



South County K-NEWS

Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis

"Serving the Children of the World"
#KidsNeedKiwaniis



Kiwanis International
Volume 37

January 19, 2022

Missouri-Arkansas District
Number 16

NEXT MEETING
January 26, 2022
Board/Business Meeting
12:30 pm

JANUARY 2022

- Jan 19** - Helping Hands & Horses - Donna Holz.
- Jan 26** - Board/Business Meeting.

FEBRUARY

- Feb 2** - Fun Meeting.
- Feb 9** - Two Outstanding Students and their parents.
- Feb 16** - Brainstorming ideas for fundraising.
- Feb 23** - Board/Business Meeting.

11 members and one guest present: Donna Holz from Helping Hands and Horses, Inc., today's speaker. Louann opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Pauline followed with the invocation.

The Helping Hands and Horses, a not-for-profit organization, was founded in 2008. They are located in Festus, Missouri and lease their land from the founder of the organization. They provide horse therapy for children and adults. Donna Holtz is a retired Special education teacher and is in charge of the volunteers at the Helping Hands. She trains and instructs the volunteers on numerous duties including emergency dismounting, walking, leading, guiding and holding the children as they ride. The horse therapy provides core strength training for disabled children and adults. Most of the recipients are children, both physically and mentally disabled. Currently they serve 85 families and have a two-year waiting list. The therapy is at no cost to the families accepted. Volunteers need to be physically capable of walking and holding a child on the horse for 45 minutes. It's a challenging job but many of the volunteers love their work. Currently, you must be 14 or older to volunteer but Donna would like the age to be at least 16 due to the tremendous responsibility needed to assist these children. Volunteers must be sharp thinkers and very responsible.

31% of the children have autism. According to Donna, the horse knows when a child is autistic. The horse will look directly into the eyes of an autistic child. Pretty amazing!!!! 13% are developmentally delayed children. These children range in age from 2-5 and will train and move out very quickly. The core strength

Meetings: Wednesdays – 12:30pm - Frailey's Southtown - 4329 Butler Hill Rd. 63128 (at I-55) - 314-892-1866

President: Mrs. Louann Elledge
H (314) 892-5424
email: lelledge@swbell.net

K-NEWS Editor: Mr. Ed Kurmann
H (314) 846-4895
email: ekurmann@att.net

Secretary: Dr. Richard Kircher
C (314) 623-6253
email: rakdvm@att.net

training allows them to move on and into school sport activities. Two miniature horses and three ponies are used for the small children. Larger horses are used for the larger or over-weight children and adults. Some children have been with the organization for years. The Helping Hands also has a Special Olympics. Select children are trained to participate in this event. The children grow very fond of the horses and are more easily trained due to this bonding. The organization currently has 16 horses and is funded through grants and donations. Donna is a great speaker and a great asset to the organization.

Louann reiterated that if anyone wants a zoom meeting in the future, to let Connie know ahead of time. Lee stated that our scholarship form has been updated and that Chad will distribute them to the kids. They will have until April 1st to respond. Katie asked Lee to send her the application and she will put it out on the website.

Happy \$\$: All for our speaker today and her program.

50/50: Drawing - Louann.

Lottery Ticket - Katie.

Thanks to Jeanne for taking the notes of today's meeting.

Trivia Night Cancelled

Our Annual Trivia Night event originally scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2022 has been cancelled for this year due to COVID concerns. For those of you who like to plan ahead, we have already re-scheduled for next year on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at Seven Holy Founders Church Hall. You can save the date and mark your calendars if you are so inclined.

Meeting Cancellation Policy

This winter we will again follow the Mehlville School District Snow Day policy if inclement weather should occur on one of our meeting days. If the Mehlville School District declares a snow day or a virtual instruction day, our meeting will also be cancelled. In other words, if the students do not go to school, neither will we go to our meeting. On questionable days, tune in to the TV or radio for school district cancellation announcements.

Member News

Bill Leonard has heard that he will be included in the St. Louis Honor Flight plans for March or April. We are happy that Bill will get to go on that trip. **Roy Wunsch** will have knee replacement surgery in early February. **Judy Burnette** fell recently and broke her hip. She has had surgery and is in rehab and now has COVID. **Sherry Stevenson** continues to have problems with her knee. Please keep our members and their families in your thoughts and prayers for full and speedy recoveries.

Builders Club Meeting
Builders Club meets every other Wednesday at Bernard Middle School at 6:30pm

Builders Club met on 12/1 at Bernard. 4 students in attendance. Students decorated holiday cards that will be sent to active duty US military through the USO. Students from the Chamois Youth Fellowship also made cards that will be delivered along with those from Builders Club. We are delivering nearly 50 cards.

Plans are in place for a small holiday party at the next meeting on 12/15. In January, we will start distributing pencils through the libraries at both Washington and Bernard Middle Schools. They will have a note attached with mission and meeting dates/times. Hoping we recruit some new students this way.

Oakville HS Key Club News
OHS Key Club meets twice a month on the 2nd & 4th Mondays, 2:15pm, library.

Today's meeting was relatively short as it is finals week and everyone is very busy. We just said that our next meeting is the 24th of January, and to follow our instagram account, @oakville_keyclub. Members can directly message the account pictures of them participating in club activities to be featured. We also reminded our members to continue turning in their service hours. That's all for today.

Anna Brand, Secretary

Mehlville HS Key Club News
MHS Key Club meets once a month,
usually on the 1st Thursday,
but sometimes on the 2nd Thursday, 2:15pm, library
see monthly calendar on the first page of the K-NEWS.

Mehlville High School's monthly Key Club meeting for January was held on January 6 after school.

At this meeting, we discussed our plans for the second semester of school. After discussing as a group, we came up with a lot of interactive ideas that we believe will positively impact the community. Our first idea is to start delivering soda tab bags on the week of the 24th during TAP classes. Additionally, we are planning on holding a book drive during the spring. Finally, we are going to reach out to Mehlville's Robotics Club to use their mini golf set for an event (the details are yet to be decided).

In addition, we celebrated the success of our most recent service project, (local animal shelter) as we ended up raising \$214! The success of this event has motivated all of us to work as hard as possible to make a positive impact within our community. This is an exciting time for all of us and we are so grateful for the opportunity to leverage our amazing partnership with Kiwanis to help make the world a better place.

Thank you Kiwanis!

Alex Norrenberns, Vice-President

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Birthdays: Judy Burnette - 1/1
Steve Dodson, Honorary Member - 1/18
Carla Rowell - 2/3
Shirley Zoellner - 2/12
Connie Kuchar - 2/14
Pauline Roth - 2/18

Anniversaries: None in January.
Vern & Carolyn Langenfeld – 2/8/97
Ed & Carol Kurmann 2/12/66

Kiwanis Anniversaries: Shirley Zoellner - 1/10/2008 Bridgeton Kiwanis
10/9/2012 South County Kiwanis
Bill Leonard - 1/30/2013
Pauline Roth - 1/30/2013
Linda Hoppe – 2/14/2020
Lee Bodendicek – 2/15/2010
Mary Howard – 2/20/2002



The Kiwanis Club of South County - St. Louis recently welcomed Donna Holz of Helping Hands and Horses, Inc. to tell their members about the organization. Helping Hands and Horses, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501c3 organization currently providing equine assisted therapy to Veterans, Children, and Adults at no cost. President Louann Elledge presents a South County Kiwanis pen and a check to Donna Holz to assist in their work.