



TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2007



2007 Upcoming Events

August 1, Wednesday	Board Meeting – Noon at Tuscany’s
August 5, Sunday	Kiwanis Family Picnic – Wayne & Joann Ward’s home; meal at 5:00PM
August 10-12, Fri thru Sun	I-I District Convention - Giovanni’s Convention Center, Rockford, Illinois
August 13, Monday	Deadline for providing two prospective members to your team captain.
August 30, Thursday	Membership Dinner at Tuscany’s – 6:30PM
September 5, Wednesday	Board Meeting – Noon at Tuscany’s
October 5 & 6 (tentative)	Peanut Sale Days

2008 Upcoming Events (Plan Ahead)

February 22-24	Mid-Winter Convention – Lisle IL
April 4	Fish Fry Dinner – Forty Martyrs Hall
April 5	Kiwanis One Day Project Day
June 25-28	Kiwanis International Convention – Orlando, FL
August 7-10	I-I District Convention – Peoria IL

Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

August 6	Wayne Ward
August 13	Carole Weber
August 20	Gary Weber
August 27	Paul Wisovaty
September 3	No Meeting – Labor Day
September 10	Jim Wood

September 17	Roy Young
September 24	New Officer Induction
October 1	Janet Boyer
October 8	Rick Broch
October 15	Carol Burwash
October 22	David Butler
October 29	Janet Butler

Don't Forget to Give Wayne Your July Volunteer Hours!

Meeting of July 2, 2007

There was a total attendance of 31 members and 3 guests, Dan Ponder (father of member Cliff Ponder), Toni Jones (soon to be a member) and our speaker, Ed Wachala, son of member Ed Wachala.

Kathryn McCumber reminded members that the Decatur Park Singers would be performing at Ervin Park on Saturday, 7/7 at 6:00PM. She also reported that the Woman's Club would be doing a Cake Walk Fundraiser on Saturday, 7/7 at noon at Irvin Park in the South Pavilion.

Art & Barb Moss reported that they have banners and decorating fringe for the Kiwanis Parade float for the Sesquicentennial Parade. Patty Russell advised that there should be about 19 K-Kids, per Beth Riefsteck, riding on the float. Patty is working on costumes for them and has about 14 already together. Patty and Barb said they would bring Mexican blankets for the kids to sit on. Carol Burwash will bring Kiwanis Peanut aprons for those members who plan to walk the parade and hand out candy. Art and Barb asked members who are participating to be at the park about 5:30p. If anyone wants to help "chalk" the parade, Jerry Hall advised they should be at the park about 4:00PM. Members who plan to walk should bring non-melting, wrapped candy to hand out. Jerry Hall advised that the park should be entered through the "wrong way" pool entrance for parking by the pool.

Darrell reminded board members that the July meeting would be Wednesday, July 11th at noon at Tuscanys.

Darrell reminded members that semi-annual dues of \$50.00 are due by the July 30th meeting to Candy or Wayne.

On the July 23rd meeting, Decatur Prairieland will be doing an inter-club and delivering the Traveling Gavel.

Mike Damler reported that Janet Butler had agreed to coordinate the Division 27 basket for the August I-I Convention. Decatur Golden K has donated \$25.00 and Decatur Prairieland is donating the basket and a \$50.00 Panera Bread gift card.

Mike Damler read a thank you note from Kiwanis scholarship winner, Erin Riley. She will be starting college in the fall at the University of Illinois.

Mike Damler reported that the Clinton Club is holding a fundraiser on July 15th. For a \$100 donation, you receive 2 steak dinners and a chance to win \$5,000. See Mike for more details.

Jerry Hall announced that he is fund raising for "Kids For Kicks" on Saturday, July 14th. This kickball tournament that raises money for Kid Power, a charity that goes into local hospitals and provides much needed support to children with life-threatening illnesses. The charity pays for things that their insurance doesn't pay for or if they don't have insurance, it will help provide for medical treatments and assistance for the families' hotels, transportation, etc. If you would like to support Jerry's efforts, please see Jerry.

Judy Landeck showed a sample of the Sesquicentennial Plate. Cost is \$20.00. See Judy for purchase.

Janet Boyer reported that all 49 Trauma dolls had been completed and delivered. Janet advised that she would organize another workshop probably in September.

Janet Cox asked Kiwanians to attend the Sesquicentennial Spelling Bee at Irvin Park on Saturday, July 7th at 10:00AM.

Ed Wachala reported there would be an inter-club meeting with the Paris Early Risers on Tuesday, July 17th. Ed needs at least one more person to go to make it 4 members.



Our speaker was Ed Wachala, son of member Ed Wachala. He is a Champaign police officer of ten years and is assigned to Centennial High School as a School Resource Officer. Ed also works Centennial football games, basketball games and selected other events where trouble is highly likely. Centennial has over 1,500 students. Ed's primary responsibility is to handle law enforcement issues; however he also handles behavior issues and has opportunities to educate the students. Police presence at the school sets boundaries for the students. Ed's goal is for every student to display proper behavior at school.

Ed reported that the primary complaint of teachers and staff is the lack of respect shown to them and other students. The #1 issue for about 80% of teachers is disrespectful behavior by students, followed by fights, theft, drugs and weapons. If students at Centennial break the law, they are taken to jail. If the students are 16 or under, they go to the Youth Detention Center. If they are 17 or older, they go to County Jail. Bond is a minimum of \$101.00.

Ed has an office at the school that was specifically decorated to be soothing and calming. The office is done in earth tones and has no overhead lights, just four lamps. Ed advised it is important to treat students respectfully. He wants students to understand what happened and why he is ticketing or arresting them. Consistency is important so that regardless of who the student is, if he/she does X, the punishment will be Y.

There are currently five school resource officers in Champaign...one in each high school and middle schools. Two of these positions are funded by the school district and three by the Champaign police department. The police department and schools would like to increase that number; however funding has not been found as yet. School resource officers make the schools a better place to learn and make teachers, staff and students feel safer.

A Couple of Dollars for Dinner

I was walking down the street when I was accosted by a shabby-looking homeless woman who asked me for a couple of dollars for dinner.

I took out my wallet, got out ten dollars and asked, "If I give you this money, will you buy some wine with it instead of dinner?"

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago", the homeless woman told me.

"Will you use it to go shopping instead of buying food?" I asked.

"No, I don't waste time shopping," the homeless woman said. "I need to spend all my time trying to stay alive."

"Will you spend this on a beauty salon instead of food?" I asked

"Are you NUTS!" replied the homeless woman. "I haven't had my hair done in 20 years!"

"Well," I said, "I'm not going to give you the money. Instead, I'm going to take you out for dinner with my husband and me tonight."

The homeless woman was shocked. "Won't your husband be furious with you for doing that? I know I'm dirty, and I probably smell pretty disgusting.

I said, "That's okay. It's important for him to see what a woman looks like after she has given up shopping, hair appointments, and wine."

Author: Unknown

Meeting of July 9, 2007

There was a total attendance of 28 members and 2 guests: Steve Niemann, Douglas County Farm Service Agency executive director and guest of Ben Mingo, and Marci Shoemaker, daughter of Clarice Hausman.

Judy Landeck reported that Sesquicentennial souvenirs are still available at City Hall, Douglas County Museum and Tuscola Tourism office including an "All City" poster for \$2.00. She also reported that the time capsule would be buried in Ervin Park at 1:30PM today.

Darrell asked board members to stay after the meeting to discuss the scheduled Board meeting on Wednesday, 7/11.

Marci Shoemaker thanked club members for their help and participation for the Sesquicentennial Parade, the Kiwanis float, manning the information booth, etc. Marci made a \$20.00 donation to the club. (Many more pictures on our website.)



Ed Wachala reported that he still needs a 4th person for the inter-club meeting on Tuesday, 7-17 at 6:30AM with the Paris Early Risers.

Darrell reminded members that Kiwanis semi-annual dues of \$50.00 are due by the July 30th meeting.

Art Moss inquired as to the location of the 2nd Kiwanis magnetic logo. He advised that he was provided only one for the parade.

Dave Dobson announced that the Membership Dinner will be Thursday, August 30th at 6:30PM at Tuscany's.



Beth Riefsteck was our speaker today. Her topic was the K-Kids Activities during the 2006/2007 school year. Beth has been involved with K-Kids for four years. Each school year all North Ward 4th graders are K-Kids. Beth advised that even though the students are not forced to participate, she can gladly report that 100% of the students participate in at least one K-Kids activity/project. She is amazed at the work and accomplishments that these 9 and 10 year olds are able to do.

The school year was kicked off with a K-Kids picnic at Ervin Park. In October 2006, the K-Kids held a penny drive for Beth's Place. They raised \$774.00. In November 2006, they raked and cleaned up eight lawns for elderly people and those with health problems. In December 2006, the K-Kids rang the Salvation Army bell at the post office and participated in the Christmas parade with Kiwanis members.

In addition, the K-Kids had another project that made Beth very proud. The K-Kids adopted a family that was not going to have any Christmas. The students filled up an SUV with food, gifts, toys, etc. that Beth delivered to the family. The family was so thankful and thrilled, and the K-Kids could feel really good about helping others. The family's identity was kept confidential from the students.

In January, 2007, the K-Kids raised money for The Children of Chernobyl. From everyone at North Ward school cans were filled with change from the "Party in a Can" cans that were prepared by K-Kids. Over \$1,000 was raised! In March 2007 the K-Kids collected over 100 pounds of food that was donated to SAM Pantry. In April 2007, the students participated in the Kiwanis International Poster contest. Every K-Kid did a poster.

In May 2007 the K-Kids did several activities during Teacher & Staff Appreciation week. The theme was "Hollywood." Each day a K-Kid read poetry or sang a song at North Ward. The students provided teachers and staff a luncheon on one day. Personalized note cards, candy and bottled water were provided during the week. A Walk of Fame was created with "stars" and hand prints. Each teacher was assigned a "personal assistant" for the week. This was a big hit!

Beth thinks this is a great program as it encourages students to give back to the community and to others who are less fortunate. Generally, the K-Kids are not rewarded after each and every events or project. Students give up recess time and class time to plan, organize and execute events. Beth is thankful for all the help and support she receives from the North Ward teachers and staff regarding the K-Kids activities and projects. She also appreciates the assistance from Paul Wisovaty, the club's K-Kids advisor.

Beth also created a Tuscola K-Kids website. She hopes to have the students provide more of the photos in the future, learn how to load and how to update the website. You can go to the website by going to www.tuscolakiwanis.org, clicking on “Sponsored Programs” and clicking on “K-Kids Website.” To go directly to the website, click on:

<http://localweb.tuscola.k12.il.us/breifsteck/reifweb/kkids/kkids.htm>

So what’s in the K-Kids’ future? Beth would like to see the students take even more ownership in selecting projects, planning and organizing them. She would like to see them involved with the website and providing more information to the newspapers. She would like to start tracking volunteer hours and recognition for the top volunteers. In the fall of 2007 she is hoping the K-Kids will hold a fund raising event, such as a car wash, to provide some funds for their ideas and projects. For example, the butterfly garden needs stepping stones. Beth would also like to see more joint events with Kiwanis members and the K-Kids such as Kiwanis One Day project.

K-Kids is a great program and Beth is very proud to be part of it!

U.S. President and Kiwanian Calvin Coolidge said: “No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.” Kiwanians are giving men and women. We have been honored for more than 90 years for what we have given, not what we received. “What’s in it for me” isn’t a Kiwanis thought.

From Inspirational Moments for Kiwanis Occasions

Meeting of July 16, 2007

There was a total attendance of 24 members and 7 guests: from Decatur Noon Club: Dave White, president; Charlotte Balance, treasurer; Bob Emmons, co-inter-club chairperson; John Couter and Shirley Elkin; and Tom Stephenson from Tuscola Health Care, a guest of Jerry Hall, and our guest speaker, Patty Johansen.

Ed Wachala advised that Debbie Graber, Jerry Hall, Clarice Hausman and Paul Wisovaty would be attending an inter-club meeting with the Paris Early Birds at 6:30AM tomorrow, July 17th.

Dave Dobson announced that the Membership Drive Dinner would be Thursday, August 30th at 6:30PM at Tuscanys. There are five teams this year as follows:

<u>Team Captain</u>	<u>Team Name</u>
David Butler	Butler's Bulldogs
Art Moss	Moss' Mavericks
Carl Quinn	Quinn's Quakers
Ed Wachala	Wachala's Walleyes
Gary Weber	Weber's Wranglers

Dave will pass out the team rosters at the next meeting. Each member is asked to provide to their team captain the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two people who are good candidates for being Kiwanians by Monday, August 13th.



Our speaker today was Patty Johansen, new pastor at the Tuscola United Methodist Church. She grew up on Champaign and attended Centennial High School. Her husband, Mike Crawford, is also a pastor and works in a regional Methodist position. They have a son entering the 8th grade and a daughter in college. Patty has been a pastor for 23 years.

Patty is excited that a book she co-authored with Teresa Gilbert and Jay Regennitter will be published shortly. The book is *New Streams of Living Water, Charting the Course of Christian Discipleship*. The focus of the book is ministry and discipleship.

YOU CAN'T FOOL MOM!

Brian invited his mother over for dinner. During the meal, Brian's mother couldn't help but notice how beautiful his roommate, Jennifer, was. As she watched them interact over the course of the evening, she wondered if there was more between them than met the eye.

Reading his mom's thoughts, Brian volunteered, "I know what you must be thinking, but I assure you, Jennifer and I are just roommates."

About a week later, Jennifer came to Brian and said, "Ever since your mother came to dinner, I've been unable to find the beautiful silver gravy ladle. You don't suppose your mom has it, do you?"

Brian said, "Well, I doubt it, but I'll send her an e-mail just to be sure."

So he sat down and wrote:

Dear Mom:

I'm not saying that you "did" take the gravy ladle from the house. I'm not saying that you "did not" take the gravy ladle, but the fact remains that one has been missing ever since you were here for dinner.

Love, Brian

Several days later, Brian received an email back from his mother that read:

Dear Son:

I'm not saying that you "do" sleep with Jennifer. I'm not saying that you "do not" sleep with Jennifer but the fact remains that if Jennifer is sleeping in her own bed, she would have found the gravy ladle by now.

Love, Mom

Author: Unknown

Meeting of July 23, 2007

There was a total attendance of 21 members and 7 guests from the Decatur Prairieland club as follows: Ann Brunson, Donna Cleland, Mary Margaret Davison, Lucy Derlitzki, Helen Corcoran, Dorothy Murphy and Helen Weatherford.

The Prairieland guests delivered a basket with A gift card to be the Division 27 basket to be auctioned at the I-I Convention in August. Janet Butler will complete the basket with additional gift cards with a “Dining Out” theme.

Our guests also delivered the “traveling” gavel back to Lt. Governor, Mike Damler. The well-wrapped gavel was delivered in a bucket of sand and shells. Everyone enjoyed Mike opening the gavel as he tore through the many layers of duct tape, bubble wrap, etc.



Wayne Ward asked about having the Kiwanis Family Picnic at his home on August 5th or August 19th. Both dates seemed to work for the majority of members present, so Wayne advised that the picnic would be on August 5th with a rain date of August 19th if needed. Meat, beverages and table service will be provided. Bring your spouse, friends, neighbors, kids, etc. Bring a covered dish to share. Wayne advised that he would mail a notice to all members. Please R.S.V.P. to Wayne at 253-3218 or fward@tuscola-il.com. The annual bragging rights for the horseshoe winners are up for grabs!

Debbie Graber, Jerry Hall, Clarice Hausman and Paul Wisovaty attended an inter-club meeting with the Paris Early Birds on Tuesday, July 17th. There was a little delay in our members getting to the meeting because the club had moved the meeting to a restaurant a few blocks down the street. Luckily, someone at the old meeting place informed them of the change. They reported that the program on wood carving was very interesting.

Patty Russell was our speaker today and brought her beautiful collection of Russian Matryoshka Dolls. Though Patty has not been to Russia, she became interested in these “nesting” dolls and began a collection.

Russian matryoshka doll (synonyms – nesting doll, nested doll, stacking doll) is probably the most popular Russian national souvenir. This type of doll was shown and sold at large exhibitions, fairs and festivals held in different countries of the world. This type of wooden doll is about a hundred years old.

These Russian wooden dolls within smaller dolls were called matryoshka. In old Russian among peasants the name Matryona or Matriosha was a very popular female name. Scholars say this name has a Latin root "mater" and means "Mother". This name was associated with the image of a mother of a big peasant family who was very healthy and had a portly figure.

Subsequently, it became a symbolic name and was used specially to image brightly painted wooden figurines made in such a way that they could taken apart to reveal smaller dolls fitting inside one another. Even now nesting doll is considered to be a symbol of motherhood and fertility. A mother doll with numerous dolls-children perfectly expresses the oldest symbol of human culture.



The first Russian nesting doll turned by Vassily Zvizdochkin and painted by Sergey Maliutin contained 8 pieces: a girl with a black rooster was followed by a boy and then by a girl again and so on. All figurines were different from each other; the last one was a figurine of a baby wrapped in diaper.

One of the most widely spread errors regarding this type of doll is the usage of the word "babushka" to designate a nesting doll. Linguistically this word is linked to the correct name "matryoshka" by sound-proximity of the distortion "matryushka" to the word "babushka". This misleading link is further strengthened by the meaning of the word "babushka". In the Russian language the word means

"grandmother" and many, by association, believe that "babushka" stands for a "little grandmother doll". This is not true.

It was quite easy for Russian craftsmen who had had a considerable experience in turning wooden objects which fitted inside each other (for example, Easter eggs) to work out the nesting doll making technology.

The basic technique of nesting doll making remains unchanged. As a rule nesting dolls are made from lime, birch, alder and aspen. Lime is the most abundant material. The trees chosen to manufacture nesting dolls are cut down at the beginning of Spring, usually in April when the trees are full of sap. The felled trees are stripped of their bark leaving a few rings to prevent the wood from cracking. The logs prepared in this way with their butt-ends smeared over are arranged in piles with a clearance between them to allow aeration.

The logs are kept in the open air for two years. Only an experienced master can tell when the material is ready. Then the logs are cut into work pieces for nesting dolls. Every work piece can be turned as many as 15 times before the nesting doll will be ready. Making a doll on a turning lathe requires high skills, an ability to work with a beguilingly small set of tools - a knife and chisels of various length and shape. The smallest figurine which cannot be taken apart is usually made first. The bottom part of the next figurine which can be taken apart is turned first. Then a work piece is turned to reach the necessary size and the top end is removed. Then the ring is made to fit on the upper part of the nesting doll and then its lower part can be made. Then the nesting doll's head is turned and the necessary amount of wood is removed from within the nesting doll's head to slip on the upper ring. All these operations do not involve any measurements, and rely only on intuition and require high professional skills.

The upper part of the nesting doll is stuck on to its lower part. Then it dries and tightens the ring so it sits securely in place. When the turning work is over, a snow white doll is thoroughly cleaned, primed with starchy glue to make the surface ideally smooth and to prevent the paint making smudges and then dried. Now it is ready to be painted. The first Russian nesting doll was poked and painted with gouache and covered with varnish by S. V. Maliutin.

Sergiev Posad, the birthplace of the first Russian nesting doll - was a colorful, truly Russian town. Its monastery lent a unique peculiarity to it. The huge market place in front of the monastery was almost always full of different people: merchants, monks, pilgrims and craftsmen were milling around.

The first nesting dolls of Sergiev Posad portrayed this colorful life: young girls dressed in Russian sarafans carrying baskets, scythes, bunches of flowers or dressed in winter short fur coats and scarves; old believer women in their conservative clothes; a bride and groom holding candles in their hands; a shepherd with a pipe; and old man with a lush beard.

Sometimes nesting doll represented the whole family with numerous children and members of household. Some nesting dolls were devoted to historical themes. They portrayed boyars and their wives, Russian nobility of the 17th century and legendary Russian bogatyrs (warriors). Some nesting dolls were devoted to book characters. For instance, in 1909 to celebrate the centenary of Gogol's birth, a series of nesting dolls portrayed the characters of his books: Taras Bulba and Plyushkin, Governor. In 1912, to celebrate the centenary of the Patriotic War against Napoleon, nesting dolls portrayed Kutuzov and Napoleon whose figurines contained smaller figurines of their field commanders. Some nesting dolls borrowed their subjects from folk tales and folk heroic sagas: Tsar Dadon and Princess Swan from Pushkin's tales, 'The Little Humpback Horse' from Yershov's tale, some characters from Krilov's fable 'The Quartet'.

Almost all political upheavals of the late 1980s and the early 1990s are being represented in the funny caricatures. The political nesting doll has a very clear 'subordination'. M. S. Gorbachev's legendary political career during perestroika brought him popularity in many European and American states. 'Groby' became the most favorite nesting doll of that time

The hand painting takes great talent and skill. Many dolls are painted with great detail. Various types of nesting dolls are distinguished by the way their aprons are painted. For example, some nesting dolls have architectural monuments on their aprons. Such nesting doll makes a wonderful souvenir which reminds this or that historical place. Sometime Patty just enjoys getting her dolls out and looking at the intricately painted dolls.

Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.

Author: Albert Einstein

Meeting of July 30, 2007

There was a total attendance of 28 members and 2 guests: Teresa Davis, wife of John Davis and Curtis Root, our speaker.

Toni Jones was inducted as a new member of our club. She works for John Davis at the State Farm Insurance Agency in Tuscola. She was sponsored by John Davis.



Welcome, Toni!

Ed Wachala reported that there is an inter-club meeting in Mattoon coming up on August 15th at noon. Ed circulated a sign-up sheet.

Janet Butler delivered the Division 27 I-I Convention basket to Mike Damler. The theme is “Dining Out” and contained five restaurant gift cards. Decatur Golden K, Decatur Noon, Decatur Prairieland and Tuscola clubs contributed to the basket. The baskets will be auctioned off at the convention with the proceeds going to Spastic Paralysis.



Darrell Helm reminded board members that there is a meeting Wednesday, August 1st at noon at Tuscanys.

Pat Damler reported that Greg Hankey is still in rehabilitation. He is now able to walk a little with assistance, and continues to do strength training. Greg really appreciated the card that was signed and sent by our club.

Dave Dobson handed out the team assignment for the Membership Dinner on August 30th at 6:30PM at Tuscanys. Each member is to provide their captain with two good names/addresses/telephone numbers of prospective members. The deadline for the captains to turn in this information into Dave Dobson is Monday, August 13th. If you were not at this meeting, you will be receiving information from your team captain via email or snail-mail.



Our speaker today was Curtis Root. He has been a CPA in Tuscola for 14 years. His topic was Tax Law Changes and Estate Planning. Curtis advised that there will be many changes from now and through 2010. Areas that Curtis knows will have changes include:

- Capital gain taxes
- IRA to ROTH limitations
- Gifting money to children
- Gifting money to a charity
- Donations
- Tax Exempt Bonds
- Alternative Minimum Tax

Curtis does a lot of work regarding estate planning and gifting. As he said, if you don't plan for your estate, the state of Illinois will do it for you. Curtis advised that no one wants the state to handle their estate. There are strategies that can reduce estate taxes, when applicable.

Highlights from the July 2007 Board Meeting

- All Items Tabled – The board tabled all items for the August Board meeting.

(Full text on club website)



New items on the website: Kiwanians helping with the Sesquicentennial parade, Kiwanis float with K-Kids,

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 or jbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org