

WI-UM KIWANIS NEWS

WISCONSIN-UPPER MICHIGAN KIWANIS DISTRICT

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025



District Governor Kathy Durner, left, presented a Legion of Honor Award to 40-year member Harry Porter, second from left, at a meeting of the Sturgeon Bay Kiwanis Club.

40-YEAR MEMBER HARRY PORTER RECEIVES LEGION OF HONOR AWARD

Submitted by Randall Durner, WI-UM Kiwanis District First Spouse

Mr. Harry Porter, a past president and member of the Sturgeon Bay Kiwanis Club, was recently recognized with a Legion of Honor award for his 40 years of service and membership in the club. While president, he actively supported the Bringing Up Grades (BUG) program in local schools, fish dinners put on by the club as well as youth baseball in the area which the club continues to support. He helped maintain and keep active the Sturgeon Bay Kiwanis Club. Mr. Porter is a retired forester previously employed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The Legion of Honor award was presented by District Governor Kathy Durner.

The Sturgeon Bay Kiwanis Club regularly meets at the Institute Saloon, a classic and historic dining and social gathering place a few miles north of Sturgeon Bay. There they share a meal and beverage together then conduct their business meetings. The Saloon is remarkable in a number of ways, according to the Door County Historical Society. First, it's location is enhanced by Door County's largest cottonwood tree which stands over 100 feet tall with a circumference of more than 22 feet with a crown spread exceeding 37 feet as of 2007. Second, the Saloon is reportedly haunted by a former female proprietor

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APRIL IS GLOBAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

Submitted by 2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner



Kathy Durner

Happy April, Kiwanians. Are you aware that April is officially the month to honor those who perform community service? Give yourselves a hand and thank you for all that you do for your communities in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. I am so proud of you.

Serving others is not only a gift to the recipient, but it is also a gift to the giver. How do you feel when you are reading a book to a child? Do you feel like a child all over again? I know that I do because I see the story through a different lens. It is a lens of excitement and creativity. The child may take the story to an entirely different level or on a trip to a fantasy world. A secondary gift is that you are giving of your time to read to a child. That gift is precious and memorable. The child may later on remind you of the time you spent reading to him/her.

Once you have given the gift of service to others, how do you feel? Do you share your experience with other club members? What is their response? It could be an opportunity for an extended conversation on service or provide an avenue to explore other opportunities.

In my travels, I have had the privilege to hear stories about the numerous projects that your clubs are participating in. I leave your meetings in awe of your passion, creativity, perseverance, and commitment to serve your community. I also appreciate seeing the friendships that have developed as a result of your service. These friendships are what sustains the Kiwanis family and its traditions,

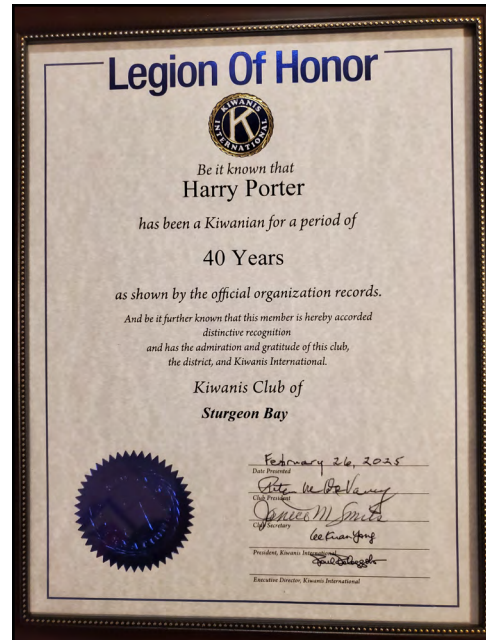
Keep volunteering. The future leaders of our world and Kiwanis need your knowledge and wisdom.

2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner can be reached at 814-331-2240 or kathydurner1949@gmail.com.

40-year member Harry Porter receives Legion of Honor award...continued from page one



Governor Kathy Durner, left, presented a Legion of Honor award to 40-year member Harry Porter.



known as Mabel, with apparitions and unexplained activities which the current owners attest to. However, none of the Sturgeon Bay Kiwanians have indicated so far that they have actually seen Mabel's ghost. But they remain

alert and are keeping their eyes out for her!

PLANNING STRATEGICALLY WITH A FOCUS ON SERVICE AND RETENTION

Submitted by Paul Shrode, 2024-2025 Governor-elect



Paul Shrode

In the last issue of the *Kiwanews*, I shared the five overarching goals of our district's strategic plan and explored our membership and engagement goal. Other goals focus on leadership and education, responsible and proper stewardship of the funds entrusted to our district, setting

policies and procedures to balance budgets, preserve strategic reserves, provide for new and existing initiatives, and provide transparency to members.

Two of our goals include:

- 1) providing meaningful service in communities locally and globally by working together and with other organizations to address important needs for children and communities; and,
- 2) positioning Kiwanis within the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District as a powerful and impactful force for building strong communities through service to children, youth and local communities, communicating the work of Kiwanis broadly. These two goals are integral to our success in both providing service and retaining clubs and members.

Service lies at the very core of our existence, our *raison d'être* as the French might say. Every club in our district provides caring and meaningful service to our local communities. For most of us, projects and service work take on a repetitive quality as we repeat projects and serve those in need repeatedly. This is certainly understandable as once we have figured out how to run an event, organize a drive, or create a fundraiser, it is much easier to repeat it. Members begin to take on

particular roles within those events and activities and we turn to them continuously.

Consider for a moment the consequence of this sort of pattern. Is there room for new members to take on roles with the planning and execution of these activities? Are the needs of those we serve the same as they were when we first created the project or event? Are there other needs within the community of which we are unaware? Are we able to continue to meet our ongoing project needs with declining membership? Are we ready to welcome new members with a new set of ideas?



Providing meaningful service in our communities makes Kiwanis relevant and needed. It is much easier to promote involvement in Kiwanis when the community recognizes the importance and value of the work we do, and I think it is even more impactful when we interact with those whom we serve. For example, distributing food or clothing we have collected to families in need, meeting them in person and witnessing both their condition and gratitude is so much more rewarding than collecting food and clothing and dropping it off at a pantry or shelter for others to distribute.

Working with youth through youth sports or programs is more fun than donating to their organizers. It is time once again for each of our clubs to assess the communities we serve, identify the unmet needs, and consider how we might help to meet some of those needs. In the process, we must look for others to join in our efforts, bolstering our service power through membership growth and

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REQUEST FOR 2025-2026 DISTRICT GOVERNOR-ELECT CANDIDATES

Submitted by Justin Hahn, WI-UM Kiwanis District Executive Director



Justin Hahn

The Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District of Kiwanis International is seeking qualified candidates for governor-elect for the 2025-2026 term. The definition of "qualified candidate" is as follows:

Bylaws, Article 3, Section 2:

"Each district officer shall be an

active member in a club of the district. Each lieutenant governor shall be a member of a club in the division from which elected. However, if there is no member from a club in a particular division qualified and willing to serve as lieutenant governor, a member of a club in another division may serve. The governor and governor-elect shall have and maintain a clear criminal history background check conducted and verified by Kiwanis International."

All qualified candidates for offices to be elected at the annual convention must submit written notice of candidacy to the District Executive Director no later than three weeks prior to the start of the annual district convention per Policy Codes Section 7.1 "Only a club or

division of the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District may offer, propose or nominate a candidate for the office of district governor or district governor-elect for the ensuing administrative year. A written statement of intent shall be filed as soon as possible after October 1st but not later than three weeks prior to the opening day of the district convention [at which] the name is to be presented to the assembled delegates of the district convention.

This year's district convention will be held August 22-24, 2025; therefore any candidates should submit paperwork no later than August 1, 2025.

We encourage any member who qualifies – and feels capable of fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of the positions – to declare his or her candidacy. For more information, review our District Bylaws and Policy Codes which can be found on our website k30.site.kiwanis.org/governing-documents/. Use password #KidsNeedKiwanis

Contact the district office with any questions or concerns.

Executive Director Justin Hahn can be reached at 414-510-1609 or justinhahn@wiumkiwanis.org.

Strategic planning with a focus on service and retention...continued from page three

opening our minds and hearts to their contributions of ideas, service, and fellowship in the process.

To reinforce a community's understanding of who we are and what we do, we need to be more comfortable with tooting our own horn! We need to share news of our projects with the community, help community members to better understand the needs of those we serve, and invite them to join in our efforts. Each club should have a publicity committee or at least a savvy chair who can send out press releases, post things on social media, and seek opportunities to share what we do with others.

We routinely invite community and non-profit leaders to share what they do during our club meetings. Do we

share with them who we are and what we do to be of service? Do we ever offer programs on our activities and purposes at other organization meetings and community gatherings? Posting our Kiwanis sign at the city limits, having a Kiwanis park or shelter in the community, or posting a Kiwanis Meets Here sign at our meeting location does little to explain who we are, what we do, and why we exist. Member retention, club strengthening and new club building are high priorities for our district, but they accomplish little if we don't thoughtfully consider our role in serving our local communities.

If you have questions regarding our strategic plan and how you can join in our work, feel free to reach out to me at 920-809-2872 or psshrode@aol.com.

PONDERING THE PHRASE 'CULTURE EATS STRATEGY FOR BREAKFAST'

Submitted by Alan Arbuckle, WI-UM Kiwanis District Master Club Coach



Alan Arbuckle

Did you ever hear the phrase, "Culture eats strategy for breakfast"? What does that mean? Having a culture that is in opposition to what you want to accomplish disrupts whatever plans an organization has early in the process. Do you believe that is true?

For a Kiwanis club, culture is the how and what a club does; the things that they do. In part it is the how, when, and where meetings are conducted. Another part is the fundraising and projects a club does. Perhaps, one of the most important facets of culture is the decision-making process. Club leadership has a huge effect on the culture.

Many organizations never consider their current culture and the possibility that it needs to be changed or modified. Kodak waited too long to embrace digital photography, for example. They believed film would always be the standard. But it isn't just technology that can disrupt. Societal values change over time. Working people, today, have less free time. Parents spend more time transporting and watching

their children's activities. There is the Internet, texting and watching the latest and greatest thing streaming on a device, often simultaneously.

Volunteering is a thing people say they enjoy. Yet, there is a reluctance to join an organization to plan and execute a project. People don't want to attend more meetings that really don't align with their schedule and take too long. People want to just show up, volunteer and then go home. Bringing this back to club culture, how do we meet the challenge of the in-and-out volunteer? Another challenge: do meetings align with the club's purpose or instead just fill the time allocated?



Does your Kiwanis club have a culture of growth? Is there a desire to do more projects; hold bigger fundraisers; have more fun; and yes, bring in more service-minded people to be members and future leaders? If your club isn't growing, it may be shrinking. All clubs lose members over time. Would your club even

consider spreading Kiwanis service by sponsoring a new club in a nearby community?

If a club hasn't embraced a growth culture, yet, don't despair. While it is a challenge to change a culture, it can be done. It takes leadership and tenacity. Change doesn't happen overnight. But improvement can start quickly. The Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District can help. Reach out to your lieutenant governor. Our district has a Membership and Engagement team dedicated to helping clubs. Your club has to make the decision to be more. More for the children. More for the community.



Master Club Coach Alan Arbuckle can be reached at 719-502-7853 or leadcoach@wiumkiwanis.org.

BUILDING KIWANIS CLUBS AND STIMULATING MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Submitted by 2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner

Club building and membership growth are topics that most Kiwanians – and people in general – run from. The thought of asking someone to join a club or assist in building a new club can be terrifying. I have heard most of the excuses: no time; scary; don't like being turned down; "I have to talk to strangers?"; "What if they turn me down?"; "What if they have purple and orange hair?"; "What if they don't talk like me?"; "What if I am too shy?"; "What if I smile too much?"; "What if. . .?"

What if you don't try to meet new people or ask people to join your Kiwanis club? What happens? You know the answer. Your club will die a slow, quiet, and painful death. Your community may not experience entertaining variety shows or a Kiwanis Kapers? The less fortunate children may not receive a Christmas or birthday gift. The local ice rink may not open. The local parks may not be maintained. Some families may not receive food during the holidays if there are no Kiwanians to drop off a basket of food for the family. American flags may not be placed out in the community for holidays.

This isn't a scare tactic. It is reality. Unfortunately, this situation is affecting the people of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Sadly, it is becoming an international situation.

What is the solution?

From my perspective, we as Kiwanians – Wisconsinites or Michiganders – have a responsibility to "be the change" that we want to see in our world. Being the change is not just a funky phrase, it is reality. We have clubs to build, clubs to grow, children to help, and differences to make in our communities.

Unfortunately, the negative scenario could become a reality if Kiwanians don't step up to help build and strengthen our Kiwanis clubs. Many Kiwanis clubs are the heart and strength of our communities. The unpleasant fact is, if we choose not to grow our Kiwanis clubs or help build new ones, our grandchildren may not experience a community of caring, laughter, and friendship that we presently experience through Kiwanis.

How do we begin to change this situation? I am not an expert in this area. However, I have personally added members to my club. I have also worked with groups who have successfully built new Kiwanis clubs. The key (maybe a new Kiwanis key) is to be open-minded, persistent, positive, and willing to help.

Your thoughts, please!

2024-2025 Governor Kathy Durner can be reached at 814-331-2240 or kathydurner1949@gmail.com.

GOVERNOR'S PROJECT UPDATE: RAISE \$30,000 IN SUPPORT OF CAMPS WAWBEEK & BAY CLIFF

Donations continue to be gratefully accepted for both Camp Wawbeek and Bay Cliff Health Camp governor's projects.

- Bay Cliff Health Camp: Monies collected will go to help sponsor a camper for seven weeks at the camp.
- Camp Wawbeek: Eight heavy-duty art tables are being constructed by industrial tech students. They will be ready by May 1.



- The labor part of the bill for the tables goes to scholarships for the students when they graduate.
- We are in the process of contracting for an epoxy floor to be installed in the art room.

For more information or to donate to either or both projects, please contact Governor Kathy Durner at 814-331-2240 or kathydurner1949@gmail.com.

DISTRICT CLUBS RECEIVE BOOKS FROM COPS 'N KIDS READING CENTER

Submitted by Jean Long Manteufel, District Chair, Kiwanis 'n Cops 'n Kids Signature Project

Many of our Kiwanis clubs received an unexpected gift in March. Due to the closing of the Cops 'n Kids Reading Center in Racine, they had to empty their warehouse and give away all their children's books. Because of our relationship over the past five years with Kiwanis 'n Cops 'n Kids, their first thought was Kiwanis.

After putting together a quick plan, and with the help of some stalwart members, Kiwanians received 102 boxes of books for a total of 7,650 books. That was on the first day. The following week, we picked up another 75 boxes. Dr. Lori Bents somehow managed to get 22 boxes into a Chevy Impala! Special thanks goes to Paul Holley who made several trips back and forth for clubs to pick books up at the midyear conference in Brookfield.

A note from Cops 'n Kids Reading Center: *We appreciate the work your clubs have done and will continue to do for*



Nearly 200 boxes of books were donated to the Kiwanis 'n Cops 'n Kids program by the Cops 'n Kids Reading Center in Racine.

all the children that will benefit from your efforts. Thank you for all your help getting these books into the hands of children!

NEW KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL PODCAST RECENTLY ROLLED OUT

Submitted by Alan Arbuckle, WI-UM Kiwanis District Master Club Coach

At the midyear conference in Brookfield, a member asked me where they can find resources for social



media and websites. Links to stock photography, social media assets, logos, the Kiwanis brand identity guide, marketing ideas and more can be found on the Kiwanis International website at www.kiwanis.org/members/branding-marketing/.

And, Kiwanis International is pleased to introduce the new "Here's an Idea" podcast. It's the latest resource for Kiwanis members – anyone who's looking for ways to help your club succeed and for information that keeps you up to date with the Kiwanis family. You'll get insights about club growth, Kiwanis service, fundraising and more – from members, leaders and staff who have stories and experiences to share. Check out this brief [introductory episode](#) and then explore the [first few episodes here](#), and also available on Spotify, Apple Podcast or wherever you get your podcasts. Check it out! Don't sit on these resources. Pass them on to your clubs. Please. Thanks for all your Kiwanis service.

NOMINATIONS FOR DISTRICT CONVENTION AWARDS ARE DUE MAY 15TH

Submitted by Justin Hahn, WI-UM Kiwanis District Executive Director

Accomplishments of our clubs and members are celebrated with the presentation of awards. To be recognized for awards presented at the WI-UM district convention, clubs must submit applications by May 15th.

The Bill Solberg Distinguished Service Medal and the Outstanding Club Fundraiser Award are presented at the district convention. The Solberg Service Medal honors a Kiwanian who has actively served in Kiwanis for at least

10 years on the district level and in their club as well as in their community outside of Kiwanis. This award is presented by the Past Governors. The Outstanding Club Fundraiser Award recognizes a Kiwanis club's dedication and effort in having produced the most outstanding fundraiser during the year.

Applications for both awards can be found on our district website at wiumkiwanis.org > resources > district awards.

HILMAR L. "BILL" SOLBERG DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

- ✓ Recipient must have actively served in Kiwanis for a period of not less than ten years.
- ✓ Recipient must have served in the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District at least as a Lt. Governor or District Chairperson.
- ✓ Recipient must have actively participated outside of Kiwanis in other worthy community, lodge or civic endeavors.
- ✓ Recipient must be nominated by a Kiwanis club's Board of Directors, which is currently in good standing with the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan District and Kiwanis International.
- ✓ Recipient's club must submit evidential material in support of their recommendation
- ✓ Nominee may be living or deceased.

OUTSTANDING CLUB FUNDRAISER AWARD

A great fundraiser can keep a club financially responsible or provide a meaningful contribution to another organization or cause. The Outstanding Club Fundraiser Award recognizes a Kiwanis club's dedication and effort in having produced the most outstanding fundraiser during the year.

Statistics Requested

- ✓ Fundraising project and date held.
- ✓ Charitable organization benefited.
- ✓ Amount raised/amount raised per member.
- ✓ Hours spent planning/organizing the event.
- ✓ Attendance information.
- ✓ Why the fundraiser was necessary.
- ✓ How the fundraiser was promoted.
- ✓ How the community was impacted.

THIS AND THAT: USEFUL SNIPPETS FROM OUR DISTRICT LEADERS

Submitted by WI-UM Kiwanis District leaders

Camp Wawbeek Prep Day

Please mark your calendars for May 10, 2025 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm as we help camp staff get the grounds ready for this season's camp participants.

iPads Price Drop

Apple just had a price reduction. For our current supply of iPads the cost with the protective case is \$295.

Do You Recall Past Solberg Award Recipients?

The district only has a list of Solberg Service Medal Recipients beginning in 2010, although Past Governor Jean Long Manteufel recalls her club member Russ Luckow received one in 2003 and Paul Shrode received one in 2008. If you can help fill in the blanks, please contact Executive Director Justin Hahn at 414-510-1609 or justinhahn@wiumkiwanis.org.

RIPON NOON KIWANIS CLUB PRESENTS MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

Submitted by Brian Reilly, Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club

On Saturday, February 22nd, the Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club partnered with the Ripon Area Community Theatre and Ripon High School Key Club, both of which are sponsored programs of the club; as well as the Ripon High School Social Justice Alliance (SJA), to host a murder mystery dinner.

The dinner was a fundraiser for the Key Club and SJA. Actors from the community theatre, some of whom are Kiwanians, hosted an interactive murder mystery. The mystery was set during a wedding in the 1960s and guests were encouraged to dress in costume. Actors mingled and interacted with guests in character, to help provide insight into the story playing out, providing clues and casting suspicion on themselves or other characters.



The Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club partnered with Ripon Area Community Theatre, Ripon Key Club and Ripon High School Social Justice Alliance on a murder mystery dinner as a fundraiser for the two Ripon Area School District organizations.



Club president, Brian Reilly, center, presented a check to Key Club members, left to right, Victoria Riveria, Elsie Feider, Kyler Rieder and advisor Paul Wiegel.

Meanwhile, members of the Kiwanis club, with help from students from the Key Club and SJA, worked in the kitchen preparing dinner for the hungry crowd with additional student volunteers working as servers. But the mystery didn't end with the actors. The dinner itself was a "mystery dinner," whereby the menu was in code and the guests had no idea what they were ordering until it was brought to the table! This included plates, forks and the food itself. It was all good fun, however; and soon seconds were served and everyone had their fill.

The fundraiser was a great success, with at least 50 tickets sold, and Key Club and SJA each conducted their own raffles (50/50 raffle for the Key Club and a basket raffle for the SJA) to further supplement the funds raised. The Key Club will be putting their share of the proceeds to the many initiatives they support; while the Social Justice Alliance has been raising funds for a field trip they will be taking this summer to West Hollywood, where they will learn about some of the civic history of that city.



Representing the Social Justice Alliance, left to right, advisor Brad Roost, Kiwanian Brian Reilly, and students Lydia Goeden and Cullen Gatzke.

DOWNTOWN GREEN BAY CLUB SPONSORS NEW K-KIDS PROGRAM

Submitted by Rick Satterlee, Downtown Green Bay Kiwanis Club

A new K-Kids club was chartered in late 2024 at the Milwaukee of Academy of Science. Eliza Carman, a member of the Downtown Green Bay Kiwanis Club and former WUM Circle K District Governor, is a social worker at the school. Her idea to start a K-Kids club was quickly supported by the school's administrative team. Fourth and fifth graders enthusiastically signed up!



Club Advisor Eliza Carman stands in front of the closet the K-Kids filled with clothing items gathered during one of the club's service projects.



Downtown Green Bay Kiwanis Club President Rick Satterlee presented a K-Kids banner to members of the newly-chartered club at the Milwaukee Academy of Science.

In February, Downtown Green Bay Kiwanis Club President Rick Satterlee traveled to Milwaukee to present the club members with a Kiwanis banner. The kids were excited to tell Rick about the many accomplishments of their first three months as a club, a few of which were a clothing drive, canned food drive, and a school ice skating party. Eliza will be attending future Green Bay club meetings via Zoom and we can't wait to hear more from this inspired and motivated group!

SUPPORT THE DISTRICT FOUNDATION WITH A CASE VAN KLEEF AWARD

By Tonya Alling, Kiwanews Editor

The Case Van Kleeef Fellowship award is the WI-UM Kiwanis District's highest honor. Named for former District Governor and International Past President Case Van Kleeef, the award is given to an individual in whose name a donation of \$1,000 is given to the WI-UM Kiwanis District Foundation (KDF).

Proceeds from Van Kleeef awards support the KDF endowment fund, which generates funds for future grants and scholarships. Can you think of a club member or friend who is deserving of a Van Kleeef Fellowship? If so, please contact KDF Secretary Mark Finger at 920-361-9954 or markfingerkdf@wiumkiwanis.org.



Ripon Early Bird Kiwanis Club members Jennifer Beier and Dan Kehlenbrink received Case Van Kleeef Fellowship Awards in September.



Left to right, hockey player Adam Spies, Kiwanis member Joe Ziegler; holding check: Kiwanis members Bruce Mach, Chuck Weber, Brian Olson, and Ron Rademann; far right: Kiwanis members Mark Reimer and Steve Uecker, flanking hockey player Kevin Ristau.

FOND DU LAC LAKESIDE EVENING KIWANIANS SUPPORT HOCKEY CLUB

Submitted by Dan Weninger, Fond du Lac Lakeside Kiwanis Club

On March 22, 2025, members of the Fond du Lac Lakeside Evening Kiwanis Club presented a check for \$6,000 to Blue Line Hockey. The Fond du Lac Blue Line Club and Family Ice Center is a non-profit skating facility that supports the development of skating among people of all ages and abilities.

The center, through education and training, helps develop amateur athletes for local, regional, national and international competition in skating sports. In addition, it actively promotes the mental, physical, emotional and social needs of youth who participate in ice hockey, figure skating and other ice sports.

RIPON SERVICE CLUBS FORM IMAGINATION LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP

Submitted by Brian Reilly, Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club

The Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club, Ripon Early Bird Kiwanis Club and Ripon Rotary Club recently formalized a joint venture to continue fostering Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in Ripon, under the banner of Ripon Reads.

The Imagination Library is a program available to children under the age of five. The 60-volume set of books begin with the children's classic *The Little Engine that Could*. Each month a new, carefully-selected book is mailed to the child's home at no cost or obligation to the family. If your club would like to sponsor the international Imagination Library program, information can be found at imaginationlibrary.com/about-us.



The Ripon Reads Program is a new partnership between the Ripon Noon Kiwanis Club, Ripon Early Bird Kiwanis Club, and Ripon Rotary Club. Pictured (from left) are Travis Nygard (Rotary), Dave Schroeder (Early Birds), Jeff Puhlmann-Becker (Ripon Reads), and Brian Reilly (Noon).

SUPPORT OF SCOUTING PROGRAMS IS A WORTHWHILE INVESTMENT

Submitted by Randall Durner, Kiwanis Club of Wisconsin Dells

Scouting – although not a Service Leadership Program (SLP) like Key Club or Builders Club that is directly affiliated with Kiwanis – guides young persons on a pathway towards development of leadership skills and strong moral character values that ultimately culminates with the achievement of an Eagle Scout, the highest rank in scouting. Scouting provides very similar program values as our SLPs.

The Wisconsin Dells Kiwanis Club sponsors Cub Scout Pack 77 and Boy Scout Troop 66 as well as a new Troop of young ladies. Last year the club helped Cub Scout Pack 77 with financial support to assist their trip to Green Bay, Wisconsin in December. This was an overnight trip for the scouts and included a visit to Lambeau Field as well as the museum there that houses several Lombardi Trophies, which represent Super Bowl victories.

As part of Kiwanis support, the club expects the scouts to attend one of its meetings and share the excitement and highlights of their trip with members. At a March meeting, a young Cub scout made a presentation to members about the trip. Skylar showed up with his father, scout leader Cory, and provided an excellent overview of



Club President Randall Durner, left, greets Cub Scout Skylar and his Pack Leader (and father) Cory, at a club meeting during which Skylar gave a presentation about his trip to Green Bay with his Scout Pack.

the trip, its highlights and their excitement, along with his Packer towel and photos taken during the visit. Making a presentation before an assembly can be an intimidating prospect (even for adults), but Skylar handled it like a pro! Thanks, Skylar and Cory!

If your club would like to put some funds to good use, in addition to supporting our SLPs, consider helping sponsor or supporting a Cub Scout Pack or Boy Scout Troop. Its a great investment in our youth. Scouting is a worthwhile service leadership program too!

RIPON EARLY BIRDS HOST 33RD ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE, JUNE 4TH

Submitted by Joan Karsten, Ripon Early Bird Kiwanis Club



The Ripon Early Bird Kiwanis Club will host its 33rd Annual Golf Scramble on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 on the Woodlands Course at the Golf Courses of Lawsonia in Green Lake. The 18-hole four-person scramble will begin with registration at 10:00 am, followed by a shotgun start at 11:00 am.

The \$125 per person entry fee includes 18 holes of golf with cart, an exceptional pasta buffet dinner, hole event prizes and chances to win other prizes. The cost for the pasta buffet dinner alone is \$30.

To register and pay for a team online, visit www.riponearlybirdkiwanis.org/golf-scramble.

UPCOMING KIWANIS EVENTS

- May 10, 2025, 9 am to 2 pm Kiwanis Work Day, Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
- June 25-28, 2025 Kiwanis International Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- August 22-24, 2025 WI-UM Kiwanis District Convention, Green Bay, Wisconsin
- September 12-14, 2025 Key Leader, Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin



PLAN TO ATTEND THE KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN JUNE

Reprinted from the Kiwanis International Website

Pittsburgh is known for its innovative industries, thriving cultural scene and a landscape distinguished by rivers and bridges. Of course, the city is also known for its place at the heart of American steel manufacturing.

Explore all the ways the Kiwanis International convention can help you forge the future – for your club and for our worldwide organization. Join us in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Discover ways to build and grow clubs while nurturing and building your membership. Learn how to magnify your club’s influence on your community. Find out how to transform service projects in ways you never thought possible. Receive hands-on guidance in becoming a skilled Kiwanis leader. Reconnect with old friends and make new ones! You’ll leave the most exciting and educational Kiwanis event of the year inspired to make a difference.

Schedule and education

Membership growth. Retention. Building new clubs. Leadership development. You’ll learn how to grow your club through insight-packed sessions.

Speakers

Get inspired by the stories and experiences from an all-star roster of speakers who will reignite your desire to make a positive difference in your community.

Elections, amendments and resolutions

Make sure your voice is heard on the issues that could affect Kiwanis International for decades to come. Elect leaders who have a vision and a clear plan for the future.

Hotels

Start planning now for your time in Pittsburgh by reserving a room at one of our preferred hotels.

Accessibility

Kiwanis International strives to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage fully.

More information can be found [on this webpage](#). [Register now](#). Pick the plan that’s right for you and purchase tickets to special events, such as the eagerly anticipated closing night gala.

KDF OFFICERS & DIVISION REPS

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KIWANEWS SCHEDULE

- October/November November 1 Deadline
- December/January January 1 Deadline
- February/March March 1 Deadline
- April/May May 1 Deadline
- June/July July 1 Deadline
- August/September September 1 Deadline



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Mooo-ving Kiwaniis Forward

Wisconsin Upper Michigan District Convention

August 22-24, 2025
Green Bay, WI



Key Leader provides an opportunity for teens to learn about themselves.

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A weekend leadership experience that prepares teens for life. Friday, September 12 through Sunday, September 14, 2025. Camp Wawbeek, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.