



Kiwanis®

GRAND RAPIDS

<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

May 2025

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

Future Programs/Events

June 3
 Evren Erhan

June 10
 Forrest Hills Northern
 Key Club Officers

June 10
 Board Meeting

June 17
 Bill Weitzel
 has a speaker

June 24
 Dr Fahner
 We Do Care

July 1
 Bruce Oosterhouse
 Mike Rowe talk in Detroit

July 8
 Jeff Travis
 Historical Society
 of Michigan

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



PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Amy Urick from the Tri-Cities Kiwanis club came in to talk about the Earl O'Brien Memorial Fishing Derby. <https://f12.site.kiwanis.org/fishing/> The derby raises money for children's hospitals. In the last 21 years they have donated over \$700,000. They take sick children from local hospitals on a roughly 6 hour fishing trip. Watch a video of the event here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E125Ofe0zXg>

Still fishing for hospitalized kids!

Earl O'Brien Memorial FISHING DERBY

Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation

Main Event: Thursday May 22, 2025

Additional events available in June and July, by sponsor preference and/or Patient VIP need.

Earl O'Brien spent his life creating opportunities for kids to enjoy sports and life, even if disadvantaged, disabled, or suffering from catastrophic disease. In 2005 Earl launched an offshore fishing tournament benefiting hospitalized children. In honor of Earl, we are continuing this— all proceeds support Child Life programs in four Michigan children's hospitals.

Sponsors are assigned to professional charter boats for a morning of exciting salmon fishing on Lake Michigan. Each boat holds up to six participants, and sponsors can invite family, friends, employees, or customers to fish on their boat. Or, sponsors can choose to donate their boat to young "patients" from our beneficiary hospitals. Grand prizes are awarded for the largest fish in Sponsor and Patient VIP categories. Additional prizes are awarded by drawing, and a fun prize is awarded to the smallest fish of the day.

See website for complete rules and prize eligibility.

For further info, sponsorship form, donation options, photos of past events and more...

EOB-FISH.ORG

Still fishing for hospitalized kids!

Earl O'Brien Memorial FISHING DERBY

Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation

Frequently Asked Questions

How old is this event? 21 years! Earl held the first "Sportfishing Tourney" on June 2, 2005. We've been fishing non-stop ever since, sometimes twice a year, even through covid.

How much has it raised? We are proud to report that we have donated \$733,873.10 to children's hospitals since 2005.

Where does that money go? Originally, the event was a fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. However, it didn't take long to bring our focus closer to home! Every penny raised goes to Child Life Programs at Michigan children's hospitals.

Which hospitals are supported?

1. C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, Ann Arbor
2. Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit
3. Michigan Bone & Joint Hospital & Rehabilitation Center, Grand Rapids (specifically MFB Kids and Youth Adaptive Sports)
4. Helen DeVos Children's Hospital, Grand Rapids

What is "Child Life" and why is it important? Child Life programs directly impact the well-being of children undergoing treatment. Certified Child Life Specialists provide services in child life, including psychosocial, education or therapeutic recreation. Their work focuses on reducing fear, anxiety and pain for hospitalized children and accelerating healing through play, distraction, therapy and education.

Child Life programs are funded entirely through grants and donations.

Who fishes in the derby? Both paid sponsors and "Patient VIPs" can fish in our event. Sponsors can choose to fill their boat with up to six of their own participants—employees, associates, friends or family—or donate their boat to Patient VIPs of the children's hospitals.

The grand prize is awarded to the angler of the biggest fish by weight in each category. Sponsors and VIPs can choose to have their prize be a drawing. A dockside hot dog lunch is served.

What boats participate? We charter boats from Chinook Pier in Grand Haven unless a paid sponsor requests a specific charter boat.

Expansion is always an option! We would happily send anglers from any Michigan port, on any professional charter boat, for any type of fishing.

EOB-FISH.ORG

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



Clara Berry, Symone Gray and Eric Stezowski came in to talk about starting a new Circle K club at Calvin University. Symone is a student at Calvin and a former Key Club member. She already has several students interested in starting the club. Clara is currently the Circle K Governor and a student at Western Michigan University, while Eric is the current District Administrator for Circle K.

Instead of the normal speaker we decided to have a video presentation and the club voted to hear A free world needs satire by Patrick Chappatte.

<https://youtu.be/MIGtyaVb2Xc>



NOORTHOEK ACADEMY



We love when students like Brandon spread the word about Noorthoek Academy to our leaders in Washington DC.

Our newest honorary degree scholars! - <https://mailchi.mp/.../our-newest-honorary-degree-scholars>



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

“The King of Queens” (1998-2007)



In the first episode, Doug Heffernan’s (Kevin James) father-in-law, Arthur Spooner (Jerry Stiller), moves in with him. When Doug finds out Arthur is planning to invite his **Kiwanis club** over after numerous hijinks have already disrupted the day, he lays down a series of house rules — including “no parties” and “no Kiwanis.” But Doug shouldn’t worry about Kiwanians in his home: The sitcom’s setting is Queens, New York, U.S., so Arthur is probably a member of the perfectly reputable **Kiwanis Club of Lefferts-Liberty, Queens County.**



CLUB SERVICE RECAP

Terrific Kids Awards

Hours Total — 9

Members Involved — 9

Children served—50

“QUOTABLE NOTABLES”

I used to say, “I sure hop things will change.” Then I learned that the only way things are going to change for me is when I change. - Jim Rhon

“If it is to be , it is up to me.” - William H. Johnsen

“If you really want to do something, you’ll find a way. If you don’t, you’ll find an excuse.” - Jim Rhone

“A room without book is like a body without a soul.” - Marcus Tullius Cicero



June



3 Bruce Oosterhouse 17 Chris & Pat Newcombe

22 Bill Weitzel



20 Priscilla & Ron Karelse

Kiwanis Trivia

Circle K International is the premiere collegiate service organization in the world. Based on the tenets of service, leadership and fellowship, CKI develops college and university students into responsible citizens and leaders who have a lifelong commitment to service. CKI clubs are organized on a university campus and sponsored by a local Kiwanis club. CKI is a self-governing organization and elects its own officers, conducts its own meetings and determines its own service activities. CKI blends community service and leadership training with the opportunity to meet other students.