



Kiwanis®

KISHWAUKEE DEKALB

Volume LV, Number 3 October 22th, 2025 Editor, Joe Gastiger www.kishkiwanis.org

LUNCH: Chicken breasts in cream sauce, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, green salad, cookies

Today's Meeting: Led by Caroline Collins

Invocation: Jack Goodrich

Officers for 2025-2026

President	Caroline Collins
President Elect	Sue Doubler
Vice President	
Treasurer	Bob Hoffman
Asst. Treasurer	Al Mueller
Secretary	Ken Doubler
Asst. Secretary	Jerry Wahlstrom
Imm Past President	Mike Mooney
Lt. Governor	Jean Erlenborn
District Governor	Mary Zeronas

Kishwaukee Kiwanis Meetings

2nd, 3rd, 4th, Wednesdays, 11:45 a.m.
Faranda's Banquet Center
302 Grove St.
DeKalb, IL

K-Family Events/Meetings

Circle K Every other Thursday at
6:00 p.m. in HSC 506 or via
Teams Online.

AKtion Club – 2nd Wednesday, 3:45 at
Opportunity House
357 N. California St
Sycamore, IL

Defining Statement

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

Flag Salute

As our flag signifies purity, valor, and
justice, may we as true Kiwanians
exemplify these virtues as we serve
the children of the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Caroline Collins announced that three of our members have volunteered to serve on a city-wide committee planning events to celebrate our country's 250th birthday next July. John Rey, Jerry Smith, and Ellingsworth Webb will represent our club.

Sue Doubler noted that our Circle K Club at NIU will host a LEAF rally this coming weekend, hosting students from a number of nearby colleges. They meet later today at 4:30 PM in the University Suites Dining Room at the Holmes Student Center.

Sue also informed us that the cost of printing our annual yearbook has climbed quite a bit — from \$405 last year to \$595, if we plan to continue handing out booklets. Castle Printech has moved out of town, will not give us a discount, and we'd have to do the layout ourselves. Ellingsworth Webb offered to make our directory into a Word document, so that each of us can print our own copy at home.

Tim Dunlop invited us all to gather for supper at Rosita's after we finish packing meals for Feed My Starving Children out at the Suter facility along Bethany Road next month. This project provides healthy, nonperishable meals for malnourished children in more than 70 countries. We'll gather for food, drink, and fellowship once the whistle signals it's time to quit on Thursday, November 13.

PROGRAM

Jim Barker introduced David Graham, who's been the piano technician for the NIU School of Music for the past 42 years.



David began by inviting us to come listen to concerts at the Recital Hall and the Boutell Concert Hall on campus. Tickets are inexpensive — student recitals, in fact, are free — and the performers are remarkable. David asked us to come support our gifted musicians: no one likes playing to empty chairs.

David went on to describe NIU's collection of 113 pianos; 83 of which were purchased by the state. The rest have been donated by friends and alumni. The School of Music has instruments from several major companies — Steinway, of course (49); Baldwin, Yamaha, Fazioli, and other fine makers. Some might sell for as much as a quarter of a million dollars.

Once upon a time, there were 62 piano companies headquartered in Chicago, and 3 in Sycamore alone.

David noted that while enrollment at state schools has declined over the last ten years,

the School of Music has actually grown. There are about 350 students taking music classes at NIU; 310 are music majors. The rest have auditioned for ensembles, and been eager to join. The Community School of the Arts brings in another 300 students from nearby schools, and invites retired people to sign up for lessons as well. The Dekalb Festival Chorus, the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra, and other local ensembles practice and perform at NIU throughout the year.

David singled out Sally Stevens and Carla Montgomery as among the most generous supporters of the music program.

Every piano that's been around for a while has its own story, its own temperament and eccentricities, David says.

Thought for the day

(via Shadow Gentry)

"Laughter is the best medicine, beautiful you're laughing for no reason you may need medicine.."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: (*Why not invite a guest?* – that could mean a prospective member!)

- October 29: Committee meetings
- November 5: Board Meeting
- November 12: TBD
- November 19: TBD
- November 26: Member Interviews!
- December 3: Board Meeting
- December 10: Tom Mataya-Opportunity House
- December 17: Steve Lundin-DHS Band (tentative)

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 29
	Zoom:
	Guests: Jean Erlenborn, Lt Gov from Sycamore Club
	Outside Speaker: David Graham
	Total 31