



LUNCH: Roast turkey, stuffing, gravy, macaroni and cheese, salad, cookies

Today's Meeting: Led by Caroline Collins

Invocation: Bob Hoffman

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

Circle K will meet regularly the rest of the semester on Wednesdays at 4:30, Holmes Student Center room 506.

Bill Finucane has tickets for the Women's Basketball game January 31st for only \$4 each.

We have a fair-sized crowd signed up for Jazz Fest at the Egyptian on February 7th at 7 p.m.. Tickets are \$12 for seniors, \$18 for those of you that qualify as youngsters when you purchase them in person from the box office (fees apply to online purchases). Those interested in a social outing will gather on the second floor of the Egyptian for a pizza dinner starting at 5:30.

Mardi Gras is Tuesday February 17th at Faranda's. The Black Tie Trio will provide music and sponsorships are available. See Toney Xidis for more information.

PROGRAM

Sue Doubler introduced Andy McFarland, the Executive Director of Kishwaukee United Way, who took over that role on November 17. Before coming to DeKalb, Andy directed the YMCA in Dixon for 17 years, and has been working for nonprofit agencies for 32 years. Andy also has a long commitment to Kiwanis — as a Key Club and Circle K member — and former president of our club in Dixon. His wife serves as the director of adult education and English as a Second Language classes at Sauk Valley Community College.

Andy noted that United Way has been active here in DeKalb for nearly a century — 97 years. Their efforts to help fund and support a network of service organizations is, paradoxically, both widely-known and widely overlooked. Andy has a long record of hands-on community engagement, and would like to encourage his board of directors to become more active as volunteers — by helping out at Opportunity House, showing up at Habitat for Humanity work days, and other local projects.

Kishwaukee United Way focuses on fund-raising for community agencies so those organizations can pay more attention to carrying out their missions rather than chase donations on their own. United Way's efforts become more important at a time when federal grants have been cut to the bone.

Andy highlighted some of the work of the 17 agencies United Way partners with — particularly, gathering Christmas presents for children at Safe Passage and other nearby shelters. He is working to simplify United Way's grant-making process, so that clients will not have to submit the very same documents and rationales year after year.

Andy took us on a tour of United Way's website, which contains a wealth of information, and links to the 211 hotline for those in need. 911, of course, is the number that people call in emergency; 988 is a mental health and suicide prevention line.

Trained volunteers answer 211 calls, day and not, referring people to the appropriate offices if they need food, help with rent, medical or utility bills, and don't know where to turn. Last year, our 211 service made more than 2,000 referrals.

United Way's website also features a great deal of information about the needs of poor people in our community. Here, one can find a number of charts and graphs related to ALICE — an acronym for Asset-Limited, Living-Constrained but Employed families here in DeKalb County and throughout the state. Andy says that such data is critical: agencies need these facts and figures to find out what people really do need — not what we think they do.

At the end of his talk, Andy McFarlane told us he's filling out his application to join our club very soon.

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)

"Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes us.
Hatred darkens life; life illuminates us"

- *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

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

2026

January 28: Dan Templin, DeKalb Community Fund

February 4: Board Meeting

February 11: Wendy Pesavento, Toastmasters

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 30
	Zoom: Jim Spencer, Misty Hadji-Sheikh,
	Guests: Jean Erlenborn, Lt. Governor
	Outside Speaker: Andy McFarland, the Executive Director of Kishwaukee United Way
	Total 34