



LUNCH: Chef Salad, Vegetable Beef and Cream of Chicken soup, bread, cookies

Today's Meeting: Led by Mike Mooney

Invocation: Shadow Gentry

Officers for 2024-2025

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| President | Mike Mooney |
| President Elect | Caroline Collins |
| Vice President | Sue Doubler |
| Treasurer | Jack Goodrich |
| Asst. Treasurer | Al Mueller |
| Secretary | Ken Doubler |
| Asst. Secretary | Jerry Wahlstrom |
| Imm Past President | Bob Hoffman |
| Lt. Governor | Jean Erlenborn |
| District Governor | Kim Groom |

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:

Bill Finucane reported on last weekend's Beanzie Ride, which drew 148 cyclists this time — a good number, though not as many as we'd hoped. All went well; the new radios worked, and Tim Duez encountered a herd of deer en route. Many volunteers came out to help, including Johnna Jennings, our newly-retired 4-H director. Bill estimates that we may have brought in about \$4000, and wanted to thank all of our volunteers. He'll give us an annual report at our August board meeting.

Gary Vander Meer noted that our club has offered to deliver Meals on Wheels this September. He'll be passing around sign up sheets and hopes we're able to fill every slot.

Ken Doubler announced that our Kiwanis Club will receive a Distinguished Club Award at the district convention this summer in Davenport, Iowa. Ken asked for a round of applause for our former president, Bob Homan.

Program:

Rev. Dr. Leroy Mitchell talked to us today, reflecting on his long career as director of the CHANCE Program at NIU. Dr. Mitchell came to DeKalb in June 1980, to take over an office that recruited and offered academic counseling to students who wouldn't have been admitted to Northern otherwise; most were disadvantaged young people who came from Chicago Public Schools, but didn't have the grades or the ACT scores that college required.

Dr. Mitchell came from SUNY Buffalo to take the job, impressed that NIU set aside a portion of its own budget to operate CHANCE. Most other programs at comparable schools relied on federal and state grants, and so had to reply for funding every year.

At one time, CHANCE brought in nearly 500 freshmen every year, about a third of whom would stay to graduate. Many students went through some cultural shock, moving from a major city to a much smaller town far from home. Some of those who left transferred to other schools; others found jobs, and many faced financial stress. CHANCE did not and could not offer any tuition breaks or scholarships, though some critics seemed to think they did. Certain faculty assumed CHANCE students couldn't succeed, and treated them differently — unfairly so.

At one time, CHANCE was the largest program of its kind in Illinois; it may have been the largest in the country.

By and large, NIU presidents were strong supporters of CHANCE's mission, none more so than John Peters. While testifying in Washington D.C., Peters called Dr. Mitchell to report that former CHANCE students were "everywhere" in government.

Dr. Mitchell came to DeKalb at a time when there were no churches here that carried on African-American spiritual traditions. To fill that void, he founded what would become the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church — which started out in his own living room. New Hope is currently engaged in a five million dollar building project, to create a community center in the poorest part of town.

Rev. Dr. Leroy Mitchell — who now has an elementary school named for him — has always been a passionate advocate for the poor and the excluded. That work is carried today by his oldest son, Rev. Joe Mitchell, who accompanied his father to the meeting today.

Thought for the day
(via Bob Hoffman)

“Every day may not be good, but there is good in every day.”

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

July 23: Mark Pietrowski-Cortland Mayor

July 30th: (5th Wednesday) Committee meetings and reports

August 6: Board Meeting

August 13: Bill F. and TD Ryan - Freezing for Food

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| | Kish Kiwanians (in person) 31 |
| | Zoom: Jim Spencer, Kathi Davis |
| | Guests: Rita Finucane, Jean Ehrlenborn, Rev. Joe Mitchell |
| | Outside Speaker: Re. Dr. LeRoy Mitchelle |
| | Total 37 |