

Kiwanis

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Downtown Des Moines Club
www.downtowndesmoineskiwanis.org

Weeks of December 14 and December 21

United Way helps at risk children

By Ken Hayes, Chief of Reporters

President Chris Williams presided over our November 30th meeting. Music was led by Dave Turnball and accompanied by Jan Burch. Paul Strayer conducted the invocation. Our meeting included four members of an inter-club group from Johnston. Chris announced that December 13th, the club will be bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the Sears store at Merle Hay Mall. Fortunately, this is inside duty and not outside. We also will be volunteering at the Make-a-Wish Jolly Holiday Lights on December 14th, from 5:15 to 9:15.

Our speaker today was Terry Retzlaff, Director of Planned Giving and Major Gifts, for United Way of Central Iowa. Terry spoke about the success of the Women's Leadership Program and United Way's Early Childhood Initiative.

Studies show that early childhood poverty causes children to fall behind their peers in kindergarten. There are 27,900 children in Polk County who are 0 – 5 years of age and 13% of those are living in poverty. Since 80% to 90% of the human brain is hardwired by age 4, many of these children are at risk for a lifetime of educational struggles. Public spending for education begins at age 5, which is too late to help many of these kids living in poverty. Early childhood school readiness provides vital help to these at risk children.



Terry Retzlaff, Director of Planned Giving and Major Gifts for United Way of Central Iowa

The Women's Leadership Connection's investment in early childhood school readiness provides children in Central Iowa's most vulnerable neighborhoods new opportunities. Through quality early learning in traditional day care facilities and home providers, there are benefits from lower crime rates and welfare dependency, and more success in school and higher graduation rates.

Terry showed the group that a \$1 investment in quality early childhood learning actually multiplies to provide benefits of over \$17 and produces greater economic return than any other effort.

The program today was enlightening for all of us. Our thanks to Terry Retzlaff.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

December 14

OUR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE HOTEL FORT DES MOINES

PROGRAM: Today's program will be a presentation by Laurie Phelan, President/CEO of Iowa Jobs for American's Graduates. Program Presenter will be Allen Green

ASSIGNMENTS: Music will be led by Steve Siemens. Invocation will be given by Ken Hayes. Guest Introductions will be made by Craig Wierson. Greeters will be Bob Miethke and Karen Jackson. Our Newsletter Reporter Allen Green.

December 21

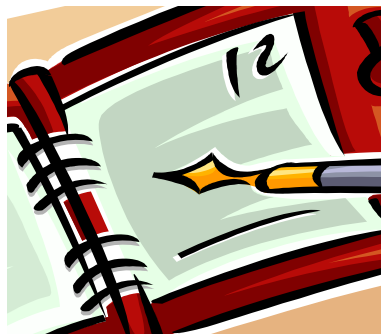
OUR MEETING WILL BE HELD AT GREENWOOD SCHOOL WITH A ROUND TABLE AT THE HOTEL FORT DES MOINES

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

ASSIGNMENTS: Music will be led by Dave Turnball. Invocation will be given by John Mechem. Guest Introductions will be made by Ober Anderson. Greeters will be Tom Pflanz and Mike Rickord. Our Newsletter Reporter is Allen Green.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 13 Bell ringing for Salvation Army, Merle Hay Mall (Sears and Food Court)
- December 14 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker is Laurie Phelan, director, IJAG (Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates). Program arranged by Allen Green.
- December 14 Volunteer work shift at Jolly Holiday Lights, Water Works Park, 6 – 9 p.m.
- December 15 Presentation of Charter to our new K Kids Club at Pleasant Hill Elementary School, noon.
- December 21 Regular Meeting: Greenwood Elementary School ESL Reading Project, 316 – 37th Street, Des Moines. Roundtable at Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m.
- December 25 Merry Christmas to All!
- December 28 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker is Bruce Anderson, Faculty Liaison for Greenwood School's K-Kids. Program arranged by Bob Mitchell.
- Jan. 1, 2006 Happy New Year!
- January 4 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker is Alex Cooney, former Kiwanian of the Month who will share his stories and photos from his internship at the White House. Program arranged by Allen Green and Paul Strayer.
- January 6 Monthly Board Mtg, Iowa Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 11:45 a.m.
- January 11 Regular Meeting: Hotel Ft. Des Moines, 11:45 a.m. Speaker is Max Phillips, president of Qwest Iowa. Program arranged by Allen Green.
- January 13 Basketball Jamboree Committee Mtg, 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 Bob Mitchell.
- February 2 Charter Night Banquet, Ankeny Noon Kiwanis Club, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Ankeny. Additional details to follow.
- February 3 Monthly Board Mtg, Iowa Lutheran Hospital Private Dining Room, 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
- March 7 Official District Governor Visit, evening banquet. Watch for further details.
- March 25 Ne-Ia Mid-Winter Conference, Council Bluffs

Kiwanis

New Logo For Club Newsletters

A few of you have inquired about the missing Kiwanis Oval logo on the front of the newsletter. The new logo is the image Kiwanis International has instructed be placed at the top of documents and envelopes identifying a Kiwanis club. Be assured we're following Kiwanis International guidelines.

A KIWANIAN KRISTMAS

By President Chris Williams

I want to *Ahlers* it from the *Barnes* tops,
Underwoods and *Stone*,
That I am *Dooley Egger*
To say what I've been shown.

In this *Ewell* tide season ,
No *Wells* in snowy *Hayes*,
Geving Gelb to all the good kids
Bear spo-*Kenworthy* praise.

Let's *Stirler* from our *Long Knapes*
And Stockton up on glee man,
Never *Strayer* from our "Taylor"
God's given us a *Siemens*

Lacey Cordes 'round the *Burch* trees
Dann Dannenbring Jacks'son
Linebach and front with *Fisher* men
Green, Strief, Williams and *Knudsens*

AND A FEW KIWANIAN CAROLS

Keck the *Wall Twit Turnballs* of *wHiskey*
(you *Keck* 'em with yours, I'll *Keck* 'em with mine).

Bjork! The *Jerald* angel sing
Heggen's back is back
Kuhn's peanut king

Mechem all ye faithful
Carlson, Berte and *Mitchell*
Pflanz, Petrie, Miethke, Scott
And *Bi-it-terman*

*And thank you to all the cast members in our Kiwanian Kristmas, especially the reindeer who
pull our sleigh all year long:*

Dasher *Wierson*
Dancer *Wiebold* (careful on that ice!)
Prancer *Higgins*
Vixen *Wilson*
Comet *Cooper*
Cupid *Sturm*
Donner *Anderson*
Blitzen *Griese*
And Rudolph *Hegedus-Tarczynski*

December Kiwanians of the Month



(front row, l to r) Carey McGhee, Roosevelt HS, daughter of Ordell McGhee and Jackie Easley; Alex Giller, Roosevelt HS, son of Dr. Harvey and Barbara Giller; Mollie O'Connor, North HS, daughter of John and Catherine O'Connor. (back row, l to r) Cassandra Boston, Hoover HS, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Boston, Jr.; Nick Cassaday, Lincoln HS, son of Donald and Diana Cassaday; Meredith Breton, East HS, daughter of Joe and Laurie Breton; Katelyn Sprock, Valley HS, daughter of Martin and Jody Sprock

A Snapshot of October 2005

Meeting Dates	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
Guests & Hosts	Karen Knape/Chris Williams, Melinda Berte/Michelle Wall; Josh Powell & Linda Sayavongchanh (Drake BB); KOM parents—Tom Treska, Angela Chen, Larry Shi, Sherry Goodwin, Rhonda McCourt, Kevin Cooney	Steve Vaught/Jan Burch; Mollie Cooney (KOM parent); Karen Knape/Chris Williams; Bill Stürler/Chris Williams; Jeff Geving & Collin Freeling PLUS WDM Inter-Club—Lloyd Miller, Larry Peterson, Ted Starostka, Harlan Giese, Randy Yontz. Basket Ball Jamboree guests: Mike Sigelman, Matt Miller, Dan Jones, Ralph Dickinson, Bud Legg	Melinda Berte/Michelle Wall	None
Active Member Attendance Today	30	31	29	27
Member Concerns	Sue Twit & son, Matt	Sue Twit & son, Matt	Sue Twit & son, Matt	Sue Twit & son, Matt; Bob Mitchell's mother hospitalized at Lutheran.
New Members & Sponsors	Bill Stürler/Chris Williams; Karen Knape, Chris Williams; Jeff Geving; Melinda Berte/Michelle Wall			
Member Resignations	0	0	0	0
Total Active, Privileged & Senior Members	59			63

Christmas carols highlight Dec. 7 meeting

By Allen Green, Reporter

The meeting was called to order by President Williams. We had a rousing Christmas sing-a-long led by our three guitarists: Dave Turnball, Chris Williams, and Sharon Ewell. We sang: 'Holly, Jolly Christmas' and 'Silver Bells'

The invocation and blessing on the food was offered by Dave Turnball, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by all attending.

Announcements:

1. December 21 Greenwood School Reading Project
 2. Salvation Army Bell ringing – still a few slots to fill
 3. Pat Stockton's gift of two Iowa basketball tickets. January 7 Iowa vs. Illinois. A silent raffle will be held for some lucky winner. Get your bids into President Williams by December 28th. Pat announced that the tickets were in a section making for a great panoramic view.
 4. We had one new application for membership
 5. BB Jamboree Committee meeting Friday 11:45
 6. Jolly Holiday lights December 14 – 5:15 to 9:15
 7. Please get your administrative commitment pledges in to our treasurer.
 8. Meal rates will go up \$1.00 per meal effective immediately.
 9. Entertainment books available for one more week only at a discounted \$20 each.
 10. Please detail your service opportunities on the back of the attendance cards. Too much information is far more valuable than not enough information.
 11. Bob and Jan thanked everyone for their kindness and generosity in the recent passing of Bob's mother.
- Clair Fisher introduced the guests. Seven outstanding high seniors and their parents were introduced. We then offered



Pam Carmichael, Executive Director of Home, Inc., presented to club members at the December 7 meeting.

our "traditional hello" for everyone's enjoyment.

The weekly drawing was held and one of our guests Lynn Casady won \$51 and promptly turned around and donated it right back to Kiwanis. Wow!

Bob Mitchell introduced our guest speaker, Pam Carmichael, Executive Director of Home Inc. Pam gave an excellent overview of this non-profit local group that offers counseling on community housing services to owners, tenants, and landlords. The supportive services offered, along with completion of over 30 houses every year, provides an extremely valuable service to our community.

We closed the meeting with one last Christmas song and a wise quote from our president.

TIDBITS FROM THE DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

- The Board was advised of an increase in lunch prices from the Fort Des Moines Hotel that would be effective the first of the year. As a result, meal prices will increase \$1 per meal, or \$13 per quarter effective January 1st.
- The Northwest Club also has an electronic newsletter. Any member wanting to be on the Northwest Club's email distribution list should contact Paul Woodard.
- Member Pat Stockton has two great seats for the Iowa/Illinois basketball game on January 7th. The tickets will be auctioned off with the proceeds going into our administrative fund. Be sure to be present at the December 28th meeting to get in your bid.
- KUDOS TO EVERYONE who worked on the 2005 Basketball Jamboree! While final numbers aren't in yet, it looks like we grossed nearly \$40,000. This is fantastic!
- Lois Smith Underwood reported that a new K Kids Club is in the works at Windsor Elementary School in Des Moines. The Board approved \$150 to advance this new club. We will need a club liaison—so please volunteer!



President Chris, Dave Turnball and Sharon Ewell provide the music for a couple of Christmas songs at the December 7 meeting.

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2005-2006 Officers

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One Year

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Lu Dooley

Irene Tarczynski

Charlie Taylor

Two Years

Allen Green

Ed Linebach

Pat Stockton

Michelle Wall

Did you know that...

By Jan Burch, Publicity Chair

- THANKS to all of you! Jamboree program ad sales did extremely well this year! We blew past our goal of \$15,000. Final report should be in our next issue. The kids at the House of Mercy and all of our campship recipients thank YOU!
- Your board officially approved its support of the newly forming Ankeny Kiwanis Club and is sending off a check for \$100 to Kiwanis International to make it official. Please put the new club's weekly meetings on your calendar and plan to attend—Thursday noons, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, SW Des Moines Street, Ankeny, \$7 for lunch. Contact Bob Mitchell if you can attend one of the upcoming meetings. The new club needs our continuing support.
- We still need a few volunteers to ring bells for the Salvation Army on Tuesday, December 13th. Please contact Sharon to find out when you can help.
- Member Al Knudsen has really been busy with the Tenth Annual Jolly Holiday Lights. Our club is helping out Wednesday evening, December 14th. Give Al a call at 246-8240 if you can help.
- Thanks to Bob Mitchell and Jan Burch for conducting “new member orientation” for two of our newest members, Bill Stirlor and Melinda Berte, on December 7th. Another session will be scheduled soon. Any member is welcome to sit in at one of the next sessions.
- And thanks to Steve Scott and Don Wiebold who represented us at the November 19th Division 13 & 16 Council meeting. Conducted by Division 13 Lt. Governor Max Harland, the group shared much information about Kiwanis happenings in the two divisions. Past Lt. Governor Mary Langdon also presented a possible plan for re-aligning the two divisions. This will be discussed again at the next meeting on January 16th.



1915-2005

Kiwanis of Des Moines, IA

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