

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

October 2, 2009

Club Ends Banner Year with Kiwanis Night 2009

<p>Upcoming Programs:</p> <p>October 2, 2009 – Carousel for Kingsport, Bud Ellis</p> <p>October 9, 2009 – The Watt, Why, and How – Today’s Energy Issues, Isaac Webb</p> <p>October 16, 2009 – Dr. Jerry Blackwell, Cardiovascular Associates</p>	 <p><i>Members and their guest enjoy the MeadowView buffet.</i></p>	<p>By Jim Cornell</p> <p>The Kingsport Kiwanis Club concluded a successful with Kiwanis Night, held Sept 17th at Meadowview. Planned by the Kiwanis Night Committee and emceed by Chair, Everett Bond, club members and their guests were treated to an excellent meal, followed by closing remarks by President John Crawford and Lt Governor, Malcolm Sprinkle. Malcolm presented the Kingsport club with the Lt Governor’s banner which will hang at the Friday meetings for the next two years as John Crawford serves the KT-Division Lt Governor. Malcolm challenged the</p>
<p>October 23, 2009 – Dr. Wycoff, Dean of ETSU College of Public Health</p> <p>October 30, 2009 – Open (Please give suggestions to Program Committee.)</p> <p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p>Mark Your Calendar:</p> <p>October 7, 2009 – Annual Darrell Rice Golf Tournament, Cattails at MeadowView</p>	<p>club to support John in his two year term, just as the Bristol club supported him during his term. In his remarks, John Crawford thanked many members of the club, as well as, his Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for making 2008-2009 such a productive year.</p> <p>A highlight of Kiwanis Night was the awarding of the club’s two most prestigious awards, the Stewart Crosley Committee Chair of the Year Award and the Art Roper Kiwanian of the Year Award. The Stewart Crosley Award was given to Mark Addington for his work with the new Risk Management Committee. As President John told the group, “Mark and his committee had the daunting task of examining all the activities of our club to identify potential risks. The committee had to start from the ground up as no committee had done this before.” Mark also served as our club’s Risk Manager, a new position in all Kiwanis clubs.</p> <p>The Art Roper Kiwanian of the Year Award was given to Gail Preslar, chair of Membership Development Committee. President John told the group that “Gail has been a Kiwanis Leader for many years. She is also very active in the community.” The time she gives so freely to others exemplifies the spirit of the Art Roper Award. Congratulations to both Mark and Gail for their well-deserved recognition! <i>(See pictures below.)</i></p> <p>Kiwanis Night came to a close with the performance of storyteller/ singer Ed Kilbourne. Known by his nick name of “Grateful Ed”, he tickled funny bones with hilarious tales and amusing songs. It was a great ending to a lovely evening. Thanks Kiwanis Night Committee!</p>	



Outgoing/Incoming Board Approves More Equitable Dues Structure



2008-2009 Board of Directors. New officers and board members will be inducted at the October 2nd meeting.

By Jim Cornell

For much of the 2008-2009 Kiwanis year, the Membership Development Committee struggled with new member recruitment in the face of major economic challenges. Like many other civic organizations, Kiwanis was having difficulty attracting new members, especially younger prospects.

In addition to the difficult economic climate, new employees have not been given much encouragement to join a civic club. Fewer companies are willing to sponsor a corporate membership or allow an employee a bit of extra time away from work. Younger prospects are anxious to participate in meaningful community service, but many are reluctant to commit to quarterly dues of about \$179.

The Membership Development Committee began looking at alternatives, aided by Treasurer Barry Bailey, the House Committee chaired by Bob Clear and in-coming President Peter Raber. Past President John Crawford also provided input and support.

The current dues structure was adopted so many years ago that no one recalls just when and most members do not understand the inequities that have grown over time with this structure. It served the club well when the club's average member was younger and there were over 200 members. Now that the club has 109 members with 35 of them on senior status, the dues structure has become inequitable.

Here are some of the issues with the old dues structure: 1). If all members attended 100% of the lunch meetings, the club would gradually go bankrupt. 2). Active members who do not attend each Friday meeting pay an unfair proportion of the club's administrative expenses. 3). Senior members are not paying their fair share of the club's administrative costs. 4). A significant number of members do not attend Kiwanis Night, but their quarterly payments subsidize the evening for those who do attend. 5). The dues structure is a major barrier to new member recruitment and active member retention. *(top of next column)*

The Membership Development Committee examined a number of dues structures but finally recommended the one that seemed to best fit the club's current attendance pattern. It is based on club membership of 109 members, approximately a third of which are currently seniors. It assumes that active members will attend at least 60% of the meetings and senior members will attend 50%. It also assumes that only members attending Kiwanis Night will pay for that expense.

Under the new dues structure, all members will pay Kiwanis International and District dues, KI insurance and KI magazine costs. All members will also pay for the local club's administrative costs. These costs include such items as new officer training at District and International conventions, Lt. Governor expenses, administrative secretary, copying, postage, supplies, communications and publicity, speaker

meals and honorariums, prospective member meals, inter-club expenses, and awards. In addition to these local club expenses, the club also pays certain expenses to the Quality Inn to host meetings. Even though this cost is included in the meal charge, it would be a fixed expense even if no meals were eaten. All club members will share equally in paying for the hosting expense even if they do not come to the meetings.

The Membership Committee recommended that all members pay a fixed cost of \$88.50 per quarter. This fixed cost includes dues for all levels (local through international), insurance cost, and the magazine subscription, but does **NOT** include meals. Local dues are \$18.50 per quarter. For each meal that is eaten, all members will pay an additional \$6.70 per meal. If a member eats all 13 meals in a quarter, he/she would be billed for \$175.60 for that quarter ($\$88.50 + 13 \times \$6.70 = \$175.60$).

Guests and inter-clubs from other clubs will continue to be charged \$10.70.

There are several advantages to the new dues structure. It is fairer to all members, regardless of the number of meals consumed. If all members begin to attend each meeting, the club will have sufficient income to cover costs. If a member can not attend all of the weekly meetings, his/her quarterly expense may be less. Recruiting many new members would spread the club administrative costs over a larger base, thus reducing the administrative cost per person. When recruiting a prospective member, Kiwanis can show a lower base fee and a willingness to meet current realities.

Members who have questions about the impact of these changes should consult an officer or a Board member. The new dues structure begins with the new Kiwanis year, October 1st. Active members will be invoiced at the end of the 1st Kiwanis quarter for the new dues plus the actual number of meals eaten (about January 1st). Senior members are already invoiced in this manner.

Members may also visit the Kiwanis website www.kingsportkiwanis for examples of different scenarios the new structure may have on dues.

Kingsport Club Brings Home More Accolades from District Convention

By Jim Cornell

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport won two prestigious awards at this year's KY-TN District Convention, the Club Administrative Excellence Award and the Harper Gatton Inter-Club Award.

To win the Club Administrative Excellence Award the following requirements must be met **BY THE DEADLINES:**

1. 2007-08 Annual Club Report submitted, on-line, by Nov 15, 2008.
2. Every Official Monthly Report from October 2008 through June 2009 submitted on-line no later than the 10th of the following month.
3. 2009-10 Club Election Report submitted no later than June 1, 2009. The report **MUST** contain the correct name and mailing address of both the new club president and the new club secretary.

All District Dues paid on time within 30 days after receiving the invoice.

The club could not have won this award without the concerted efforts of Lee, Barry Bailey and Bill Grigsby. Committee Chairs are a tremendous support to Lee when they get their monthly reports in on time. She only has a few days to prepare the Monthly Report and send it to District.

The Harper Gatton Award is given to clubs with the highest number of inter-club visits in each membership category. The Kingsport Club falls in the largest category (101 members or more). Congratulations to the co-chairs of the Inter-Club Committee, Norman Sobel and David Light, for arranging so many fun Inter-Clubs during the year!

The club received ribbons to go on the club banner for these two awards.

Ladies from Kiwanis Towers Don Red Hats and Purple Dresses



Jerry Johnson didn't hesitate to say yes when Betty Souders called wanting a chauffeur for a special outing for the ladies of Kiwanis Towers to go to the Riverfront Restaurant for lunch recently. "Judy, the Kiwanis Towers manager was on vacation and I really didn't mind driving them in the Kiwanis Towers van or being the token male," said Johnson. The ladies had a great time in their purple dresses and red hats.

A group of Kiwanis volunteers rotates driving the bus each Friday from 9:30-11:00 taking the ladies to either Wal-Mart or Food City. The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport purchased the van for Kiwanis Towers and built the parking shed. The van has a wheelchair lift to make it handicapped accessible. Members who are interested in volunteering to help at Kiwanis Towers should contact Chuck Smith or Jim Finney.

Major Emphasis Still Needs Readers



Remember how special it is to read to a child?

By Jim Cornell

Can you believe it? It has already been eight years since the Major Emphasis Committee began the Reading Assistance Program with Kennedy and Roosevelt Elementary Schools. In 2000, The Major Emphasis Committee was challenged to find a new service project for the club – one with real impact and one that could utilize the skills of ALL our members. Like Kiwanis International Past President Don Canady said during his visit, "Clubs have no idea of the impact a program will make on the lives of young children." The Reading Program has had a major impact, not only on the kids, but on the Kiwanians who volunteer.

Jim Finney, the current chair of the Major Emphasis Committee, described the program, “Our Club has begun its eighth year of a Reading Assistance Program at Kennedy and Roosevelt Elementary Schools. Adult volunteers go to one of these schools for 30 minutes approximately every four weeks between the Monday after Labor Day and late March. While there they read to or, mostly, are read to by a student or perhaps several students, one at a time.”

“Our presence helps the students improve their reading skills, an important tool allowing them not only the benefits of reading itself, but of being able to master other subjects as well. The teachers tell us, too, that our being there and giving personal attention to the young students builds confidence in the children and allows us to serve as positive adult role models.”

“We have a total of nineteen three – member teams between the two schools. Cosmo Kiwanis currently staffs three of these teams at Roosevelt.”

Jim reports that some vacancies still need to be filled before the teams will be complete this year. A few more Kiwanians or members of their family are urgently needed to fill the vacant slots in the reading schedules and team assignments that are posted on the Kiwanis website. Helping a child to read is probably the best investment one can make in the community and a child’s future outlook. It is also extremely rewarding to all the Kiwanians who have participated. Those who are interested in giving just an hour of their time once a month so that a child can become a better reader and citizen, go to www.kingsportkiwanis.org and click on the Reading Program Info under the Menu on the left side of the screen. Everyone can give the gift of reading.

Jim told The Key that: “Kiwanis spends no money in support of this program but many person-hours. Many Kiwanians consider it the most important service we provide to the community, especially to the young children. I hope you can join us.”

Kiwanis Congratulations

Our club collected \$450 in support of the Robinson Builder’s Club project with Hope House. Hope House provides short-term residency for women in crisis who are pregnant. The funds will be used to buy diapers and other essentials for the babies. Thank you for your support of the Builder’s Club and Hope House.

Kiwanis Concerns

Mike Kelly had successful surgery on his rotator cup but has additional surgery scheduled for his back. Please keep Mike in your prayers for a speedy and full recovery.

Announcements

Cosmo Kiwanis has selected the Golden Corral as their permanent meeting location. If you attend one of their meetings, do NOT pay for your meal. Tell the cashier you are attending the Cosmo meeting. They will bill Cosmo and Cosmo will invoice our club.

Invite questions about Kiwanis by wearing a golf shirt (\$20) or a golf cap (\$6). Available at the secretary’s table.

Be sure to attend other Kiwanis Club meetings when you are out of town. It not only counts as a make-up, but you may pick up some new ideas. A club locator is available on the Kiwanis International website – www.kiwanis.org.

Remember to sign-in and record your service hours at each weekly meeting.

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport, P.O. Box 3506, Kingsport, TN 37664
<http://www.kingsportkiwanis.org>

Meetings: Friday Noon at Quality Inn (formerly Americourt Hotel), Kingsport

Celebrating our 85th year!