



Kiwaniis®

CLUB OF TUSCOLA

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025

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

2025 Events/Activities

Saturday, April 12	Easter Egg Hunt – rain date April 19
Saturday, April 26	Nunn Scout Building Cleanup – 8a-9a
Saturday, April 26	Take Back Drugs – NW School 9a-noon
Saturday, May 17	Stamp Out Hunger
Friday, May 30	Downtown Movie Night
Friday, June 27	Downtown Movie Night
Wed-Sat, July 9-12	Garage Sale – Forty Martyrs Hall
Thursday, Sept 11	Stewardship Day – Walnut Point
Friday, Sept 26	Homecoming Parade
Saturday, Sept 27	Homecoming Breakfast – Community Building
Tuesday, October 28	Halloween Downtown Trunk or Treat
Wednesday, October 29	Safety Day – Arthur Christian School
Fri/Sat, December 5-6	Christmastown activities

Upcoming Meetings & Program Assignments

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 28	Jerry Leonard
June 4	Carol Martin
June 11	Jeff Martin
June 18	Lisa McCallister
June 25	Dave Moody
July 2	Suzanne Moody
July 9	NO MEETING – Garage sale
July 16	Val Morgan
July 23	Lori Nichols
July 30	Dennis Opperman
August 6	Maribeth Opperman
August 13	Patty Russell
August 20	Marci Shoemaker
August 27	Glen Simpson
September 3	Sandy Simpson
September 10	Julie Slaughter
September 17	Wayne Ward
September 24	Jerie Wills

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!**



Meeting Minutes – March 5, 2025

- **Attendance**

30 – Members

4 – Guests: Mike & Becky Carroll, Amy Church, and Ollie Lauwers

- **Birthdays** – None

- **Brags** – Elaine Bryant, Pete Buckley, Carol Burwash, David Butler, Jeannie Craddock, Pat Damler, Tim Hoel

- **Free Lunch Winner** – Jean Leonard

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

Key Club Volunteer of the Month – Carleigh Kleiss was recognized as the January 2025 Key Club Volunteer of the Month, receiving a framed certificate and a \$25 gift card.

Upcoming Events:

March 27/28 – Fish Thaw & Fish Fry

April 12 – Easter Egg Hunt

Program:



Club President –
Jeannie Craddock

Membership Recruitment – Jeannie welcomed guests and presented the program consisting of information about Kiwanis International and our club. Who we are and what we do. She discussed club service projects, fundraisers, leadership/service clubs/programs in Tuscola schools, and more.



Kiwanis
CLUB OF TUSCOLA



Meeting Minutes – March 12, 2025

- Attendance

34 – Members

1 – Guest: Josh Norman, our speaker

- Birthdays – None

- Braggs – Maureen Bergeson, Pete Buckley, David Butler, Jeannie Craddock, Tim Hoel, Jaci Manzella, Dennis Opperman

- Free Lunch Winner – Lori Nichols

- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

New Member Induction – President Jeannie Craddock and LTG Pete Buckley inducted and welcomed new corporate member Flesor's Candy Kitchen, represented by Devon Story, co-owner.



Trauma Dolls – Maribeth handed out trauma dolls that were marked, but not cut out. Thanks to those Kiwanians who volunteered and took bags.

Upcoming Events:

March 27/28 – Fish Thaw & Fish Fry

April 12 – Easter Egg Hunt

Program:



Marsha Dawson introduced Josh Norman, EIU Vice President for Enrollment Management. He is an Air Force veteran, and has worked at EIU in various positions for 17 years. Josh said he has a passion and heart for the next generation which makes him perfect for his job. EIU's total enrollment is currently about 8,200 under and post graduate students.

Unfortunately, Josh reported that a higher number of high school graduates are going out-of-state for college, which frequently leads to them working outside of Illinois and not returning to the area.

John outlined a number of benefits for a graduating Illinois senior to choose a college in Illinois including:

- Scholarships – state, community, organizations, etc. that offer scholarships to Illinois and/or local students in their community designated for entrance to Illinois only colleges.
- Tuition waiver programs
- First generation scholarships
- Family generation scholarships
- Textbook rental
- Freshman Connection program for support, mentoring, and weekly meal
- Direct admission – no fee
- And more.

Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2025

- **Attendance**

26 – Members

1 – Guests: Elizabeth (Izzy) Settle-granddaughter of Kim Higgins, and our speaker, James Young

- **Birthdays** – 3/20 Jeff Martin, 3/22 Wayne Ward, 3/24 Dennis Opperman, 3/24 Tyler Harvey, 3/25 Lorie Murphy
- **Brags** – Maureen Bergeson, Dale Boyer, David Butler, Jeannie Craddock, Tim Hoel
- **Free Lunch Winner** – Linda Glenn
- **News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities**

K-Kids Update – Our North Ward K-Kids helped with NW Reading Day.

KNRF Mega Event – The event is scheduled for Thursday, April 24 at the Holiday Inn Champaign at 5:30PM. Our club will be presenting a donation of \$4,200, raised from the Buckley-Butler challenge of late last year. Pete & Cathy Buckley and Candy Hudson will be recognized and honored with a KNRF Elble Award at the event. This is online registration only. Jeannie will email out the link. If you do not use email, contact Jeannie and she will help you get registered.

Board Meeting Minutes 3-12-25 – See page seven for the meeting minutes.

Upcoming Events:

March 27/28 – Fish Thaw & Fish Fry

April 12 – Easter Egg Hunt

Program:



Kathleen Dyer introduced James Young, chairman of the TASK (Trust-Appreciation-Support with Kindness) Mentor Program. This program is through a grant awarded to the Douglas County Health

Department.

This program serves young people from kindergarten through high school in one-to-one mentoring relationships. These relationships foster strong 1 to 1 mentor-mentee bonds that provide support and guidance to children/youth.

Each mentor is asked for one year commitment, and is encouraged to continue through the student's high school graduation. Each mentor volunteer commits to at least one hour per week with the student, either at or outside school. Mentors are encouraged to plan normal everyday activities, like seeing a movie, doing homework, playing games, going out to eat, etc. The program pays for the required background checks. Other volunteer opportunity to support this program include administrative support, event planning, outreach, and special projects.

This program cannot have any association with Kiwanis International or our club, as it requires 1-1 adult/youth interaction.

Meeting Minutes – March 26, 2025

- Attendance

33 – Members

0 – Guests:

- Birthdays – None
- Brags – Maureen Bergeson, Elaine Bryant, Pete Buckley, Carol Burwash, David Butler, Jeannie Craddock, Linda Damler, Tim Hoel (delivered by David Butler), Jerry Leonard, Dennis Opperman, Maribeth Opperman
- Free Lunch Winner – Pat Damler
- News, Announcements, Activities and/or Volunteer Opportunities

KNRF Mega Event – The event is scheduled for Thursday, April 24 at the Holiday Inn Champaign at 5:30PM. Our club will be presenting a donation of \$4,200, raised from the Buckley-Butler challenge of late last year. Pete & Cathy Buckley and Candy Hudson will be recognized and honored with a KNRF Elble Award at the event. This is online registration only. Jeannie will email out the link. If you do not use email, contact Jeannie and she will help you get registered.

Upcoming Events:

March 27/28 – Fish Thaw & Fish Fry

April 12 – Easter Egg Hunt

April 24 - KNRF Mega Event Champaign

April 26 – Nunn Scout Bldg Cleanup

April 26 – Take Back Drugs at NW

Program:



Linda Glenn presented a humorous and educational program on Everyday Idioms.

Some Examples:

Three Sheets to the Wind – Nautical term regarding sails.

Graveyard Shift – From Victorian times when a watchman was set by a grave all night to see if the bell would ring. A string from inside the coffin was ran up to above ground and attached to a bell. If the person woke up, he/she could ring the bell to get help.

Piece of Cake – From the 1930s by the Royal Airforce plane crews, meaning a crew had been assigned a supposedly easy mission.

Hit the Hay – Started when mattresses were filled with hay.

Break a Leg – From the theater world, but original unknown. Said as good luck.

Wild Goose Chase – From a type of 16th century horse race where the lead horse led the other horse in an erratic path.

**TUSCOLA KIWANIS CLUB &
KIWANIS CLUB OF TUSCOLA ILLINOIS FOUNDATION
2025 MARCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at Flesor’s Candy Kitchen on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 1:22 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)	X	Val Morgan	X
Janet Butler – Secretary	X	Jeff Martin (2025)	X		
Jeannie Craddock – President	X	Ian Rominger – Pres Elect	AB		
Dan Craddock (2027)	AB	Julie Slaughter (2026)	X		
Sue Gavin (2027)	AB	Cindy Wood (2025)	AB		
Kim Higgins – Past Pres	X				

The following items of business were conducted:

1. Consent Agenda –

- Minutes of February 10, 2025 Board Meeting
- Secretary’s Monthly Reports –Hours reported were 716 service hours. The top volunteers were Elaine Bryant and Jeannie Craddock.
- Treasurer’s Monthly Reports –For balances ending March 12, 2025, the club was \$11,914.24 and for the foundation \$23,850.15

Carol Burwash made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Carol Martin 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>
\$122.59 Reimburse Janet Butler for club badges and pins from KI Store	\$50.00 Donation to NW Reading Program in memory of Jeannine Fortney, former Kiwanian and long time K-Kids Advisor. \$46.40 Reimburse Janet Butler for Fish Fry items from Amazon \$25.85 Reimburse Janet Butler for Key Club Volunteer of the Month frames \$1,080.00 Renewal of club storage unit \$251.00 Renewal of Pekin Insurance for storage unit contents \$164.40 Reimburse Janet Butler for egg hunt candy and plastic eggs \$421.85 Reimburse Jeannie Craddock for Fish Fry items from GFS

David Butler made a motion to approve the above budgeted donation. Carol Burwash seconded the motion, and it was approved.

3. New Donation Requests – Teachers Grant submitted by Richard Knofsky for the purchase of a 3D Printer for Industrial Arts. Janet Butler made a motion to approve a donation of \$500.00, contingent on Richard securing the remaining funding to move forward with the purchase. Carol Martin seconded the motions, and it was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Banners – David Butler reported that the Fish Fry banners will be ready this week. He will pick them up from Sign Appeal in Charleston. He will store them in the club storage shed.
2. Membership Plan Update – There were four potential member guests at the March 5 recruitment dinner. So far, one has declined. Jeannie will follow up with the Carrolls. Discussion followed about how to better welcome and integrate new members into the club.
3. Christmastown Craft Fair – Jeannie provided a list of tasks/responsibilities for hosting the Tuscola Christmastown Craft Fair. Becky's Buddies is not going to host the event effective with 2025. Discussion included concerns regarding a lack of a Saturday parade, vendors unhappy about less shoppers, and not starting the race from the community building. Jeannie advised she would contact Mayor Dan Kleiss to see what the city's intentions are for the 2025 Christmas parade and race. Topic tables for our April meeting.
4. 2025/2026 Vice President and two Club Directors – The Board discussed possible candidates for the positions effective 10-1-2025.
5. Distinguished Club Status – The club is expected to meet all the criteria for District level. The club is only 15 points from KI level. Janet will review the remaining options for KI level points.
6. Fish Thaw/Fish Fry – March 27-28 - Everything is on track. Signups continuing.
7. Easter Egg Hunt – April 12 – Everything is on track. Online signups are open and hardcopy began March 12. Janet agreed to update the flyer and to place the display ad in The County Chronicle.
8. Take Back Drugs – April 26 – 9a-noon – East Prairie School - Val Morgan is chairing this service project. East Prairie is the location. She is lining up the few Kiwanian volunteers that she needs and is coordinating with city and county law enforcement.

9. Stamp Out Hunger – May 17 – No update.
10. Spring Cleanup for Nunn Scouting Building – Jeannie will contact Tim Hoel to see if he want to chair and organize this service project.

NEW BUSINESS

1. KNRF Mega Event/Governor's Visit for Divisions 25/26 – April 24 – Champaign – Doug Fink has confirmed use of the Holiday Inn Champaign for the Division 25/26 KNRF Mega Event and Governor's visit on Thursday, April 24 at 5:00 PM. The cost for the dinner will be \$25 per person. Any profit from the event will be donated to KNRF. He will be creating a registration page on the C-U club's website. When the registration link is received, Pete, Jeannie or Janet will email it out to all members. At this event, our club will be presenting a \$4,200 club foundation check for KNRF (Kiwaniis Neuroscience Research Foundation – I-I District).

This donation was raised from the Buckley/Butler KNRF challenge in late 2024. The club can award four KNRF Elble awards with this donation. Jeannie Craddock made a motion for Cathy Buckley, Pete Buckley, Candy Hudson, and the club's 2025/2026 Kiwanian of the Year to receive the award. Jeff Martin seconded the motion and it was approved. Ken Whitmore will present the three named awards at the KNRF event. The Board hopes many Tuscola Kiwanians will attend this event to meet the I-I Governor Kim Groom, learn more about KNRF, and be part of honoring Cathy, Pete, and Candy.

2. New Member Flesor's Candy Kitchen – Approved via email and confirmed by President Jeannie Craddock on March 2.
3. Aktion Club – Doug Warren, our former LTG and current secretary for Decatur Early Birds has been exploring the possibility of forming an Aktion Club within Division 25. February 27th, Kiwanians from Division 25 toured MRI (Macon Resources) facility in Decatur, IL. Every Kiwanian on the tour of MRI (a facility which makes all of Illinois license plates) was impressed with the employees. These employees are mentally challenged to some degree, live in group homes, and are transported each day to MRI to work at making license plates or attend educational classes. After going on the tour and speaking with CEO, Doug wanted to investigate opening a Kiwanis Aktion Club at MRI.

After discussion, David Butler made a motion that if Decatur Early Birds and Golden K charter a new Aktion Club, then Tuscola's budgeted \$150.00 for I-I Aktion Club Outreach be designated to the new Decatur Aktion Club. Kim Higgins seconded the motion and it was approved. We would ask the Kiwanis Advisors to keep Tuscola in the loop regarding the new club's meetings, events and activities. The Board would pass the word so members could volunteer to help when requested, attend meetings/events, etc. Janet will advise Doug Warren and Pete of the board's action.

Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28PM.

Next Board Meeting – The next Board meeting will be Monday, April 14th at The Breakfast Place.

Submitted by: Janet Butler – Secretary



And on the third day....

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