



Kiwaniis®

KIWANIS CLUB OF TUSCOLA NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017

See club information and photos on our website at www.tuscolakiwanis.org
and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/tuscolakiwanisclub

2017 Events/Activities

Wednesday, January 11	Board Meeting – The Smith House
Wednesday, February 8	Board Meeting – The Smith House
Saturday, February 25	Pancake Breakfast – Forty Martyrs Hall
Thur. & Friday March 30 & 31	Fish Fry Thaw and Dinner – Forty Martyrs Hall
Saturday, April 8	Easter Egg Hunt – Ervin Park (rain: 4/15)
Saturday, May 20	Document Shredding/Electronic Recycle Event
Saturday, June 10	Douglas County Relay for Life

Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

January 2	Andy Brzozkiewicz
January 9	Cathy Buckley
January 16	Pete Buckley
January 23	Carol Burwash
January 30	Bill Bauer
February 6	Wilma Allen
February 13	Jan Chappell
February 20	NO MEETING – Presidents’ Day
February 27	Deon Chester
March 6	Marge Conn
March 13	Jack Corum
March 20	Sharon Corum
March 27	Mike Damler

April 3	Easter Egg Stuffing
April 10	Linda Damler
April 17	Pat Damler
April 24	Jeannine Fortney
May 1	Darla Gardner
May 8	Debbie Graber
May 15	Carol Hausmann
May 22	Jim Hausmann
May 29	NO MEETING – Memorial Day
June 5	Judy Heilich
June 12	Kim Higgins
June 19	Sherrie Hoel
June 26	Tim Hoel

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](#)

It Was So Snowy and Cold that...

- Roosters were rushing into Kentucky Fried Chicken and begging to use the pressure cooker!
- When I dialed 911, a recorded message said to call back in the spring!
- Pickpockets were sticking their hands in strangers' pockets just to keep them warm!
- The squirrels in the park were throwing themselves at an electric fence!
- The rats were bribing the alley cats for a snuggle.
- Words froze in the air. If you wanted to hear what someone said, you had to grab a handful of sentences and take them in by the fire!
- We pulled everything out of the freezer and huddled inside it to warm up!
- The Husky Association was making emergency service calls to get the dog teams started!



Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2016

- **Attendance**

48 – Members

3 – Guests: Bill Thurn-guest of Jan Chappell, Katie Birchenough-granddaughter of Joyce and Andy Brzozkiewicz, and our speaker, Jason Wallace

- **Free Lunch Winner** – Linda Damler

- **Birthdays** – Kim Higgins 12/7, Jerry Reynolds 12/7, Marci Shoemaker 12/7

- **Brags** – Pete Buckley, David Butler, Janet Butler, Jan Chappell, Mike Damler, Jeannine Fortney, Judy Landeck, Paul Wisovaty

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

Christmastown Results – The club raised \$510.50 at our Christmastown Craft Fair table. There were \$118.50 in donations, \$109.00 for the lithograph raffle, and \$283.00 in baked goods sales. The lithograph winner was Ginger Swartz from Mattoon.

One Stop Community Christmas Results – Due to the generosity of members and others, the club donated 489 pairs of underwear, and 744 pairs of socks. At this 2016 event, 561 low-income families were served totally 2,051 children. Great job!

Thank You Note – The club received a thank you note from the School Band for donating snacks and beverages for their lunch after the Veterans Parade and Ceremony.

Program:



Elaine Bryant introduced our guest speaker, Jason Wallace. Jason is the new principal at North Ward Elementary School. Jason opened the program by thanking the club for

sponsoring the K-Kids Club, and for all the volunteering that members do at North Ward.

Jason grew up in Champaign. He first worked in television and his family's business. He then decided to go back to school to be able to teach. His teaching career started in Mahomet and then Monticello, and then four years teaching kindergarten in Atwood. He served as a principal for six years in Rantoul, and then in Decatur where he was responsible for the education of over six hundred pre-school children. This is his first year as principal in Tuscola.

He said that many things have changed in the years since he has been teaching. The schools are responsible for academic, social and emotional learning. There is statewide standards and testing.

At North Ward students for at least part of their day, work in small group centers. Students are encouraged to take leadership roles in the classrooms.

Jason and his wife have three children...1st, 4th, and 7th grades. His wife is originally from Atwood. Jason and his family are enjoying living in the Tuscola community.

Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2016

- Attendance

48 – Members

4 – Guests: Decatur Early Birds Interclub-Richie Barnett, Paul Francis and John Pulley; and Katie Birchenough-granddaughter of Joyce and Andy Brzozkiewicz

- Free Lunch Winner – Val Morgan

- Birthdays – Bill Bauer 12/14

- Brags – Janet Butler, Dave Morgan, Val Morgan, and Dennis Opperman

- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

PASS Need Volunteers – David Butler reported that Susan Hall is looking for after school PASS volunteers on Mondays and Thursdays from 4-5p. If you can help, call Susan at the Tuscola United Methodist Church at 253-4232.

Program:



Joyce Brzozkiewicz provided a program on the Christmas Traditions of Belgium and Poland. Joyce's father was born in Belgium and Andy was born in Poland.

Andy and Joyce have followed American and Catholic traditions in their family.

Joyce's family comes from the Flemish portion of Belgium. One of the most important festivals celebrated during Christmas is the feast of St. Nicholas, which is held on December 6th. The day begins

with church service and ends with a quiet meal at the dinner table with family. Baked treats and special Belgian specialties are prepared on this day. This is also the day when St. Nicholas visits homes and leaves gifts for good children. Christmas trees are erected and decorated with lights. The families eagerly wait for St. Nicholas to come on the 6th of December and also wait for gifts on the 25th of December during Christmas.

On January 6 is Epiphany, the oldest Christian celebration, celebrating the revelation that God's son came down in human form as Jesus Christ. It's also known as Three Kings' Day, where children may dress in costume and go door to door singing songs in exchange for candy or coins, kind of like Halloween.

In Poland, St. Nicholas Day which falls on Dec. 6, starts off the Christmas holidays. St. Nicholas comes in a red robe and white beard with a staff. Children are given apples and special cookies. He brings gifts on St. Nicholas Day and Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve starts as a day of fasting. The Wigilla feast begins at the appearance of the first star. There is no red meat and fish, usually carp, is served. Many traditional dishes and desserts are served. The feast is followed by putting up the tree, singing carols, and exchanging of gifts. Christmas Eve ends with Midnight Mass. Christmas Day starts with early morning mass and then visiting with family and friends.

Poland also celebrates Epiphany, January 6, with caroling, parades, and Nativity scene reenactments, commemorating the three kings' visit to Jesus and his baptism in the Jordan river.

Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2016

• Attendance

52 – Members

2 – Guests: Katie Birchenough, granddaughter of Joyce and Andy Brzozkiewicz and former Kiwanian Gary Weber

• Free Lunch Winner – Carol Martin

• Birthdays – Kevin Nolan 12/19, Tom Sturgis 12/20, Craig Seaman 12/22, Maureen Bergeson 12/24, Carol Burwash 12/24, Barb Moss 12/25, Debbie Graber 12/26, Colleen Bean 12/29

• Brags – Tammy Baer, Pat Damler, Debbie Graber, Pat Sturgis, Paul Wisovaty

• News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

SAM Pantry Member Donations – A total of \$578.00 was generously donated from members for SAM Pantry. A check presentation is planned for our January 2 meeting.

Ring the Bell – Members again “rang the bell” for Tuscola Salvation Army, and the Board approved a \$100.00 donation from club funds.



Thank You to Flesor's – Ann Beck, Devon Story, and Flesor's staff was thanked for hosting us each Monday with a private buffet and great service. A card was presented including member tips for the staff.

Program:

Hosts Pat & Tom Sturgis welcomed everyone with Christmas music playing before our meeting started. Pat had made delicious turtle candy and Debbie Graber made holiday decorated sugar cookies for all. The traditional Kiwanis song to the tune of Good King Wenceslaus was sung. There was a team alphabet game, caroling, and door prizes. Winners of the door prizes were Andy Brzozkiewicz, Jim Hausmann, and Nancy Reynolds. Fun for all!!!



Christmastown – December 2-3, 2016



More Photos on Club Website

Christmas Parade – December 3, 2016



More Photos on Club Website

**TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB &
KIWANIS CLUB OF TUSCOLA ILLINOIS FOUNDATION
2016 DECEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at The Smith House on Wednesday December 14, 2016 at 12:05 PM by President David Butler with the following officers, club directors and guests present:

X	Carol Beals (2017)	X	Jan Chappell – Pres Elect		Guests:
	Maureen Bergeson (2018)	X	Jim Hausmann (2017)	X	Tammy Baer
	Char Bontrager (2019)	X	Candy Hudson – Treasurer	X	Carol Burwash
X	Pete Buckley – Vice Pres		Jerry Leonard – Past Pres	X	Sherrie Hoel
X	David Butler – Pres	X	Carol Martin (2019)	X	Tim Hoel
X	Janet Butler – Secretary	X	Jerry Reynolds (2018)	X	Dave Morgan
				X	Val Morgan

The following items of business were conducted:

1. Minutes of November Board Meeting – Jan Chappell made a motion that the minutes be approved as presented. Jerry Reynolds seconded the motion and it was approved. Copy of Board meeting minutes are on club website under “Members Area.”
2. November Secretary’s Monthly Reports – Janet Butler had emailed Board members copies of the monthly Tuscola Volunteer Hours report and the Kiwanis International monthly report for their review. There were 1,030 service and 133 fundraising hours reported for a total of 1,163 hours. Carol Beals made a motion to approve the reports. Pete Buckley seconded the motion, and it was approved. Copies of the monthly reports are on club website under “Members Area.”
3. November Treasurer’s Monthly Reports – Candy Hudson had emailed Board members a copy of the club and foundation monthly treasurer’s reports. As of 12/14/16, the current balance for the club is \$3,414.12 and the foundation balance is \$10,855.56. Carol Martin made a motion to approve the reports as submitted. Jan Chappell seconded the motion and it was approved. Copy of treasurer’s reports are on club website under “Members Area.”

4. Disbursements/Reimbursements –

Approved disbursements:

<i>Club Administrative Account</i>	<i>Club Foundation Account</i>
(none)	\$100.00 – Tuscola Salvation Army \$25.00 – Reimbursement to Tammy Baer background check for Builders Club \$1,302.00 – Reimbursement to Janet Butler for One Stop Community Christmas purchases.

Pete Buckley made a motion to approve donating \$100.00 to Tuscola Salvation Army, reimbursing Tammy Baer \$25.00 for her Kiwanis background check, and reimbursing Janet Butler for \$1,302.00 for One Stop Community Christmas sock/underwear purchases. Carol Martin seconded the motion and it was approved.

5. New Donation Requests – See above. \$100.00 donation to Tuscola Salvation Army approved.

6. Builders Club – Tammy Baer, Builders Club Advisor, reported that she has received a “clear” background check from Kiwanis International. The next step is to plan a recruitment event with Builders Club Faculty Advisor Duane Huffman and co-club advisor Margo Blaudow. After discussion, it was agreed that once a date was confirmed for the event, that a sign-up sheet would be sent around to ask Kiwanians for donations of cookies/brownies, bottled water and soft drink beverages. Once enough members have been recruited, the Builders Club application will be completed and sent to Kiwanis International with a check. Once approved, a charter event will be planned. Duane Huffman and Tammy Baer are expected to attend our January 2 meeting for new member induction.

7. Document Shredding/Electronic Recycling Project – Dave Morgan provided an update for this service project to be held Saturday May 20, 2017 at Ervin Park. For the last two years, this project has been for document shredding only. In May, it will be document shredding and electronic recycling. For electronic recycling, we will accept computers, microwaves, tube televisions, flat screen televisions, monitors, small appliances (i.e. toaster, mixer, blender), routers, stereo systems, speakers, modems, printers, and small electronic items. We will NOT accept console or rear projection televisions or large appliances (washer, dryer, refrigerator, freezer, or similar).

For electronic recycling, there will be 2 enclosed trailers. Kiwanis will provide the labor for unloading/loading. The cost is \$350.00 per trailer with the City of Tuscola paying for one trailer, and our club paying for one trailer. Dave reported that if we could locate one more trailer, its cost would be \$175.00, and asked if anyone could provide a third trailer. This trailer would have to be driven down to Charleston to be unloaded at the vendor.

We will use a double lane at Ervin Park for the event. This will be a free event for Tuscola residents and all Tuscola Kiwanians. We will have donation containers. Proof of residency will be requested, when needed. Items such as a driver's license, utility bill, or something similar is acceptable. Tim Hoel volunteered to make additional signs to cover the electronic recycling portion of the event.

8. Illinois Sales Tax Exemption Update – Janet Butler reported that she received today a denial for Illinois sales tax exemption for our club's foundation. She and Tammy Baer will submit an appeal and prepare for a hearing. No explanation was given except to say that the organization did not meet the state's requirement.
[Update: Janet called the number on the denial letter to ask if more information could be provided. The person who processed the request was not in the office so the person Janet talked to pulled up the information. He advised that the denial was based on an error with the processor thinking this was a Kiwanis Club asking for the exemption. The request is being re-reviewed and Janet was instructed to call back Wednesday, December 22.]
9. Go Baby Go Project – Past Lt. Governor Charles Smith asked via Janet Butler if the Tuscola Kiwanis Club would be interested in helping support the Go Baby Go project. This project was started by the Oak Forest Kiwanis Club, and provides small electric cars to generally pre-school children that are disabled from spina bifida and similar conditions. Charles had said that an effort was underway to identify children in central Illinois who could benefit from this project. After discussion, the Board agreed to take a wait and see attitude, asking Janet Butler to advise Charles and if/when any children are identified, to send a list of city locations, but without names, and again request if Tuscola Kiwanis is interested in becoming involved.
10. Next Board Meeting – The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at the Smith House at noon.
11. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM.

Submitted by:
Janet Butler – Secretary



It's Really Winter Now!

Please provide any pictures, updates and corrections for newsletter or website to:
dbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org or jbutler@tuscolakiwanis.org