



Jackson Downtown Kiwanian

1203 First St. Jackson, MI 49203 Club phone: (888) 551-9699

Local: www.jacksonkiwanis.com / Facebook: The Kiwanis Club of Jackson, Michigan

District: www.mikiwanis.org / International: www.kiwanis.org



JUNE 2015

**“Be a Part of Living History
with personal growth and an increased imagination”**

Club members are scurrying around town planting more than 1,000 flags for Memorial Day as I pause to write. Yes, the 2015 flag project is in full bloom with added help from our Key Club and Aktion Club members! Thank you to all participants and local foundations for making this our club’s largest individual fund raiser. It enables us to support such great projects as Challenge Day, Kids Against Hunger, two Little League Team sponsorships, Energizing Education, four College Scholarships, our Dictionary and Thesaurus donations and Holiday Movie Project, just to name the major recipients of our funds.



June promises to be another busy, fun-filled month for Kiwanis! We kick the month off with an interclub visit to Addison on June 2 and finish the month with another interclub visit to Hudson on June 30. Our flag project continues as we plant again on June 11 and harvest around June 18 to celebrate Flag Day, then plant again around June 30 for the Fourth of July. The summer Kids Movie Project gets started June 9 and runs every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for 10 weeks through summer vacation. At our June club meetings, we will host our Foundation annual meeting, give out Club Membership Awards, recognize four High School Scholarship Recipients and be enriched with meaningful topics that pertain to our community. The Kiwanis International Convention is in Indianapolis, Indiana June 25-28. Our club will be well represented at this special Kiwanis 100th Birthday event!

I invite every member to participate in something this month. I guarantee you will find satisfaction in giving back to the community. I know this is what most of you were looking for when you joined. You might even invite a friend to consider joining you in this great organization – the Kiwanis Club of Jackson!

Sincerely, Beth

June Programs

- 5: Membership Awards & Foundation Annual Meeting
- 12: Phil Morgan about new event coming to MIS
- 19: Scholarship Luncheon *Location: Vista Grande Villa
- 26: Cascades Humane Society/Heather Leszczynski

Thanks to this month’s Program Chair: Therese Hesslau

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Kiwanis Club Officers

President

Beth Philo

President-Elect

Don Schroeder

Vice President

Rick Mills

Treasurer

Chandra Howard

Secretary

Joe Wolfe

Past President

Glenn Pascoe

Club Directors

Tommy Amidon

Carolyn Brown

Linda Brzezinski

Mary Lou McFadden

Mary Anne Riley-Seamans

Jim Philo

Ted Wilson

Lt. Governor District 11

Adam Howard

Club Meetings

Friday Meetings at noon at
Cascades Manor House,
1970 Kibby Rd.

Evening Meetings

2nd Wednesday at 6 p.m. at
the Hunt Club, 1514 Daniel
Rd.

Board Meetings

1st and 3rd Wednesday at
noon at the Hunt Club

Newsletter Editor

Jessica Mitchell

Kiwanis Trivia:

Kiwanis has clubs in
more than 90 nations.
The first club organized
outside the U.S. and
Canada was in Mexico.
It received its charter in
May 1962.

Welcome New Members!

This month, we are two members stronger. Melvin Hitchens joined our club on May 15. He is a Pastor at the Methodist Church. His sponsor is Ted Wilson.

John Grzesikowski joined on May 22. His nickname is "Grz." He has been married to Elsie for 47 years. They have two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Grz was born in Jackson "and I have lived here my whole life, except being away for six years while serving in the Navy," he writes. He and Elsie are members of the Country Western "Boot Scooter" dance club. "We also have been on many cruises, so I guess we like to travel a lot," he says. Grz graduated from St. Mary High School in 1965 and Jackson College.

He retired from Consumers Energy on March 1, after 41 years in the System Control and Electric Automation Department. He joined Kiwanis because he now has time, and he wants to give back to the community. His sponsor is Jeff Sekerke.

Please welcome both Melvin and Grz to our club!



"Grz" and wife Elsie

What prospective member will you invite to a club meeting, event or volunteer opportunity this month?

Feeding Those in Need At Bennett and the Interfaith Shelter

We had a great first Kids Against Hunger packaging experience at Bennett Elementary School in Jackson on Friday, May 8. The children especially liked making packages of food that would feed other children who were in need. We packaged 10,968 meals and all the food went to food pantries in the Jackson area.



Glenn Pascoe and Suzy Crittenden supervise students.



Bennett Elementary students enjoy their work. More photos (taken by Beth Philo) are on our website.

Our club donates \$2,800 for the dry ingredients that go into each meal. We partner with the Kids Against Hunger organization which provides the soy, rice, dried vegetables and chicken flavoring that goes into the packaged meals. Kiwanians supervised the children, who measure, package, weigh and seal each package of food. Three Key Clubbers (President Rachel Cunningham, Media Chief Parker Wilkinson and James Smith) helped set up and supervise the first group of children. We also had Bennett teachers, Principal Brock and five Bennett parents who provided much needed help. Kiwanis volunteers were: Phil Berkemeier, Linda Brzezinski, Dave Carpenter, Sandy Carpenter, Suzy Crittenden, Sandy Eisele, Herb Elfring, Dick Hitch, Andy Johnson, Pat Kiessling, Eileen Lehnert (plus husband Dave Spalding), MaryLou McFadden, Nels Oman (plus wife Peg), Glenn Pascoe, Beth Philo, Jim Philo and Cal Schuch. Thank you to all who volunteered! -- Sandy Eisele and Eileen Lehnert



Kiwanians serve lunch at the Interfaith Shelter on Tuesday, May 19. Thank you! (Photo courtesy of the Interfaith Shelter, from its Facebook page)

Kiwanis Fellowship



Local Kiwanis Family's Hot Dog Roast

Members of the Kiwanis, Aktion and Key Clubs brave the cold on Tuesday, May 12 to visit with each other at our Hot Dog Roast at Kiwanis Park. Thanks to those who came out, and those who set up, cooked and cleaned up!

Kiwanis Family Picnic in Shelby Township

You're invited to a Michigan Kiwanis Family Picnic and Service Project on Saturday, June 20. It will be held at Whispering Woods Park, 10000 21 Mile Road in Shelby Township. The service projects start at 9 a.m. and the picnic lasts from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. Please bring \$10 with you (for food costs and a donation to the ELIMINATE Project). RSVP by June 16 to Nathan at (586) 707-2864 or online at <https://goo.gl/uykivi> -- Chandra Howard

Golf with Michigan Kiwanians

Here are two chances to golf with Michigan Kiwanians. The Michigan District of Kiwanis will host its annual Golf Outing on Monday, June 8, at the Whispering Pines Golf Course in Pinckney. The cost is \$90/golfer. The 28th annual Max Drake Kiwanis Open Golf Tournament will be Wednesday, August 5, at the Concord Hills Golf Course in Concord. The cost is \$60/golfer and includes lunch, cart and goody bags. Bring a friend, or several or just sign yourself up. Please see me for registration forms. – Glenn Pascoe

Club News to Keep You in the Know

- During our Friday, June 5, club meeting I will have the honor of handing out **Membership Awards**. Nearly 40 Kiwanians will receive an award for Perfect Attendance. Two will receive the Legion of Honor, which recognizes Kiwanians who have been in the club for 25 years. Presenting these awards is one of my favorite things to do as Secretary. It just doesn't get any better than honoring our most dedicated members. Please attend to receive your award, or cheer on your fellow Kiwanians! – Secretary Joe Wolfe
- Also during the June 5 club meeting, we will hold our **Foundation annual meeting**. The agenda includes a review of finances and election of two new directors. – Foundation President Eileen Lehnert
- During our Friday, June 19, club meeting, we will celebrate the four recipients of our **college scholarships**. They are: Paige Lukasik, of Michigan Center High School; Ally Oliver, of Western; Trevor Tarantowski, of Jackson Christian; and Rachel Waskiewicz, of Grass Lake. Paige and Rachel will attend Jackson College; Ally and Trevor will attend Spring Arbor University. Each will receive \$1,000 from our club. Kiwanians, please plan to attend our meeting, to congratulate these students. Thank you to Nels Oman, Kelly Langley, Mary Lou McFadden and Rick Mills for your work on the scholarship committee. **Note: this meeting will NOT be at the Cascades Manor House, because of another group meeting there that day.** Our meeting will be at Vista Grande Villa, 2251 Springport Rd. (thanks to Linda Brzezinski for coordinating the location). – Suzy Crittenden and Jessica Mitchell
- Thank you for your efforts during the first flag-waving holiday of our **Flag Project!** Plant your flags 3-5 days before Flag Day and harvest them 3-5 days after the holiday (strive to have them in for one week as a courtesy to the customer). **FOR FLAG DAY: PLANT BY JUNE 11, HARVEST BY JUNE 18. Then, FOR 4TH OF JULY, PLANT BY JUNE 30.** – Jim Philo
- We are hosting a **Flower Fundraiser** in conjunction with Gee Farms, in Stockbridge. I have order forms at Friday meetings or contact me. Make checks payable to the Kiwanis Club of Jackson. And pick up the flowers when you want by June 3. Directions to Gee Farms on www.GeeFarms.com or call them at (517) 769-6772. – Ron Sondergeld
- The next **evening meeting** is Wednesday, June 10, at 6 p.m. at the Hunt Club. What do we do? Catch up with friends, learn about Kiwanis updates and eat!
- Join us for an **interclub** or two this month. We will visit the Addison club on June 2 at 5:30 p.m. and the Hudson club on June 30 at noon. Contact me to sign up for this fun adventure! – Beth Philo
- We have decided to cancel the **June trip to Firekeepers** Casino in Battle Creek due to lack of interest. – Suzy Crittenden

Club News (continued)

- We are again sponsoring the **Kids Movies**. They will be at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the CARMIKE Theatre (the purple theatre on N. Wisner St). They start June 9 and will run for ten weeks. June 9-11: Rise of the Guardians. June 16-18: How to Train Your Dragon 2. June 23-25: Monsters Vs. Aliens. June 30-July 2: the Croods. I will let you know if they need Kiwanis volunteers. Be sure to tell all your friends and neighbors and any kids you see around. The movies will cost only \$1 (snacks will be at going rate) and there is plenty of free parking. Hopefully, we will be back at the Michigan Theatre with these movies after they put downtown Jackson back together! – Pat Kiessling
- Purchase season tickets for the **Kiwanis Travel Adventure Film Series**. For ticket information, call us at (517) 474-5227, email us at Kiwanis@gkveach.com or download the order form at www.jacksonkiwanis.com -- George and Kathie Veach
- The **Key Club** will not have any meetings until September. But we are planning to purchase a Viking mascot costume for Jackson High School, using funds the Kiwanis Club budgets for the Key Club. Since no one was able to attend the convention in Traverse City this year, we had a great deal of funds available for the Key Club, which we thought could benefit the school. The Key Clubbers are excited and I think it will help us greatly toward building our club next year. We would like to thank the club for your generosity and will try to present your gift at a meeting this summer. Go Key Club! -- Andy Johnson
- The **Aktion Club** will not conduct official meetings this summer; instead its members hope to plan one special event each month this summer. We are also looking ahead-as The Aktion Club's yearly camp/convention will be held on September 25 and 26 at YMCA Storer Camps in Jackson. -- Cheri Johnson
- Our **Builders Club** is going to break for summer. Its members may meet once or twice. – Beth Philo



Prayer Breakfast



Our club members enjoy the Jackson-area Kiwanis Clubs Worldwide Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 7, at Steve's Ranch, in downtown Jackson.

Thanks to the Kiwanis Club of Jackson Northwest for coordinating this event.

KIWANIS JUNE 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Addison Interclub 5:30 p.m. Happy Birthday Mary Lou McFadden	3 <u>Board meeting</u> 12 noon Hunt Club Flower Fundraiser Pick-Up Deadline Happy Birthday Peter Kofflin	4 Happy Birthday Lee Zimmerman	5 <u>Program: Kiwanis Foundation Annual Meeting & Kiwanis Membership Awards</u>	6
7	8 Michigan District of Kiwanis Golf Outing Pinckney	9 Kids Movies	10 Evening Club Meeting 6 p.m. Hunt Club Kids Movies Happy Birthday Marty Griffin	11 Kids Movies Happy Birthday Don Schroeder Plant flags today	12 <u>Program: New event coming to MIS</u> Happy Birthday Tom Miller	13
14 Happy Flag Day	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 Kids Movies Happy Birthday Nels Oman	17 <u>Board meeting</u> 12 noon Hunt Club Kids Movies	18 Kids Movies Happy Birthday Linda Brzezinski Harvest flags by today	19 <u>Program: Scholarship Luncheon</u> <u>**Location: Vista Grande Villa</u>	20 Kiwanis Picnic Shelby Township Happy Birthday Eric Scott
21	22	23 Kids Movies	24 Kids Movies	25 Kids Movies Kiwanis Convention Indianapolis	26 <u>Program: Cascades Humane Society</u> Kiwanis Convention	27 Kiwanis Convention
28 Kiwanis Convention	29	30 Kids Movies Hudson Interclub Noon Plant flags today	1 <u>Board meeting</u> 12 noon Hunt Club Kids Movies	2 Kids Movies	3 <u>No club meeting</u>	4 <i>Happy 4th of July!</i>