



Kirkland Kiwanis Keyhole

2023-2024 BOARD:

2023-2024 Officers

President - Todd Pemble
Pres. Elect – Ken Popp
Vice Pres. – Teresa Aker

Secretary – Tom Pendergrass
Treasurer – Cris Pederson
Immed. Past Pres. – Jim Hutchinson

2023-2025 Directors

Walter Woodward
Kathleen Brace
Travis Downey

2024-2026 Directors

Suzi Dillon
Ralph Villavicencio
Dave Asher

Date: December 18th , 2024

Scribe – Ron Olsen

Meeting called to order at 12:11 by Acting Second in command **Ken**, as **Todd** is caring for wife Terry after release from hospital. Been there, done that. Godspeed **Karen and Todd**. And thank you so much **Ken** for handling another task with such strength and grace.

Matt led us in a booming Jingle Bells to mark the season, and the pledge. Hope Congress can remember these words to guide them through the ridiculous path(s) being taken in DC. But I digress.
Oh Canada anyone?



Marsha Corning did inspiration about the panic before Christmas and we are all so looking forward to visiting **Marsha and Don's** house to see the 12 days of Christmas all decked out. Where they got the \$46 large to acquire the: treed partridge, hard shelled doves, French hens, calling birds (hey I am mean on a duck call) golden rings, laying geese, swimming swans (and the new pond!), milking maids, pole dancing ladies, leaping lords, piping pipers, and drummers drumming. Apparently a big issue was getting the City of Kirkland permit... OK, it was really all about inflation which really wasn't so bad this past year..... And it makes sense since the **Corning's** "true love" is Kiwanis!

A bit of history, song dates to published in 1780 and popped up in many cultures with some words changing including ducks, colley birds, hounds, rabbits, fiddlers, and Kim Kardashian. ?

Introduction of speaker, Helen Banks Routon from KidVantage, more later.

Announcements/Activities:

- Tree lot has 30 left, will close Friday night, Saturday tear down. A big thanks to all those who participated.
- We need greeters, inspiration, scribe each week- Please sign up or we may not have a newsletter that week ☺
- **7 Hills Bike Ride**, May 26th 2025, our own **Ralph Villavicencio** as Ride Master!!! Ralph noted we will be at the Feb 6th bike swap plugging our event.
- Need a Kiwanis pin, see **Tom** to avoid a fine.

Reports:

- Secretary **Tom**: no meetings next two weeks. Noted some lot racks are down, rest Saturday am.
- Service Clubs: **Milt and Habiba** did ICS where DECON was discussed and noted 30 of 38 in the club volunteered at the lot
- **Kim** noted 17 attended Juanita making ornaments and discussing DCON.

Happy Dollars \$\$\$\$ from Steve, Liza, Ron, Irene, Marsha, Mark, Kim, and Milt

Kim was particularly happy because she received the Turkey of the Year Trophy, and felt she was in very good company noting **Bill Petter's** name, a memory of Tree Lot past, lots of good work in Kirkland, and the mention by today's speaker about **Bill's** influence in the beginning of Eastside Baby Corner.

Our speaker was **Helen Banks Routon**, Director of development and Community Relations for KidVantage, formerly Eastside Baby Corner. The name was changed as the organization has grown and expanded its services and age group serviced. Kids, age's birth through 12, get shoes, diapers, formula, blankets, coats, and much more from KidVantage, and its service partners.

KidVantage also provides for expectant and postpartum mothers, supplying maternity wear, personal care goods, and mother-infant support items.

Kids are warm, healthy, safe, and better prepared to fulfill their own potential because of KidVantage.

From humble 1990 beginnings, including support from **Kiwanians Bill Petter and Harry Dingwall**, meeting needs of pediatric nurse referrals for supplies, formula, diapers and wipes, shoes, and clothes, current scope includes cloths, toys, books, bicycles and car seats.

Nearly 80 school districts, health & human service organizations, early learning centers, and food banks are in the KidVantage collaborative network. Counselors, nurses, case managers, and teachers can order weekly for the children and families in their program, delivering customized orders of clothing, diapers, shoes, school supplies, and more. Service partners can concentrate their resources and expertise on supporting families, not collecting goods.

They focus on slowing "toxic stress" that can lead to future physical and mental problems. Recently 18,049 received assistance from 4,000 volunteers providing 75 thousand hours.

People in our communities donate most of the clothing, baby gear, toys, and books. More goods come from community collection drives and events. KidVantage buys crucial supplies, including those they guarantee to provide: baby food, formula, car seats, pack n' play beds, and diapers. They are a place where you can help give all kids the advantage of a strong foundation in life.

Volunteers are at the heart of KidVantage's service, donating thousands of hours each year.

Ways to Give

- Give Goods

- Give Time
- Give Money
- Organize A Drive

Great video also, what a great organization!

Finally, **Matt's** ticket was drawn but no luck winner. Hey, save that magic for the Mega Millions!

Respectfully submitted, **Ron Olsen**

Next meeting is on the 8th of January 2025



Happy Holidays to everyone!!!

P.S. Happy New Year also!