



Kiwanis®

GRAND RAPIDS



<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

September 2021

PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Tim Breadon, President
John Bigari, Secretary
Sarah Pastoor, Treasurer
Linda Paige, Editor

Future Programs/Events

October 19 Michelle Hatfield NE Pole Toy Store
October 26 Terri Cooper Family Tree Therapies
November 2 Regular Meeting
November 9 Dr. Fahner DeVos Children's Hospital
November 16 Shandy Longcore Embracing Imperfections



Ben Nyhoff gave us an update on [Kids' Food Basket](#). From the schools they serve, 46.6% of the students are on the free or reduced lunch program. They serve thousands of children every day. With their new location they have a farm to grow fresh vegetables for the sack suppers and even use the farm to supply local food pantries. Our Kiwanis Club supports this vital charity. Over the last eighteen years we have donated \$147,000 to fight child hunger.

Ben Nyhoff from [Kids' Food Basket](#) attended our meeting for the annual check presentation. Our Kiwanis Club supports this vital charity with our annual golf tournament. This year we raised \$11,500 and Sarah Pastoor presenter the check which will provide roughly 20,000 meals to kids.



The club meets every Tuesday from 11:30AM to 12:30PM.
Kent Country Club
1600 College Ave NE,
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
616 363 6811

Always remember—
#KidsNeedKiwaniis



Katie Warber detailed communicative aspects of human development and explained central components of interaction with children with developmental disabilities. She discussed the basic model of communication, detailed biological, psychological, and social factors that impact interaction, and offered best practices for approaching relationships with kids with special needs.

Club Contact Information

Tim Breadon - President: @kiwanisgrandrapids.org
John Bigari - Secretary: @kiwanisgrandrapids.org

The primary purpose of this club is to improve the quality of life for children and families worldwide by adhering to the Objects of Kiwanis International. The objectives were approved in 1924 and through the decades, they have remained unchanged.

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

MORE PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



Supervisor Tom Coleman and Superintendent Camron Van Wyngarden from Plainfield Township talked to the club about the plan to [Reimagine Plainfield](#). As the restaurants switch to more “take out”, banks move to primarily “online, and cars become increasingly electric, the landscape of the Plainfield Corridor will need to change. A major component of the plan calls for developing three

town centers that would act as small downtown areas throughout the corridor. These areas would serve as hubs for retail businesses, feature pedestrian-friendly mixed-use developments that promote economic growth and provide residential housing. The plan also emphasizes a need to “green” the corridor by adding more landscaping and trees.

“QUOTABLE NOTABLES”

“It is easy to sit up and take notice, What is difficult is getting up and taking action.” — Honoré de Balzac

It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself.—*Eleanor Roosevelt*

“If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.” - Milton Berle

We are on the web: kiwanisgrandrapids.org
Facebook:: [Kiwanis Grand Rapids North](#)
Twitter: [kiwanisgr](#)

CLUB SERVICE RECAP

St. Alphonsus Supper House, First Tee Golf Tutoring, Youth Soccer coaching, Terrific Kids

Hours Total — 40

Members Involved — 15

non-members— 8

Children served— 200

GIVE PEOPLE THEIR OWN HAMMERS

STAN D. SODERSTROM

I recently had the honor of interviewing Captain “Sully” Sullenberger. Like most people, I learned of Captain Sullenberger in 2009, when he landed a disabled airliner on the Hudson River between New York and New Jersey. But by the time I interviewed him — at Kiwanis International’s Education and Leadership Conference in Salt Lake City this past June — part of my interest in him came from what I’d learned more recently.

There were many fascinating outcomes of that famous incident 12 years ago, but the most remarkable is the fact that all 155 people onboard survived. In Sullenberger’s subsequent book, “Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters,” he gives credit for that 100% survival rate to the people themselves: his crew, the passengers, control tower personnel, the rescuers and numerous others.

For Sullenberger, it was more than a matter of sharing credit. He understands that his performance in the cockpit resulted from preparation and training — not just as a pilot, but as an ethical leader. In the book, he writes about growing up in a rural setting in North Texas. His family of four didn’t have much of what we today call “expendable income,” but they had enough to buy a one-bedroom farmhouse.

And each member of his family owned a hammer. Of course, owning a hammer does not make you a carpenter. That process begins when someone teaches you how to use a tool. Thanks to Sullenberger’s father, the whole family — mother, father, son and daughter — worked together to enlarge their house with a series of additions. And they learned as they worked together as a team, as a family. At one point, Sullenberger himself was tasked with measuring and cutting a board. But he cut the board too short. His father passed along the old carpenter’s adage: “Measure twice, cut once.”

It’s a simple but powerful leadership principle: When everyone participates, everyone contributes. And that way, everyone learns together.

Members of successful Kiwanis clubs see this firsthand. Whether it’s organizing a community clean-up or building a park or school, a greater level of participation ensures greater success.

In Sullenberger’s book, we sense his father’s patience, which offered an opportunity to correct a mistake and learn from it. That’s the hallmark of a tolerant teacher — and a lesson for any leader.

After all, a leader has to make sure everyone on a team has the right tools for success. And a leader has to allow everyone to learn to use those tools, and to make mistakes along the way.

On that day in 2009, at least 155 people were thankful that Captain Sullenberger was up to the task. What they didn’t realize was the benefit they had gotten from important lessons throughout his life, including the experience that came from owning his own hammer as a youth.

Most of all, it was the benefit of a father who emphasized patient preparation and attention to detail — the kinds of things that help you get it right when it really matters.

Stan D. Soderstrom is the executive director of Kiwanis International and the Kiwanis Children’s Fund. His background includes global and community-based work in the public and private sectors.



October



03 Wes Roth

09 John Bigari

22 Ormal Saathoff

28 Jerry Swett

Kiwanis Trivia

Nothing is more important than the safety of the children Kiwanis serves. That’s why Kiwanis International dedicates a week each year to youth protection. In 2021, Youth Protection week is October 11-15, giving Kiwanis clubs the opportunity to conduct important youth protection training and evaluate the club’s compliance.