



Kiwaniis®

CLUB OF TUSCOLA

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2024

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

2024 Events/Activities

Friday, December 6	Christmastown Parade – 6p; line-up 5:30p
Friday/Saturday, December 6-7	Christmastown Bake Sale – Community Bldg
Tuesday, December 10	Board Meeting – The Pantry at noon

2025 Events/Activities

Monday, January 13	Board Meeting – The Pantry at noon
Thursday/Friday, March 27-28	Fish Fry Thaw/Dinner – Forty Martyrs
Saturday, April 12 (tentative)	Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 26	Take Back Drugs
Saturday, May 17 (tentative)	Stamp Out Hunger
Wed-Sat, July 9-12	Garage Sale – Forty Martyrs Hall

Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

December 4	Doris Young
December 11	Carol Beals
December 18	Club Christmas Party
December 25	NO MEETING – Christmas
January 1	NO MEETING – New Years
January 8	Carol Burwash
January 15	Elaine Bryant
January 22	Maureen Bergeson
January 29	Janet Butler
February 5	Dan Craddock

February 12	Jeannie Craddock
February 19	Linda Damler
February 26	Mike Damler
March 5	Pat Damler
March 12	Marsha Dawson
March 19	Kathleen Dyer
March 26	Linda Glenn
April 2	Sue Gavin
April 9	Stuff Easter Eggs
April 16	Debbie Graber
April 23	Kim Higgins
April 30	Tim Hoel
May 7	Candy Hudson
May 14	Judy Landeck
May 21	Jean Leonard
May 27	Jerry Leonard

If your program date does **not** work for you, please arrange a swap and notify Janet Butler as soon as possible so the calendar can be updated.

**Don't forget to give Janet Butler your Volunteer Hours
at the end of the month!**



“Hello, young man. They tell me you’re quite the wrapper!”

Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2024

- Attendance

39 – Members

6 – Guests: Key Club officers-Tessa Brucker, Carleigh Kleiss, Claire Leonard, Lidia Manzella, Allison Petry , and Olivia Wallace

- Birthdays – None

- Brags – Carol Burwash, David Butler, Jeannie Craddock, Debbie Graber, Jessie Hanner, Kim Higgins, Tim Hoel, and Patty Russell

- Free Lunch Winner – Mike Damler

- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

New Member Induction – Jeremy Bennett was inducted into the club by President Jeannie Craddock and LTG Pete Buckley.



KNRF Challenge – The Buckley and Butlers have challenged members to match their KNRF donations of \$1,000 each for a total of \$2,000. Deadline to donate is December 11th. The result will be announced at our club Christmas party on December 18.

Ring the Ball for Salvation Army – The club will again ring the bell at Kirby Foods on Saturday, November 23. Sue Wisovaty is passing a sign-up sheet.

Key Club News – The club welcomed the Key Club officers to today’s meeting. Carleigh Kleiss was the September Key Club Volunteer of the Month with 11 service hours.



Kiwanis Kids Day Results – Our community was so very generous this year! Donations totaled \$4,730.90!

Christmastown Parade – This year will be a “lighted” parade Friday, December 6. Line up at 5:30p, leaving Ervin Park at 6p. We will have K-Kids and Builders Club joining us. Members are encouraged to decorate their golf carts and join in.

Christmastown Bake Sale – Elaine Bryant and Debbie Graber are co-chairing our bake sale at the Community Building December 6-7. Online sign-ups are open for working the table and donating baked items. Hard copy sign-ups will be passed around at our November meetings.

One Stop Community Christmas – Saturday, December 14 – Lake Land College Mattoon – Online volunteer sign-up is open. If members wish to donate to help the Mattoon Kiwanis Club purchase socks and underwear, an envelope will be passed around November 13 & 20.

Upcoming Events:

Ring the Bell – 11/23

Christmastown Bake Sale/Parade – 12/6-7

Program:



David provided a fun program with trivia questions and candy prizes.

Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2024

- Attendance

34 – Members

1 – Guest: Christina Wooley

- Birthdays – 11/13 Glen Simpson 11/18 Suzanne Moody
- Brags –David Butler, Jeannie Craddock, Linda Damler, Tim Hoel, and Doris Young
- Free Lunch Winner – Tim Hoel
- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

Decatur Early Birds Cheese Fundraiser –

The Early Birds are again doing a cheese fundraiser. They will be bringing cheese to our 11/20 meeting. To assure you get what you want, Kim Higgins is taking advance orders. See her for prices and choices.

Board Meeting News –

-Approved \$500 from the Teachers Grant fund and \$500 from the club’s foundation unrestricted funds for a total of \$1,000 for the Transitions Project. This project’s objective is to provide a glass recycling service to the community, which provides early and ongoing teaching and learning experiences for Tuscola’s special needs students. The total cost of the project is \$9,313.15. Our donations is contingent on full funding being raised and the project moving forward to completion. No disbursement is being made at this time.

-Approved \$100 donation to the Tuscola United Methodist Church Children/Youth Programs as a thank you for allowing us to meet at the church during Flesor’s major renovation.

-Formed a “banner” committee of Dave Butler, Tim Hoel and Carol Burwash to assess all the club’s banner and recommend to the Board what needs replacing or added. David will also proceed with updating the club’s presentation bank check used for photo ops.

-Agreed to again request members to donate \$10 in lieu of a gift exchange at the club Christmas party 12/18. This year the donations will be divided between North Ward, East Prairie, and TCHS for Teacher Appreciation activities.

Upcoming Events:

Ring the Bell – 11/23

Christmastown Bake Sale – 12/6-7

Program:



Sue Wisovaty introduced our speaker, Christina Wooley from the Embarras River Basin Agency (ERBA). She is also the welfare secretary/treasurer of the Tuscola Salvation Army.

Donations in the Tuscola Red Kettles stay in Tuscola to help low-income families, up to \$150 per household per year. They collect toys/clothing for children with their Angel Tree tags.

ERBA provides many services to low-income families such as assistance with utility bills, gas cards, rent, counseling, and referrals to other agencies for assistance.

Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2024

- Attendance

28 – Members

7 – Guests: Decatur Early Birds-Bill Meyer, Dan Gaumer, Robert Ruchrup, Rikki Parker, and Doug Warren; Pastor Bennett Woods, and our speaker Pastor Kim Woods.

- Birthdays – 11/25 Dale Boyer
- Brags – Pete Buckley, Jeannie Craddock, Pat Damler, Kim Higgins, Tim Hoel, Jerry Leonard, and Sue Wisovaty
- Free Lunch Winner – Pete Buckley
- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

New Member Induction– Former member Lisa McCallister was inducted into the club by President Jeannie Craddock and LTG Pete Buckley.



Lisa...welcome back!!!

Christmastown Parade – This year will be a “lighted” parade Friday, December 6. Line up at 5:30p, leaving Ervin Park at 6p. We will have K-Kids and Builders Club joining us. Members are encouraged to decorate their golf carts and join in.

Christmastown Bake Sale – Elaine Bryant and Debbie Graber are co-chairing our bake sale at the Community Building December 6-7. Online sign-ups are open for working the table and donating baked items. Hard copy sign-ups will be passed around at our November meetings.

2025 Kiwanis Garage Sale – MARK YOUR CALENDARS – JULY 9-12 AT FORTY MARTYRS HALL. As co-chairs Julie Slaughter and Cindy Wood will lead the event with their core committee members. Start checking out your closets, garages, and drawers for items to donate. The donation guidelines will be provided to members in January 2025.

Upcoming Events:

Ring the Bell – 11/23

Christmastown Bake Sale – 12/6-7

Program:



Paul Wisovaty introduced our speaker, Pastor Kim Woods. She is a deacon at the Tuscola United Methodist Church and serves as the Children/Youth Director and coordinated of SAM Food Pantry.

The pantry serves the residents of Douglas County. A walk-in refrigerator was recently installed so that the pantry can offer milk and more refrigerated items provided by Tuscola Dollar General at no cost through the Feed America program and Dollar General donated items including shelf items. Most weeks, Kirby Foods provides bread, buns, and assorted baked items at no cost.

In Illinois one out of six children suffer food hunger on a regular basis. In the U.S. 47 million children experience food insecurity. SAM Pantry serves 25-30 families per week. The pantry is open Wednesdays 7:30a-10:00a at the Tuscola United Methodist Church.

**TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB &
KIWANIS CLUB OF TUSCOLA ILLINOIS FOUNDATION
2024 NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at The Pantry on Monday, November 11, 2024 at 12:01 p.m. by President Jeannie Craddock with the following officers, club directors and guests present as noted by an “X”:

Carol Burwash – V.P.	X	Candy Hudson – Treas	X	Guests:	
David Butler – Webmaster	X	Carol Martin (2026)	AB		
Janet Butler – Secretary	X	Jeff Martin (2025)	AB		
Jeannie Craddock – President	X	Ian Rominger – Pres Elect	X		
Dan Craddock (2027)	X	Julie Slaughter (2026)	AB		
Sue Gavin (2027)	X	Cindy Wood (2025)	AB		
Kim Higgins – Past Pres	X				

The following items of business were conducted:

1. Consent Agenda –

-Minutes of October 9,2024 Board Meeting

-Secretary’s Monthly Reports –Hours reported were 712 service and 160 fundraising hours for total volunteer hours of 872. The top volunteers were Tim Hoel and Jeannie Craddock.

-Treasurer’s Monthly Reports –For balances ending November 11, 2024, the club was \$4,906.24 and for the foundation \$16,575.73.

Carol Burwash made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Kim Higgins seconded the motion, and it was approved. Copies of the reports are included in Board Meeting Documents under “Board Reports” in the “Members Area” of the club website.

2. Disbursements/Reimbursements –

Approved disbursements:

<i>Club Administrative Account</i>	<i>Club Foundation Account</i>
	\$500.00 budgeted + members’ donations for One Stop Community Christmas \$200.00 Douglas County Museum Santa Stop budgeted \$35.00 Reimburse Jessie Hanner for Kiwanis background check renewal \$100.00 Tuscola United Methodist Church – Children/Youth Fund as a thank you for allowing the club to meet at the church during Flesor’s renovation.

Ian Rominger made a motion to approve the first three disbursements above. Sue Gavin seconded the motion, and it was approved. Carol Burwash made a motion to approve the fourth disbursement above. David Butler seconded the motion, and it was approved.

3. New Donation Requests – Transitions Project – Dr. April Jackson is requesting assistance to fund this project. The project’s objective is to provide a glass recycling service to the community, which provides early and ongoing teaching and learning experiences for Tuscola our special needs students. The total cost of the project is \$9,313.15. After discussion, Janet Butler made a motion to donate \$500 from the Teachers Grant fund and \$500 from the foundation’s unrestricted funds, contingent on full funding being raised and the project moving forward to completion. No disbursement of \$1,000 will be made at this time. Janet will advise Dr. Jackson.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Kiwanis Kids Days – Final results...gross donations \$4,846.95 less expenses of \$127.08 for a net gain of \$4,719.87.
2. Trunk or Treat – About 700 children were served. The club did not run out of candy, and the leftover candy will be provided to the K-Kids and Builders Club for the Tuscola Christmas Parade.
3. Committee/Chair List – Jeannie prepared a list of the many service projects and fundraisers that the club supports. Copy enclosed.
4. Membership Drive Plan – Jeannie and Janet had completed and submitted the requested forms to KI and I-I Governor Kim Groom. Board members received copies.
5. 2024/2025 Distinguished Criteria – Board members were provided a copy of the criteria and the worksheet that Janet Butler will use to track the club’s progress during this Kiwanis year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. New Member Approval & Confirmation – Kim Higgins submitted a membership application for Lisa McAllister, former club member. Carol Burwash made a motion to approve. Sue Gavin seconded the motion, and it was approved. Confirmed that Jeremy Bennett was approved by the Board via email 10/28/24.
2. Board Meeting Date Change – The Board agreed to move the December meeting to Tuesday, December 10...usual time and place.

3. KNRF Donations – Jeannie will remind members of the option to donate to KNRF until the December 11th deadline. Results will be announced at the club Christmas party December 18th. Donations will be held until a date is set in the Spring to present Ken Whitmore. Checks to: Tuscola Kiwanis Club Foundation.
4. Christmastown Parade – Tuscola's First Annual Lighted Christmas Parade will take place on Friday, December 6 at 6 p.m. Lineup at 5:30 p.m. at Ervin Park. The Board agreed to provide one trailer for up to 15 K-Kids and 10 Builders Club. Candy left from Trunk or Treat, the Butlers have bagged it up into 25 individual bags for the kids. This is a “lighted” and the Board agreed we would use battery operated lights. Members will be encouraged to decorate their golf carts and follow the Kiwanis trailer. David Butler will provide Christmas music from his golf cart.
5. Christmastown Bake Sale – Janet reported that Elaine and Debbie had met, and the online sign-up is up. Hardcopy sign-up will be provided starting Wednesday. Everything is on track.
6. Club Christmas Party Donation – Members will again be asked to donate \$10. If members cannot attend, but would like to donate, there will be an envelope at the lunch lady tables beginning December 4. Dave Butler made a motion that this year’s donations be divided between North Ward, East Prairie, and TCHS for Teacher Appreciation activities. Ian Rominger seconded the motion, and it was approved.
7. Tuscola Salvation Army Bell Ringing – The club is being asked to ring the bell at Kirby Foods 9a-4p on Saturday, November 23. An updated sign-up sheet will be passed around at our next meeting.
8. Banners/Presentation Check – Board discussed updating the banners and the large presentation check. Dave Butler volunteered to take care of a new presentation check. David said he would ask Tim Hoel to assist him in inventorying all the clubs banners and making of list of which banners should be replaced/updated.

Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:22PM.

Next Board Meeting – The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at The Pantry.

Submitted by: Janet Butler – Secretary



The light to the world!

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