



# TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2007



### Upcoming Events

April 4, Wednesday	Board Meeting – Noon at Tuscanys
April 7, Saturday 7:30AM	Kiwanis One Day Project at Ervin Park – Painting and sprucing up the North Play area
May 2, Wednesday	Board Meeting – Noon at Tuscanys
July 4-8, Wed thru Sun	Kiwanis International Convention – Marriott RiverCenter, San Antonio Texas
August 10-12, Fri thru Sun	I-I District Convention - Giovanni's Convention Center, Rockford, Illinois

### Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

April 2	Ken Landeck
April 9	Jim Lee
April 16	Ben Mingo
April 23	Kathryn McCumber
April 30	John McDaniel
May 7	Betty Leonard
May 14	Art Moss
May 21	Barb Moss
May 28	No Meeting
June 4	Kevin Nolan
June 11	Dennis Opperman
June 18	Earl Pendergrass
June 25	Cliff Ponder

## **Don't Forget to Give Wayne Your March Volunteer Hours!**

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### **Meeting of March 5, 2007**

There was a total attendance of 26 members and 2 guests, Don Miller and John Chambers, our speaker.

Darrell reminded board members that there would be a meeting on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

David Butler, Janet Butler, Jerry Hall and Ed Wachala attended an inter-club meeting with Decatur Golden K on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30A.M. The speaker was Dr. Jamie Comstock, Vice President, Academic Affairs for Millikin University in Decatur. She spoke primarily about the re-accreditation process, required every 10 years, that the university was about to complete and programs that Millikin offers.

Jerry Hall and Clarice Hausman attended a meeting of the Champaign Kiwanis Club on April 1<sup>st</sup> at noon at the Round Barn Banquet Center. The speaker was University of Illinois football coach Ron Zook.

Mike Damler reported that the club had received \$90.00 from our re-cycling efforts. Keep those used ink cartridges and cell phones coming!

Paul Wisovaty reported that the Polish American Legion would be having a pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Community Building from 7a-10a. Proceeds are used for scholarships for graduating TCHS seniors.

The Illeiwon is now available online. Mike Damler passed out forms to stop your mailed hard copy. If you submit the form, you will receive an email notifying you when the Illeiwon is available online, which is approximately one month before the hard copy is sent. There is also a copy of the form in the January/February Illeiwon on page 11 or from Mike Damler.

The club is looking for a member to chair the Trauma Doll Workshops; Cindy Bickers cannot continue at this time. A sewing machine is needed to sew the two pieces of material together with a Kiwanis logo. Other than the sewing step, (usually completed by the chairperson however other members can be recruited) club members have enthusiastically volunteered to complete at the workshops all

other steps which include marking the fabric, pinning, cutting, stuffing the sewn dolls and hand sewing the opening. The chairperson tries to hold a workshop every 3-4 months. The club has been supplying these dolls to the Crisis Nursery in Urbana. If you are interested in stepping up as chairperson for the Trauma Doll Workshops, please contact Darrell Helm. (Thanks Cindy, for all your time, food and great workshops!)



The speaker was John Chambers, Warden of the Danville Correctional Center. The center, opened in October 1985, is a level 3, high/medium security adult male center with an average daily population of 1,845. The average age is 34 and the average annual cost per inmate is \$16,093. There is about a 47% return rate on the inmates.

John has an annual budget of approximately \$30.1 million and works with nine unions. Just the primary utilities monthly cost is \$40,000 electricity, \$38,000 gas, and \$34,000 water/sewer. In addition to the staff, there are about 120 volunteers who help at the facility.

Generally, each inmate goes to school or works a job. Currently, about 250 inmates are working on their GED or AA degree. Jobs include maintenance of equipment and the facility, silk screening, embroidery, etc. In the workshops, inmates have also built walls for houses being built by Habitat for Humanity International.

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As I was saying.....a day without sunshine is like...night.

*Author: Unknown*

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### **Meeting of March 12, 2007**

There was a total attendance of 30 members.

Ed Wachala passed around a sign-up sheet for an inter-club meeting with Sullivan on Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6PM.

Kevin Nolan, Fish Fry chairperson, reviewed information regarding the March 30<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry. Kevin will pick up the fish. Paul Wisovaty is responsible for publicity.

Mike Damler will coordinate the Lions Club sign and procure the orange drink from McDonalds. Carole Weber will provide the beans and butter. Clarice Hausman will provide the coleslaw. Candy will provide napkins, if needed. Janet Cox will do the Sam's Club shopping. And last, but not least, Wayne Ward will provide the fryer and oil. For those members who can help with the fish thaw, come to Forty Martyrs Hall about 3:30PM on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. For the Fish Fry, members need to come about 3:30PM; serving will be from 4:30PM to 7:00PM. All members are asked to bring a non-cream dessert, one per family.

Members...please think about being a chairperson for the Pancake Breakfast or the Fish Fry. Carol Burwash and Kevin Nolan, respectively, are bowing out so that other members have a chance to serve as chairperson. If you are interested, please contact Darrell Helm.

Members were reminded about the club's 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Party at the Damlers' on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM. Please RSVP with Mike, if you have not done so.

Jerry Hall discussed the Tuscola Sesquicentennial celebration activities. All service organizations are being asked to participate in some way. There was a general discussion that Kiwanis would probably help with the parade organization and have an entry. The club may also do a booth or something at Ervin Park on Saturday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Darrell Helm reported back on the Middle School Study Skills program that he had been testing. There are 4 lessons, given during study hall time. He was thinking that a good start time would be early in the fall since there are not many weeks of school left in the 2006/2007 calendar. Darrell will pass around a sign-up sheet at the next meeting to see which members are interested in participating.



The speaker was Candy Hudson speaking about "Identity Theft" and the benefits of "Laughter".

Some of her tips to avoid identify theft included:

1. Get a credit report once a year at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) . Review the information and address any problems or errors.
2. Keep an eye on accounts. Review and check statements regularly.

3. Shred all receipts that have account numbers and/or any other personal information that you would not want someone else to have.
4. Don't put outgoing mail in your mail box. Take it to the post office or to a post office pick-up box.
5. Be sure to shred all credit card applications.
6. Do not carry your social security card, passport or birth certificate on a regular basis. Only have them in your possession if you are doing something that requires you to present them.
7. Don't give credit card information over the phone if they called you.
8. If you are a victim of identity and/or credit card theft, call the police and contact the Federal Trade Commission.
9. Keep a credit card list in a secure place at your home with contact phone numbers. If your cards get stolen, it will make it easier to notify the appropriate companies.
10. Close all credit card accounts that you don't use.
11. If buying online via the internet, make sure the website is secure.

On the subject of laughter, it is a wonderful thing. On average, a kindergartener will laugh 300 a day; an adult averages 17 a day. Some of the benefits of laughter are:

- Reduces stress
- Reduces anxiety and anger
- Boosts your immune system
- Reduces levels of pain
- Adds spice to your life
- Provides a small amount of exercise

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Albert Einstein said: "A hundred times every day, I remind myself that my inner and outer life is based on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received." This is also the philosophy of Kiwanis because we want to acknowledge our own blessings by giving something back to our community and the children who represent its future.

*From Inspirational Moments for Kiwanis Occasions*

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## **Meeting of March 19, 2007**

There was a total attendance of 36 people at this meeting with 33 members and 3 guests: Don Miller, Dean Horsley and Marylee McGee, our speaker.

The group going to the Sullivan inter-club meeting today at 6:00PM was confirmed as Jerry Hall, Candy Hudson, Betty Leonard, Carl Quinn, Carole Weber and Gary Weber.

Pat Damler reported good news that Greg Hankey will be leaving the rehabilitation center in Champaign. As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, Greg's new address will be:

Mr. Greg Hankey  
538 E. Hickory Street  
Watseka, IL 60970

Greg would love to hear from any of the Kiwanis members...even a short note or card would be appreciated.

Kiwanis One Day is approaching. Planning is under way to possibly "spruce up" the North Play area at Ervin Park. More information to come.

Mike Damler reminded members about the club's 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Party at his and Linda's home on Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM. Please RSVP with Mike, if you have not done so. He will let you know whether to bring an appetizer or dessert.

Paul Wisovaty reported that the Polish American Legion would be holding a breakfast at the community building on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 7a-10a. Proceeds will go for scholarships to graduating TCHS seniors."

The club is looking for a member to chair the Trauma Doll Workshops; Cindy Bickers cannot continue at this time. A sewing machine is needed to sew the two pieces of material together with a Kiwanis logo. Other than the sewing step, (usually completed by the chairperson however other members can be recruited) club members have enthusiastically volunteered to complete at the workshops all other steps which include marking the fabric, pinning, cutting, stuffing the sewn dolls and hand sewing the opening. The chairperson tries to hold a workshop every 3-4 months. The club has been supplying these dolls to the Crisis Nursery in Urbana. If you are interested in stepping up as chairperson for the Trauma Doll Workshops, please contact Darrell Helm.

Jerry Hall again discussed the Tuscola Sesquicentennial celebration activities. All service organizations are being asked to participate in some way. Kim Higgins, Jerry Hall and Judy Landeck volunteered to co-chair the club's activities and come back to a meeting with their recommendations.



The speaker today was Marylee McGee. She is very involved in "The Children of Chernobyl" organization, establishing the Illinois Chapter in 2001. The Illinois chapter began when three children came from Belarus to Illinois. This is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide respite and relief to the children affected by the Chernobyl Nuclear explosion of 1986 by bringing them to the U.S. each summer. The soil and food is still contaminated around Chernobyl causing many cases of illness such as cancer and thyroid problems.

This is a leap of faith for the children's parents from Chernobyl, the children and for the host parents. Belarus parents put their children on planes to the U.S., not knowing who will be caring for their children for several weeks. The children take a 22 hour flight going to people they don't know, usually with just the clothes on their backs. U.S. host parents take in the children not really knowing the children, and in many cases the children don't speak English.

It is amazing that in six or eight weeks time in the summer, with good food, and outdoor play in clean air, the children of Belarus can reverse the health effects of the Chernobyl disaster. In the years following the initial group, the Illinois Chapter succeeded in bringing up to 15 children from Belarus to Illinois. The host parents must agree to have medical, dental and eye check-ups for the Belarus children. Some of the services are donated by local professionals.

If you would be interested in more information or possibly being host parents for a Belarus child one summer, please contact Marylee McGee at 217-837-2685 in Newman, Illinois.



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## 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Many thanks to Linda & Mike Damler for their hospitality in hosting the Tuscola Kiwanis Club's 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary party!!! The group had a wonderful time and enjoyed tasting the appetizers and desserts.



There are many more pictures in the Tuscola Kiwanis website's photo gallery.

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### Meeting of March 26, 2007

There was a total attendance of 28 members and 2 guests: Don Miller and Linda Brewer.

Darrell Helm shared several jokes provided by Jeannine Fortney. There was a general consensus that the jokes were a vast improvement over the jokes Darrell has been sharing with the club. (Sorry, Darrell....try harder!)

Darrell sent around a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in teaching the Middle School Study Skills program that he had been testing. There are 4 lessons, given during study hall time. He was thinking that a good start time would be early in the fall since there are not many weeks of school left in the 2006/2007 calendar. Darrell will provide training sometime this summer for those interested.

Mike Damler reported that the club's Kiwanis One Day project will be at Ervin Park on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30AM. Bring rakes, paint brushes and paint scraping brushes to the North Play area. The city is providing the paint. We will "spruce up" the equipments and the area.



Last Monday, Carol Burwash, Jerry Hall, Candy Hudson, Betty Leonard, Carol Quinn, Carole Weber and Gary Weber attended the Sullivan inter-club meeting. A 94 year old Irish Kiwanis member of 63 years gave a St. Patrick's presentation and talked about things that had changed in the last 90 years. The group really enjoyed his program!

Paul Wisovaty reminded the group that the Polish American Legion would be having a pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at the Community Building from 7a-10a. Proceeds are used for scholarships for graduating TCHS seniors.

Kevin Nolan gave his final reminders for the March 30<sup>th</sup> Fish Fry. Everything was under control!

Mark Jacobs advised members that he has a brochure regarding "The Children of Chernobyl" organization, and to contact him for a brochure if you are interested in hosting a Belarus child.

Carol advised members that The Moose and Beta Sigma Phi would be hosting the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the north area of Ervin Park on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Registration begins at 9AM. The event is for children 2-10 years old.



Our speaker was Judy Landeck and her topic was the Sesquicentennial Tuscola History book. Judy and guest, Linda Brewer have spent countless hours with other volunteers gathering information, pictures, organizing and preparing the material for the publisher. The press proof is expected this week; hopefully few changes will be needed so the printing can begin. The book will contain over 600 pages and 1,800 pictures. The books should arrive by early May. The printing run is for 1,000 copies. Over 500 copies have been pre-sold. Judy shared several excerpts from the book including material from the 1860's. If you have not ordered your copy, please contact Judy at 217-253-3921.

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## Fish Fry Success!!!

The Fish Fry on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> was a great success! Everyone was raving about the excellent fish and luscious desserts. A big thanks to Kevin Nolan, our chairperson, and to everyone who helped out!!!!



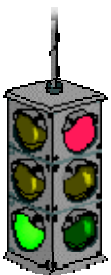
There are many more pictures in the Tuscola Kiwanis website's photo gallery.

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Got a letter from Grandma the other day. She writes...

The other day I went up to a local Christian bookstore and saw a "Honk If You Love Jesus" bumper sticker. I was feeling particularly sassy that day because I had just come from a thrilling choir performance and a thunderous prayer meeting; so I bought the sticker and put it on my bumper.

Boy, I'm glad I did! What an uplifting experience that followed!



I was stopped at a red light at a busy intersection, just lost in thought about the Lord and how good He is...and I didn't notice that the light had changed.

It is a good thing someone else loves Jesus because if he hadn't honked, I'd never have noticed!

I found that LOTS of people love Jesus! Why, while I was sitting there, the guy behind me started honking like crazy, and then he leaned out of his window and screamed, "For the love of GOD! GO! GO! JESUS CHRIST, GO!"

What an exuberant cheerleader he was for Jesus! Everyone started honking! I just leaned out of my window and started waving and smiling at all these loving people. I even honked my horn a few times to share in the love!

There must have been a man from Florida back there because I heard him yelling something about a "sunny beach". I saw another guy waving in a funny way with only his middle finger stuck up in the air. When I asked my teenage grandson in the back seat what that meant, he said that it was probably a Hawaiian good luck sign or something. Well, I've never met anyone from Hawaii, so I leaned out the window and gave him the good luck sign back. My grandson burst out laughing... why even he was enjoying this religious experience!

A couple of the people were so caught up in the joy of the moment that they got out of their cars and started walking towards me. I bet they wanted to pray or ask what church I attended, but this is when I noticed the light had changed. So, I waved to all my sisters and brothers, grinning, and drove on through the intersection. I noticed I was the only car that got through the intersection before the light changed again and I felt kind of sad that I had to leave them after all the love we had shared; so I slowed the car down, leaned out the window and gave them all the Hawaiian good luck sign one last time as I drove away.

Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!

Grandma

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### **Highlights from the March 2007 Board Meeting**

- February Monthly Report – Wayne Ward reported that members had 388 service hours and 160 hours of fund raising activity in February. The Board approved the report.
- Treasurer's Report –Candy Hudson reported that all but 3 members had paid their semi-annual dues. Wayne advised that he would send them a reminder. The current balance in the Treasury is \$4,289.26 as of 3-7-07.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Party –Mike gave Wayne copies of the notice about the party for members who had not yet received it. A copy will be mailed to those members when Wayne mails the Board Minutes.

- Sound System – Wayne reported that Jaki Ottolini advised that she has a sound system that she will donate to the club. The Board unanimously voted to accept her generous offer.
- Fish Fry – Kevin reported that he had made the arrangements for the fish, slaw, beans and deep fryer. He will pass around a sign-up sheet at the next meeting. Kevin advised that he will be retiring as Fish Fry Chairman after this year's event.
- Study Skills Program – Darrell said that he had not done any more with the programs since it was well into the school year. He thought the program was well received and could possibly be implemented during the Fall of 2007, early in the school year.
- Outreach Program – Wayne reported that the Club has \$75.00 budgeted for Circle K Outreach and \$75.00 for Key Club Outreach. The Board approved paying these amounts out and checks were mailed to the I-I District Office.
- Club Leadership Education – Dates have been set for the President and Secretary training for the 2007/2008 fiscal years. Clarice, Wayne and Janet will attend the meeting in Champaign on May 26<sup>th</sup>. A check for \$45.00 for the 3 members was issued and will be mailed to the I-I District Office with the registration form. The leaders must attend this training for the club to be recognized as Distinguished.
- Kiwanis One Day – All Kiwanians around the world will be working on a service project on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Mike Damler is working on developing a service project for that date, possibly at Ervin Park.

(Full text on club website)

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**Excuse me...have you seen my mother?**

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New items on the website: Pictures from the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary party and the Fish Fry.

Web Site Tip: If you bring up the members list and it does not format correctly the first time, click your “refresh” button and it should be fine.

Please provide any information, pictures, updates and corrections for the newsletter and/or website to:

[dbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org](mailto:dbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org) or [jbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org](mailto:jbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org)