



Des Moines Kiwanis Newsletter

Nebraska-Iowa District Newsletter
Sweepstakes Winner, 2004-05

Home Club of Past
International President
Stephen Siemens

Wks of Feb 27 & Mar 5 & 12, 2008

www.downtowndesmoineskiwanis.org



We need your help!

If you haven't made a contribution/pledge to our Miracle League project, there's still time to do so. Our goal is to raise at least \$150,000 from Kiwanis members so that we can name our project after Kiwanis. Over 50% of our members have contributed—our goal is 100%!

Contact any of our members on the Fundraising Committee—John Keck, Carol Stone, Steve Scott, or Al Knudsen SOON.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

11:45 a.m.—1:00 p.m.,

*inPlay, 615 Third Street,
Downtown Des Moines*

**Feb 27—GREENWOOD
READING, 316-37th St, or
ROUNDTABLE, Down-
town Holiday Inn**

Assignments include:

Podium: Jan Burch

Invocation: Ken Hayes

Photographer: Bob Mitchell

Roundtable Set-up: Melinda Berte

**March 5—BASKETBALL
JAMBOREE APPRECI-
ATION LUNCHEON**

Podium: Jan Burch

Invocation: Dave Turnball

Set-up: Ron Heggen & Michelle Wall

Greeters: Todd Pugh & Sherry Felton

Song Leader: Carol Burt

Photographer: Bob Mitchell

Reporter: Ron Heggen

**March 12—MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH MEETING,
STEVE SIEMENS**

Assignments include:

Podium: Jan Burch

Program Facilitation: Steve Siemens

Invocation: Melinda Berte

Greeters: Tim Rabenberg & Mike Lacey

Set-up & Take-down: Ober Anderson

Photographer: Bob Mitchell

Song Leader: Carol Burt

Reporter: Ron Heggen

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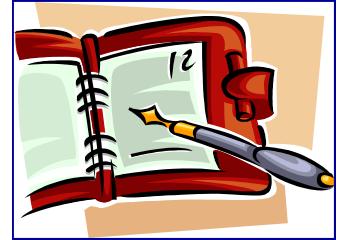
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OUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Updated February 23, 2008

*Join Us at inPlay/Forte Conference Center
615 Third Street, Downtown Des Moines*



- Feb. 27 **Regular Meeting: ELL Reading** to Greenwood Elementary School kindergartners, school library, 316-37th Street, Des Moines, or **Roundtable** at Downtown Holiday Inn, Sixth Avenue & I-235.
- March 4 Division Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Plymouth Congregational Church, Waveland Hall. Meal cost is \$9. RSVP to Paul Greenwalt, Lt. Governor, Judypaul1@msn.com or 515 279 2383.
- March 5 **Regular Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., inPlay, 615 – 3rd Street. This is our **Annual Basketball Jamboree Appreciation Luncheon**. Corporate sponsors, basketball officiators and referees are invited. Miracle League presentation by **Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute**.
- March 6 **Miracle League Board of Directors Meeting,** 7:30 a.m., West Bank Conference Room, 22nd & I-235, West Des Moines. Carol Stone, host.
- March 7 **Basketball Jamboree Committee Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., Private Dining Room, Iowa Lutheran Hospital. Sam Gelb, chair, presiding.
- March 8 Nebraska-Iowa District Mid-Year Conference—**K University**, all day, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs, Iowa, featuring Rob Parker, executive director, Kiwanis International. Plan to attend—you'll get a "Kiwanis high!"

Johnston Kiwanis Pancake Festival, Wallace Elementary School, 6510 NW 62nd Street, Johnston, 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., \$5@. Also **Altoona** Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast for Little League signup. 7-11:30 at Ss John and Paul Church 113 13th St. SE, Altoona, \$5@.
- March 12 **Regular Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., inPlay, 615 – 3rd Street. Special Membership Growth Meeting. **Steve Siemens**, membership chair, is facilitating.
- March 14 **Monthly Board Meeting,** 11:45 a.m., Iowa Lutheran Hospital private dining room. Jan Burch, president, presiding.
- March 19 **Regular Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., inPlay, 615 – 3rd Street. Speaker is Sam Amdursky, executive director, Des Moines Public Library. Program arranged by Marty Kenworthy.
- March 20 **Miracle League Board of Directors Meeting,** 7:30 a.m., West Bank Conference Room, 22nd & I-235, West Des Moines. Carol Stone, host.
- March 26 **Regular Meeting: ELL Reading** to Greenwood Elementary School kindergartners, school library, 316-37th Street, Des Moines, or **Roundtable** at Downtown Holiday Inn, Sixth Avenue & I-235.
- April 2 **Regular Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., inPlay, 615 – 3rd Street. Speaker is **Jeff Rowland**, Lake Red Rock Fishing Guide and author of newly published book, The Reel Adventures of A Marion County Angler. Program arranged by Ober Anderson.
- April 3 **Miracle League Board of Directors Meeting,** 7:30 a.m., West Bank Conference Room, 22nd & I-235, West Des Moines. Carol Stone, host.
- April 4 **Basketball Jamboree Committee Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., Private Dining Room, Iowa Lutheran Hospital. Sam Gelb, chair, presiding.
- April 5 **Kiwanis One Day—**Kiwanians around the world will be working in their communities. Watch for further details!
- April 9 **Regular Meeting:** 11:45 a.m., inPlay, 615 – 3rd Street. Speaker TBD. Program arranged by Ober Anderson.
- April 11 **Monthly Board Meeting,** 11:45 a.m., Iowa Lutheran Hospital private dining room. Jan Burch, president, presiding.
- April 16 **Regular Meeting: ELL Reading** to Greenwood Elementary School kindergartners, school library, 316-37th Street, Des Moines, or **Roundtable** at Downtown Holiday Inn, Sixth Avenue & I-235.
- April 17 **Miracle League Board of Directors Meeting,** 7:30 a.m., West Bank Conference Room, 22nd & I-235, West Des Moines. Carol Stone, host.
- June 25-28 **Kiwanis International Convention,** Orlando, Florida
- Aug. 8-10 **Nebraska-Iowa District Convention,** Marriott Hotel, Coralville, Iowa.



March Birthdays

- 12—Steve Scott
- 14—David Bear
- 22—Al Bjork
- 31—Dave Strief





It's 10 pm—Do You Know What Your Children Are Doing?

By Dave Strief, Reporter

Jan Burch presided at our February 13th meeting. **Tom Pflanz** gave the invocation and Carol Burt led the singing. She reminded us of the upcoming Basketball Jamboree Appreciation luncheon on March 5. The Leadership Class of the Greater Des Moines Partnership will be the program. K University will be presented as the District's Mid-Winter Conference on March 8 in Council Bluffs. ALL members were encouraged to attend. **John Keck** updated us on Miracle League Field progress and showed us drawings of the proposed restrooms/concession stand. We had two guests—Heather Culbertson, RDG, and Bob Miethke, RBC Dain Rauscher (a former president of our Club).

We Kiwanians who are so concerned with the welfare of children all across the world were stunned and saddened with the information we learned from our speaker. Child predation on the Internet is rampant and, unfortunately, successful. **Mike Ferjak**, an investigator with the Iowa Dept. of Justice and a lead investigator for a federal task force, presented a picture of this prevalent crime. It is more than pictures of naked children on the Internet. It is communication by sexual predators with unsuspecting children via Internet chat rooms and blog sites that leads to exploitation and assault on the children by the predators.

The typical predator targets 10 to 17 year old adolescents. These children unknowingly put too much information about themselves on Internet sites such as MySpace, FaceBook and Xanga. Predators are then able to communicate with these children, gain a sympathetic ear, and through this appearance of credibility begin the process of sexual solicitation and exploitation.

In the year 2007, one in seven children received aggressive sexual solicitation on-line. Investigator Ferjak said that we do not know the full extent of the crime and we cannot simply “arrest” our way out of the problem. Our goal, he explained, is to protect a safe childhood. Protection of our children must be the primary responsibility of any civilization. More and more children are abused daily and these children must live the rest of their lives with the trauma and wounds of being sexually assaulted.

Only a slight minority of children report sexual advances by a predator. The predator often links the child to a porn site. The children seem to be afraid to tell mom and dad for fear of having the computer taken away from them. What can parents and grandparents do to avoid these tragic and common events? Software is available at no cost to block porn sites. Parents must communicate with their children about the threats and dangers of Internet use, especially the danger and consequences of chatting with a stranger. Child use of computers must be within sight of parents and children must not be allowed Internet access alone in their rooms at night while parents are asleep. Most usage (and problems) occur between 9:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m.—obviously when parents are asleep!

Tell your innocent children (and grandchildren) that there is no such thing as a “safe web-site”. If your child can log-on, so can a predator. Do not deal with an offender yourself. As a parent or guardian, do not delete offensive communication and immediately report suspicion of predator action to law enforcement. The children of the world are the innocents of the world. We must be educated and alert to this growing violence against all children and learn to be a protector.

Thanks to **Russ Bitterman** for arranging this sobering and thought provoking program.



Mark Ferjak not only highlighted the Internet predator problem, but gave some good words of advice—know what your children/grandchildren are doing between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m.



Meet Michael J. Miller

By Kristen Boyles

Michael J. Miller was born on April 25, 1976. He grew up on a farm outside of Strawberry Point, Iowa (northeastern Iowa). After graduating from high school, Michael attended the University of Iowa for both his undergraduate and law school studies. After graduating from law school in 2002, he worked in Cedar Falls, Iowa at a law firm until March 2007, when he and his wife, Whitney, moved to West Des Moines. Michael currently works at Patterson Law Firm, L.L.P., where he is an associate attorney in the firm's litigation department. Outside of work, he enjoys writing fiction and poetry, golfing and spending time with his wife, Whitney. "Mike" is sponsored by Mike Lacey and Greg Wilson. Welcome, Mike!

MEET SCOTT PIERCE

As Told by Scott to Melinda Berte

I joined Kiwanis because I owe Kiwanis a great deal. My high school days were shaped in large part because of my involvement with Key Club. I was the District Secretary for the Illinois-Eastern Iowa district in 80-81 and my older brother was Governor in 78-79. We both matured and gained confidence through our Key Club involvement.

I have been married for 19 years. It will be 20 in June. We have a son, Will, who will turn 10 this March. I am a former radio sports announcer who still does Drake University football and women's basketball play-by-play. My current occupation is as a representative for Adventures In Advertising, a promotional products company in Des Moines.

I know that's more than one paragraph. You'll learn that about me! (Scott's sponsor is Ed Linebach.) Welcome, Scott!





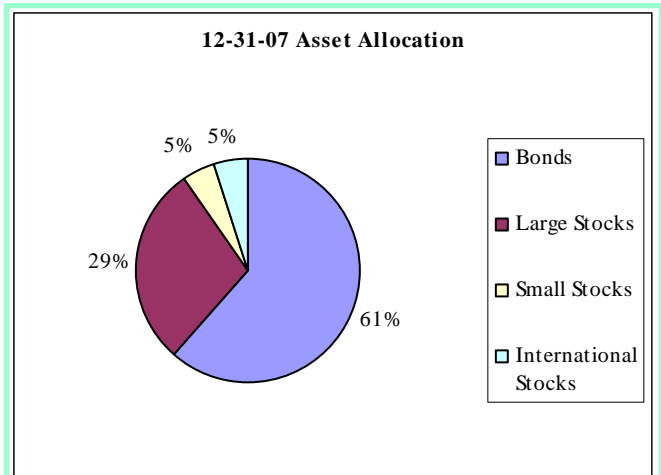
Kiwanis Club of Des Moines Foundation Year-End Financial Report

December 31, 2007

Total Portfolio		
	2007	2006
Beginning balance	96,610	-
Contributions	-	81,244
Additions	200	9,082
Exchange Interest and dividends	-	-
	3,470	2,994
Realized gain (loss)	1,381	614
Gain (loss)	2,721	2,677
Withdrawals (pmt to MLeague)	(3,976)	-
Ending balance	100,406	96,610

Total Return of the Portfolio	7.99%	7.75%
S&P 500	5.50%	15.81%
S&P 600	-0.30%	15.11%
MSCI	11.62%	26.88%
Lehman Intermediate Treasury	8.87%	3.50%
Weighted Benchmark	7.54%	8.94%

Portfolio Components					
	Int Term Treas	500 Index	SmCap Index	Intl Index	Win- dson II
12-31-07 Balance	61,957	14,603	4,731	5,050	14,064
12-31-07 Return	10.24%	5.32%	1.29%	14.35%	2.32%
12-31-06 Balance	55,858	15,034	4,940	5,364	15,415
12-31-06 Return	3.42%	12.21%	10.42%	20.89%	15.34%
12-31-07 Allocation	62%	15%	5%	5%	14%
Target Allocation	60%	15%	5%	5%	15%



Our Foundation Board of Directors received the year-end update on the financial condition of our Foundation at our February board meeting. **Carol Burt**, treasurer, provided the above analysis, showing a nearly 8% gain for the year ended December 31, 2007. These numbers reflect the results of our three-year endowment fund campaign—with a goal to increase the value of the fund from approximately \$70,000 to \$100,000 in three years. Thanks to Foundation Investment Committee chair, **John Keck**, and members **Dave Strief, Carol Stone, Carol Burt, Steve Scott, Jan Burch, Jill Olson, Michelle Wall, and Marty Kenworthy** for their attention and work on this most important Club matter.



March 12 Is Our Quarterly Membership/Growth Meeting



You've invested in a child's future by joining Kiwanis.

Ask a friend or colleague to our March 12 meeting so that others can reap the many rewards of Kiwanis membership. **ALL YOU** have to do is make the ask!



Contact Steve Siemens (steve@thepeoplebuilder.com) if you'd like a written invitation sent to your guest.

Kiwanis University is coming to a town near you!

The annual Ne-la Mid Winter Conference is Saturday, March 8th and we have the unique opportunity to experience K University.

Just what is K University? Well, it's a one-day "traveling road show" of workshops and forums focused on team building, motivation, communication, and managing change, that is facilitated by Kiwanis leaders and professional staff. These folks will guide sessions and discussions on a variety of issues, including Kiwanis' future, adjusting to change, membership recruitment, service, and more.

Plan to attend, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs (adjacent to Horseshoe Casino and Bass Pro). Cost is \$50, but will be picked up by our club. Thus far, we will be represented by Melinda Berte, Carol Stone, Michelle Wall, Ed Linebach, Bob Mitchell, and Jan Burch. We will also have a display table updating all attendees about our Miracle League project. Contact Jan Burch for further registration details. Let's have a large contingent of Des Moines Kiwanis members attending.



CLUB HAPPENINGS

- Our **2007-2008 Roster of Members** is now available. Copies will be handed out at Wednesday meetings.
- February Board notes: 1) Accepted final report of Martens & Company, external auditors. This will facilitate filing 501c3 application for Miracle League and needed for various grant applications. 2) Determined next membership meeting will be March 12. Membership committee will be meeting, most likely to follow similar format as first two meetings. 3) Special Request committee recommended contribution to Young Women's Resource Center and board approved \$125. 4) Discussion about Kiwanis One-Day (global workday on April 8); we most likely will have a workday at Wildwood Hills Ranch again, but probably not until mid-May; and 5) Received the year-end report from our Investment Committee on the status of our Foundation account (see page 5 for full report).
- **Continue to save your** aluminum can pop tabs (for Ronald McDonald House), Box Tops for Education from Pillsbury products, Kleenex and cereal boxes (for elementary schools), and empty printer cartridges (for the Heart Connection camp). Aluminum pop-tops raised over \$40,000 last year—money that Ronald McDonald Charities used for local community grant requests. Pick up a Ronald McDonald "house" for your home and company break room—makes collection of the pop tabs real easy! Our Greenwood K Kids are collecting tabs by the thousands. **YOU** can, too...
- Watch for details about our newest members, **Bob Mithke, Jason Miller, and Justin Doyle** in the next issue of this newsletter!
- Congrats to McGowen Hurst Clark & Smith, PC for being named 2007 Employer of the Year by the West Des Moines Chamber. Our member, **Tom Pflanz**, is a shareholder of the firm.
- **Red Barrel** Update: Thanks to our involvement and the involvement of other metro Kiwanis clubs, area **Red Barrels** brought in **134,502** food items to the DMARC Food Pantry for 2007. We're responsible for the **Red Barrel** at the Dahl's at 35th & Ingersoll. Contact **Ron Heggen**, **Red Barrel** chair, if you'd like to help.
- Our February 6th regular meeting was canceled due to a snow storm. Can anyone remember a time that we have canceled a meeting due to inclement weather?
- Member concerns:
 - **Ron Heggen's** wife, Ila Mae, who continues to recover from heart surgery.
 - **Wes Greve's** special friend, Aileen, also continuing to recover from a mild stroke.
 - Our condolences to **Don and Doris Wiebold** on the death of Doris's brother on or about the 7th of February.



MEET RETURNING MEMBER WES GREVE

BY KEN HAYES, CHIEF OF REPORTERS

Wes is a former member of Des Moines Kiwanis and we are certainly glad to have him back with us. Wes is retired from the Best Western Hotel in Ankeny and is currently manager of Z's Bar and Grill at the South Des Moines American Legion. His hometown is Ankeny. He attended college at Iowa Lakes of Emmetsburg, Iowa. He still enjoys playing golf as we remember from his former time as a member of our club. Wes is a member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Urbandale. His sponsor is Michelle Wall. Welcome back, Wes!



MEET NEW MEMBER JARED MAST

By Kristen Boyles

Jared Mast is a Financial Services Professional with Mass Mutual Financial Group. Born and raised in Colfax, he graduated Colfax-Mingo Community High School in 1997. He then attended Grinnell College, graduating with a double major in Psychology and Political Science. Having felt the charge to help and serve others, Jared worked with adjudicated juvenile delinquents at Woodward Academy for three years. He joined the Colfax

Kiwanis Club in January 2007 and transferred to our Club after seeing all that we are involved in here in Des Moines. Jared is excited to be a part of Des Moines Kiwanis, and looks forward to building relationships and strengthening the community. His sponsor is Bob Mitchell. Welcome, Jared!



*Every child deserves
the chance to play
baseball.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28 & MARCH 6, 7:30 a.m., West Bank I-235 & 22nd Street, West Des Moines

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: THE FIRST SET OF DRAWINGS ARE COMPLETE AND READY FOR OUR MEETING WITH THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE ON MARCH 5. COME TO A WEEKLY MEETING TO GET A PREVIEW OF THE "LITTLE SISTER" TO PRINCIPAL PARK

FUND RAISING: COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAVE VISITED ALL BUT ONE OF THE METRO KIWANIS CLUBS IN OUR EFFORTS TO RAISE \$150,000 FROM KIWANIANS—TO SECURE NAMING RIGHTS. THUS FAR WE HAVE RAISED ABOUT \$145,00 INCLUDING 2006 BASKETBALL JAMBOREE/RONALD McDONALD CHARITIES MONEY. **YOUR PLEDGE IS STILL VERY MUCH NEEDED.** PUBLIC/CORPORATE FUNDRAISING AND GRANT REQUESTS HAVE ALSO BEGUN.

NEW ML COMMITTEES BEING FORMED: WE NEED YOUR INVOLVEMENT ON OUR PLAYERS/PARENTS COMMITTEE. CONTACT ED LINEBACH. AND WE NEED A COMMITTEE FOR GROUNDBREAKING AND OPENING DAY CEREMONIES! CONTACT JAN BURCH.

**WE'RE GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER TO
MAKING THE FIRST MIRACLE LEAGUE FIELD IN
IOWA A REALITY!**



**Home Club of Past International
President Stephen Siemens**

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Des Moines Kiwanis
505 Fifth Ave Ste302
Des Moines, IA 50309-2333
515-282-9045
BurchHR@aol.com

TO:

Editor/Pagination/Layout:

Jan Burch

Chief of Reporters:

Ken Hayes

Web Services Provided by:

SMV Associates

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A Kiwanis Moment...

Sometimes a Kiwanis Moment is as simple as a spring flower in the California sunshine. Or perhaps a view of Mount Baldy from one's back yard.

Thanks to our former president and member, Chris Williams, for these reminders of peace and tranquility in a fast-paced world.



These are special moments.

Kiwanis Moments Are Extra Special...

