

Kiwanis

www.kiwanis.org

Downtown Des Moines Club
www.downtowndesmoineskiwanis.org

Weeks of January 11 and January 18

Club says goodbye to Sharon

By Allen Green, Reporter

The Kiwanis Downtown Club closed out 2005 with a terrific program but on a sad note as we said “thanks and goodbye” to long-time administrative secretary Sharon Ewell. Sharon has been our club’s strong right hand for 14 years and we will miss her! But, as she told us, she feels “called” to this new job opportunity at her church and we applaud her for listening and acting. We presented her with an engraved plaque and a dinner certificate at Forty-Three in the hotel. Leland Long did a great job in her send off and many got teary-eyed as Leland reminisced about various happenings over the years. Naturally, we had a special decorated cake, compliments of the hotel staff. And we sent her off with a standing ovation.

We presented several Kiwanians of the Month with their month-end certificates and wished them well in their life journeys. Pat Stockton had donated two Iowa basketball tickets to the club for the upcoming January 7th game against Illinois in Iowa City. Needless to say, there was a high-spirited contest between Dave Turnball and Steve Scott with Steve “winning” the tickets at \$80! Our club’s administrative fund thanks Pat for the donation and Steve for his success. Go Hawks!

President Williams reminded us to be sure to watch the Rose Bowl parade as International president Steve and Barb will be on the Kiwanis float. He also thanked those who had purchased the last of the Entertainment Books—they are all gone. He also explained the \$1 per meal price increase that will go into effect with the first meeting in January. This is the first price increase that has



The Downtown Club bid farewell to long time Administrative Secretary Sharon Ewell

been passed on to members in several years.

Our featured speaker for the day was Bruce Anderson. Bruce is an instructor at Greenwood Elementary School and serves as our K-Kids Club advisor. He talked of current happenings at Greenwood and the challenges facing not only the schools but the students as well. He had several humorous stories and entertained us with an unusual approach that he uses—the “magic” of teaching. Several members participated—and none of us could catch how he did those tricks... Our thanks to Paul Strayer for suggesting Bruce as a speaker. We were enlightened and entertained.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 11

OUR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE **DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY INN**

PROGRAM: Today’s program will be a presentation by Max Phillips, president of Qwest Iowa. Program arranged by Allen Green.

ASSIGNMENTS: Marty Kenworthy introduces guests. Meeting is at the Downtown Holiday Inn. Dave Turnball leads songs. Keith Petrie, invocation. Al Bjork and Sam Gelb are greeters

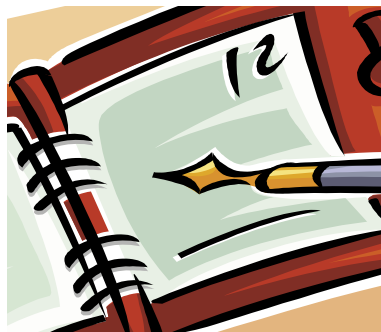
January 18

OUR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT GREENWOOD SCHOOL WITH A ROUND TABLE AT THE HOTEL FORT DES MOINES

PROGRAM: Today is the Greenwood School Reading Project at Greenwood School with a Roundtable at the Hotel Fort Des Moines.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 11 Regular Meeting: Downtown Holiday Inn, 11:45 a.m. Speaker is Max Phillips, president of Qwest Iowa. Program arranged by Allen Green.
- January 13 Basketball Jamboree Committee Meeting, Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 11:45 a.m.
- January 16 Division 13 & 16 Council Mtg, West Des Moines Public Library, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
- January 18 Regular Meeting: Greenwood Elementary School ESL Reading Project, 316 – 37th Street, Des Moines. Roundtable at Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m.
- January 25 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker is Michel Soria, executive director, Iowa Council for International Understanding. Program arranged by Allen Green.
- February 1 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Russ Bitterman.
- February 3 Monthly Board Mtg, Iowa Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 11:45 a.m.
- February 8 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Russ Bitterman.
- February 10 Basketball Jamboree Committee Meeting, Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 11:45 a.m.
- February 15 Regular Meeting: Greenwood Elementary School ESL Reading Project, 316 – 37th Street, Des Moines. Roundtable at Downtown Holiday Inn, 11:45 a.m.
- Feb. 13-17 Ne-Ia District Governor's Tour: Join Ray & First Lady Jolene Ward as they tour San Francisco and Napa Valley, California
- February 22 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Russ Bitterman.
- March 1 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Marty Kenworthy.
- March 3 Monthly Board Mtg, Iowa Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 11:45 a.m.
- March 7 Official District Governor Visit, evening banquet. Watch for further details.
- March 8 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Marty Kenworthy.
- March 10 Basketball Jamboree Committee Meeting, Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 11:45 a.m.
- March 15 Regular Meeting: Greenwood Elementary School ESL Reading Project, 316 – 37th Street, Des Moines. Roundtable at Downtown Holiday Inn, 11:45 a.m.
- March 22 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Marty Kenworthy.
- March 25 Ne-Ia Mid-Winter Conference, Council Bluffs



Del Shepard,
January 6
Lu Dooley,
January 14
Karen Jackson,
January 19
Jan Burch,
January 21
Leland Long,
January 21
Tom Pflanz,
January 31



THE FINAL NUMBERS ARE IN— AND IT'S A BIG WINNER!

By Steve Scott, 2005 Basketball Jamboree Chair

The 2005 Basketball Jamboree is all over except for the crying, but most of us should be all smiles. This was one for the record books, folks, and many, in fact most of you, deserve a real round of applause for the outstanding jobs you did. All in all, we raised over \$39,000 which, when leveraged with our matching funds from Ronald McDonald Charities, increases the total to over \$62,000! Had we all participated (which is, by the way, year after year the one thing we just can't seem to have the benefit of), we'd have gone easily over \$40,000! Just think what we can do for all those kids who need our help so badly when we get the club back to a healthy membership level and we get that 100% participation!

So here's what it means in real dollars and cents: After paying about \$16,000 in expenses, we will net out somewhere over \$23,000, of which we will donate 51% to Ronald McDonald Charities. McDonald Charities will match our \$11,750 donation on a 2 for 1 basis, making our joint efforts net out at approximately \$46,500! That is huge, folks, and it's something to really toot our horns about when we're talking to potential new members, because it is one more reason we are far and away the most effective volunteer organization with the most impact in the central

Iowa and metro Des Moines area.

So, now it's on to 2006, and the planning has already begun. Dave Turnball has agreed to chair the 59th Annual Basketball Jamboree. He will be seeking TOTAL club support. So if you're looking for a way to become more involved in the club, the Jamboree committee is certainly an area that can use your skills and ideas. Here's one idea, for example: Let's find a corporate sponsor to underwrite the cost of the Knapp Center. For \$5,000 (or more) we might even be able to offer up naming rights to the court on the day of the Jamboree. What company or corporation could you approach with that idea? Or, if "sales" is not your thing, how about getting involved in the planning for the event? Whether it's publicity, advertisement development, Kick-Off or Tip-Off luncheon planning, officials, concessions, or whatever, there is a spot for you. Here's your chance to volunteer in central Iowa's longest running charity. YOU can make a difference...and help kids in the meantime!

Many thanks to ALL the 2005 committee members, club members, sponsors, contributors, and other volunteers for our most successful event ever. It was a lot of work, but so rewarding.

Former Kiwanian of the Month shares his experiences as an intern at the White House

By Dave Turnball, Reporter

The first meeting of 2006 was called to order by President, Chris Williams. Music was lead by Carol Burt accompanied by Jan Burch. The invocation was given by John Mechem. Guests for today's meeting were introduced by Jan Burch.

A new group of Kiwanians of the Month were introduced by Chairman, Clair Fisher, who also helped induct a new member to the club, Del Shephard. Del has spent a great number of years in the field of education and currently works in the Adult Education department at Simpson College. Members are encouraged to take the time to get to know our newest member over the next several weeks.

Carol got to work "overtime" with music as the club joined her in not only singing our traditional "Hello" song, but also with "Happy Birthday" as we recognized those members whose birthdays are in January.

Program Chairman for January, Allen Green, introduce our program for today in the person of Alex Cooney. Alex was a Kiwanian of the Month while a senior at Roosevelt HS in 2002. He is now a Journalism/Photography major at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Besides Alex we had two other generations of Cooney's with us as both his father and grandfather joined us for our meeting. Alex shared how he really got interested and involved in the photography part of journalism by showing us a series of pictures from the 2004 Iowa Caucus. He managed to get some of his photos "published" in publications and also shown to the staff at the U of M. That lead to his securing an internship with the White House Photo Office this past summer. He told us that he had to complete a 27 page security form, a security briefing and that he now has an FBI record. (Of course, it's a "positive" record!)

Alex explained a bit about how that office works with 5 photographers, 4 editors and 3 interns. Their job is to take pictures, make decisions on what gets put out to the public and what might be considered "classified" and much, much more. He mentioned that there were over 1.2 million photos of just the President and First Family on file during his time there.



Alex Cooney speaks to the members at the first meeting of the new year.

Alex ended up with a special assignment: "Official Dog Photographer" for Barney, the Bush's pet Scottie. He provided a lot of pictures he had taken of Barney in various parts of the White House and grounds and joked about how great it was that Barney had an "All Access Pass." He ended up taking in the neighborhood of 1400 pictures of Barney with 60 or so being published on a website (www.barney.gov), National Geographic for Kids and the Today Show.

One of his highlights while there was getting to meet Neal Armstrong from the Apollo 11 crew. Another was when he almost ran into (literally) Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld! Alex would like to return to Des Moines after graduation and be here for the 2008 political season and then see where he might go after that to pursue a career in the Photo-Journalism field.

Kiwanians read at Greenwood School

By Jan Burch, Publicity Chair

Approximately 15 Kiwanians and one Kiwanian of the Month participated in our monthly reading project at Greenwood Elementary School. After the pledge and short informal business meeting, ESL kindergarten teacher, Margaret Peterson, brought in about a dozen of the kindergartners. As usual, we paired off and read a book of the student's choosing, typically one of the Bernstein Bears or Clifford the Dog stories. We then called the group back together and presented each of the students with a Charlie Brown/Snoopy book that they could take home and call their own. At Margaret's suggestion, we paired off again and read that story to the kindergartners. As she said, "Remember when they take the book home, they probably won't have someone at home who can read it to them in English..."

One of the youngsters, when presented with his book, looked up at Bob Mitchell with his shiny brown eyes and said, "wow, now I have three books."

Thanks to all club members who contributed \$5 each for the books. We bought the books at Kohl's where they were \$5 each—not bad for hardback books. Each book had a sticker on the inside cover showing the child's name and our Kiwanis logo.

If you haven't participated in our ESL reading project, please give it a try. Those who do continually say, "I think I get more out of it than those kids do." It's such a great experience—and you do make a difference in a child's life.



Marty Kenworthy reads at Greenwood Elementary School on December 21st

January Kiwanians of the Month



(front row, l to r) Eric Mou, Valley High School, parents are Beiquan Mou & Mei Guo; Lumea Jaques, Dowling Catholic High School, parents are William & Darlene Jaques; Tim Alberts, Roosevelt High School, parents are Greg & Jodie Alberts; and Huang Bui, North High School, parents are Mr. & Mrs. Chap Bui, brother, James.

Kiwanis of Des Moines, IA

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Irene Tarczynski

Charlie Taylor

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Allen Green

Ed Linebach

Pat Stockton

Michelle Wall

Did you know that...

By Jan Burch, Publicity Chair

- THANKS to those who rang bells for the Salvation Army at Merle Hay Mall on December 13th. Our volunteers rang at Sears and the Food Court and raised slightly over \$935. It's a good thing...
- Please put the new Ankeny club's weekly meetings on your calendar and plan to attend—Thursday noons. The club meets at the On with Life Building, 715 SW Ankeny Road, \$3-4 for lunch. Contact **Bob Mitchell** if you can attend one of its upcoming meetings. The new club needs our continuing support.
- The National Special Olympics will be held in Ames this year during early July. Your board is looking at ways for our Club to lend a hand, as many hands will be needed to pull off this event. Watch for further information.
- We received a nice thank you note from the Kiwanis International Foundation and we're told that a new banner patch will be forthcoming. The board approved a \$5 per member contribution at the December board meeting, or \$325, to the Kiwanis Disaster Relief Fund.
- At its January 6th meeting, your board accepted three resignations with deep regrets. **Gene Hiskey, Bob Miethke, and Karen Jackson** have resigned effective December 31. Gene has been a member since 1972 and Bob since 1988. Karen just joined last year and had recently volunteered to be our club liaison to our new K-Kids Club at Pleasant Hill Elementary School. While we understand their reasons, we will miss them at our Downtown weekly meetings. Thanks for all you've done for Kiwanis, Gene, Bob and Karen.



Kiwanis of Des Moines, IA

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