



# Kiwaniis<sup>®</sup>

## GRAND RAPIDS



<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

January 2024

### PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

**Dan Williams**, President  
**Linda Paige**, Secretary  
**Sarah Pastoor**, Treasurer  
**Linda Paige**, Editor

#### Future Programs/Events

<b>February 6</b> Bill Weitzel Managing Stress
<b>February 13</b> Dee Hudson KI of MI Foundation
<b>February 20</b> Regular Meeting
<b>February 27</b> Regular Meeting
<b>February 29 March 1</b> Terrific Kids
<b>March 5</b> Regular Meeting
<b>March 8</b> Kiwaniis ONE Kalamazoo



Our resident coach Bruce Oosterhouse gave the club some instruction on the controversies surrounding the University of Michigan football program. The problems date back to the potential COVID recruiting violations and extend to the “sign stealing” scandal. Bruce was great at explaining and showing us just how everything works in football and the money to be made from these shenanigans.

Kyle Hein and Makenna Noyes with [Mi Heroes Haven](#) talked about the nonprofit dedicated to helping veterans and first responders dealing with PTSD and thoughts of suicide. They offer support, community resources, and programs to combat the effects of Trauma. The team works with individuals to reframe their mindset.



Our own Sarah Pastoor delighted the group by discussing her chickens. For most of the members the only knowledge we have is from the grocery store. Sarah currently has 8 hens and educated us on the process of raising and caring for them. Her husband Scott built the “Taj Macoop” to house them. It was a fun discussion with many questions.



The club meets every **Tuesday** from 11:30AM to 12:30PM.  
**Shots on the River**  
5760 W River Dr NE,  
Belmont, MI 49306  
616-951-6071  
Always remember—  
**#KidsNeedKiwaniis**

#### Club Contact Information

**Dan Williams** - President: [@kiwanisgrandrapids.org](mailto:@kiwanisgrandrapids.org)  
**Linda Paige** - Secretary: [kiwanisgrandrapids.org](mailto: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.

## STAN SODERSTROM RECEIVING PRAISE AND OFFICIAL HONORS

Heading into retirement, Kiwanis International's executive director is being recognized for his work and service.

By Tony Knoderer



Kiwanis International Executive Director Stan Soderstrom has received multiple state and local honors in Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S. — home of the Kiwanis International Office — as he approaches his January 31 retirement from the organization.

During a dinner in his honor last week, Soderstrom's current and former colleagues on the Kiwanis staff informed him that he had been awarded the Sagamore of the Wabash — the highest honor for Indiana citizens.

In addition, January 31 has been proclaimed "Stan Soderstrom Day" in Indianapolis by the city's mayor, Joe Hogsett. In its own recognition of Soderstrom's work and service, the Indianapolis City-County Council praised Soderstrom for "lifelong service to others and empowering youth worldwide."

Throughout the day on January 31, Kiwanis leaders and staff members have also been sharing their professional and personal appreciation of Soderstrom, who has been Kiwanis International's executive director since 2010 — after joining Kiwanis International's staff in 1997.

"Stan's dedication to serving the children of the world has been an inspiration for more than two decades," says 2023-24 Kiwanis International President Katrina Baranko. "While he's retiring from his role as executive director, Stan will always be an important member of the Kiwanis family. I speak for all Kiwanis members and staff when I wish him a happy retirement."

We are on the web: [kiwanisgrandrapids.org](http://kiwanisgrandrapids.org)  
Facebook:: [Kiwanis Grand Rapids North](https://www.facebook.com/KiwanisGrandRapidsNorth)  
Twitter: [kiwanisqr](https://twitter.com/kiwanisqr)

## CLUB SERVICE RECAP

### Terrific Kids Awards

Hours Total — 5  
Members Involved — 5  
Children served—50

### Tutoring at Palmer Key Club Mentoring Employment Coaching

Hours Total — 6  
Members Involved — 3  
Children served — 21

## “QUOTABLE NOTABLES”

*“Every gift which is given, even though it be small, is in reality great, if it is given with affection.” - Pindar*

*“All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.” - Walt Disney*

*“Regard it as just as desirable to build a chicken house as to build a cathedral.” - Frank Lloyd Wright*



## February



20 Ron Karelse

26 Cheryl and Bill Weitzel



## Kiwanis Trivia

From 1915 to 1919, the organization of new Kiwanis clubs was managed by a professional organizer, Allen Simpson Browne, who can be credited with creating Kiwanis. In return for building new clubs, he received a portion of every new membership fee. This arrangement led to increasing controversy about the purpose and control of the organization. The problem was solved when Kiwanis International “bought itself” from Browne at the 1919 convention in Birmingham, Alabama. Club delegates raised US\$17,500 on the convention floor to purchase Browne's rights to the Kiwanis name and organization.