



# Kiwanis®

## GRAND RAPIDS

<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

January 2025

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

<b>February 11</b> Regular Meeting
<b>February 18</b> Regular Meeting
<b>February 25</b> Ben Greene Kent County Commissioner
<b>February 27 &amp; 28</b> Terrific kids
<b>March 4</b> Regular Meeting
<b>March 11</b> Regular Meeting
<b>March 11</b> Board Meeting
<b>March 18</b> Regular Meeting
<b>March 25</b> Dave DeBruyn Eclipses & other astronomical events

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**



This year's Kiwanis International float is titled "BEEING Together" ... representing the values of teamwork and camaraderie embodied by all of the youth service programs throughout the Kiwanis International family.



WHERE SOME SEE GOOFY,  
WE SEE POTENTIAL

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.

## FOREST HILLS NORTHERN KEY CLUB

### Blanket Making Project

This year they continued their blanket project from the previous year, aiming to create even more blankets than before to donate!



### Reading for a Reason

This year's new project is Reading For Reason, where they hold monthly meetings at the Cascade Branch of the Kent District Library and read to elementary students about specific topical subjects such as the right to water or food security. They try to ask students questions to provide a more in-depth view of the topic and to hold a discussion they may not have in their daily lives. Following the reading and discussion, they also have a craft project related to a topic.



### February



20 Ron Karelse

26 Cheryl and Bill Weitzel



We are on the web: [kiwanisgrandrapids.org](http://kiwanisgrandrapids.org)  
Facebook: [Kiwanis Grand Rapids North](https://www.facebook.com/Kiwanis-Grand-Rapids-North-100000000000000/)  
Twitter: [@kiwanisgr](https://twitter.com/kiwanisgr)

## **CLUB SERVICE RECAP**

### **Terrific Kids Awards**

Hours Total — 10

Members Involved — 10

Children served—50

## **MONEY DONATED**

### **FCA Pro Athlete Breakfast**

\$600

### **Forest Hills Northern Key Club**

\$1934

## **"QUOTABLE NOTABLES"**

*"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile."* - Albert Einstein

*"The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter."* - Winston Churchill

*"Wise men speak because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something."* - Unknown



## **These ACE resources provide answers for Kiwanis clubs that are losing people.**

By Tony Knoderer

Clubs lose members. It's a fact of life. People move away or their jobs become more demanding — or other circumstances arise that don't necessarily signal a lack of interest. But when a Kiwanis club is losing more members than it's gaining, the reasons are usually larger than these individual causes.

The good news: Kiwanis International offers resources that can help reverse membership losses. In fact, three of our Achieving Club Excellence (ACE) tools are designed for your club to build a culture that keeps members engaged:

[Member survey](#). What makes the club experience valuable for members? With this tool, specific questions and activities can help your club find the answers — and provide the kind of experience that inspires people to stay.

[Club vision](#). What does your club do, and why does it exist? This tool helps your club create a vision that guides its leaders and inspires its members. And that helps make everyone more enthusiastic about persuading other people to join.

[Club excellence plan](#). In addition to vision, your club needs shorter-term goals and milestones that help members see the progress they're making. This tool helps create them, along with a plan to reach them.

Don't forget: All these resources can be found on the [ACE tools webpage](#), which includes other common concerns clubs face — and pairs them with the tools that help address those issues.

## **Kiwanis Trivia**

The name "Kiwanis" was coined from an expression of the American Indians in the Detroit area. The expression "Nunc Kee-wan-nis" (found in Bishop Baraga's dictionary of the Otipchipew language) broadly meant "we trade" or "we share our talents." As a coined word, however, "Kiwanis" has no meaning except as the name of a leading international service club.