



Kiwanis®

GRAND RAPIDS



<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

October 2025

PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Brenda Eller, President
Linda Paige, Secretary
Sarah Pastoor, Treasurer
Linda Paige, Editor

Future Programs/Events

November 11
Weekly Meeting

November 11
Board Meeting

November 18
Joy Matthews
Kent County Mounted Unit

November 20 & 21
Terrific Kids

November 25
Weekly Meeting

December 2
Weekly Meeting

December 8
Noorthoek Academy
Aktion Club
Holiday luncheon



Lt. Gov. Steve Marzolf presided over the installation of officers and two of our Legion of Honor recipients.



Brenda Eller is the new president, taking over from Dan Williams.



Jerry Swett received the 45 year Legion of Honor award



John LaPorte received his 30 year Legion of honor award.

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—
#KidsNeedKiwanis

Club Contact Information

KiwanisGrandRapids@gmail.com

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 MONTHLY PROGRAMS

After working for years with several nonprofits in Northeast Grand Rapids, Michelle Hatfield branched out on her own. She started a new nonprofit, LIFT – Lifting Individuals for Today <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61578633942293>. One of her first programs is recreating a Christmas store where families can shop for presents at pennies on the dollar.



The Kiwanis of Michigan Governor Cindy Greening visited the club. She spoke about the declining membership in Kiwanis and the challenge to bring in new members. The district will have a Fall Leadership Conference in November with some outstanding speakers. She gave us examples of a few of the projects that her club does to support the children.

Virginia Scholtan with [Young At Heart GR](#) talked about their senior enrichment programs. They are supported in part by the Kent County Senior Millage. They welcome adults over 55 to engage with others and enrich their lives. They offer activities like Tai Chi, woodcarving, cooking, and cultural events.



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

POPULAR MOVIES AND TV SHOWS THAT HAVE NAME-CHECKED KIWANIS AND KEY CLUB OVER THE YEARS.

Kiwanis International has been serving the children of the world for over a century — and in that time, it has permeated popular culture as well. In movies, TV and written fiction, the presence of a Kiwanis club succinctly tells the audience that the setting is a community that helps out its less fortunate members. Characters might say they are Kiwanians to indicate a dedication to service or a thriving social life. Or they might mention an affiliation with Key Club to indicate that they are high achievers involved in their schools and communities.

Part one of the series is in the [February](#) edition of the newsletter. **There are a total of 10 in the series.** Look for more in the coming months.

“Hud” (1963)

In the critically acclaimed film “Hud,” cynical rancher Hud Bannon (Paul Newman) wins a “pig scramble” — in which participants attempt to wrangle greased pigs — put on by the Kiwanis club in his Texas, U.S., community. Preceding the “scramble,” the movie also depicts local teens doing The Twist in a dance contest, another part of what a banner proclaims to be the “June 7th Kiwanis Club Show.”



CLUB SERVICE RECAP

Terrific Kids Awards

Hours Total—10

Members Involved — 10

Creston Neighborhood Gardens

Hours Total — 14

Members Involved — 1

LIFT Program

Hours Total — 16

Members Involved—1

Mary Free Bed Pillowcases

Hours Total — 6

Nonmembers Involved — 1

“QUOTABLE NOTABLES”

“If you are not willing to risk the unusual, you will have to settle for the ordinary.” — Jim Rohn

“History will judge us by the difference we make in the everyday lives of children.” — Nelson Mandela

HELPING HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN

Mary Oosterhouse made a few pillowcases for the children at [Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital](#). Kiwanian Bruce Oosterhouse displays one of them. The Kiwanis club has donated almost 150 of them to the hospital.



Money Donated

Girls Choral Academy

\$1,000

Memorial Don Heymes Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph

\$100

Key Club

\$1,300

November



06 Nancy and Bob Mills

24 Linda and Tom Kozura

Kiwanis Trivia

Kiwanis was defined as “an organization for men” in the constitution adopted at the Denver Constitutional Convention in 1924. In 1987, after more than a decade of debate throughout the organization, delegates at the convention in Washington, D.C., voted overwhelmingly to eliminate the gender requirement for membership.