

Kiwanis®

Burlington, Iowa

Serving the Children of the World®

December, 2009

Burlington Kiwanis *BurlingtonKiwanis.org*

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Merry Christmas!!!

I love saying that. It just never seems to get old. I'm not a happy holiday kind of guy or a season's greetings type of person. I am definitely a promoter of Christmas. And so is Kiwanis. By the time you read this the Santa project will be well on its way offering pictures for families and children. The Target Shopping spree will be assisting 35 children this year and the boots and coats for tots project took advantage of the early sales to help provide clothing for local children this winter. It's a great start to the Christmas season.

It's also a wonderful time to recall how significant Christmas is to a child. Do you remember the anticipation when you were young? Can you recall the sights, the sounds and the sweet aromas of your childhood years? Can you remember the one favorite toy that you cherished? I hope you can and I hope your Christmas memories are filled with laughter, nostalgia and treasured moments.

Unfortunately, that isn't always the case for the children in our community. As Kiwanians, we have the privilege, the opportunity and the responsibility to help make this Christmas significant for many families. We can be the helping hand, the gentle boost or the encouraging word this Christmas season. Your effort may help create the significant moment that a child looks back on in the years to come.

Maybe it's the family picture with Santa that a child cherishes through teary eyes in the years ahead because he remembers a happier time. Or perhaps it's the memory of having a gift to share with a brother or sister because it was specially wrapped by a Kiwanis member and given with love. Or maybe it's the new pair of gloves and boots that helped make the best snowman ever. You don't always know how significant your part is in helping a child but we do it because we care.

I know that many of you have already been working behind the scenes preparing for the busy season. Your tireless efforts do make a difference in our world. So often you ring the bells, take the pictures, and give of your time without anyone saying thanks. So please let me say it. Thank You! Thanks for being Christmas to so many children. Thanks for caring so much that you think of others before you think of yourself. Thanks for giving back a portion of that which has already been given to you. Thanks for being a Kiwanian, and thanks for answering the call to service.

Merry Christmas to you,
Craig Smith

Scholarship Project Completed

The largest Kiwanis project since we owned and operated a swimming pool has been completed. The Kiwanis Scholarship fund has reached its goal of \$100,000.

It started back in the 1990's with suggestions by Leroy Pease, that we make a fund of \$100,000 so the income could be used to help local children with college scholarships. And the irony of it all -- the memorial money from Leroy's passing was the money that put the fund over the \$100,000 mark.

With apologies to those whose name I have not been able to remember, here is the run-down. Leroy, as mentioned above, stirred and prodded those of us who were "going through the chairs" at the time, to get this fund started. I remember Bob Engberg, Larry Turley, Dan Wiedemeier, Jeff Rucker, Jim O'Neill and I, and am sure others, discussing this project. Finally, during my Presidency, 1996-97, the fund was approved by the board of directors and the project was on the way.

At that time there were numerous funds scattered around the community in financial institutions, left by Kiwanians, to be used for scholarship purposes. Eventually these funds reached a low level, in fact so low they could not be used for scholarships, and, with no provisions of what to do with the money which was left.

Jim Fisch stepped up and ran down all the heirs and got their permission to transfer the money that was left, into our scholarship fund. Jim reported to the board after approximately one year that his work had been completed, and there would be NO CHARGE.

In the early days we promoted the fund often and lots of members contributed for anniversaries, birthdays and memorials and we passed the collection plates at meetings. Funds were also transferred directly into the fund from club fund raisers.

One of those many activities which comes to mind was valet parking for Motorola dignitaries who were having a high level meeting. If memory serves me correct we received \$1000 for that project and had lots of volunteers for John Dodge's committee.

The best thing to come out of this effort is that our Kiwanis club can move on to a new and perhaps better project. It fell on my shoulders to appear at all the meetings where really GREAT ideas have come before the Club in the last twelve years, to urge the members to complete this project before taking on another one.

With the completion of this fund raising goal there is much more to do; how do we disperse these funds, should we raise our commitment to local scholars. My hope is a new committee be established by the board to look into the scholarship program. Look into every aspect and explore all kinds of possibilities and find out just how involved we want to be in our scholarship program now that our initial goal has been reached.

It's been a pleasure to serve – Rich Goughnour

Ding A Lings

On Friday, December 18 the Kiwanis Ding-A-Lings will be in action.

On that day, our club members will ring the bells at 5 locations for the Salvation Army. Tentatively, the locations will be HyVee on Agency, K-Mart, Shopko, and both entrances at Wal-Mart.

The hours will be from 10 AM until 4 PM and we need at least 2 members at each location. You are not limited to a one hour stint. If you want to participate for more than one hour, by all means sign up to do so.

No matter what the weather is, the fact that you are helping those less fortunate will be a feeling that will keep you warm. Tom Cameron is the chairperson for this project.

Address Change?

Send updates to
Secretary
Michelle
Williams

mwilliams@lisco.com
call 752.6027

Is there something you want to see in the newsletter?

Send article ideas by the 25th of each month to
Tom Cameron, Newsletter Editor,
tom@cameronins.com

or

Kay Sackville Breuer, Newsletter Designer,
kbreuer@growburlington.com

Here Comes Santa Claus...



Awestruck, big eyed and a smile from ear to ear, youngsters look on in amazement at Santa Claus.

Each year the Kiwanis Club has hosted Santa Claus for youngsters to sit atop his knee and go through their list! Thanks to many volunteer hours by club members, spouses, key clubbers and friends we are able to offer this great holiday tradition.

Volunteer opportunities include Santa Claus, cameraman, and helper for picture selection. If you are interested in volunteering contact Chris

Van Meter at 754.4447 or 753.6791 x 107. Dates and times are below and multiple shifts are offered each day.

Santa Claus Hours

December 4	3 PM	9 PM
December 5	10 AM	9 PM
December 6	10 AM	8 PM
December 11	3 PM	9 PM
December 12	10 AM	9 PM
December 13	10 AM	8 PM
December 15 - 17	5 PM	9 PM
December 18	3 PM	9 PM
December 19	10 AM	9 PM
December 20	10 AM	8 PM
December 21	10 AM	9 PM
December 22	10 AM	9 PM
December 23	10 AM	9 PM
December 24	10 AM	4 PM



What's Happening? @ Kiwanis Board Meeting

The Board approved a donation of \$500 to the Salvation Army.

Updates were also given in regards to Boots & Coats. \$2800 was raised last year to spend on this year. More than 50 requests have been made so far this school year. There will also be a collection taken at the December 3 meeting.

The Hospital Dolls Committee purchased 1 Spinnoza Bear with audio tapes to go to the Hospice House, 6 to 8 Mommy Bears that would go to the GRMC Nursery and the extra funds to purchase stuffed animals for EMS and emergency personnel.

In new business a request has been sent in to the District Office to sponsor a Builder's Club at Aldo Leopold Middle School.

Matt Shinn, Vice President Elect



Programs

Arranged by Tom Cameron

3- "Unreached" The Akolet Tribe of Papua New Guinea, Julie Smith

10 - Winter Activities, Amanda Delperdang, Des Moines County Conservation

17 - BHS Purlpleaires, Tonay Henman

31 - Kids Day, Kathy Dye

Invocations

Arranged by
Tom Rexroth



Invocations will be
announced at
club meeting.



PO Box 15
Burlington, IA 52601



December, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	Kiwanis Meeting 3 Noon, Comfort Suites "Unreached"	4	5
6	7	8	9	Kiwanis Meeting 10 Noon, Comfort Suites	11	12
13	14	15 Board Mtg Noon Fun City	16	Kiwanis Meeting 17 Noon, Comfort Suites BHS Purlpleaires	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Merry Christmas No Kiwanis Meeting	25	26
26	28	29	30	Kiwanis Meeting 31 Noon, Comfort Suites Kid's Day		