



Jackson Downtown Kiwanian

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2015

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

Well, this is my last ‘president letter’ for newsletters! Like every president before me, I can’t believe the year went by so quickly. This club has been a pleasure to lead because our members each take a piece of the work and make it doable for the club to accomplish great things for the children in our community!

THANK YOU to each and every one of you!



This year has had a lot of ups and downs, starting with Bob Malott moving to Florida (Ron Sondergeld and Carolyn Brown took over our registration committee); Leo Harley passed away (we miss him at meetings and Travel Films, especially); Gene Bills passed away (Glenn Pascoe took over organizing the golf outings; Elinore Currier passed away (Ron took over ordering nuts and candy and members stepped up to attend Interclubs that Elinore had coordinated to make a ‘round robin’ possible); the movie project, led by Pat Kiessling, had volunteers at all the different times throughout the year that we had movies available to kids; Bob Eberhart passed away (we are looking for a volunteer to take over his flag route and will need someone to take over the “Any Soldier” project if we continue it next year; our Foundation had some money available to spend (three members attended an informational meeting about city park improvements- resulting in a major donation by the Foundation board to create a ‘disc golf course’ within Ella Sharp Park); Pat Kiessling saw that our Kiwanis Park needed some TLC and took it upon herself to make a difference (thank you to all members who helped spread mulch) – Pat went out and bought the supplies! She is awesome!!! As a result of Pat stepping up, Lynn and Mary Anne Seamans have volunteered to chair a park maintenance committee to make the upkeep a group effort! Our Key Club has grown and its biggest project this year was acquiring a new mascot costume to present to Jackson High school. We started a Builders Club at the Middle School at Parkside giving ‘at risk’ kids an opportunity to participate in community service in their school and the broader community. **(continued on page 5)**

<p>September Programs</p> <p>4: Round Table</p> <p>11: The Reading Writing Connection’s Jane Robinson</p> <p>18: Laura Steenrod with her therapy dog, Rose</p> <p>25: Installation Dinner at 6 p.m.; no noon meeting</p> <p>Thanks to this month’s Program Chair: Dick Hitch</p>	<p>Inside:</p> <p>Pg. 2 Installation</p> <p>Pg. 3 Disc Golf</p> <p>Pg. 4 Travel Films</p> <p>Pg. 6-8 Club News</p> <p>Pg. 9 Calendar</p>
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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

Carolyn Brown
Linda Brzezinski
Mary Lou McFadden
Mary Anne Riley-Seamans
Jim Philo
Ted Wilson
Mike Zuchowski

Lt. Governor District 11

Adam Howard

Club Meetings

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

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

Newsletter Editor
Jessica Mitchell

Kiwanis Trivia: In October 1968, our then club president proposed history: a flying Interclub. Several members were pilots and had their own aircraft. Three planes, with 12 Kiwanians, left Reynolds Field in Jackson at 6 a.m. They arrived at the Muskegon Club for breakfast, stopped at the Sault Ste. Marie Club for lunch and the Owosso Club for dinner. They later made a slide presentation to our club.

Installation Dinner
Join Us as We Welcome in a New Year
and New Board
And Hear Don Schroeder's Vision
for 2015-16

Incoming Board
Officers

President Don Schroeder
President-Elect Rick Mills
Vice President Andy Johnson
Treasurer Chandra Howard
Secretary Joe Wolfe
Past President Beth Philo

Directors

Linda Brzezinski
Terry Langston
Mary Lou McFadden
Mary Anne Riley-Seamans
Jim Philo
Ted Wilson
Mike Zuchowski

Friday, September 25

Social Hour: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6 p.m.

Cascades Manor House

Tickets: \$25/person

Available starting August 29 at club meetings

or by contacting Beth Philo

Guests welcomed

Dinner

Cranberry chicken, Florentine rollups, salads,
veggies, wild rice, apple pie

Cash bar

No noon meeting that day

Kiwanis Foundation Brings Disc Golf to Jackson

The Kiwanis Foundation of Jackson recently voted unanimously to commit \$15,000 to a Disc Golf Course at Ella Sharp Park.

The money will pay for the equipment needed for the 18-hole course. The Jackson Parks and Recreation Department already has received a grant from the Weatherwax Foundation to remove invasive species from the wooded area where the course will be constructed. That work already has begun.



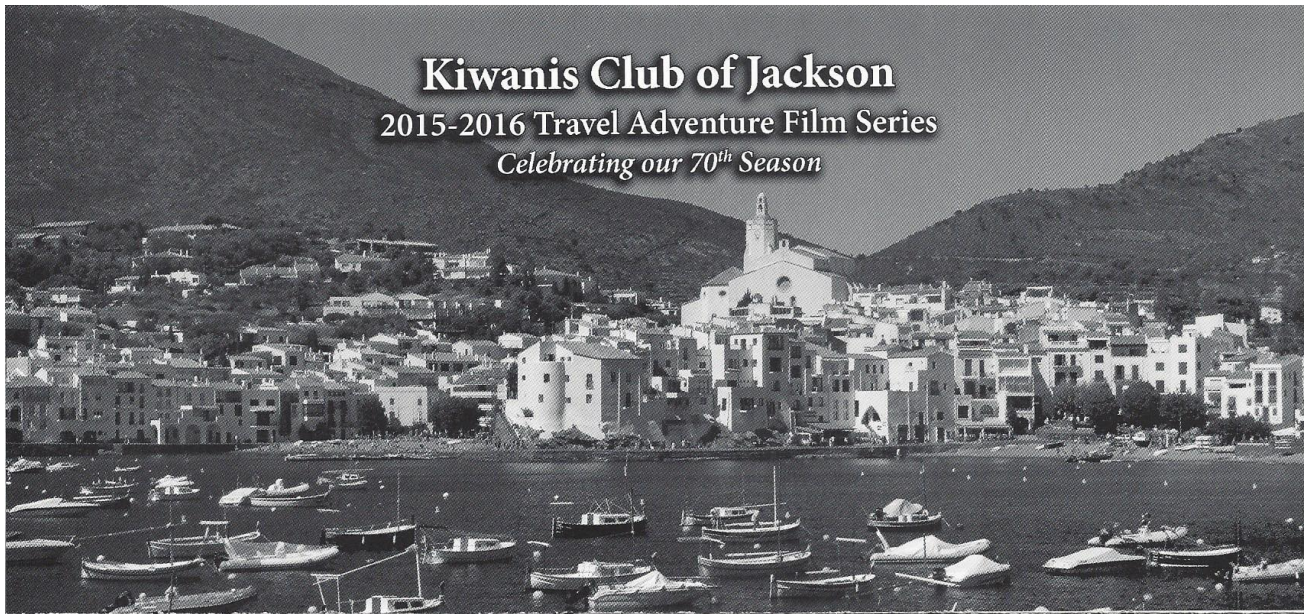
The Foundation will provide the money – in the club’s name – over two years. In exchange, the course will be called the Kiwanis Disc Golf Course. All of the discs (Frisbee-like plastic discs) will have the Kiwanis “K” and the course name, as will the launching pads, hole monuments and “catchers” for the discs.

Course users will check in at the traditional golf clubhouse, and play is free. If a player doesn’t have his or her own discs to play with, he or she will be able to check out discs for free. The course is expected to be ready for play next summer.

Disc Golf is growing in popularity across the country, particularly among youngsters, young people and families. That’s why it fits so well with the Kiwanis mission! Adding to our excitement is the location at Ella Sharp Park, near the city’s southeast side where many low-income children reside.

Check out videos of disc golf online. This is going to be a fun project, with opportunities for sweat equity from club members! -- Foundation President Eileen Lehnert

This exciting news already has brought positive publicity to our club: an article in the Jackson Citizen Patriot; a story on Channel 10 WILX on August 24; Eileen and Council Member Derek Dobies’ interview on The Bart Hawley Show on JTV on August 28; Dobies’ announcement of the news on WKHM; Experience Jackson and the city of Jackson’s Facebook pages and more.



When we are out in the community and run into patrons of the Kiwanis Film Series, they always ask, "Where are we going this year?" It makes us feel really good to know that all of the Kiwanians' efforts make the community happy.

At the August 28 meeting, the annual distribution of our Season Ticket Packages took place. If you did not get a packet, please call George at 474-5226. PLEASE KEEP MAKING YOUR CALLS. These are folks who have purchased season tickets in the past. We need to remind them what a great experience our films are! You can return your stubs anytime. The first show is October 1.

All films begin at 7 p.m. at the Jackson High School auditorium. Download the ticket order form at www.jacksonkiwanis.com.

Thanks to everyone in the club for your continued support. Contact us with questions or ideas at (517) 474-5226 or Kiwaniis@gkveach.com -- Kathie & George Veach

Film Schedule

- October 1: Natural Wonders of Southeast Coast U.S.
- November 5: The Great Southwest
- December 3: The Lure and Lore of the Deserts
- January 7, 2016: China Rising
- February 4, 2016: Hot Spots, America's Volcanic Legacy
- March 3, 2016: Mediterranean Dream
- March 31, 2016: Forever France

President's Letter (continued)

Our club certainly did its part for the larger Kiwanis family too! Six of us attended Kiwanis International's 100th birthday bash in Detroit in January. We have three members who have held district level service positions – Adam Howard, Lieutenant Governor; Chandra Howard, Education Chair; and Dick Hitch, Formula/Growth Committee Chair. **THANK YOU!** Our club has donated its fair share to Kiwanis International dues, Michigan District dues, Michigan Kiwanis Foundation, the Sue Petrisin recognition fund and supported the Eliminate Project. Our club was represented at the Prayer Breakfast, quarterly division meetings (we hosted the spring one), the summer leadership training, the International convention and the Michigan district convention.

Thank you for trusting me to lead you in this 97th year of the Kiwanis Club of Jackson! It has been a great adventure and I hope each of you have grown by increasing your imagination, personal growth or by being a part of this club's living history.
Sincerely, Beth

Membership Dues Increase by \$10

Kiwanis International dues increased \$10/member effective October 1, 2015. Our board recommended to the club to add the \$10 to each member's dues as the club administrative fund can't absorb this amount. A majority of the club members present at the Friday, July 29, club meeting approved the recommendation. You should have received your 2015/2016 dues letter. Dues are \$135. For married couples who are both members, one spouse receives a \$25 discount (\$110). This was also approved July 29. If you have questions, call Treasurer Chandra Howard. – President Beth Philo

Save the Dates

Kiwanis Halloween Party: Saturday, October 31 at Kiwanis Park

Newspaper Skit: Friday, December 4 (during club meeting)

Newspaper Sale: Friday, December 11 (throughout Jackson)

30th Kiwanis Chili Golf Charity Classic: Saturday, January 30, 2016 at Hankerd Hill

10th Racing for Dollars: Sunday, February 21, 2016

Club News to Keep You in the Know

- Our next **Flag planting** is for Labor Day and through Patriot Day. Please plant your route about September 2 and harvest after September 11. Thank you again to all who help with this project! – Flag Project Chairs Jim and Beth Philo
- Our club **donated \$500** each to two local non-profits. The John George Home will use the money to purchase sheets and pillows for the 36 men in its care. The Jackson Friendly Home will use our gift to purchase a chair for its sitting room or sheets, towels and wash cloths. Forty-five women live there. Both groups thank us for “being one of those groups that make such a profound impact.”
- Do you have your tickets yet for our **trip to the Detroit Tigers** baseball game? It is Sunday, September 27, against the Minnesota Twins. We'll meet at the West Side Meijer; our bus will leave at 10 a.m. We raised enough through other projects so we can donate to Eliminate from the general fund. So the board decided to not make this trip a fund raiser. It is just for fun and fellowship! The cost has been reduced to \$60/person. Offer this opportunity to a friend who you would like to introduce Kiwanis to and we promise to give them the impression, this is the club they want to join! – Ted Wilson and Beth Philo
- I got all the slots filled for **dictionaries and boots and shoes**. Cal Schuch is compiling information if we keep Bennett Elementary School as our partner this year. JPS has reconfigured the schools. Eileen Lehnert and Terry Langston will be looking to see the needs of each school.-- Youth Services Chair Linda Brzezinski
- The **Summer Kids' Movies** were disappointing as far as the number of kids attending was concerned. It was fun to greet the kids and see how excited they were about "coming to the movies!" It was so neat to have a bike for the kids to take a chance on winning. The bike was donated to us by Dennis Burkhart. He said he just wanted to do something for Kiwanis because Kiwanis does so much! I thought that was so nice of him! Chaz, the boy who won the bike, was so excited! (By the way, his big brother signed Chaz up.) We presented the bike to Chaz at a club meeting. His 4th birthday was in August and all he wanted was a bike!! Well, he got it! – Movie Chair Pat Kiessling
- Due to low attendance, the **evening meeting** has been cancelled for September. If you have an opinion on this, please share your thoughts, with President-Elect Don Schroeder, on if, when and what format you would like to see this meeting continue next year. – President Beth Philo
- The current board and committee chairs met August 12 and we compiled a **budget** to present to the new board for approval or modification October 7. – President-Elect Don Schroeder



Club News (continued)

- I invite you to take a trip to our **Kiwanis Park** and see how beautiful it is! It needed some TLC, so my daughter, Lou Ann and I cleared out all the weeds and planted rose bushes and flowers. Many Kiwanians spread mulch on the flower beds and trees during two Saturdays in August. Kelli Hoover, Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Jackson, reports Kiwanis Park is one of its busiest parks as families are constantly reserving the pavilion for barbeques, reunions and parties. This is exactly what we had in mind when we decided to renovate the park.... make it a destination for family, friends and neighbors to use. If you haven't seen the park recently, take a drive for ice cream and stop by the park. Marvel at the beautiful grand entrance, stroll along the walking path and sit a spell. Reflect on what YOU, as a Kiwanian, have giving to the community to enjoy for many years to come. – Pat Kiessling and Therese Hesslau
- The **Foundation** will hold a board meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at the Hunt Club, immediately following the Kiwanis board meeting. We thank Eileen Lehnert and Rick Mills for their service as Foundation President and Secretary, respectively. We welcome new board members Kelly Langley and Mary Lou McFadden. We will vote on new officers at this September meeting.
- The last two **Interclubs** scheduled for this year are to be at Brooklyn on Sept. 22 at 11:30 a.m. and at Onsted on Sept. 9 at 7 a.m. Please let me know if you would like to be a part of the group who visits these clubs. This will complete a "Round Robin" for the year – yes, we will have attended each club in our division at least once this year. Thanks to all who attended these meetings. – President Beth Philo
- I am looking for Kiwanians to be Program Chairs for the next year. – Vice President Rick Mills
- The **Aktion Club** will begin official meetings again this month. Members meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays from 3-4:30 p.m., at the Compassionate Ministries Building in front of the Church of the Nazarene. Some of our members will attend the yearly state convention at YMCA Storer Camps in Jackson, on Friday, September 25. We are always looking for new members, so if you have any ideas, let me know. – Aktion Club Advisor Cheri Johnson
- The **Key Club** will begin meetings this year on Tuesday, September 15 at 2:35 in room 18 at Jackson High School. Kelly Caldwell will serve as Teacher Advisor for the second year, and Marshall Hackett, Jackson High teacher, is also helping out. We hope to get our year started out with a splash by introducing Jackson High's new Viking mascot to the school, generously donated by the Kiwanis Club. I am seeking a Kiwanian to help with club activities. Please contact me at (517) 206-3498 or rljenterprises@gmail.com. Go Key Club! – Key Club Advisor Andy Johnson
- Support the **Aktion Club and Key Club**; drop off your pop tabs at Friday meetings.
- The **Builders Club** at Parkside will get going when school resumes. We will hear more about their plans for the year, in October. – President Beth Philo

Club News (continued)

- The 97th Annual **Newspaper Sale** will be Friday, December 11 and the kick-off skit (Gilligan's Island) will be Friday, December 4, during our weekly club meeting. I will update you as they get closer. – Secretary Joe Wolfe
- The **Racing for Dollars** committee starts meeting in October (no specific date set yet). This is the 10th annual event and we will have raised \$350,000 for various non-profits. We lost Kiwanian Bob Eberhart who was part of the committee since the beginning. We need to “replace” Bob and we need to have "idea" people involved. The 10th year is going to be a "blow out" year and we want to make this very special. Just contact me and I will fill you in. – Secretary Joe Wolfe

Club Golf Outing and Picnic Update

The club golf outing on August 7 had 20 folks signed up. Eighteen showed up to play at Burr Oak in Parma. We had five teams; two ended up at six under par; one team at two under par; one team at one under par, and one team at one over par. We collected \$54 in prize money; \$27 went to the winning team, \$16 to second, \$11 to third. A card playoff determined the winning team, which was Mike Zuchowski, Dick Erhardt, Cal Schuch and Gary Schuch. One highlight was that Dick Erhardt eagled (two under par) the first hole all by himself! All had a good time! – Past President Glenn Pascoe

After the golf outing was the picnic. Forty-two Kiwanis members and guests attended. Weather was perfect. I was not able to stay (grand kids in town) but when I returned the next day to pick up the excess beer/pop there was very little left, so I have to assume that a good time was had by all! We donated the extra steaks to the Sekerkes and suggested they give them to friends who have been stopping in daily to help Linda. They thought that was a great idea! So you just never know how Kiwanis will affect lives!!! As always--thank you to Jeff and Linda for hosting our picnic. – Secretary Joe Wolfe

Note from your Newsletter Editor

This is my last issue as your Newsletter Editor. Beth Philo will be your next editor, so please get her your stories and photos for the October newsletter. Thank you to all of you for your contributions and support over the last year. I will continue to manage our website and Facebook pages, so please keep me in the loop. Thank you kindly! – Jessica Mitchell

KIWANIS SEPTEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Membership Dues are Due!	2 <u>Board meeting</u> 12 noon Hunt Club Install Flags Today	3 Happy Birthday Lynn Seamans	4 <u>Program: Round Table</u>	5
6	7 Labor Day Happy Birthday Connie Murray & Bob Bailey	8 Aktion Club 3 p.m. Church of the Nazarene	9 Interclub 7 a.m. Onsted Happy Birthday Rick Mills	10 Happy Birthday Howard Patch	11 <u>Program: The Reading Writing Connection</u> Patriot Day	12
13	14 Remove Flags	15 Key Club 2:35 p.m. Jackson H.S. Aktion Club State Convention Donations Due Today	16 <u>Board meeting</u> 12 noon Hunt Club Kiwaniis Foundation Board meeting 1 p.m. Hunt Club	17	18 <u>Program: Therapy Dog</u>	19 Happy Birthday John Crist
20	21 Newsletter Deadline (to Beth Philo)	22 Interclub 11:30 a.m. Brooklyn Aktion Club 3 p.m. Church of the Nazarene	23	24	25 <u>Installation Dinner</u> 6 p.m. <u>Cascades Manor House</u> (no noon mtg.) Aktion Club State Convention Jackson	26
27 Tigers Baseball Game Happy Birthday Bill Hestwood	28	29 Key Club 2:35 p.m. Jackson H.S.	30	1 Travel Film: Southeast Coast U.S. 7 p.m. Jackson H.S.	2 <u>Program: To Be Announced</u>	3