



Kiwaniis®

KISHWAUKEE DEKALB

Volume LV, Number 32 August 19th, 2026 Editor, Joe Gastiger www.kishkiwanis.org

LUNCH: Cold cuts (roast beef, turkey, ham), cheeses, breads; pickles, green salad, fruit 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 – 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 reminded us that we'll be holding our fall Prayer Breakfast in the Little Theater at Oak Crest on Friday, September 18th, from 8:00 until 9:30 AM. Our featured speakers will be local chaplains — for the Fire Department, and for our veterans groups as well. They'll focus, in part, on the Be the One initiative: a nationwide project that tries to help those afflicted with PTSD and prevent suicide.

Gary Vander Meer asked for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels in September, and passed around sign up sheets. Next month, we're slated to cover the routes on Mondays and Fridays — with the exception of Labor Day. Ordinarily, we recruit teams of two — one to drive, one to help navigate — and meet out on Bethany Road in Sycamore, at 10:30 AM.

Gary also appealed to members to stop by and pick up boxes of peanuts — they're stacked up at his house right now. Our Peanut Day foray out in traffic is set for the weekend of September 11th and 12th

Bob and Joy Hadley volunteer at the Country Thrift Store in DeKalb, which helps fund our Family Service Agency. Each Monday, a team drives up to the Rockford Rescue Mission to deliver clothing and other items that have been on the rack or the shelf for a while and haven't sold. He'd like to recruit some volunteers who'd be willing to make that trip on the second Monday of each month. Please contact Bob if you're available.

Sue Doubler is updating our directory, and asks that we each look over our info — phone numbers, addresses — to make sure they're correct before those new handy booklets get printed.

PROGRAM

Toney Xidis led today's discussion of "*To Beanzie or Not to Beanzie*" — whether or not to try to continue, give up, or modify our most ambitious (and, generally, successful) fundraiser. After nearly three decades, this summer event has become more difficult for us to manage — we have fewer members now, and most of us are a lot older — and we're drawing fewer riders now. From a high of 700 riders, we've dropped fewer than 150. Once upon a time, we were able to raise about \$15,000 from Beanzie to support programs for children; that's dropped, too, to about \$6700 this summer.

Prior to today's meeting, Sue Doubler had provided us with a list of pros and cons compiled by the Beanzie Committee. After many members weighed in, there was a general consensus that we ought to hold a scaled-back ride next summer. Rather than see this a money-maker, and try to draw more riders from far and wide, we might focus on attracting more local families, and come up with a route or routes that follow the paths we've paid to have paved through local parks. Working with the Park District,

and trying to make this more of a family outing than a practice run for Ragbrai, would eliminate the need for staffing several rest stops, hauling sandwich-board signs around the county, and patrolling country roads in search of stragglers.

Toney, Kathie Davis, and Sue Doubler offered to gather to do some more brainstorming about the ride — whether to hold it next fall, for instance — while the rest of us were challenged to come up with ideas for a new summer fundraiser. We'll take a final vote at our meeting on September 9th.

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
Courtesy of Bob Hoffman

“Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you.”
- *Walt whitman*

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

August 26: Harlan Hawkins, Union Soldier Cemetery
Sept. 2: Board Meeting
Sept 9: Beanzie part deux
Sept 16: TBD
Sept 23: No meeting due to Faranda’s unavailability
Sept 30: Officer installation. OFF SITE!

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 30
	Guests: Jean Ehrlenborn, Lieutenant Governor Mary Seymore
	Outside Speakers: N/A
	Total 32