



PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

February 26, 2023

Hippity Hoppity
EASTER
is on its way 

Our annual community Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8, 2023 at the Tudor House from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. The festivities will include games, balloon pop, fire truck visit, the Easter Bunny, the egg hunt, and much more. The Little Roaming Railroad will return to offer rides to both children and adults at no cost. The Egg Hunt will begin at noon. This free event is for families in our community. Our Kiwanis meeting on March 22nd will be dedicated to stuffing the thousands of eggs to be scattered on the lawn at the Tudor House. We need volunteers to assist on the big day, please let Egg Hunt chair Connie Nagy know if you will be able to help.



Saturday, March 25, 2023 we will host a Calendar Kick off Family Fun event at the Civic Center. There will be games, characters in costume, food, and much more. Come join us and bring your family, friends, grand-kids, or neighbors. This will be a fun time for all. Marcia Ponikvar and Shelley Betz are co-chairing this event. Details to follow.



Our new member induction ceremony was held at the Civic Center on Wednesday, February 15, 2023. Rosanne Edwardson led the ceremony.

Left to right, new members are:

Ryan Vaughan, son of members Stan and Connie Vaughan, is another familiar face within our club. Ryan has been around for several months participating in events and helping out around the Civic Center. Ryan's sponsor is dad, Stanley Vaughan.

Craig Betz, spouse of Shelley was also invited into the club by the Ponikvar's. Craig runs an automotive service in Canal Fulton and is interested in community service with our club. Craig's sponsor is Anthony Ponikvar.

Shelley Betz was invited into the club by member Marcia Ponikvar who is also Shelley's sponsor. She has jumped right in by participating in Santa Delivery and is co-chairing the Calendar Kick Off event with Marcia.

Kelley Nagy, daughter of member Connie Nagy has been helping with key events for several years, and has finally joined the club. Kelley is a teacher at Nolley School in Manchester, and her sponsor is mom, Connie.

We welcome these new members into our Kiwanis Family and look forward to working with them on our Kiwanis signature projects. Congratulations!



At our meeting on February 15th, Sarah Givens the Executive Director from Camp Quality Ohio came in to speak with us. Camp Quality is located at Inspiration Hills in Burbank, Ohio. They provide FREE year-round activities for children with cancer along with their families. All activities are community and volunteer run. Campers range in age from four to seventeen, and vary in stages of their treatment or remission. They are children who smile, laugh, play, and have dreams for a bright future. Surrounded by new friends that can relate, loving volunteers who care, and loads of fun experiences. They are one of the few national camps that allow siblings to participate in all the fun too! You can read more about the camp at their website www.campqualityusaorg/oh. Thank you Sarah for visiting with us, and thanks to Chuck Seeley for arranging their visit.

And speaking of speakers...we held our President's Day Showcase at the Civic Center on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. The evening featured fifteen amazing community leaders that gave us a brief overview of their Portage Lakes non-profit. The speakers included: Dana Roderick from the PLK Pirate Day, Marilyn Purdy from the Dragon Dream Team, Karen Harter from the Coventry AARP Chapter, Julia Moore from the Friends of the Portage Lakes Library, Bill Krills from Camp Y-Noah, Anthony Ponkivar from the Portage Lakes Purple Martins, Dave Ernst from the Portage Lakes Disc Golf Association, Mella Castner from the Akron Rotary Camp, Jeff Noble from the Portage Lakes Advisory Council, Sean Fremon from the Coventry Schools Foundation, Cheryl Luck from the Portage Lakes Branch of the Akron Public Library, Sarah Givens from Camp Quality Ohio, Gil Maringer from the Portage Lakes Antique & Classic Boat Show, Kelly Pariso from the Portage Lakes Polar Bear Club, and Steve Hess from the Portage Lakes Kiwanis.

It was a fantastic event and good to have a full house that evening. Many thanks to all the speakers, Kiwanians; Al Grzeschik, Cathy Dietz, Larry Hunter, Chuck Seeley, and Steve Hess for attending to all the details for the event to happen.



PRESIDENT'S DAY SHOWCASE



Congratulations to Kiwanian Jay Feldman who has earned his 40 year Legion of Honor Award. For many years Jay was an active Kiwanian that led different committees, served on the Board, participated in signature events, and loved to take pictures. Jay is now retired and resides in Florida with his wife Connie. Congratulations Jay!



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.



Dinner is served every Wednesday at the Civic Center at 6:30 pm. Many times we have left-overs so we will be boxing them up in meal size portions and selling them for \$5.00 each. They will make a great lunch or dinner for the following day. The food will not go to waste and the club will make a few extra bucks. It's a win win situation. Give it a try!

BIRTHDAYS:

03/01 Larry Hunter
03/03 Glen Sheets
03/07 John Schermesser
03/11 Jon Freeman
03/27 Cathy Dietz
03/27 Kay Lukac
03/30 Lisa Fouser

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

Lisa Geiger-Houck - 10 years
Devin Allman - 1 year

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

03/23 Jim & Marge Welton
55 years, Congratulations

KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS:

Please keep the following Kiwanians in special thought and prayer:

Dr. Phil Pinnow
Frank Smith
Betty Friess
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:

- >March 1, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting
- >March 15, Committee Meetings
- >March 18, Mid Year Education Day
- >March 21, PLK to host Division 16 meeting
- >March 22, Easter Egg stuffing
- >March 25, Calendar Kick Off event
- >March 29, Regular Meeting & Board meeting

A LITTLE FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD:

- >April 8, Easter Egg Hunt
- >May 29, New Franklin Memorial Day Parade
- >June 25, Buckeye Martin Fest
- >July 29, Pirate Day on the Lake
- >August 12, Dragon Boat Festival

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.

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