



Kiwanis Korner

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON

.....Serving the children of the world

1921

104 YEARS OF SERVICE TO KIDS AND THE COMMUNITY

May 3, 2025

PRESIDENT'S KORNER by Matt Grant

Dear Fellow Kiwanians,
Every so often, we need to remind ourselves *why* we do this work. For the Olympia Kiwanis Club, it comes down to a simple truth: when we invest in young people, we invest in a better future—for them and for our entire community. Whenever I'm feeling depleted or disconnected in my role as a high school Principal, I find energy and purpose again by leaning into my work with young people. That's what drew me to the Olympia Kiwanis Club in the first place: a group of people committed to uplifting youth and shaping a compassionate community.
In the spirit of that mission, I want to personally invite you to engage in several meaningful opportunities over the next few months that put our values into action.

Senior Exit Interviews – May 20th

At Olympia High School, we will be hosting our annual Senior Exit Interviews on *Tuesday May 20th, from 10:15 AM to 12:30 PM* (check-in begins at 9:45 AM). We're looking for community members to sit down with seniors one-on-one as they reflect on their journey through school and share their dreams for what comes next. These conversations are powerful—for students and for us. You'll hear about growth, resilience, identity, and aspiration. Each interview is just 15 minutes, but the impact lasts far longer.

If you're available, please RSVP by *May 10th* using this form: https://bit.ly/OHSSenior_interviews2025. For those who've already signed up, thank you—we'll be sending a confirmation email soon.

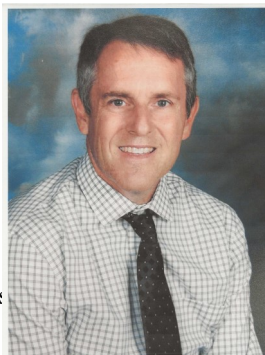
Key Club Centennial Celebration – June 15th

We are also thrilled to celebrate 100 years of Key Club! On *Sunday, June 15th, from 12:30–2:00 PM*, we'll gather at Olympia High School to honor the next generation of servant leaders. Join us for pizza, cake, and a showcase of our Key Clubbers' amazing service work. We'll recognize students who've served over 100 hours, share a bit of history and trivia, and take time to simply connect. This is a great opportunity for us to show appreciation for their commitment—and to remind them they're part of a much larger community of service-minded individuals.

Caring for Kids Campaign – Let's Go Big

These next few months are more than just a busy calendar—they're a living example of what it means to be a Kiwanian. Let's keep showing up, keep lifting up, and keep making a difference.

With gratitude, Matt



DON'T MISS THESE MEETINGS!

May 5th—No Meeting

May 12th—THE CLOSEST GOVERNMENTS TO THE PEOPLE by Steve Lundeen

May 19th—No Meeting

May 26th—No Meeting—Memorial Day Observed

May 27th (TUESDAY)—DESCHUTES ESTUARY

*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

O God, You are the giver of every good and perfect gift. Give us the gift of grateful hearts, that we may want to share freely with others all You have given us. Amen.

*St Paul
the Apostle*



HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO

May 9th—Dave Peeler
May 10th—Shawn Myers
May 13th—Charles Shelan
May 21st—Jeffrey Lane
May 25th—Jan Britt
May 26th—John Weidenfeller
May 27th—Lisa Parshley

Let the editor know if your bday isn't listed. It's hard to keep up with over 100 birthdays!



CLUB INFORMATION ~

Officers:

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

Board Members: through 2026—Derek Harris, Steve Hall, vacant
Through 2024—Curt Steigers and Sarah Beth Hernandez Huot
Through 2025 Kathy "KT" Thompson, Derek Valley email: 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: May 29th, 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**

Let's Get Connected!

BOARD NOTES by Jonathan Lindsay **Minutes:** April 24, 2025, Club Board Meeting APPROVED via Email: APRIL 30, 2025

Present: Matthew Grant, Shawn Myers, Karen Fraser, Anna Knudson, Jonathan Lindsay, Curt Steigers, Steve Hall, Kathy Thompson, Sarah Beth Hernandez Hout, Derek Harris Absent: Derek Valley Proxy: Jonathan for Derek Valley

Call to Order: Matt Grant at 12:02 PM Agenda: Approved Note: Karen add discussion of garden finances - move to Foundation

More Minutes: MAR 2025 Minutes already approved by the board. Note: in the foundation meeting an amendment was added to the minutes.

Finance Committee recommended board approval of the Club Financial report. Treasurer Recruitment discussions included support for a stipend that also covers dues, clarified qualifications (only one required), and a proposal for brief budget updates at meetings.

Membership Committee proposed temporarily easing new member requirements (reduced from 5 to 3 actions) to lower barriers to joining, with a reevaluation in September. **The board took action to approve this recommendation.**

Reception Desk: The greeter role was discussed; it was suggested to make it optional or provide alternative ways for new members to connect. Reception/check-in support was requested; Kurt was thanked for his ongoing help.

Secretary's Report included website and roster updates. Concerns about sharing member contact info online led to a decision to distribute the roster via confidential email instead.

Open floor: Recruitment efforts continue with personal outreach. A new service opportunity was approved—supporting high school senior exit interviews on May 19.

Next meeting: Scheduled for May 29, 2025.

This meeting was recorded and is available for viewing: Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/Y-GOfWgMUSI>

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.

Believing and Achieving!



Isabelle Allenton from Capital High School was recognized at the April 28th meeting of the Olympia Kiwanis Club for **Achieving by Believing**.

Isabelle works hard and is diligent and cheerful as she navigates her senior year of studies! She inspires other students and teachers to keep on working!



SERVICE HOURS MARCH 2025

290.5 service hours including Admin and Committee, Wood Lot and Gardens, Key Club and Convention, Youth Law Enforcement Camp, Newsletter, and Community Service.

Olympia Kiwanis Foundation Minutes by Jonathan Lindsay

Minutes: April 24, 2025, Kiwanis Foundation Board Meeting APPROVED via Email: APRIL 30, 2025

Finance Report: ○ Finance Committee recommended board approval of Foundation Financial report. ○ Shawn reported a low checking balance and authorized transfers of \$15,000 (scholarships) and \$41,000 (Leighton Johnson Fund) to support foundation projects. The accounting of these transfers (whether to treat them as income) was discussed.

- Credit Card Fraud Incident: ○ Shawn discovered fraudulent \$1 transactions via the donation portal, traced to card testing activity from abroad. The donation and dues payment buttons were temporarily disabled, and Shawn will work with the payment processor to add fraud protection filters before reactivation.
- Garden Fundraising & Budgeting: ○ Unexpected \$800 in garden donations were received, likely from Derek's fundraising efforts. Shawn emphasized that garden projects should be budgeted annually, except in emergencies.
- Receipts & Accountability: ○ There are ongoing issues with missing debit card receipts. Shawn is drafting a treasurer's manual to clarify the process for receipt accountability.
- Fundraising Campaign – "Caring for Kids": ○ Email outreach is planned for Tuesday, targeting Kiwanis members and past donors, with follow-up via physical mail and a second email. Jonathan will lead the pitch, and Matt emphasized expanding outreach beyond last year's contacts.
- Plant Sale & Membership Recruitment: ○ The plant sale is upcoming, with promotion needed. Volunteers are required for two shifts, and additional event volunteers are still needed. Sign-up sheets have been prepared and will be promoted at the next meeting.
- Distinguished Member Scholarships Discussion: ○ The tradition of rotating scholarships among 13 distinguished members was discussed, with new names proposed. There was a debate on whether to continue this practice, as it complicates administration. Gender equity concerns were raised, with suggestions to rename the scholarship program to "Distinguished Kiwanian Scholarships" and create a webpage to memorialize honorees. (continued on page 4)

MID-YEAR NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Nicole Muegge stepped down as our treasurer. She changed jobs and can't give this position the necessary time and attention to detail.

The nominating committee is putting forward **Shawn Myers** to fill the position through the end of this administrative year, September 30th, 2025.

Our bylaws require a 14-day notice. Notice was provided to members by email on April 27th. At the May 12th club meeting we will vote on this position. We will open the floor for nominations.

We have another position to fill. **Mackenzie McCall** stepped down from her board position. Again, it was a matter of changing jobs. Her board position is for the 2023-2026 term. So, we're looking for someone to fill that vacancy through next year. If you are interested or would like to put someone else's name forward, please contact one of members of the nominating committee.

Respectfully submitted, **Sam Reed and Mark Johnson, Co-Chairs**
Charles Shelan, Kathy Thompson, Terry Kirkpatrick, and Dave Peeler

Shawn Myers for Treasurer: Shawn served as the President in 2023-2024 and previously as the club's Treasurer. She has continued to provide oversight for that position and, generally, for our club's finances.

Professionally, she served as the assistant State Treasurer from 2017 to 2021. Prior to that, she served as Thurston County's elected Treasurer from 2010 to 2017. Previously, she served as controller and vice president for a community bank. Shawn's been a member of the club since 2011.

Bob Thompson and Joel Hansen are both standing for election to fill the vacant Board member position.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Now is the time to sign up and volunteer for:

Capital City Marathon Waterstop—Sunday, May 18, at Milepost 25—0700-1300. Contact **Jonathan Lindsay**

Thurston County Foodbank Plant Garden Sale—Saturday, June 7th. 0900—1700. Contact **Derek Valley**

Key Club 100th anniversary. Date to be set. June 2025

KCO SUMMER POTLUCK—

Incoming President Karen Fraser will be hosting a club summer potluck at her home overlooking Puget Sound on Wednesday, August 20th, 4 pm—8 pm. Bring a dish to share, your family and / or prospective members!

***Achieving by Believing*—Ethan Dominique from Olympia High School**

Ethan Dominique was recognized for ***Achieving by Believing*** at the April 14, 2025 meeting of the Olympia Kiwanis Club.

Ethan is a senior at Olympia High School and will be the first member of his family to graduate from high school!

Ethan excels at working in the school garden, and his ultimate goal is to become a farmer. Meanwhile, he is bilingual in Spanish and English, works a part time job, and never complains. He is also active in volunteering whenever a job or project needs to be done.

Ethan's main volunteer project is in the library at Olympia High School, where he greets students and helps them find and check out the books and resource materials they need.

Thank you, Ethan for ***Achieving by Believing!***



Olympia Kiwanis Foundation Scholarships

Patrick D. Sutherland 1922-1995

Patrick Sutherland was President of Olympia Kiwanis in 1994-1995. He served in both the Washington State House (1949) and Senate (1951) and was elected Thurston County Prosecutor five times, 1974-1994. In 1994, he started the Kiwanis Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award program which continues today.



Pat Sutherland was born in 1922. He graduated from the University of Washington in 1946 and received his law degree from the University of Washington Law School in 1949. In 1949, he was elected to the Washington State House of Representatives from Seattle's 37th Legislative District. He served one term in the House and then was elected to the Senate in 1951.

In March 1959 he resigned to accept an appointment to the Public Service Commission, now known as the Utilities and Transportation Commission. He served on the commission through 1966. He also served as President of the Washington State Association of County Officials (WACO).

Pat was Thurston County prosecutor from 1974 through 1994. He was President of the Olympia Kiwanis 1994-1995. While a member of Olympia Kiwanis Club, he began the annual club recognition of local law enforcement officers with the «Law Enforcement Officer of the Year» program. These awards continue to be given annually to honor those law enforcement officers in local agencies who make a difference in their communities and their departments.

Pat Sutherland collapsed and died exercising at an Olympia athletic club in August 1995. He was 73. Pat will be remembered for his positive attitude and cheerful countenance.

Olympia Kiwanis Foundation Minutes by Jonathan Lindsay (continued from page 3)

- Garden Fund Discussion: ○ There was a discussion clarifying the minutes from March, where Anna pointed out that the previous notes did not fully clarify the allocation of funds supporting the garden. It was agreed that the minutes should be adjusted to reflect this more clearly.
- ● Capitol City Marathon Event: May 18th · Key Club 100-Year Anniversary Celebration: ● Matt provided an update on the upcoming Key Club 100th Anniversary celebration. The event will likely take place in June, around the final days of school, with either an event at school or off-campus to avoid disrupting students' schedules. There's been positive engagement from students, with several teams already surpassing 100 volunteer hours, although communication with Kiwanians has been a challenge.
- ● Next Meeting May 29
- ● Adjourned 12:56pm

This meeting was recorded and is available for viewing: Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/Y-GOfWgMUSI>

POLICIES OF THE OLYMPIA KIWANIS CLUB

May 2022

AP23: FAIR AND BALANCED PROGRAMS

All Club programs, including luncheon speaker selections should be balanced and either nonpartisan or bi-partisan in political or religious content. When it is not possible to accomplish this at a single event, subsequent events should be arranged to achieve a balance in program themes or subjects.

AP24: BOARD AUTHORIZED SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- To comply with International Club policies and our insurance coverage, all Club sponsored activities that may occur outside of the Board of Directors and weekly Club luncheon meetings shall have prior approval of the Board of Directors.

- This includes the activities of all Club Committees, Satellite Clubs, sponsored youth activities such as Key Clubs and Circle K Clubs etc.

AP25: MAJOR EMPHASIS SERVICE PROJECT

- The Board of Directors may choose to commit the Club to a major or large dollar fundraising service project or capital campaign for a non-profit organization whose mission fits with the Kiwanis objectives.

- Applicants must submit their requests in writing to the President or a Club Director.

- The requests must state the purpose and dollar goal of the project, amounts raised to date and the amount requested of the Club.

- Applicants must also be available to make a presentation to the Board and/or the Club members prior to the Board acting to approve or reject the project.

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	Sam Reed
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

Donate
securely online:



Community Firewood Facts:

John Tobin, Chair, reports that 54 volunteers have worked on the wood cutting so far this year. Some of these groups include 12 4-H students, 10 United Way Day of Caring folks, and 9 Kiwanis Club of Olympia weekly volunteers..

We have served 76 families and delivered over 90 cords of wood. (Some families have had more than 1 delivery, and not all deliveries are an exact cord of wood.)

As the editor's father used to say, *"he/she who chops wood warms him/herself twice."* I actually think it's more than twice.

Here's some 4H
Members hard at work.



Dear Fellow Kiwanians,

Join the Kiwanis Club of Olympia Foundation's **Caring for Kids** campaign and renew your commitment as a vital partner in our mission to uplift the children and families of Olympia. For over a century, the Olympia Kiwanis Club has been a cornerstone of our community, dedicated to service and making a tangible difference. Olympia Kiwanis addresses essential, day-to-day issues impacting our community and your contribution enables us to do the work.

Addressing Food Insecurity: We actively work to combat hunger within our community, ensuring that families have access to nutritious meals. Through our collaboration with the Thurston County Food Bank, we provide over 25,000 pounds annually of fresh organic vegetables to families.

Empowering Youth: We provide scholarships, educational resources, and mentorship opportunities that empower young people to reach their full potential.

Strengthening Community Well-Being: We partner with local organizations to address urgent needs and improve the overall well-being of Olympia residents.

Providing Warmth Through the Firewood Bank: We cut, season and deliver over 90 cords of firewood a year to vulnerable community members who depend on wood as their primary heat source.

Your generous contribution to the Caring for Kids campaign will directly fund these initiatives, enabling us to expand our reach and deepen our impact.

Your support of the Olympia Kiwanis Club Foundation is crucial. It directly impacts the lives of local children and families and helps build a community that can meet tomorrow's challenges head-on.

Thank you, *Matt Grant*, President, Olympia Kiwanis Club

Use the QR code to the Left, or Send your tax deductible donation to:

Olympia Kiwanis Club Foundation

P.O. Box 1847

Olympia, WA 98507-1847

Let's Get Connected!

APRIL SUNDAY 27	MONDAY 28—Noon Tugboat Annie's	TUESDAY 29	WEDNESDAY 30—noon Board Meeting	MAY THURSDAY 1 0900 West Side Garden	FRIDAY 2	SATURDAY 3—0900 West Garden and Firewood
4	5 NO MEETING	6	7	8—0900 West Side Garden	9	10 0900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting Full Moon
11—MOTHERS DAY	12— Noon Tugboat Annie's Full Moon	13	14	15—0900 West Side Garden	16 Good Friday	17—0900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting 0800-1000am
18—Capital City Marathon Water stop MP 25	19— NO MEETING	20	21	22—0900 West Side Garden	23	24—900 West Side Garden and Wood Cutting
25	26 — NO MEETING MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED	27—12 Noon Tugboat Annies	28	29 0900 West Side Garden	30	31 0900 West Side Garden And Wood Cutting

Kiwanis Korner

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Olympiakiwanis.org

**Puyallup Spring
Fun Fair**

**Don Lewis, Jan
Britt, Sharon
Schnebly and
Derek Valley**
 all pitched in
 to staff a table
 and recruit
 students for the
 Kiwanis Youth
 Law Enforcement camp in April.



Deadline for applications in May 10th!

Kiwanislawenforcementcamp.com

Olympia Kiwanis Food Bank Gardens by Derek Valley

The beds at the Westside Gardens are prepped for transplanting! We will fill these beds with snow peas, lettuce heads and cabbages. Potatoes were planted at the Capitol Campus garden.

GARDEN NEEDS:

- Backpack spraying (fertilizer)'
- Irrigation Helper
- Help Developing the "Adopt a Crop" idea

If any of these tasks are of interest to you, please reach out and let me know.

Also, remember that we have a plant sale coming up on June 7th. If anyone has tubers, seeds, or 4 inch pots to donate to this cause it would be greatly appreciated.

