



PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

December 27, 2022

DECEMBER WRAP UP...

Wow did we have a busy holiday season. We began with Women's Night In, next was the Tree Lighting event, followed by Cookies with Kiwanis, and last but not least Santa Delivery on Christmas Eve. Our club has the **BEST** volunteers and none of this would have been possible without **YOUR** help. A million thanks to Santa Delivery co-chairs, Connie Nagy and Al Grzeschik, two amazing leaders.

SANTA DELIVERY



WOW what a night! Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who spend hours preparing for this big night! Thank you to the Santas and Elves who braved the elements to bring smiles to the children. Special thanks to COVENTRY and NEW FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENTS for allowing their facilities to be used for gift drop-off locations. A huge thank you to the SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT and the NEW FRANKLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT for their support to keep our Santa crews safe on the roads. Thank you to FRIESS WELDING for keeping our sleighs ready to roll. Also I want to thank GARDNER PIE COMPANY for their donations every year! Lastly, thank you to Bob Wilson from PAPA RONI'S for your donation to all of our volunteers. As the temperatures warm and our volunteers have thawed out, we would be remiss in not mentioning the significant impact the brave road crews had on our safety and success Christmas Eve. Thank you COVENTRY and NEW FRANKLIN ROAD DEPARTMENTS for your dedication to our cause. Your efforts brightened the holiday for many in our community. Thank you! See you next year!

Connie Gareri Nagy

Al Grzeschik

Santa Delivery Co-Chairs at Portage Lakes Kiwanis

COVENTRY TREE LIGHTING

The Coventry tree lighting was held on Sunday, December 4th. Our Club set up a table and greeted visitors, handed out FREE gloves and hats to those that needed them, and offered a much needed cup of hot chocolate on this chilly evening. We also passed out cookies, rice krispy treats and candy canes. Thank you to ALL club members that came down to help out. Also, a big thank you to everyone that donated hats and gloves, cookies, and candy canes. This was a wonderful community event.



COOKIES WITH KIWANIS

On Sunday, December 11th, our club sponsored Cookies with Kiwanis. This event was held at the Kiwanis Towers on Portage Lakes Drive and was a free event for the residents. We visited with them and had cookies, treats, and a small gift for each resident. Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special appearance too! Thank you to all volunteers that came down and helped and thank you to all that brought in appetizers and cookies. Rosanne Edwardson chaired this event and did an awesome job.





Please start saving shoes again! We will have another drive in the spring, but you can bring in shoes at any time and we can get a running start on this fundraiser. Our last drive brought in over \$1000 dollars and is a relatively easy way to raise additional monies.



The Acme Cash Back Community Program has ended. Please bring your receipts to the meeting on January 4th. This is the final date I can accept the receipts. Our club will get 5% of the total of receipts we present. So far, we have done pretty well, let's finish strong!

Until our January 4th meeting, for every Acme receipt you turn in you will get one ticket entered into a gift basket drawing to be held at our first meeting in January. The prize is a Bourbon Basket containing Kentucky Bourbon, a set of four 8 oz tumblers etched with the Kiwanis logo, and some chocolates. Bring in your receipts to be entered!

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING AT THE CIVIC CENTER THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28TH. ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS!

The first Division 16 meeting of 2023 will be held on Tuesday, January 17th at the Norton Community Center. Lt. Governor Vyrone Finney will be hosting the meeting. It is always nice to have our own club members present, so if possible, please plan on attending this meeting.

WELCOME **NEW MEMBERS**



On December 7, 2022 an induction ceremony was held for Mr. Jon Vielhaber. Al Grzeschik is Jon's sponsor, and the ceremony was presented by Rosanne Edwardson. Interesting fact...Jon's father was Rosanne's sponsor many years ago. We welcome Jon into the Kiwanis family. He is an amazing young man that will be a wonderful asset to our club.



On December 14, 2022 the induction ceremony was held for Shelly Somerville. Stanley Vaughan is Shelly's sponsor, and the induction ceremony was led by Tim Peterson. This sweet young lady has been active with our club participating in MANY events over the last year. We officially welcome her to the Kiwanis family. Shelly, in blue, is pictured here with her parents, members Stan & Connie Vaughan and President Larry Hunter.



We had thirteen members that had perfect attendance for the month of November. Each one received a can of peanuts that said "we are nuts about you, congratulations you got perfect attendance".

Cathy Dietz
Dale Dietz
Rosanne Edwardson
Al Grzeschik
John Hercules
Larry Hunter
Tim Peterson
Anthony Ponikvar
Marcia Ponikvar
Dana Roderick
Chuck Seeley
Stanley Vaughan
Connie Vaughan

BIRTHDAYS:

12/02 Dan Fouser
12/16 Jim Davis
12/24 Barry Terjesen

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

Frank Smith - 17 years
Cassandra Freeman - 17 years
Tim Peterson - 16 years
Bob Fowler - 7 years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

12/10 - Bob & Jenny Fowler



KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS:

Please keep the following Kiwanians in special thought and prayer:

Dr. Phil Pinnow

Frank Smith

Kay Lukac

If you know of any 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:

>December 28, no meeting, Happy Holidays

>December 31, New Years Eve Party at Civic Center

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

>January 4, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting

>January 17, Division 16 meeting / Norton Community 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 \$14.00, 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 and like 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.