



# Kiwaniis Korner

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

.....Serving the children of the world .....

1921

104 YEARS OF SERVICE TO KIDS AND THE COMMUNITY

February 2, 2025

## PRESIDENT'S KORNER by Matt Grant

Hello Everyone, This month I asked **Anna Knudson**, our Membership Co-Chair, to give a pitch for gaining new Kiwanians. Of course, she replied right away. Here it is:

Happy February everyone! As part of the Membership Growth and Education Committee, I wanted to bring your attention to this effective team and its current goals. The Committee's primary purpose is to recruit people to join us in making our community better for kids. It also seeks to educate existing members about the Club and to retain them. Our Club currently has 97 members.

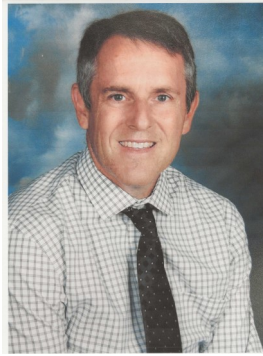
After the last fiscal year ended in September, our numbers dropped by about 10 percent. We are taking several actions to reverse this trend. We are continuing the Board's efforts to reach out to lapsed members by making individual phone calls and texts to them. Also, at the February 10th meeting, we will formally welcomed four members who were in the North Thurston Kiwanis Club: **Al and Janet Summerfield, Debra Clemens and Toni Christy**. Please see the Board's Proclamation welcoming them to our Club in this the newsletter if you weren't at that meeting.

In addition, the Committee has the goal of adding 12 new members this year -- one for each month! Since October, we have gained two: **Nancy Rutledge Connery and Kevin Ruggles**. Please give warm welcomes to Nancy and Kevin when you see them.

If we are going to reach our goal of getting 10 new members by the end of September 2025 we need everyone's help.

Please assist us in the following ways:

1. Think about who you know who would enjoy our Club, its mission and projects.
  2. Please give special consideration to people you know who would add diversity to our membership.
  3. Think about who would have time to meet the monthly 3-2-1 goal: 3 hours of service, 2 hours of social activities and 1 hour of club business.
  4. Dig up lists of people from other service clubs, professional organizations and other groups to get more ideas for potential members.
  5. Then please invite them to be your guest at a Kiwanis lunch and/or service activity!
- (continued on page 2)



## DON'T MISS THESE MEETINGS!

**February 3—No Meeting**  
**February 10—County Executive**  
**February 17—No Meeting**  
**February 24—Election Process and Review**  
by Mary Hall

**March 3—No Meeting**  
**March 10—Library**  
**March 17—No Meeting**  
**March 24—Hedgerows and Polinators** and how to create them, by Kianna Sinner  
**March 31—Nisqually Tribe and HawksPrairie**

**April 7—No Meeting**

*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*

## 2025 BRINGS NEW MEAL PRICES AT TUGBOAT ANNIES

Starting in January, 2025, the price to attend a Kiwanis club meeting is:  
**FULL MEAL—CASH: \$22**  
**FULL MEAL—CREDIT \$23**  
**COOKIES AND BEVERAGE—\$6**  
If you use a credit card, there is a charge from the credit card company, thus, the extra dollar added.

## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO

February 7—Walt Bowen  
February 9—Jonathan Lindsay  
February 13—Richard Allen  
February 14—John Zuroske  
February 16—Steven Drew  
February 24—Mizanor Rahman



## 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: [kiwanisclubolympia@gmail.com](mailto:kiwanisclubolympia@gmail.com)  
DIVISION 37 LT. Governor Vacant

### Board of Directors Meetings:

Monthly during the last Thursday of the month at noon via Zoom. Next meeting: February 27, 2025.

**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**

## BOARD NOTES by Jonathan Lindsay

**Draft Minutes: January 30, 2025, Club Board Meeting**

Present: Matthew Grant, Shawn Myers, Karen Fraser -Anna Knudson, Jonathan Lindsay, Curt Steigers, Steve Hal, Sarah Beth Hernandez Hout, Derek Harris Absent: Kathy (KT) Thompson, Nicole Muegge, Derek Valley, Makenzie McCall Proxy: Shawn Meyers for Kathy and Nicole

**Call to Order:** Matt Grant at 12:01 PM

**Approvals:** December 2024 minutes, club agenda, and financial statements approved.

**Secretary's Report:**

- Membership roster at 97 members.
- Youth Protection Training shown at Monday's meeting and posted online. KI background check renewal emails sent.

**Membership Update:**

- Goal: Increase to 105 members (one new member per month). Two new members joined.
- Outreach to lapsed members assigned to committee members ongoing.
- February newsletter includes a membership pitch. Focus on diversity and involvement.
- Event committee planning February event to support recruitment.

**2025 Goals:**

- **Service Hours:** 100 hours with Key Club. Challenges include scheduling conflicts and completing volunteer forms. Matt will follow up with KCO volunteers
- **Circle K:** Matt will invite a former student from STM to discuss involvement. Shawn checking on the Kiwanis advisor.

**Open Floor:**

- **Coast to Canal Division Meeting:** Looking for a Lt. Governor candidate. Suggested discussing with Jan B, Derek V, and Terry K.
- **Request to Approve Board Minutes by Email:** No opposition.
- **KI Convention (May 24-28, Pittsburgh):** \$900 allocated for travel support. Karen will check availability.
- **Lunch Cost Update:** \$22 (\$23 with credit card). Cookies/coffee remain \$6. Jonathan to send notice.
- **Treasurer Replacement:** Motion passed for Shawn to recruit a new treasurer.

**Other Business:**

- **Books for Speaker gifts and donated to Reading Foundation:** Anna and Shawn assisting.
- Wellness Committee ○ Shawn will head up Sunshine Committee to support members
- Matt will coordinate an inspirational moment with the Program Committee.
- **Bylaw Change:** Proposal to remove religious language from committee info (AP03.05). Jonathan will send proposed changes via email.
- **Food Bank Discussion:** Moved to Foundation minutes.

**Adjourned:** 12:35 PM

- Next Meeting: February 27, 2025

Lord, bless our meal, and as You satisfy the needs of each of us, make us mindful of the needs of others. Mount St. Mary's Abbey Massachusetts

**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**—continued from page 1

In my experience, when people learn about the Kiwanis Club of Olympia, more often than not they want to join.

Finally, we welcome new Committee members to help us. Please contact **Dan Myers** or me, Co-Chairs. Should you wish to serve on the Membership / Education Committee going forward. The other current members are **Stephanie Coleman, Karen Fraser, Matt Grant, Shane Hamlin, Krystal Kyer and Sam Reed.**

Anna Knudson



“Thank you Anna! Let's have a great month.” *President Matt*

We did not weave the web of life. We are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. *Chief Seattle*

**SERVICE HOURS**

In December, 2024, members reported 212 service hours!

### Olympia Kiwanis Foundation Minutes by Jonathan Lindsay

#### Draft Minutes: JAN 30, 2025, Foundation Board Meeting=

#### Date/Time: Jan 30, 2025 | 12 pm immediately following Club meeting

Present: Matthew Grant, Shawn Myers, Karen Fraser -Anna Knudson, Jonathan Lindsay, Curt Steigers, Steve Hal, Sarah Beth Hernandez Hout, Derek Harris Absent: Kathy (KT) Thompson, Nicole Muegge, Derek Valley, Makenzie McCall Proxy: Shawn Meyers for Kathy and Nicole

**Call to Order:** Matt Grant at 12:35 PM

**Approvals:** Foundation agenda, past meeting minutes, and financial statements approved (noting no December meeting).

#### Finance Committee:

- Meetings scheduled one week before board meetings. Jonathan and Karen to confirm dates.

#### Open Floor:

- **Don Law Donation:** Held in the Misc. category until year-end statements clarify fund needs.

- **Scholarships:** Three unretrieved scholarships from the Foundation and three from the Johnson Scholarship. Matt to check with Joellen; Shawn will ask Nicole for a student list.

- **Food Bank Funding:**
  - Steve Hall attended interviews; Jessica hired as of Jan 23.

- Staffing lapse from Nov 7 – Jan 23.

- \$18,000 allocated for spring/summer interns, paid quarterly by KCO.

- Steve to discuss partial payment options for the unfilled quarter with TCFB.

- Derek V to form an advisory committee.

- **Fundraising:**
  -

- Virtual event and quarterly fundraisers planned.

- Exploring online auctions, travel donations, and potential revenue from KI Perks.

**Next Meeting:** February 27, 2025, immediately after the Club Board meeting.

**Adjourned:** 12:47 PM

### Thanks for volunteering!

Our members and Key Club volunteers raised over \$1,600 ringing the bells for the Salvation Army in December at the Tumwater Fred Meyer. Each kettle collected over \$800! Our singing and bell ringing was well rewarded.



### Achieving by Believing

Olympia High School senior **Stella Hanson** was recognized at the January 27, 2025 Kiwanis club meeting for *Achieving by Believing*.

Stella has an amazing team of parents, counselors and teacher to help her as she advocates for her own learning needs. She has a fierce determination and positivity towards life.

Stella also takes classes at New Market Skills Center and works on their fire fighting crew and as an assistant veterinary lab technician. She hopes to continue as a veterinary lab technician after high school.

OHS Principal Matt Grant also noted that Stella has invented one of the most popular drinks at their school café drink center!

Stella's parents and grandparents were present as she was awarded the January 2025 OHS Achieving by Believing award. Congratulations, Stella!



### KIWANIS (International) CHILDRENS FUND

# GIVE AND GATHER

**We invite you to join us virtually on February 25!**

2/25 is a fitting date, since just US\$2.25 is enough to reach one child through the Kiwanis International Children's Fund. **This year, our goal is more ambitious than ever: to raise US\$100,000. That's enough to reach 45,000 kids in one day!**

The third annual [Kiwanis Day of Giving](#) is an event for Kiwanians to gather and give online with fellow members. Once again, it will be an opportunity to share stories, get inspiration and spread the word to friends and family.

Most of all, it's a day of possibilities — our chance to show what can happen when Kiwanians come together.

**Help us make a significant impact in the world, perhaps by making a gift that's personally significant to you.** An important birthdate. A number that means something special. Or simply an amount that represents commitment.

Connect with us!

#KiwanisDayofGiving

helpline@kianis.org 1-800-549-2647



*Let's get connected!*

## Olympia Kiwanis Foundation Scholarships



### Clifford "Kip" Stilz Jr. 1944-2008

**Clifford "Kip" Stilz Jr. was the Olympia Kiwanis Club President in 1985-1986. He served as a Thurston County District Judge and was the Presiding Judge for 23 years. He helped start Drug Court and was the head of the Thurston County Mental Health Court.**

Kip was a leader in obtaining the *Women's Olympic Marathon Trials of 1984* here in Olympia. He enjoyed working a water stop for runners for the Capital City Marathon for many years. A *Capitalarian* from 1993 until his death in 2008, Judge Stilz supported the community LAKEFAIR celebration and worked many shifts selling Olympia Kiwanis' famous *Roast Beef Sandwiches*. Kip was a strong advocate to allow women into Kiwanis and sponsored the first woman in 1986. He worked many hours at the club's west side food bank garden. Judge Stilz helped to organize an evening high school *Leadership Training Program* each year for interested youth.

Judge Stilz was born in Olympia and attended Olympia High School. He clerked for state Supreme Court Justice Robert Finley before joining *Fristoe, Taylor and Schultz* where he practiced law for 13 years. In 1985, he was elected to the Thurston County District Court, and served as presiding judge for 23 years, including being the head of the Thurston County Mental Health Court. He served on the Judicial Information System Committee and the Washington Bar Association Press Committee. He was instrumental in the implementation of "Drug Court", to help find solutions that would assist repeat offenders break the cycle of criminal activity.

### OLYMPIA KIWANIS DAY OF GIVING

Kiwanis of Olympia will be celebrating the annual Kiwanis Day of Giving hosting fifty 4-H students at the west side garden on **February 15th**. We need chaperones and Kiwanis workers to set the example as we prep our gardens for the 2025 season!

Check in or sign up with Derek Valley at [schmidtvalley@comcast.net](mailto:schmidtvalley@comcast.net)

L to R: **Carlson, Hensley, Leaf, Zuroske, Valley**



### POLICIES OF THE OLYMPIA KIWANIS CLUB May 2022

#### AP18: REQUESTS FOR AID FROM INDIVIDUALS

- All requests for financial aid or service project volunteer hours shall be submitted in advance, in writing to the President or a Club Officer for consideration by the Board of Directors.

- Each request will be individually considered on its own merit and any expenditure of funds not part of the annual Budget must be approved by the Board.

- Generally, the Club does not fund individual requests for personal subsidies of travel trips, conferences or training events that are not Kiwanis related (i.e. not Key Club or Circle K etc.)

#### AP19: MEAL GUESTS

**AP19.01: Program Speakers:** Speaker(s) meals are paid by the Club. Speaker's guests and the Club member introducing the program pay their own way.

**AP19.02: Member Guests:** Club member pays for themselves and their guests.

**AP19.03: Achieving By Believing Program:** The student(s) receiving the award and their parent(s) or two family members total are Club guests. Siblings or additional (beyond two) relatives and nominating teacher(s) pay their own meals.

**AP19.04: Law Enforcement Officer of the Year:** The Award winner and their spouse or partner are Club guests. The Commanding Officer, parents or other family members pay for their own meals.

**AP19.05: Visiting Kiwanis Dignitaries:** When an Kiwanis Officer is on official business or presenting/receiving an award, they are Club guests. Their spouse or partner and Interclub participating officers pay their own meals.

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



## START PLANNING TODAY!

We've opened registration for the 2025 Kiwanis International Convention early to give you more time to plan and budget! You don't want to miss our new lineup of education workshops offering practical ideas on how to grow your club and its impact on your community. At the biggest and best Kiwanis event of the year, you'll forge lifetime friendships while exchanging ideas with Kiwanians from around the world.

Get ready to experience the vibrant charm of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S. Known as the "City of Bridges," Pittsburgh is nestled at the meeting point of three rivers and offers an unforgettable mix of history, culture and innovation.

Whether you're a fan of the arts, a sports fanatic, a foodie or simply an explorer, Pittsburgh has something for everyone. Connect with fellow Kiwanians and make lasting memories in this remarkable city.

During the Kiwanis International convention, we'll commemorate Key Club International's 100th birthday, celebrate the best signature projects and much more. From free events such as the Welcome Reception and Sunset Social to special ticketed events like the Kiwanis Roaring '20s Gala, you'll find plenty of ways to personalize your convention experience.

Check out the Kiwanis International Website: [www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org) or check out the convention brochure at:


PITT-CON-promo-piece-2024-web.pdf

Incoming club officers are especially encouraged to attend, but ALL Kiwanis members are welcome!

June 25-28 will be here quicker than you thought, so plan now to attend the Kiwanis International Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania!

May the Lord accept this,  
Our offering,  
and bless our food that it may bring us  
strength in our body,  
vigor in our mind, and selfless  
devotion in our heart for His service.

*Swami Paramananda*



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

Did you know that in December, 2024, members provided "gift cards" to 35 needy families at LP Brown Elementary for holiday food and shopping? This totaled over \$875! Thanks to our generous members who helped make other families and childrens holidays brighter!

JANUARY SUNDAY 26	MONDAY 27	TUESDAY 28	WEDNESDAY 29	THURSDAY 30	FRIDAY 31	FEBRUARY SATURDAY 1—0900 West Garden and
2	3—NO MEETING	4	5	6	7	8 0900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting
9	10— Noon Tugboat Annie’s	11	12  Full Moon	13	14   Valentine’s Day	15—0900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting 0800-1000am  <b>KCO Day of Giving</b>
16	17— NO MEETING  President’s Day	18	19	20	21	22—900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting
23	24—Noon Tugboat Annie’s	25-KI DAY OF GIVING	26	27-Board Meeting via ZOOM	29	<b>MARCH</b> 1—0900 West Side Garden And Wood Cutting

**Kiwanis Korner**  
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 Also available on the website:  
 Olympiakiwanis.org



**HOW OUR GARDEN GROWS by Mackenzie McCall**

Hopefully everyone had a great holidays.

There are some big changes happening this year with the Thurston County Food Bank's (TCFB) Garden and Gleaning Programs. James Wirth has moved on to new opportunities and there will be new leadership in the Kiwanis Gardens. TCFB Staff and Kiwanis Club members are working on hiring a new Field to Food Bank Coordinator position. I will also leaving TCFB after nine years of service.

CFB Board and Staff are working to direct the Food Bank's future as Jay Kang as stepped down from his role as CEO and they hire someone to replace him. Part of this redirection means taking a pause from TCFB's Gleaning Program. The Kiwanis Gardens will continue this year, with the support of dedicated volunteers passionate about the work. If you would like to join a planning meeting or be further involved this year, you can connect with Derek Valley - [schmidtvalley@comcast.net](mailto:schmidtvalley@comcast.net)

It was truly a pleasure getting to work to grow TCFB's Agricultural Programs over the past two years, and I have learned immensely from my time at the Kiwanis Food Bank Gardens. I have made valuable friendships from volunteers and community partners, and hope to continue to nurture these relationships after leaving the Food Bank.

If you would like to stay in contact, my personal contact information is [Mackenzie.McCall47@gmail.com](mailto:Mackenzie.McCall47@gmail.com) - 360-259-8791.

*Left—Mackenzie McCall*