 individual volunteer shifts completed for a total of ~3,400 hours of your labor donated to the gardens over the last 8 months. Together we grew just over 15,000 lbs of vegetables for the community, with fall crops still coming on, and learned so much along the way. You all make this work and program possible and I have been inspired by the wealth of knowledge, community, and dedication everyone brings to the space.

We look forward to the next growing season already but we would love your continued help finishing out the season strong in getting the garden sites to a secure and stable position for the oncoming torrential downpour that is our lovely winters. Pictures credited to our new intern Amber and our Endive harvest and processing.

