



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: January 15th , 2025

Scribe – Walt Krueger



President Todd Pemble gonged the meeting together at 12:05 pm.

Guests – Peter Donaldson, Director of Learning, Sustainability Ambassadors. Ambassadors Eva Odderson and Ela Hanif. Return guest Bob Kerslick.

1. Opening: Pledge/ Song

- a. Inspiration – Steve Sperry had a colonoscopy yesterday and had a great experience and encourages you to do the same. His sister’s colon cancer was not detected until too late. Steve also entertained us with some great one-line quotes but I missed them as I was reflecting on my many polyps and wondering how they are doing.
- b. Sergeant at arms – Pin Check
- c. Greeter – “Good Hugs” Suzanne Popp
- d. Scribe – Walt Krueger



2. Announcements:

- a. At yesterday’s evenings Board meeting Travis Downey was elected as VP. Congratulations and thank you, Travis.
- b. Next board meeting is March 11 at 5:30 pm at 375 Kirkland Avenue.
- c. New Bethlehem Day Center next birthday is February 13, 2024 (2nd Thursday of the month).
- d. Community Supper at Lake Washington Methodist Church is Thursday January 23, 2025.
- e. Need a Kiwanis pin – see Secretary Tom Pendergrass.
- f. Need a roster – email Tom.
- g. Please volunteer for scribe.

3. Reports:

- a. Secretary – Tom Pendergrass reported on the Board meeting last night. The Treasurer Cris Pederson reported the tree lot netted \$24,000 and change, which equals about \$25 an hour for our time. Ken put in enough time for a trip to Hawaii. Thanks for all your hard, but enjoyable work. Customers are happy, the trees sell themselves, and we get to better know our members, especially when we have no customers.
 - b. Fundraising-
 - i. Tree Lot Ken Popp about \$24,000
 - ii. 7 Hills Financial Report – Ralph Villavicencio
Columbia Athletic Club has agreed to sponsor at \$1,000. Ask businesses you frequent to be a sponsor. You are more effective when you know the potential sponsor than a cold call. Hand out the updated brochure.
 - c. Membership – Ralph will educate Travis on the new membership vice presidency.
 - d. Marketing Committee - Easter Egg Hunt – Kathleen Brace reported the Board asked if we could ask the City to rent the movie screen. Sudy from the City asked us to put it on the permit application.
 - e. Chamber & Merchants – Teresa – They have regular meetings and open houses for new businesses. Check the Chamber’s web site if you wish to attend. Our Club is a member of the Chamber and we would get more visibility if we attended. As a former board member of the Chamber I – Walt – am willing to attend.
 - f. Community Events – Hal Bomgardner asked, “How many want to attend a Thunderbird Hockey Game?” He was greeted with a resounding silence – no, non, não, nyet, he, Chan eil, không, iie,
 - g. Key Clubs –
 - i. ICS – Kim Finch Cook - met yesterday and two people were there. Paul asked us to speak up and now we have 11 students going to DCON plus Paul’s female chaperone. They were working on helping people going through tough times. They are posting a sign that says: Times are tough but you are tougher.
 - ii. Juanita - now as five students and two chaperones going to DCON.
 - iii. Lake Washington – Kathleen Brace said no one is going to DCON, but we thanked them for their awesome work at tree lot.
 - h. Birthdays - Matt Gregory and Ruth Ann Young.
4. Happy Dollars:
- a. Mark Shinstrom pulled his hip out of the socket by trying to clean his cleats. I imagine standing up and in contortions. After one night in the hospital they were able to reset it. Who says golf is not a dangerous and painful sport?
 - b. Steve Sperry – Ath the Sept installation banquet the year before he bid on a cheesecake from Shelly Kloba. She was tenacious and they met in Bellevue to exchange the bourbon blackberry cheesecake.
 - c. Kathleen Brace was thinking about the fire in California.
 - d. Ken, Suzanne and Scott were fined and paid for not having a pin. I owe my dollar at the next meeting.
 - e. Bonnie is getting better from the wrist surgery.
 - f. Liza Lange was happy that Bonnie was back and doing well.
 - g. John Hurney spoke fondly of Dave Asher who was on the City council for years and always showed up at the neighborhood groups.

- h. Milt said Dave has been through a lot over the past two years. He was in the Army and worked at the UW.
- i. Teresa Aker said Dave was instrumental in helping make the contact for the new church community supper.
- j. Irene Hutchinson said the Google word of year is exhausted and she is or said we should be exhausted from all the activities of the past year.
- k. Scott Brown is looking for an affordable used car for his granddaughter.

Today's Speaker Peter Donaldson – From Sustainability Ambassadors

Program was Peter Donaldson who has headed the nonprofit named the Sustainability Ambassadors for twelve years. He introduced his two ambassadors Eva Odderson and Ela Hanif. SA trains youth in project management and communication to create a more sustainable environment. They are working with the City of Kirkland on the Strategic Sustainable Plan. They contract with the City to hire interns. Other eastside cities have hired interns as well. We can use your funding to get more students involved. Might show you one of our web sites. Other half is to support teacher training to create a textbook, a living textbook, which consists of the plans, policies of the City. Student Eva Odderson who is fluent in Norwegian was in Norway in the summer working on sustainability in food. She loves biking. She recommends that we look at the City Sustainability Plan web site, www.kirklandwa.gov. Go to it for areas of questions, Transportation. They are encouraging students to bike rather than drive their cars to school. They measure the Carbon commute count hope to reduce the average by 20% by 2030 and 50% by 2050. They handed out Questionnaires for the students. The Emission of CO2 per day by school: ICS had highest of CO2 per capita at 3.79 pounds a day; other middle schools had less output. At the high school level there is a greater production of CO2, compared to the middle schools. Lake Washington HS at 2.4 average per day had the least. They promote a game to encourage bus riding called Kirkland Bus Bingo making use of Orca cards. Anyone 18 or under can get a free Orca card. For seniors it is \$1 a ride.

Ela Hanif is an SA for two years. I want to use my voice to tackle environmental issues as I am finding my voice. We encourage cycling, ride the bus, walking. The school versus school competition is fun. The free Orca cards have made a big difference. We have given out over a 100+ to both high schools. It is about shifting student perceptions. We would like your help in spreading the word in the schools. Peter requested standing ovation for Ela for her excellent and engaging presentation.

Eva spoke on the use of heat pumps for heating and air conditioning to reduce the use of natural gas and electricity. They support Impact projects such as lowering your thermostat in the winter and raising it in the summer. Avoid the load of Vampire Plugs by unplugging your electrical devices when they are not in us. You can reduce usage by 10% by unplugging. Hot house gases of CO2 and methane come from natural gas. Heat pumps heat and cool. If 7,622, that is 20% of Kirkland homes, switched to heat pumps we would save 899 kwh per month and save 236.8 million pounds

of CO2 per year. Energy Smart Eastside – you can schedule an analysis of your home. Be sure to review the Sustainability Ambassadors website <https://www.sustainabilityambassadors.org>.

Post Script: Hae-Sun Asher notified us by email that Dave passed away the evening of March 15, 2025. They both are members of Kirkland Kiwanis.

Respectfully submitted, Walt Krueger



Kirkland Remembers Former Councilmember Dave Asher

It is with deep sadness that the City of Kirkland announces the passing of former City Councilmember Dave Asher, a dedicated public servant who left an enduring legacy of community leadership and civic pride. Mr. Asher passed away on January 15, 2025.

“Dave Asher embodied the spirit of Kirkland,” said Mayor Kelli Curtis. “His passion for our neighborhoods, his dedication to safe routes for kids, and his belief in the power of community made our city better in every possible way. Dave wasn’t just a leader—he was mentor and a friend to everyone who knew him. He will be truly missed.”

During his 20-year tenure on the Council, Mr. Asher was well known for his philosophy of accountability and boots-on-the-ground governance. He maintained a steadfast vision of enhanced public safety, walkability, fiscal responsibility, and environmental sustainability. Mr. Asher championed pedestrian improvements by advocating for the inclusion of sidewalks in various City projects as well as broadened transit service. His dedication to connecting community included a commitment to Kirkland’s neighborhoods, civic engagement, and empowering people to take an active role in shaping their community. Mr. Asher was also a legislative trailblazer, identifying key issues and integrating the work of the City in concert with state lawmakers to advocate on behalf of the Kirkland community. In this way, he helped establish Kirkland’s strong legacy of legislative advocacy and impact in Olympia that continues to this day.

In addition to his service on the City Council, Mr. Asher was well known in the community for his dedication and compassion for Kirkland’s less advantaged residents, especially children. His friends and colleagues recall his warm, genuine nature and his ability to inspire action, which he would often do through his long-time leadership with The Kiwanis Club of Kirkland. A retired U.S.

Army lieutenant colonel, Mr. Asher served 21 years in the United States Army. An accomplished military leader, he started as an infantryman and served as a Ranger, a helicopter cavalry commander, and a logistics executive officer to a two star general to oversee complex logistical operations and strategic planning. Anyone who knew Mr. Asher knew that he believed in the potential of every individual to make a difference, often encouraging others to step into roles of leadership. His kindness and passion will be remembered as much as his many accomplishments.

The City invites those wishing to honor Mr. Asher's memory to consider supporting causes close to his heart, such as youth programs, initiatives to address food insecurity, and efforts to aid Kirkland's unhoused community members.