



PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter for October 24, 2021

SANTA DELIVERY 2021

Portage Lakes Kiwanis will continue the tradition that started in 1951 delivering gifts on Christmas Eve to children in the Portage Lakes area. Santa Delivery started with one sleigh and a small group of volunteers. It has now grown to 15 sleighs and over 150 volunteers covering most of the City of New Franklin and Coventry Township.

Please note this year the package drop off locations will be the Coventry Fire Department and the New Franklin Fire Department opening on Monday, December 6, 2021 from 8am to 8pm and closing at 5pm on Sunday December 19, 2021. The Kiwanis Civic Center will be open beginning Monday, December 12, 2021 from 10am to 8pm and closing at 5pm on Monday, December 20, 2021.

Gift packages are limited to **NO LARGER THAN THE SIZE OF A SHOEBOX**. There will be maps and delivery labels at the drop off locations. **PLEASE NOTE SOME ROUTE NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED.**

Sleighs will start out at 5pm from the Kiwanis Civic Center on Friday, December 24, 2021. Loud speakers will announce Santa's arrival to streets along the routes. Please have the children dressed and ready to greet Santa and have outside lights on to make stops easier to find.

Participating parents with physically challenged children who are not able to meet Santa on his sleigh are asked to call 330-644-8967 to make arrangements so these kids won't be missed.

Families outside the delivery area can see Santa at 5:45pm at Chase Bank, 5638 Manchester Road in New Franklin.

This long-standing Santa Delivery tradition is made possible through the continued support of Kiwanis Rose Remembrance Day.

CHARTER PARTY

The Charter Party was held at the Tudor House on Wednesday, October 13th. We had wonderful food catered by Lisa Geiger from Lala's and her crew, with plenty of fun, and fellowship. Our President Steve Hess was bid farewell and the gavel was turned over to incoming President Stanley Vaughan. Many thanks to the 2020-2021 Officers and Board of Directors, you did an amazing job leading our club and your service is appreciated. Welcome to the incoming crew, we look forward to a great year in making a difference in our community and in the lives of children. Did you know that our Club's charter was adopted in 1951; so this is our 70th Birthday!

We also honored eight members that earned the Legion of Honor Award for long time membership in 2021. Those are:

Tom Longworth 10/11/1951 - 70 years
Gene Cole 09/01/1976 - 45 years
Don Reilly 10/20/1976 - 45 years
John Schermesser 7/29/1981 - 40 years
Tom Burge 2/28/1986 - 35 years
Jim Davis 5/15/1991 - 30 years
Al Grzeschik 5/29/1996 - 25 years
Sam Reynolds 10/29/1996 - 25 years

Congratulations to these eight men; your service, commitment, and dedication to the Portage Lakes Kiwanis is admirable. Without you, our club would not be the success that it is today.





On Saturday, October 23, 2021, we held a Food Drive at the Civic Center. We received donations of food, school supplies, paper products, and more. We truly appreciate all of the goods that were brought in. These products will benefit our Blessings in a Backpack Program, the Coventry School District, the Manchester School District, Green Good Neighbors, Lockwood Church, BACM - Barberton Area Community Ministries, and Wednesday's Child. Donations can still be dropped off at the Civic Center any Wednesday we are meeting between 6pm and 8pm. Thank you to Dana Roderick the Food Drive chair, along with several other Kiwanis members that volunteered to unload and sort.

Do you know someone?

The Coventry Key Club is working on a few projects and are looking to help some people. Once a month on a Friday they will be having a meet-n-greet with retired military veterans. If you know someone who would benefit from this activity please let Al know.

They are also looking for senior citizens or disabled local residents to help them with outside cleanup, leaves, and light yard work. If you know anyone that needs a little help, please provide Al with their name and phone number. Al can be reached at (330) 524-2979 or email al@plkiwanis.org. Thank you.



Thank you to member Connie Vaughan for giving the kitchen at the Civic Center a good thorough cleaning. It really needed it and it looks great. Your efforts are appreciated.

KIWANIS TOWER DINNER

The Kiwanis Tower dinner will be held at the Civic Center on Wednesday, October 27, 2021. **DINNER WILL BEGIN AT 6:00PM.** There is no charge to attend this dinner. We will have a guest speaker that night as well, Melanie from the Summit County Prosecutor's Office will talk to us about scams targeting senior citizens. She will be joined by her pooch Avery, a trained service dog.



On Wednesday, November 10th, we will be meeting at The Dragonfly Winery, located at 215 Market Street W, Canal Fulton 44614. Please arrive by 6:30 pm. They have a good food menu and wine can be ordered by the glass or the bottle. It's always a fun time meeting at a different location. Come join us!

SAVE THE DATE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH

On Friday evening, November 19th, we will again have our Women's-Night-In which is a before the holidays gathering that will include an Ornament Exchange. It will be held at the Civic Center and will include; food, fun, and fellowship for all Kiwanis ladies that are members as well as the spouses of our men. Cathy, Dana, and Melissa will be hosting this event. Invitations with details will be sent out soon.

BIRTHDAYS:

10/2 Denise Goodwin
10/5 Rosanne Edwardson
10/9 Connie Nagy
10/9 Don Reilly
10/14 Frank Smith
10/23 Al Grzeschik
10/29 Jill Flagg Lanzinger

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

Tom Longworth - 70 years
Don Reilly - 45 years
Sue Fassoles - 27 years
Sam Reynolds - 25 years
Phil Pinnow - 15 years
Jeff Goodwin - 11 years
Debbie Rubino - 11 years
Chuck Seeley - 11 years
Jill Flagg Lanzinger - 7 years
Steve Barry - 6 years
Barry Terjesen - 5 years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

10/11 Frank & Bonnie Smith
10/14 Tom Burge & Polly
10/15 Dale & Cathy Dietz
10/31 John & Michelle Schermesser

KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS:

Please keep the following Kiwanians in special thought and prayer for health issues:

Charlie Kepnes
Joyce Longworth
Betty Seeley

If you know of any Kiwanis members that are in need of prayer, please let me know. I will be happy to add them to our prayer list.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- >October 27 - Kiwanis Tower Dinner with guest speaker**
- >November 3 - Regular Meeting & Board Meeting**
- >November 10 - Outing at the Dragonfly Winery 6:30 pm**
- >November 24 - No meeting! Happy Thanksgiving**

FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD:

- >November 19 - Women's Night In - Ornament Exchange Party**
- >December 24 - Christmas Eve Santa Delivery**
- >December 31 - New Year's Eve Party at Civic Center**

ALL ABOUT PLK...

Our club is currently meeting every Wednesday. You can join us at 6:30 pm for dinner, which is catered by Lukity's Restaurant, a full meal for just \$12.00, or you can attend any meeting which begins at 7:00 pm. We'd love to have you.

We meet at the Civic Center, located at 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron, OH 44319. Telephone number (330) 644-8967.

Our website is: www.plkiwanis.org and please check out our Facebook page too under Portage Lakes Kiwanis.

KIWANIS MISSION STATEMENT

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

Published on the first and third week of the month, Cathy Dietz, Editor.

