



# TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2014

## 2014 Events/Activities

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, January 8   | Board Meeting – Location TBD                              |
| Saturday, February 1   | I-I District Mid-Year Conference, East Peoria, IL         |
| Saturday, February 8   | Pancake Breakfast – Forty Martyrs Hall                    |
| Wednesday, February 12 | Board Meeting – Location TBD                              |
| Saturday, March 15     | Governor’s Visit Luncheon - Amishland Buffet              |
| Thursday, April 3      | Fish Thaw – Forty Martyrs Hall                            |
| Friday, April 4        | Fish Fry – Forty Martyrs Hall                             |
| Saturday, April 12     | Tuscola Easter Egg Hunt                                   |
| Thu-Sun, July 17-20    | Kiwanis Intl Convention, Chiba, Japan                     |
| Thu-Sun August 7-10    | I-I District Annual Convention, Bloomington, IL           |
| Saturday, October 4    | Pancake Breakfast–Homecoming – Tuscola Community Building |

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## Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| January 6   | Maureen Bergeson                           |
| January 13  | Lorraine Best                              |
| January 20  | Margo Blaudow                              |
| January 27  | Elaine Bryant                              |
| February 3  | Tim Hoel                                   |
| February 10 | Janet Butler                               |
| February 17 | <b><u>No Meeting – President’s Day</u></b> |
| February 24 | Peter Buckley                              |
| March 3     | Wilma Allen                                |
| March 10    | Carol Burwash                              |

|          |                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| March 17 | Jan Chappell                     |
| March 24 | Andy Brzozkiewicz                |
| March 31 | Joyce Brzozkiewicz               |
| April 7  | Jack Corum                       |
| April 14 | Sharon Corum                     |
| April 21 | Janet Cox                        |
| April 28 | Marge Conn                       |
| May 5    | Tammy Baer                       |
| May 12   | Mike Damler                      |
| May 19   | Pat Damler                       |
| May 26   | <b>No Meeting – Memorial Day</b> |

If your program date does not work for you, please notify Janet Butler as soon as possible so a date swap can be arranged.

**Don't Forget to Give Janet Butler Your Volunteer Hours  
at the end of the month!**

[Click here to enter hours online](#)

### **Seeing Is Believing**

According to a news report, a certain private Catholic school was recently faced with a unique problem. A number of 12-year-old girls were beginning to use lipstick and would put it on in the bathroom. That was fine provided it was of a natural or neutral skin tone, but after they put on their lipstick, they would press their lips to the mirror leaving dozens of little lip prints.

Every night the custodian would remove them; and the next day the girls would put them back. Finally, the principal, Sister Mary, decided that something had to be done. She called all the girls to the bathroom and met them there with the custodian. She explained that all these lip prints were causing extra work for the man, who had to clean the mirrors every night. (Just imagine the yawns from the little princesses.)

To demonstrate how difficult it had been to clean the mirrors, Sister Mary asked the custodian to show the girls how much effort was required. He took out a long-handled squeegee, dipped it in the toilet, and cleaned the mirror with it. Since then, there have been no lip prints on the mirror.

There are teachers..... and then there are educators! If Sister Mary were to run for office, wouldn't you vote for her!

## Meeting Minutes – December 2, 2013

- Attendance

52 – Members

1 – Guest: Brian Moody, our speaker

- Free Lunch Winner – Jaci Manzella
- Birthdays – Kim Higgins 12/7, Marci Shoemaker 12/7, Jerry Reynolds 12/7 and Bill Bauer 12/14
- Braggs – David Butler and Marci Shoemaker (via Alan)
- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

Reminders – Pat Damler reminded members of the Christmas Parade on 12/7, Peanut Encore 12/6 & 12/7 at the community building and ringing the bell for Salvation Army on 12/14.

Adopt-A-Family – Club members generously donated \$639.00 for the Adopt-A-Family program in partnership with our North Ward K-Kids. The funds will be used for three families with eight children collectively.

New Member Induction – Sponsored by David Butler, Leo Plaszczynski was inducted by Past Lt. Governor Darrell Helm and President Pat Damler.



Welcome, Leo!

Thank You Note – The club received a thank you note from Jamie Goodman, social worker, for our donation of \$639.00 for the Adopt-A-Family program at North Ward.

Traveling Gavel – Maureen Bergeson, Margo Blaudow, Linda Damler and Carol Hausman will be preparing the traveling gavel to be delivered to Decatur Golden K on December 18 by Carol Beals, Topy Moody, Vera Nauta and Wayne Ward.

### Program:



Bill Bauer introduced our guest speaker, Brian Moody. Brian is the Executive Director of TEDI (Tuscola Economic Development Inc.).

Brian reported that there is still no decision on the \$1.2 billion Cronus fertilizer plant location, but is still feeling very positive that Tuscola will be selected. If selected, the plant would be located on 240 acres near Cargill, on the north side of Route 36 and would employ about 150 full-time employees.

The agreement on the old Dixie Truck Stop has been finalized, and construction is starting. New businesses in the old Hardess and SavMor locations are expected in early 2014. The city plans an expansion to the south of the road in front of the Red Barn.

**NOTE: MEETING OF 12/9 WAS CANCELLED DUE TO ICE**

## Meeting Minutes – December 16, 2013

- **Attendance**

59 – Members

5 – Guests: Jan Plaszczynski, spouse of Leo, Missy Chappell, daughter of Jan Chappell, and an interclub from Decatur Early Birds-Ned Hawbecker, Richie Barnett and Chuck Zweck.

- **Free Lunch Winner** – Judy Heilich

- **Birthdays** – Steve Niemann 12/16, Kevin Nolan 12/19, Tom Sturgis 12/20, Maureen Bergeson 12/24, Carol Burwash 12/24, Barb Moss 12/25 and Debbie Graber 12/26.

- **Brags** – Wilma Allen, Pat Damler, Decatur Early Birds (selling cheese wheels), Debbie Graber, Kim Higgins, Sherrie Hoel, Tim Hoel, Jaci Manzella, Toppo Mooday Dennis Opperman, Cindy Surma

- **News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities**

Gift Presentation – Pat Damler presented Lisa, our server, with members' cash gifts for all she does for us at every meeting.

Member Moving – Our Pancake King, Gary Weber had advised the Board that he will be moving to Waxahachie, Texas in 2014. Alan Shoemaker volunteered to store the Kiwanis supplies that are currently in Gary's basement. The club needs a new pancake chairperson or two co-chairs. If you are interested, please contact Pat Damler.

## **Program:**

Mike Damler, Linda Damler and Tim Hoel led the fun and festivities for the club's Christmas Party. Donations were gathered for SAM Pantry. Games and fun were had by all!!!



Mike & "Christmas Fairy" Tim



Linda leading a game



Merry Christmas!

More photos on website.



## Meeting Minutes – December 30, 2013

- Attendance

48 – Members

3 – Guests: Tommy Chappell & Colton Tewesbury, grandsons of Jan Chappell, and our speaker, Mike Chrzastowski.

- Free Lunch Winner – Carol Burwash
- Birthdays – John McDaniel 1/4
- Brags – Bill Bauer, David & Janet Butler, Jan Chappell, Dave Dobson, Kim Higgins, Topy Mooday, and Tom Sturgis
- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

Traveling Gavel Delivered – Carol Beals, Topy Mooday, Vera Nauta and Wayne Ward delivered the traveling gavel to Decatur Golden K on 12/18. Wayne reported that they appreciated there being no “trick” with the gavel. The gavel was placed in a Christmas sock with candies. The sock was then placed in a flat box, wrapped on three side and open on the fourth side, looking like a gift.

Pancake Breakfast – Judy Heilich and Topy Mooday have volunteered to take the reins from Gary Weber, and co-chair the February pancake breakfast. Thank you!

Music Boosters Sock Hop – The fundraiser to help support music in our schools will be February 7. Tammy Baer will provide more information, and members will be asked to sign up to provide desserts. More information to follow.

Women’s Illini Basketball – Doris Young reported that 20 Kiwanians will be attending the 1/12/14 basketball game. Wear orange!

Gold Key Presented – Pat Damler presented Jan Chappell a gold key for sponsoring three new members into the club – Jerry Reynolds, Nancy Reynolds and Darlene Wiesener.

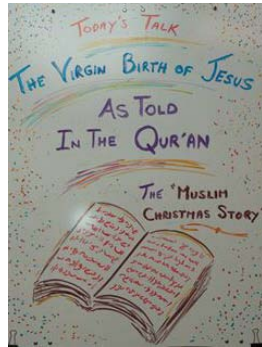


Jan & Pat

SAM Pantry Donations – Members generously donated a total of \$810.00 to our local food pantry. Betsy Stuerke accepted the donations, and thanked members for their continued financial support and for the many members who volunteer their time at the pantry. In 2013 the pantry served over 8,000 people of which 2,927 were children.



## Program:



Carol Beals introduced our speaker, Michael Chrzastowski. His topic was “The Virgin Birth of Jesus as told in the Qur’an” (also known as Koran). Michael is studying the Qur’an, Islam and Arabic. Due to the many differences in the Arabic language structure versus other languages, the best way to study the Qur’an is to read it in Arabic, though most of his study so far has been done with English translations.

Michael began by giving some basic information about Islam and Christianity. Both religions have a common beginning with Abraham. In the world about 33% of people are Christian and 21% are Islamic. The greatest concentration of Islamic is in Indonesia, Northern Africa and Arabic Asian countries. Islam is based on the teachings of Muhammad, and Christianity on Jesus Christ.

Many of us did not know that the birth of Jesus was even in the Qur’an. Islam believes Jesus existed, however Muhammad taught that Jesus was a great prophet from God, but not the son of God. The Qur’an is the verbal words of Muhammad, but he did not write the Qur’an, being unable to read or write. His followers believe his words are directly from God, and are God’s words.

The 19<sup>th</sup> sura (chapter) of the Qur’an is named after Mary. Mary is the only woman mentioned by name, and is considered one of the most righteous women in Islamic tradition. According to the Qur’an, Jesus was born miraculously by the will of God without a father. Mary is regarded as a chaste and virtuous woman and is said to have been a virgin. The Qur’an states clearly that Jesus was the result of a virgin birth but that neither Mary nor her son were divine. It also refers to Jesus speaking to Mary from the cradle. The New Testaments, Matthew and Luke, do not include such a passage. Michael referred to this as a “narrative gap.”

The Qur’an’s narrative of the virgin birth is different from that in the New Testament. The Qur’an states that when the pains of childbirth came upon Mary, she held onto a nearby palm tree, at which point a voice came from "beneath the (palm-tree)", which said " "Grieve not! for thy Lord hath provided a rivulet beneath thee; and shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm-tree: It will let fall fresh ripe dates upon thee." The Qur’an goes on to describe that Mary vowed not to speak to any man on that day, as God was to make Jesus, who Muslims believe spoke in the cradle, perform his first miracle.

The Qur’an goes on to narrate that Mary then brought Jesus to the temple, where immediately she began to be taunted by all the men, excluding Zechariah, who believed in the virgin birth. The Israelites questioned Mary how she came to be with child whilst unmarried, to which Mary pointed to the baby Jesus. It was then that according to the Qur’an the infant Jesus began to speak in the cradle, and spoke of his prophecy for the first time.



**Christmas Parade – December 7, 2013**



**More photos on our website!**

TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER – 2013

The meeting was called to order at the Downtown Diner on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 11:59 a.m. by President Pat Damler with the following members present:

|   |                      |   |                          |   |                          |
|---|----------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| X | Tammy Baer-Pres Elec |   | Janet Butler - Secy      | X | Donna Motley (2015)      |
| X | Lorraine Best (2014) |   | David Butler - Webmaster |   | Tom Sturgis (2015)       |
| X | Margo Blaudow (2016) | X | Pat Damler - Pres        | X | Alan Shoemaker – P. Pres |
| X | Carol Burwash (2014) |   | Candy Hudson – Treas     |   |                          |
| X | Pete Buckley (2016)  | X | Jerry Leonard – V.P.     |   |                          |

The following items of business were discussed:

1. Minutes of November 13, 2013 Board Meeting - Pete Buckley made a motion that the Board Meeting Minutes be approved as submitted to the Board members. Jerry Leonard seconded the motion and it was approved.
2. November 2013 Monthly Report – Donna Motley made a motion that the report be approved. Carol Burwash seconded the motion and it was approved.
3. Treasurer’s Report – Candy had emailed the report to Board members for review. As of December 11, 2013 the current balance in the Treasury is \$4,555.84. The major disbursements were (a) \$988.00 to Kiwanis Peanut Day, Inc. for peanuts; (b) \$639.00 to North Ward Grade School as a Christmas donation; and (c) \$200.00 to the Tuscola Christmas Bureau as a donation. Tammy Baer made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Carol Burwash seconded the motion and it was approved.
4. Reimbursements/Disbursements –No new reimbursements or disbursements.
5. New Donation Requests – None
6. 2014 Governor’s Visit - March 15, 2014



7. Eliminate Project Funding – There was discussion regarding how to increase funding for the Eliminate Project without impacting on other, more local projects. One possible solution was to take money from the administrative fund. (This is money is derived from the cost of lunches at the Red Barn. \$0.50 is collected for each attendee and is how our club funds the Spastic Paralysis Project. Brags and the 50/ 50 constitute the rest of the administrative funds) The Board has a fear that siphoning additional monies from the administrative fund may prevent the Club from having sufficient money to fund our administrative costs. The club is not allowed to use money gathered from fundraisers to pay for administrative costs, i.e. BUG supplies, and certificates.

Carol Burwash agreed to review the numbers and consult with Candy Hudson before submitting a proposal regarding the feasibility of using the administrative fund to increase Eliminate project funding. Pat stated she would investigate other options to increase Eliminate funding as well. Possible scenarios include a once-a-year request of \$25 from members who are able to contribute.

8. Gary Weber Departing for Texas – With Gary’s tragic (for us, not Gary) departure for Texas approaching, Alan Shoemaker volunteered to store the tubs of Kiwanis material currently stored at Gary’s residence, in Alan’s storage facility located in the vicinity of Center and Wilson Streets in Tuscola. No new Pancake King was selected. Pat will ask members if someone would step up to take Gary’s place. Gary will be MISSED.
9. Pancake Breakfast on February 8<sup>th</sup> – Adding to our troubles for the pancake breakfast.....Pat Damler, Janet Butler and possibly other members of the Tuscola Kiwanis Club will be attending a 9:30 a.m. Division 27 Council Meeting in Decatur on the same date. Pat and Janet plan do the early shift at the breakfast before leaving for Decatur.
10. Downtown Diner Closing – The Downtown Diner is closing on December 16<sup>th</sup> and will be moving their restaurant operation into The Country Junction, a bar/restaurant located in the town square in Newman, Illinois. Pat Damler will review the Mexican Restaurant, the Chinese Restaurant, the Smith House, the Jarman Center, and The Pantry to determine which facility best suits the needs for the monthly Board meetings.
11. Lisa, Our Favorite Waitress – Pat disclosed that a total of \$322.00 was collected for Lisa, our Amishland waitress. Pat will exchange the money in order to have a more manageable group of bills. She will circulate the envelope for those who were not at the December 1 meeting.

12. Items for Jan 2014 Meeting- Middle School Builders Club, 2013/2014 Distinguished Club Criteria, and February 7 Music Boosters' Sock Hop

13. Next Meeting – The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at a location to be announced by Pat Damler. By that date you will have a more competent secretary to take meeting minutes.

14. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Faithfully Submitted by:  
Peter M. Buckley – Substitute Secretary



*Baby, it's cold outside!*

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New items on the website include: weekly meeting photos and more. Please provide any pictures, updates and corrections for newsletter or website to:

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