



Kiwanis®

KISHWAUKEE DEKALB

Volume LV, Number 11 January 28th, 2026 Editor, Joe Gastiger www.kishkiwanis.org

LUNCH: Baked breaded chicken with mushrooms, lasagna; salad, green beans; brownies and petit fours

Today's Meeting: Led by Caroline Collins

Invocation: Al Mueller

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

Jerry Smith reported that about 20 of us have signed up to see the NIU Women's Basketball game this Saturday. They play Central Michigan at the Convo Center; the game starts at 2:00 pm. Except for those of us with season tickets, we'll be seated in Section 110. Ken Doubler handed out tickets. Those who'd like to are welcome to meet at Fatty's for a recap afterward.

Jerry Wahlstrom that another 20 of us will gather for Jazz at the Egyptian — the 9th annual performance by an assortment of bands from NIU, DeKalb, and Sycamore. The concert's on Friday, February 7, and starts at 7:00 pm, but we're invited to meet in the upstairs lobby at 5:30 for pizza beforehand. Tickets are available at the box office for \$18 — or you can order them online for \$3.50 more.

A beak-masked Toney Xidis made a pitch for our Mardi Gras celebration, set for Tuesday, February 17th at Faranda's. He urged us to invite our friends, our neighbors, anybody we can think of, really: the more money we raise, the more we can give back to the community. Toney has flyers. Tickets are \$45 until February 10, and can be purchased online from Faranda's. Groups can sign for a Bourbon Street table for eight, which includes a free drink and some nifty extra gewgaws.

PROGRAM

Jerry Smith introduced Dan Templin, Executive Director of the DeKalb Community Foundation, who spoke about the history, mission, scope, and continuing growth of the organization he's worked for 21 years. He focused on three funds created by our Kiwanis Clubs over the years that provide scholarships and support local projects for children.

The DeKalb County Community Foundation has played a significant role in supporting and strengthening the quality of life throughout DeKalb County since its founding in 1993. Originally formed to provide a structured way for individuals, families, and businesses to contribute to local philanthropy, the Foundation began with modest assets and has steadily grown through the generosity of donors and careful financial stewardship. Today it manages hundreds of charitable funds and holds about 85 million dollars in assets that are invested to support community needs now and in the future.

At its core, the Foundation's mission is to enhance the quality of life in DeKalb County by connecting people who care with causes that matter. It does this by expanding, managing, and distributing philanthropic resources — including grantmaking, donor services, and stewardship of permanent endowments — that benefit a broad range of local nonprofit organizations and initiatives.

Each year, the Foundation distributes millions of dollars in grants and scholarships to support areas such as arts and culture, community development, education, health and human

services, environment and animal welfare, and nonprofit capacity building. Beyond grantmaking, DeKalb County Community Foundation also takes on leadership roles in community planning and collaboration, such as through its CommunityWorks initiative, which brings stakeholders together to strategically address key local challenges like early childhood support, workforce development, and land use.

The Foundation is guided by a volunteer board of directors and a small professional staff. Its long-term vision emphasizes being a philanthropic leader in the county, fostering equitable and inclusive participation in community giving and ensuring that charitable resources help address both present needs and future opportunities.

Dan noted there are 35 separate community foundations operating in Illinois; ours ranks 7th or 8th in assets. That list, though, includes large-scale foundations in Cook County and Chicago; ours is larger than any other serving a mainly rural county. Dan attributes this to the remarkable generosity of people in DeKalb.

Last year, DCCF distributed about \$4 million dollars; about 75% of its donations are donor driven. Most reputable nonprofits aim to keep operating costs (administration and fundraising) between 10% and 35% of their total budget, meaning 65% to 90% goes to programs. DCCF does all that it can with a much more modest operating budget: 1.8% of the assets it manages covers yearly expenses.

Need a ride to Kiwanis?

Several Kiwanis members have volunteered to give a ride to our meetings if needed.

(Please give them a couple of day's notice if possible.)

Bob Gilmore 815-764-9010

Kathie Davis 815-751-9085

Bob Hadley 815-739-8869

Bob Hoffman 815-742-3765

Jerry Smith 815-751-6265

Thought for the day

(via Bob Hoffman)

"Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died."

-Erma Bombeck

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

2026

February 4: Board Meeting

February 11: Wendy Pesavento, Toastmasters

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 25
	Zoom: Virginia Naples
	Guests: Mary Seymore
	Outside Speaker: Dan Templin, Executive Director, DeKalb County Community Foundation
	Total 28