



# Kiwaniis®

## KIWANIS CLUB OF TUSCOLA NEWSLETTER MAY 2015

See club information and photos on our website at [www.tuscolakiwanis.org](http://www.tuscolakiwanis.org)  
and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/tuscolakiwanisclub](http://www.facebook.com/tuscolakiwanisclub)

### 2015 Events/Activities

Friday & Saturday - May 1-2	I-I 100 <sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Event – Gurnee, IL
Saturday, May 9	Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive with U.S.P.S.
Wednesday, May 13	Board Meeting – The Smith House
Tuesday, May 19	K-Kids Lunchtime Picnic – Ervin Park
Saturday, June 6	Relay For Life - TCHS
Wednesday, June 10	Board Meeting – The Smith House
Thur-Sun – June 25-28	Kiwaniis Int’l Convention – Indianapolis IN
Thur-Sun – August 6-9	Kiwaniis I-I District Convention – Peoria, IL
Saturday, October 10	Homecoming Pancake Breakfast – Comm. Bldg.

### Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

May 4	Elaine Bryant
May 11	Dan Russell
May 18	Patty Russell
May 25	<b>NO MEETING</b> – Memorial Day
June 1	Andy Brzozkiewicz
June 8	John Davis
June 15	Pete Buckley
June 22	Carol Burwash
June 29	Jan Chappell
July 6	David Butler
July 13	Janet Butler
July 20	Marge Conn

July 27	Jack Corum
August 3	Sharon Corum
August 10	Linda Damler
August 17	Mike Damler
August 24	Pat Damler
August 31	Joyce Brzozkiewicz
September 7	<b>No Meeting – Labor Day</b>
September 14	Dave Dobson
September 21	Jeannine Fortney
September 28	Darla Gardner
October 5	Debbie Graber
October 12	Carol Hausmann
October 19	Jim Hausmann
October 26	Judy Heilich

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

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

[Click here to enter hours online](#)

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**Don't let your GPS Distract You...Look What Can Happen!**



## Meeting Minutes – April 6, 2015

- Attendance

43 – Members

3 – Guests: Ali Moss, granddaughter of Art & Barb Moss, Tammy Chappell, grandson of Jan Chappell, and our speaker, Brian Moody

- Free Lunch Winner – Pat Damler

- Birthdays – Sherrie Hoel 4/6, Mike Damler 4/8, Pat Damler 4/8, and Dave Dobson 4/8

- Brags – Tammy Baer, David Butler, Mike Damler, Jeannine Fortney, Carol Hausmann, Eloise Kennedy, and Dennis Opperman

- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

Upcoming Event Reminders – Saturday, May 9 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive with the Post Office, Tuesday, May 19 K-Kids Picnic, and Saturday, June 6 Douglas County Relay for Life, and Peace Meal Deliveries in June. Sign-up sheets will be going around for these volunteer opportunities.

Skip-A-Meal – Once a year in April, Kiwanians are asked by Kiwanis International to make a donation to its Children’s Fund through the Skip-A-Meal program. Members are asked to consider donating \$9-11, the cost of a lunch, sometime during April. Our “lunch ladies” have an envelope for your donation.

## Program:



Bill & Carol Bauer introduced our speaker, Brian Moody, executive director of Tuscola Chamber and Economic Development, provided an update on the Cronus Fertilizer Plant and some properties.

The “big” news had been announced on October 29, 2014 that the \$1.4 billion Cronus fertilizer plant would be constructed just west of Tuscola. This plant will employ about 175 permanent employees with an average annual salary of \$52,000 plus benefits. For this project, Cronus looked at 76 possible sites in nine states, so it is quite an accomplishment that Tuscola was selected. There was great support and help from the State of Illinois towards bringing this project to Tuscola. An incentive package with an estimated value of \$52 million is part of the agreement with Cronus.

The water for the plant will be coming from the Champaign-Urbana Sanitary District. There is 150 landowners involved in procuring the right-of-ways to lay the pipeline. There will be road improvements around the plant area to help with traffic flow. Construction will begin this summer/fall and is expected to take about 33 months, so start-up is expected in 2018.

In other property news, a new Taco Bell is being constructed west of Road Ranger, Sarah Bush will be constructing a clinic next to Denny’s, and Flesor’s Candy Kitchen will be expanding to the west.

## Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2015

- Attendance

52 – Members

1 – Guest: Our speaker, Susan Love

- Free Lunch Winner – Mike Damler

- Birthdays – None

- Brags – Tammy Baer, Pete Buckley, Debbie Graber, and Paul Wisovaty

- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive – Joyce Brzozkiewicz is again generously chairing the annual food drive that our club partners with the Tuscola Post Office. The food drive will be Saturday, May 9. Sign-up sheets will be going around. Joyce needs drivers and people to pick up the food who will deliver the food bags to SAM Pantry at TUMC, and volunteers to unpack and sort the food. If questions, or if you can help and will not have a chance to sign up at a meeting, contact Joyce.

Douglas County Relay for Life – Pete Buckley and Debbie Graber are co-chairing this year's Kiwanis team. The event is Saturday, June 6 from noon to midnight. The club will be selling baked goods, Gatorade and bottled water to benefit the American Cancer Society. Sign-up sheets will go around for walkers, sellers at our tent, and donators of baked goods. If you would like to make a donation, you can donate online, or at a meeting. There will be a donation box by the "lunch lady." If you would like to participate and will not have a chance to sign up at a meeting, contact Pete or Debbie.

K-Kids Spring Picnic – Tuesday, May 19 during lunchtime will be the K-Kids picnic at Ervin Park. Volunteers need to be at the park about 10:45AM. Jeannine Fortney will let us know if we are at the South or North Pavilion. A sign-up sheet will go around soon. If you would like to volunteer and will not have a chance to sign up at a meeting, contact Jeannine or Janet Butler.

### Program:



Carol Beals introduced our speaker, Susan Love, the executive director of Camp New Hope near Neoga on Lake Mattoon. The camp is

a premiere facility for recreational programs for special needs individuals, offering many different programs. The camp was made possible because in the 1950s, the City of Mattoon sold, for a dollar, forty-one acres of land for this purpose. The camp has served thousands of campers since 1974.

The camp lost its Illinois State funding in 2009. It survives on corporate sponsorships, donations and fees. It serves over 500 campers in the summer season, including Tuscola children. The camp has programs throughout the year including respite weekends. There is a financial aid program.

The facility includes air-conditioned/heated sleeping cabins and a main building with a large basement for many activities. Other amenities includes: mini-golf, pontoon boats, fishing dock, playground, train, outdoor arts and crafts building, trails, swimming pool, full accessible activity center, and more. For those members who wish to donate to the camp, an envelope will be passed at our 4/20 meeting. For more information, go to: [www.cninc.org](http://www.cninc.org)

## Meeting Minutes – April 20, 2015

- **Attendance**

52 – Members

2 – Guests: Speakers, Steve Niemann and Steve Hirst

- **Free Lunch Winner** – Sharon Corum
- **Birthdays** – Judy Heilich 4/20, Brad Allen 4/22, and Joyce Brzozkiewicz 4/23
- **Braggs** – Maureen Bergeson, Pete Buckley, Mike Damler, Jeannine Fortney, Carol Hausmann, Val Morgan, and Ed Wachala
- **News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities**

Upcoming Event Reminders – Saturday, May 9 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive with the Post Office, Tuesday, May 19 K-Kids Picnic, and Saturday, June 6 Douglas County Relay for Life, and Peace Meal Deliveries in June. Sign-up sheets are going around for these volunteer opportunities.

### **Program:**



Margo Blaudow introduced our speakers, Steve Niemann and Steve Hirst. Steve Niemann and his family are hosting a foreign exchange student through CIEE.

Steve Hirst is an exchange student from Hamburg, Germany staying with a Villa Grove host family.

CIEE is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization started 65 years ago and a world leader in international education and exchange. CIEE works with the U.S. Department of State. Steve Niemann and his wife are area coordinators for CIEE and work with Cathy Chamberlin, a regional director. The Niemanns are currently hosting, for ten months, a student from China, and in the fall from August to December will be hosting a student from Australia. Right now Villa Grove has five exchange students from China, France, Germany, and South Korea.

The Niemanns find hosting a foreign exchange student not only enriches the lives of the student, but also all the members of the host family. It exposes the family to another culture and different ways of thinking about the world.

A family can host a student for 5 months (a semester) or 10 months (a school year). One of the requirements is that the student must have his/her own bedroom or have his/her own bed, sharing a room with a same sex child of the household. It is not a requirement that a host family have children at home. Steve Hirst shared some of his experiences and thoughts about being an exchange student.

Students and host families are carefully screened. Health insurance for students is provided through CIEE. Students can come from one of fifty-five countries. If you would like more information, go to:

<http://www.ciee.org/>  
or email Steve Niemann at  
[srn74@hotmail.com](mailto:srn74@hotmail.com)

## Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2015

- Attendance

49 – Members

1 – Guest: Our speaker, Brenda Abbott

- Free Lunch Winner – Carol Burwash
- Birthdays – Maribeth Opperman 4/29
- Braggs – Maureen Bergeson, Elaine Bryant, Pete Buckley, Janet Butler, Pat Damler, Carolyn McIntyre, Dennis Opperman, Paul Wisovaty, and Doris Young
- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

Camp New Hope Donations – Kiwanians donated a total of \$610.00 to Camp New Hope!!! Wow...you are awesomely generous!!!

2014 Relay for Life Recognition – The club received a certificate recognizing our sponsorship and donations for the 2014 Douglas County Relay for Life event.

Box Tops for Schools – Tammy Baer advised that if members would like to save “Box Tops” coupons for the Tuscola schools, that members can bring them to meetings periodically and give them to Tammy or Janet Butler. They will deliver them to North Ward or East Prairie.

Upcoming Event Reminders – Saturday, May 9 Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive with the Post Office, Tuesday, May 19 K-Kids Picnic, and Saturday, June 6 Douglas County Relay for Life, and Peace Meal Deliveries in June. Sign-up sheets are going around for these volunteer opportunities.

Eliminate Project Challenge - Andy & Joyce Brzozkiewicz have generously threw down a challenge to club members benefit the Kiwanis International Eliminate Project. They will match Eliminate Project donations (up to \$1,250) that are made by club members during the month of May 2015. During May members will be reminded of the challenge. Secretary Janet Butler will send hardcopy letters to members who are not regular attendees to meetings so that they can participate in the challenge, too. Let's fill those bottles in May and maximize Andy and Joyce's wonderful offer!

Slate of Candidates for 2015/2016 Officers & Club Directors – This year's nominating committee was Chairperson Jim Wood, Dave Dobson and Dennis Opperman. Jim announced the slate of candidates as follows:

### Officers

President – Jerry Leonard  
President Elect – David Butler  
Vice President – Jan Chappell  
Secretary – Janet Butler  
Treasurer – Candy Hudson  
Past President – Tammy Baer

### Club Directors

Continuing...  
Margo Blaudow (expires 9-30-16)  
Pete Buckley (expires 9-30-16)  
Carol Beals (expires 9-30-17)  
Jim Hausmann (expires 9-30-17)  
New...  
Maureen Bergeson (expires 9-30-18)  
Jerry Reynolds (expires 9-30-18)  
Retiring...  
Donna Motley (expires 9-30-15)  
Tom Sturgis (expires 9-30-15)

2015/2016 Club Officer and Directors Election – At our meeting on May 11, we will be voting on the slate of officers and directors presented by Jim Wood. We need 52 members to attend this meeting and vote. **Please made every effort to attend the May 11 meeting so that we have a quorum.**

International Convention (ICON) Registration Drawing – It had been previously decided by the Board that two member registrations of \$275.00 each would be refunded from club funds from those members attending (ICON) in Indianapolis, and had never attended an ICON before. The qualifying names were put into a bucket and drawn by our guest speaker. Andy Brzozkiewicz and Donna Motley's names were drawn and will each receive \$275.00. Andy and Donna will also be the club's voting delegates at the ICON business session. Two additional names were drawn as the voting delegate alternates – 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate - Joyce Brzozkiewicz and 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate – Doris Young. If for any reason Andy or Donna could not be at the business session to vote, then an alternate would step in for the club.

## **Program:**



Maureen Bergeson introduced our speaker, Brenda Abbott, marketing director at The Little Theater on the Square in Sullivan. Since 1957, The Little Theatre on the Square has been bringing Broadway quality shows to Central Illinois.

The theatre was founded by Guy S. Little, Jr. Mr. Little ran the theatre as a commercial venture through 1978. After 22 years of producing outstanding theatre in Sullivan, Mr. Little moved on to pursue other ventures. In 1981, The Little Theatre on the Square began operating as a not-for-profit corporation, governed by a Central Illinois Board of Trustees.



Guy S. Little, Jr.

Very little funding is now received from the State of Illinois. The vast majority of funding comes from sponsorships, fundraisers, tickets, donations, etc.

The theatre seats 420 people, and has seven full-time employees, as well as many volunteers. This year's summer season includes six shows, and four children's shows. For more information and dates for the shows and/or to buy tickets, call 217-728-7375 or go to:

<http://www.thelittletheatre.org/>

**BETHS Place Clean-Up 4/25/15**



Mmmm....home baked goodies from Marge!!!

More Photos on Club Website





*Peonies Mean It's May!*

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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)