



Rochester Day Makers Kiwanis Club
 Tues 9:00 A.M. at Charlie's Eatery, 1654 Hwy US-52
 Day Makers web at: <https://www.kiwanisrochester.org/index.htm>
 See MN-DAK District Site at: <https://k13.site.kiwanis.org/>

**DAY MAKERS
KIWANIS**



LOVING SEASON

Newsletter for February 2026

OFFICERS

President Rick Johnson
 Imm. Past Pres. Becky Hopson
 Pres. Elect Helen Kolb
 1st Vice Pres. ----
 Secretary/Treasurer Jack Zierdt

DIRECTORS (3 yr terms)

Jim Decker 2026
 Dave Bhaskaran 2027
 Garry Post 2027
 Bruce Keller 2028
 Gene Mullenbach 2028

Chairs & Meeting Dates

Operation/Fundraising	Jim Schwinghammer	1st Tuesday 8:35 am
Program	Jim Cook	1st Tuesday 10:05 am
Board Meeting	Rick Johnson	3rd Tuesday 10:05 am
Community Services	Debbi/Tom Grogan	3rd Tuesday 8:35 am
Public Relations (PR)	Greg Hain	4rd Tuesday 10:05 am
Human and Spiritual	Ruth Vrieze	2rd Tuesday 8:35 am
Membership	Kathy Davis	3rd Thursday 9:00 am
Youth Services	Helen Kolb	4th Tuesday 8:35 am
Early Childhood	Dave Bhaskaran	4th Tuesday 10:05 am

Historian: Bruce Keller
 Interclub: Kathy Davis,
 Asst Sec./Treas: Jim Decker

Pres.Advisor: Jack Zierdt
 Web/Newsletter: Dick Odell
 Div 7 Lt Governor Janet Cederholm

Program Schedule:

...Special Notice ...

Four meetings in February at 9am at Charlie's.

03 Iceland Travels Part 2, Dave Bhaskaran

10 Acadia National Park Ranger experiences, Ginger Zierdt, Jack Zierdt

17 4 Youth, Denise Frey, Janet Cederholm

24 OPEN

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Santa reminds us that winter road salt is hard on our cars /pickups so remember to buy a KwikTrip Car Wash Credit Card from our very own DM Jim Decker.



See page 2 for examples of what to do with a clean car.

February Birthdays:

01 Jack Zierdt
 28 Joe Hopson

President's Corner:

“Goaon Daginn Day Makers.”

This is supposed to say greeting in Icelandic, unfortunately the keyboard cannot deal with the diacritic marks needed in the Icelandic language, so this is as close as I could come. We've had a roller coaster of weather this month with temperatures ranging from 50's to -20's, but we're hearty Minnesotans.

January brought us a terrific lineup of programs. We were introduced to the rollout of the new 311 program, brought up to date on Mayo's continuing expansion plans, learned of Rochester's sustainability plans, and finally Dave Bhaskaran's beautiful pictures of his hiking trek through Iceland (which will be continued the first Tuesday in February). Many ideas for future programs may have been cultivated from these programs.

We had an excellent representation at Charlie's open house, unfortunately it was a bust as far as a format for finding potential new members. It puts finding new members on all our shoulders, so keep your eyes open. We have also started communicating with our 3rd grade pen pals and we're anticipating their return letters. It will be a major benefit for me to practice my printing skills.

We'll see how this winter continues when Puxatony Phil checks his shadow on the 2nd.

Richard Johnson
 DM President

February Anniversaries:

08 Joe and Becky Hopson
 12 Dick and Ruth Vrieze

Day Makers ZOOM Meetings: February 2026

BEGINNING WITH OUR JANUARY 6TH MEETING ZOOM LINKS WILL NOT BE SCHEDULED UNLESS YOU REQUEST DAVE BHASKARAN TO SET UP A LINK NO LATER THAN THE MONDAY BEFORE OUR TUESDAY MEETING.h

Treasurer's Summary: January 31, 2026

Administrative Account	\$ 5,270.80
Service Account	\$ -2,287.93
Charitable Account	\$ 16,593.93
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS	\$ 19,576.80

Total Membership on October 1, 2025 33
Total Membership on January 31, 2026 33 Regular
Plus 2 Honorary = 35

“K” Dollars for the 2025-2026 Year is: \$991.00 Dollars as of 1/31/2026. (From 8/10/2025, through 8/7/2026)

KWIK Trip Fund Raiser for 2025- 2026 Kiwanis Year:

Budgeted for expenses for 2025-2026 is:	\$ 10,000.00
Actual Expenses through January 2026:	\$ 9,231.25
Budgeted for income for 2025 – 2026 is:	\$ 12,000.00
Actual for income thru January 2026 is:	\$ 5,290.00
Inventory of cards on hand Jan 31, 2026 is:	\$ 660.00

Clean Cars Travel Best:

Look for beauty and clean desert spring weather.



California and Arizona are ready to bloom, thanks to all the winter rain this year.



Imperial Dunes, Glamis California

Photos by Dick Odell

<https://www.kiwanisrochester.org/index.htm> - This is the access point to our web site.

BOD Minutes of Meeting: January 20, 2026

Board Members/Committee Chairs Present: Jack Zierdt, Jim Decker, Dave Bhaskaran, Ruth Vrieze, Rick Johnson, Helen Kolb, Kathy Davis, Garry Post, Becky Hopson, Debi and Tom Grogan

Board Members/Committee Chairs Absent Greg Hain, Gene Mullenbach, Bruce Keller, Jim Cook and Jim Schwinghammer

Other Day Makers, Members Present, Sue Johnson, Judy Zierdt, and Maureen Bhaskaran

Approval of Agenda: Jim Decker made the motion to approve the agenda, Helen Kolb seconded the motion. **Agenda was approved.**

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: Jim Decker made the motion to approve the minutes, of the meeting of November 18, 2025, Ruth Vrieze seconded the motion. **Minutes were Approved.**

A motion was made by Dave Bhaskaran and seconded by Jim Decker to approve the November 2025 monthly report to Kiwanis International. **Motion was approved.**

Helen Kolb made a motion to approve the December 2025 monthly report to Kiwanis International. Ruth Vrieze seconded the motion. **Motion was Approved!**

The sheet of comparison of monthly service hours was presented as part of the secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report as of December 30, 2025: The report was sent out to all board members in the packets before the meeting. Rick Johnson moved to accept the report as presented and Kathy Davis seconded the motion. **Motion was Approved.**

OLD BUSINESS:

The Rochester Elks Lodge #1091 sponsored an open house for service clubs in the Rochester Community to help with membership recruitment. The date was Monday, January 12, 2026, from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. The reaction was that it was not as well advertised to the public as it possibly could have been. Those present were mainly members of service clubs already. Not sure it will do much for us as far as recruitment of potential new members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A copy of the Membership Plan that was due in the Kiwanis International Office by January 15th was included in the board packet.

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BOD Minutes of Meeting: Continued

President Rick Johnson had completed and submitted this report to KI before the deadline.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Decker informed the board that the first quarter financials of the 2025 – 2026 Kiwanis Year (October 1st through December 31st of 2005) would be conducted on Tuesday January 27th 2026, following our weekly club meeting. Doing the audit will be team members Jim Decker, Maureen Bhaskaran, and Jack Zierdt along with board director Dave Bhaskaran. It is open to any member wishing to attend.

Jim Decker brought to the board's attention that a \$3,000.00 donation from Charlies had been given to the Sunrisers Kiwanis Club. The Sunrisers board voted to do a 50/50 split with the Day Makers Kiwanis Club. Following much discussion, it was viewed by consensus of the board members that this was possibly given with the same intent as in the past when the hockey festival was held. Helen Kolb moved to suggest dividing the money among the 4 Kiwanis Clubs of Rochester and Garry Post seconded the motion. **Motion Was Approved!**

(This topic was brought back up to the Board Members through e-mail after Rick had discussion with Tony Goergen of the Sunrisers Kiwanis Club and received a photocopy of the check and accompanying letter from Charlies Eatery and Pub of the donation. With this information and further clarification of the donation, a majority of the board members voted electronically, to approve the change of the split to be 50/50 between the Sunrisers and Day Makers with each club receiving \$1,500.)

Jack presented the resignation of charter member Richard Severson from active membership of the Day Makers due to health. **His resignation from active membership was approved! The board, also, approved making Richard Severson an Honorary Member of the Day Makers.**

Kiwanis Club because of him being a charter member and his service to the club and community.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Tom Grogan reported that 8 people served Saturday Noon Meals at Christ United Methodist Church. Tom asked if this is something that we should continue or was it a one-time event? The following statement from the November Board Meeting answered his question: **Board Consensus was to move forward and stay involved in this worthwhile program.**

Continued page 4→

BOD Minutes of Meeting: (Continued from p4)

Further questions were what committee does this fall under and what about serving at the Sunday Noon Meals at St. Francis Church since this serves the same clientele? Answers to the questions were: All committee responsibilities need to be reviewed (Jack will send our committee responsibilities lists to the committee chairs for reviewal and possible revisions). In response to Sunday Noon Meals the comments were to establish Saturday noon meals and then explore the possibility with our club for Sunday noon possibilities.

Dave Bhaskaran stated during his Early Childhood Development Committee report that the Pinewood reading helps program is going good. He is ready to distribute the first batch of letters to the teachers for the Pen Pal Program at Pinewood Elementary School.

Ruth Vrieze Human and Spiritual Aims Committee chairperson reported that she had sent a "Thinking of You" card to Rachel Mullenbach on December 9, 2025 on resuming Chemotherapy again; to Jim Cook on January 3, 2026 following knee replacement surgery on December 31, 2025 and to Jack Zierdt on January 15, 2026 following eye surgery. Other committee activities were the signing of Christmas cards on December 16th by club members. All members signed a card for Larry Scilley that was delivered to him by Jim Schwinghammer.

Valerie Millen delivered 110 cards to the Landing for distribution. Ruth delivered 35 cards to Rochester Health West-Edinbrook for distribution to their residents.

Fourteen of our club members took part in Salvation Army Bell Ringing during twelve different shifts.

Kathy Davis had no news during the Membership Committee Report.

Jim Schwinghammer was not present to present an Operations and Fund-Raising Committee Report.

Greg Hain was absent due to Shar being back in the hospital. Jack did state the following information about the website in response to Dick Odell's comment at the November meeting. "Greg's understanding from MLT information is that the old site is still there – it redirects to the new one. According to MLT Group we can access the old site but need to type the specific page url in. Greg, also, stated that he has not deleted or messed with the old site!" This was the Public Relations Committee report.

BOD Minutes of Meeting:

Jim Cook Program Committee Chairperson wasn't present at the meeting as he is recuperating following surgery the end of December. Open dates for programs are February 24th as well as most of March.

During the Youth Services Committee report, Helen Kolb reported that both K-kids advisors at Riverside Elementary School sent thank you notes of appreciation for the gift cards.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM.

Submitted by:

Jack Zierdt
Secretary/Treasurer

Salvation Army Red Kettle: Day Makers Supported

Short article from Post Bulletin Paper....



The Salvation Army's annual red kettle campaign in Rochester collected about \$462,000, and [the overall fundraising effort, including corporate donations and other charity, topped \\$1.4 million](#). The money supports community efforts in housing, food and youth activities. Meanwhile, the kettle at Hy-Vee 37th Street [won the national challenge this year, stuffed with more than \\$84,000 in a single day](#). See the story.

Day Makers members provide lots of hours supporting the Red Kettle Salvation Army contribution collection process at the Hy-Vee 37th store. Take note of winning the National Bucket Challenge Award for single day collection of \$84,000.

Thank you Hy-Vee 37th store for the inside space.
Dick Odell