

Kiwanis®

Burlington, Iowa

Serving the Children of the World®

October, 2011

Burlington Kiwanis **BurlingtonKiwanis.org**

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Dear Fellow Kiwanians,

For my first newsletter article I have below my comments from last Thursday for those that weren't in attendance or those that nodded off (as my wife would suggest may have been many).

As most of you know my forte is not public speaking, however as my Special Advisor Dave Vavroch suggested "It's not what you say but what you do". So my comments today will be short with little to say about what we are or should be doing this year.

My induction as your President on my 68th birthday is met with mixed emotions. On one hand I'm honored to serve this great club as President while on the other I'm concerned I will not serve adequately or measure up to the standard set by our past presidents. As the Boy Scout Oath says "On My Honor I will do my Best", I pledge to you I will do my best to serve this great club at the level it deserves.

I joined the club as a result of being a program speaker in 1982 soon after returning to the area. Having already spoken at Lions, Optimist and Rotary, I was amazed by how much more this club had going for it. The things that electrified me then (Service to the Community, Diversity of the Membership plus the Fun/Fellowship) continue to impress me today and keep me involved 30 years later.

One of my challenges to our new SA is to plan activities that will allow us to get to know each other better. So here's a quick overview of my life to date:

I grew up in Morning Sun, wore patched jeans to school, worked an hour before high school washing the dishes and cleaning the house as my step-mother had 3 girls in diapers (in fact I've changed more dirty diapers than most mothers have done in a lifetime). My father was a plumber/well driller and drilled into me the importance of working hard and being good to your word. I never felt I measured up to his expectations but discovered my senior year I did have some positive qualities when I went to work for a farmer who saw in me many qualities I didn't realize I had. After 2 years at Wesleyan (self funded with a small scholarship) I got married (lasted a year), had a son and went to work for the IAAAP in the Research & Development Dept. After 2 years at the plant I came to the realization that I needed to find an occupation that not having a degree wouldn't be a deterrent. My manager at the plant advised me to either start my own business or go into sales. I did both - going to work for NCR in accounting machine and computer sales in 1966 and bought my first rental property in 1977. I married Beverly in 1967 and in 1969 returned to NCR after serving in the Army at Ft. Lewis, Washington as a Drill Sergeant (another story for later). After living in Tacoma, Wa for 3 years and Salem, Or for 13 years, we made a decision we wanted to come home and I

committed to Beverly we wouldn't move again. And even through I commuted to Milwaukee for 5 years in the early 90's, we lived on West Avenue for 25 years before moving 2 years ago to River. I retired from NCR after 30 plus years in 2007 but continue to dabble at my real estate and stock investments.

I struggled with choosing a slogan for the year but ran across a quote recently by Winston Churchill which hit me between the eyes as a great reminder of what Kiwanis is all about "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." My wish is that we all have this type of attitude of giving as we work together throughout the year to make this a better club and community.

Following is the text to the video I closed with last Thursday which will be my reminder this year to be strong and "Seek greatness, one day at a time". May it also be a reminder to our club that "Greatness comes slowly, with patience, guided by vision, shaped by ability, polished by practice".



"Ride The High Places!"

Here's the complete text of the video that was played during Thursday's meeting.

One creature was made to "ride the high places", to soar where the air is thin, to reach heights no others can reach, to fly free above the crowd. This creature is the EAGLE!

Since the beginning of time, the eagle was honored. The Sumerians released an eagle at funerals to carry the departed spirit to the heavens. The Greeks thought of the eagle as a messenger from Jupiter because no creature flew higher. The Romans called the eagle "Aquila". Caesar's legions carried the sym-

bol of the eagle on banners of the vast Roman Empire.

A likeness of the eagle has graced the flags of nations, the prows of great sailing ships, the nameplates of high-flying airplanes, and the cockpit of the first manned craft to land on the moon.

The noble eagle mates for life, builds its nest (called an 'aerie') in the tops of trees or on cliff side ledges. The aerie spreads wider than a man's reach, room for the great eagle to stretch its 7-foot wings. An eagle's wings have the strength to lift heavy loads, the power to fly at highway speeds, and the stamina to keep the mighty bird aloft for hours.

This feathered embodiment of strength and independence is the envy of all creatures and the symbol of our nation. It stands for freedom. It stands for character. It stands for the values all great men and women strive to achieve. The eagle reaches for the summit, often alone, but never lonely.

From its vantage point high above earthbound creatures, the eagle looks beyond the horizon, its vision enhanced by the lofty position. It sees clearly what most can only imagine. It sees both good and evil, but chooses goodness. It sees both great and small, but chooses greatness. It sees both freedom and oppression, but chooses freedom.

The graceful eagle spreads mighty wings to climb above the mountains. Once aloft, the wise eagle senses supporting currents on warm air, and glides on them effortlessly, saving its great strength, soaring around dangerous downdrafts and riding the "high places".

With vision broadened by perspective, the eagle selects goals carefully. It can see a mouse darting across the meadow far below, a fish swimming beneath the ripples. The powerful bird trims its mighty wings, twists and turns them ever so slightly to guide its descending body, extends sharp talons, and the once tranquil creature becomes a screaming mass of muscle, focused on a single point, plunging in a straight line toward that goal.

The eagle's singleness of purpose begins with vision. But no creature is born with the vision of an eagle, not even an

eagle. The young bird is helpless. It must be fed and nurtured and taught by its parents. Every eagle learns greatness one step at a time, just as every great symphony is composed one note at a time and every great book takes shape one word at a time. Greatness comes slowly, with patience, guided by vision, shaped by ability, polished by practice. Day by day, the eagle learns to reach for the sun. Even when the weather turns bad, the eagle learns. The storm is a challenge, a test of skills, an opportunity to grow, develop, and strengthen those skills. Storms bring out the eagles!



The eagle calls out to us, "Come ride the high places. Look up. Climb to the tops of mountains. Look beyond the horizon. Your wings are knowledge, foresight, understanding. Expand your vision each day. Learn from those who go before you. Seek your own greatness, one day at a time. Observe from the high ground. Set your goals high. Focus your efforts on them. Stand above the crowd. Choose your values carefully. Values are warm, rising currents of air. High values carry you upward. Soar with them, and you soar effortlessly. Steer clear of the downdrafts. They pull you down. When trouble comes, as it surely will, let every storm bring out the eagle in you."

In an aerie, an eaglet hears its parents' call. Now, these eaglets are dependent, but one day at a time they build their strength, choose their goals. Soon, they will test their wings, first near the safety of the nest, and then upward in the clear, blue sky, and finally in the heart of the storm.

The majestic eagle shows the way. Come -- ride the high places!

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Dennis Wilson, President 2011-2012

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

Committee Chairs

Your club leadership team will meet October 18 to discuss our plan of action and goals for the year. If you have input on programs or goals please contact me soon with your suggestions.

Coats & Boots for Tots
Jim Corder,
Dictionary and Thesaurus,
School Nurse Program
Jim Garnjobst
Hospital Dolls
Mary Delzell
Highway Cleanup
Jon Hart,

Paint-A-Thon
Jerry Parks
Gumball Machines
John Dodge
Pancake Breakfast
Chip Readinger, John Bentler
Sunshine & Smiles Day
Sharon Graham, Deb Hatteberg
Santa Project
Tom Pilcher, Gary Young
Spin Art
Lynn Humphreys
Travelogue
Craig Gilchrist
Key Club
Lois Blythe, Wyman Weinbeck
Bingo/Turkey Day
Larry Turley,

Family Picnic
Michelle Schnicker
Finance
Linda DeFosse
Golf League
Bob Morgan
House Committee
Rocky Roxlau
Kiwanis Night Out
Karen Erickson, Heidi Van Winkle
Leroy Award
Ruth Ann Sandrock,
Bob Prall
Membership & Retention
Jim Corder & Jon Hart
Newsletter & Website
Kay Breuer
Publicity & Public Relations
Tim Agnew, Sharon Graham
Programs

David Weimer
Spiritual Aims & Invocations
Mike Orthel
Sports Day
Emily Stumpf, Bruce Widbin
Kid's Day
Emily Stumpf, Karen Erickson, Lynda Graham Murray
Kids Christmas Shopping Scrapbook
Lois Blythe
Large Project
Brandon Kipp
Young Children: Priority One
Pam Farr
Christmas in Summer
Lois Blythe & Dara Henneke
Special Advisor
Dave Vavroch

Burlington Kiwanis Budget

The annual Kiwanis Budget is a snapshot of how the club operates administratively. Please keep in mind the following items are for the operations of the club. There is a separate account that is a foundation, which our donations are distributed from.

Santa Photo Project

The Santa Committee met in August to start planning for the upcoming Kiwanis Santa Project. The project starts on Nov. 19 and ends on Dec. 24. We will be using the area in front on the Boogaloo Cafe once again, courtesy of Pzazz Entertainment Complex.

Among the improvements and changes are: a new event printer that will reduce printing costs and ease paper changes; continued sign/poster improvements and updating; several three hour shifts are replacing the two hour shifts to enable all of our shift slots to be filled; a slight reduction in the number of days and hours of operation. The committee is also investigating an improved backdrop behind Santa and decorations.



The Santa Project is in full gear and we are looking forward to a great Santa Project Season! We appreciate the hard work of all the volunteers who make this project a success every Christmas season.

Thank you, Co-chairs, Tom Pilcher & Gary Young and Technical Advisor, Phil Bartleson

It's Travelogue Time

Are there white elephants taking up room in your closets? Are the dust bunnies threatening to take over the promotional merchandise in your office? Do you want to make a number of people happy with little effort or expense while promoting your business or organization?

The Travelogue committee is needing inexpensive prizes to give away during intermission at the five programs scheduled for this program year. Approximately three hundred (300) season ticket holders will be holding their breath in anticipation of having a winning ticket pulled from the box while waiting to continue their vicarious adventures at each presentation. It is amazing how excited people become when they receive goodies such as calendars, road atlases, snow scrapers, umbrellas, Lance and Girl Scout cookies, coupons for pizza or photos, gift bags from businesses and organizations, Boy Scout popcorn, etc, etc, etc. Hopefully, my phone will be ringing, my email inbox will be overflowing, and I will need to borrow my husband's two ton truck to haul away all of the wonderful goodies that Kiwanis members will be donating for the Kiwanis Travelogue Series.

See me at the weekly Kiwanis meetings, call 309-627-2484 and leave a message, or email sjgraham6227@yahoo.com. Thank you for your consideration, time, and donations. Sharon Graham

Income

Membership Dues	68,000
Membership Fees	720
Meals (Guests)	1,500
Meals (Key Club)	0
Kiwanis Night Out	1,500
Sergeant of Arms	2,500
Kiwanis Golf	500
Interest	15

Total Income 74,735

Expenses

Meals	38,370
International Dues	14,100
Insurance	800
District Meetings	1,400
International Conv	2,600
Directory	700
Salaries/FICA	3,875
Supplies	800
Postage/PO Box	240
Feather Party	300
Lt. Gov & Gov	850
Membership	750
Web Site	250
Youth Scholarship	300
Kids Christmas	100
Scrapbook	50
Kiwanis Golf	500
Special Comm.	50
Kiwanis Night Out	5,500
Family Picnic	1,200
Sports Day	1,000
Newsletter	250
Key/Builders Club	750

Total Expense 74,735

Dictionary & Thesaurus Program

Every year the Kiwanis Club of Burlington gives all third graders in Des Moines County a dictionary and a Thesaurus to every seventh grader. This includes public, parochial and private schools in Burlington, West Burlington, Danville, and Mediapolis. We are able to do this through The Dictionary Project, a national non-profit organization, which offers the books at an affordable price.

Third graders received dictionaries because they are beginning to write papers and broaden their vocabularies. Likewise, the seventh graders will use their Thesauruses to select words to convey their thoughts while writing themes and book reports.

Kiwanis Members and Key Club Members visit the third- and seventh-grade classrooms and present the books to the students. There is a Kiwanis plaque in the front of all the books for the students to write their names on; and the books are theirs to take home, leave at school, or carry with them.

In the eight years of this program, we have presented over 7400 dictionaries and Thesauruses and introduced the Kiwanis Club to nearly every school child in the county. That represents almost 17 percent of the county population! Jim Garnjobst, Chair

The Kiwanis Club's School Nurses Program

The School Nurses Program focuses on school-age children who are in need of shoes, clothing, school materials, or other items. This program has helped school children for many years; however, before 1998 the program required many administrative approvals prior to a purchase, making transactions cumbersome for all involved. In 1999 the program was revised, cutting out all approvals and allowing the School Nurses to be the sole decision makers. By our giving the nurses (and one social worker) a Kiwanis-sponsored Target Charge Card, the School Nurses can solve a problem the same day it is discovered. The school nurse carries a charge card with his/her name on the card and they are able to take the child to Target and together pick out the items needed.

The nurses shoulder the heavy load while we pick up the bill. The children do not know where the gifts are coming from and we, as a club, enjoy the satisfaction of anonymous giving that is the pinnacle of all charity. Although there are limited funds available to the nurses, the program solves more problems in less time and the nurses are very grateful for our assistance. How many times are we able to solve a problem the day it is discovered? An average of 250 young people benefit annually at a cost of about \$18 each. What a bargain to assist 250 needy kids! This is one of the finest programs we support.

Your Board of Directors

Your Board of Directors approved a \$100 donation to the Burlington Women's Police Auxiliary for Safe Trick or Treat on October 31 at the Auditorium. There is an upcoming Key Leader training in October and there are several BHS Key Club students that are interested in going. The club will pay for 50% for up to four students to attend.

New member applications were approved from Mary Kuster, Sarah Sliwinski, Craig Ewinger. Please welcome them the next time you see them at a meeting. Mary, Sarah and Craig.....Welcome to Kiwanis!

Submitted by
Michelle Randall,
Vice President

Programs



Arranged by Dave Weimer

6 - Installation of Officers

13 - Debi Durham - Director of Iowa Partnership of Economic Progress

20 - Minister's Recognition Day, Russell Melby, CROP Walk/Church World Service

27 - Gary Metivier, KWQC News Director, Veteran's Honor Flight, The Greatest Generation.

Invocations

Arranged
by
Tom Rexroth



6 - Tim Agnew

13 - Gary Young

20 - Craig Smith

27 - TBA



PO Box 15
Burlington, IA 52601



October, 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6 Kiwanis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Officer Installations	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Kiwanis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress	14	15
16	17	18 Board Meeting 5 pm, The Drake	19	20 Kiwanis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Minister's Day	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Birthday Table Kiwanis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Veteran's Honor Flight	28	29
30	30					