



Raymond Sebastian

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RAYMOND SEBASTIAN

KIWANIS OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION FRANK O. STAIGER - DISTINGUISHED KIWANIAN

Ray joined the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater in July 1987. He was elected to serve as president for the 1992-93 administrative year.

In October of 1993 he was appointed as the club's fund-raising chairman and has served in that capacity since.

About that time, Kiwanis International adopted the world-wide service project to eliminate Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD). To fund the club's financial commitment to that cause, it took on selling reflective house numbers, also referred to as "911 signs". Club members sold hundreds of these. Ray, with little assistance from other members, prepared all the signs and even installed them if the purchaser requested.

He also managed the annual Kiwanis Peanut Days event conducted in the early fall each year. Ray personally arranged for the locations, ordered supplies, and scheduled members to participate.

For several years, the club also sponsored a Travelogue with six shows per year. Ray scheduled the shows, lined up the presenters, and assisted members to promote the shows and sell tickets.

In 2013, the club took on a fund-raising project referred to as "Flags Across Coldwater". The club sells an annual subscription to install U.S. Flags at a home or business for 5 patriotic holidays. This has become a major project with 700 flags being subscribed to in 2021. Ray has, almost single handedly, seen to the preparation of flags and installation sites. He typically is also present at each of the holidays, to oversee the placement of flags and works many hours each of the holidays.

Ray has also served as club president during the administrative years 2004-05 and 2019-20. Further, he has worked on many other club service projects and committees over the years.

Ray is the recipient of the George F. Hixson and Walter Zeller awards.

It is with sincere appreciation that the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater honors Raymond Sebastian as a Frank O. Staiger Distinguished Kiwanian.