



**LUNCH:** Corned beef, vegetarian lasagna; mixed grilled vegetables, Caesar salad; cookies  
**Today's Meeting:** Led by Caroline Collins **Invocation:** Joe Gastiger

### 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 Wednesday at  
 4:30 p.m. in HSC 506  
 (usually 1st and 3rd  
 Wednesday)

**AKtion Club** – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

President Caroline Collins reported today on the progress of DeKalb's planned celebrations to honor our nation's 250th birthday. There are plans, for instance, to plant 250 new trees throughout the city, to collect 250 *gallons* of blood for local blood banks, and to recruit more organizations and businesses to take part in a bigger and better parade on Memorial Day.

Caroline continues to meet with Scott Zak, DeKalb's Communications & Engagement Manager, to explore ways our club can participate. We will be sponsoring two special events at the DeKalb Public Library.

## PROGRAM

Sue Doubler introduced Jimmy Zucker, the DeKalb's Key Club faculty advisor today, along with club officers Olivia Ottile and Jaden Longville. Together, they gave us an enthusiastic overview of their work.

The Key Club at DeKalb High School operates as part of the school's broader "service and leadership" ecosystem, placing it alongside organizations like Student Council and National Honor Society but with a distinctly hands-on focus. Sponsored and supported by Kiwanis, the Key Club is not simply about volunteering; it is designed as a pipeline for leadership development, where students plan, organize, and carry out projects rather than just participate in them.

In practice, students in DeKalb's Key Club engage in a wide range of service activities. The club stages clean-ups around the high school campus every semester, partnering with another environmental group. Key Club members go door-to-door Trick-or-Treating for cans in the fall to stock the shelves at the Barb Food Mart. They pack meals at the Feed My Starving Children campaign at the Suter Company in Sycamore, partner with Trash Squirrels for the Giant Hopkins Park Clean Up on April 18, and work with groups at NIU to raise money for a girls school in Musoma, Tanzania. Key Club volunteers run the concessions at DHS football, volleyball, and basketball games to help fund local service projects.

Young people are eager to help other students who may not be quite as well-off as they are. The Key Club gathers dresses — formal wear — to give away for Homecoming and Prom, so that some who would not be able to attend can do so in style.

Key Club meetings are held Tuesday mornings — at 7:15 AM — before classes begin. Members are generally expected to contribute consistent time and effort—often meeting service-hour goals and participating in multiple types of projects—making the

experience more substantive than occasional volunteering. Through these activities, students gain experience not only in service, but in coordination, communication, and civic responsibility.

Thanks, in part to new leadership, our Key Club has grown from 31 to 51 members over the past two years. Taken together, the Key Club at DeKalb High School functions as a structured entry point into civic life—linking school, community, and global service networks while helping students grow into active, engaged leaders.

**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)

“The shortest distance between two people is a smile.”  
*-a famous quote often attributed to entertainer [Victor Borge](#)*

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

**2026**

- April 1: Board Meeting
- April 8: D428 Supt. Billy Hueramo
- April 15: Michelle Groeper, TAILS
- April 22: Club Business: The future of Beanzie
- April 29: Committee Meetings (if scheduled)
- May 6: Board Meeting
- May 13: Clergy appreciation day
- May 20: Denise Moran, Sycamore Hospital/Letitia Westgate

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 23
	Zoom: N/A
	Guests: Jimmy Zucker, Key Club Advisor at DeKalb High School, Olivia Otterlie, Co-President, and Jaden Longville, DHS Key Club. Elora Collins
	Outside Speaker:
	<b>Total 27</b>