



Kiwaniis®

KISHWAUKEE DEKALB

Volume LV, Number 34 September 9th, 2026 Editor, Joe Gastiger www.kishkiwanis.org

LUNCH: Chicken breasts in cream & mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes and gravy,
stir-fried mixed vegetables, mixed green salad, cookies

Today's Meeting: Led by Caroline Collins **Invocation:** Jerry Smith

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

Sue Doubler reminded us that our big room at Faranda's will be taken for the last Wednesdays of this month. Our Kiwanis Club will *not* meet on September 23th, and on the 30th, we'll gather where we used to — at the Hopkins Park Terrace Room — for lunch. Yes, Faranda's will deliver.

Jerry Smith encouraged everyone to sign up for our breakfast — if you've not already — scheduled for Friday, September 18th, from 8:00 - 9:30 AM — in the Vista Room at Oak Crest. We'll have for a full breakfast buffet (eggs, bacon, sausage, et cetera) for just \$10 a person. Jen Conley and Daniel Oziama will provide music, and yes, you're welcome to bring a guest. Our speakers that morning will be Fire Chief Luke Howieson, and Mike Giuliano, a retired fighter pilot who serves as chaplain for DeKalb's American Legion post. They'll be talking about ministering to veterans and fire fighters, who often struggle with the aftershocks of dealing with people in situations we'd rather not think about.

Come and find out how we can help those haunted by PTSD.

Gary Vander Meer thanked those of us who've signed up to deliver Meals on Wheels this month, and reminded us that Peanut Days are coming up — this Friday and Saturday, September 11th and 12th. That's when we put on our aprons and wave to motorists at stop signs, asking for donations in exchange for a healthy snack. (Unless, of course, you can't eat peanuts.)

PROGRAM

Kathie Davis led our program today, explaining how plans have been shaping up for rebranding our Beanzie ride as a more family-friendly Kiwanis Ride for Kids. Not long ago, we voted to change this event from a big summer fundraiser for the club to a more community-centered, celebratory outing for parents, neighbors, and kids, along the bike paths we've helped create with the DeKalb Park District.

Toney Xidis has met with Chrissy Tlucek, the district's recreation director, to set up routes and to partner with park staff for this new ride. The date's been set for Sunday, April 25, 2027 — chosen, in part, because it does not conflict with any school Spring Breaks, nor with Easter. The Park District will allow us to use their shelters and Hopkins and at Lion's Park. They'll set up a Kid Zone — a supervised array of craft tents, face-painting tables, food trucks, giveaways, and bouncy-houses. They'll also provide for publicity, through the fliers and schedules they send out every season.

We will be responsible for logistics — registering riders, patrolling the routes, paying for insurance — and complying with park regulations.

Kathie passed around a mock-up of a new logo for the ride, and a map of some proposed paths:

- The Hopkins Park route, (1.1 miles)
- A Northern route (6 miles)
- A Southern route, from Hopkins to Lions Park and back (7 miles)
- And, perhaps, a Cortland route — though we would need to have police crossing guards along Peace Road.)

Toney reminded us that one of reasons Kiwanis set up the Beanzie ride, 27 years ago, was to promote fitness and a healthy lifestyle. Making this into a family outing is certainly consistent with our mission.

We will charge a very small fee for registration — quite a bit less than we did for Beanzie, which tried to draw experienced riders from far and wide. Consequently, we will have to do our best to attract more sponsors, to make up for the steep drop in what we'll charge.

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

"All good ideas start out as bad ideas. That's why it takes so long."
- Steven Spielberg

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

Sept 16: 50th Season KSO, Courtney McNamara

Sept 23: No meeting due to Faranda's unavailability

Sept 30: Officer installation. OFF SITE! at Park District Community Room (our old meeting place)

	Kish Kiwanians (in person) 23
	Guests:
	Outside Speakers:
	Total 23