



THE COMMUNICATOR

Portage Lakes Kiwanis

Persidential Dinner Celebration

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Presidents Dinner Showcase	1
Healthy Kiwanis Food Drive	2
Kiwanis Family	2
Project Eliminate	2
Birthday's, Anniversaries Club & Personal	3
Dates to Remember	3
Key Clubs	3
What can you do to help?	4

Do you know how many Non Profit organizations are in our community?

Or what they do for the community.

Well even the Kiwanis (outside of what they do weren't 100% sure) so 3 years ago we started having the

" Presidents Dinner Showcase "

at the Civic Center.

This dinner was designed by Larry Hunter to help members of Kiwanis and local area residents find out more about the non- profit organizations.

With the help of Chuck Seeley creating programs which included a small photo of the president of each of the attending organizations & a small, brief bio. People attending were able to take the program home visit the websites of each organization and maybe find one they would be interested in donating time or something else to. Face it we can all use help at some time or another.

Though all these organizations are different and unique in their own right they have a couple things in common:

- 1) They survive off of donations and fund raisers.
- 2) And they are out to help our community and it's residence in one way or another.

In addition to this, though they are completely separate entities - they have banded together on more than one occasion to help each other out through volunteering time or money to a certain organizations project.

Some of the organizations that attended last night were:

Rotary Camp and **Camp Y-Noah** both help children by providing scholarships to attend camp. **Secret Sister** – who are these woman, They are a group of

woman who got together to help support each other through good and bad times. They then took this out into helping others in the community.

Maps Air Museum – provides a terrific place to view out history in flight. **Friends of the Library** – not only our local library but libraries all over summit country to raise money for books and other needed expenses.

Tammy's Totes – through her own families tragedy started this non profit to help families through difficult times due to their house catching on fire. She helps with clothes non parishables and other items. **Warm up Portage Lakes** – These wonderful women knit and crochet blankets, hats scarves and more for families in need. They have supplied these handmade loving items to Tammy's Totes, Portage Lakes Kiwanis Fund Raising Committee and more.

Memorial of Angels – Help supply headstones for families who have lost a loved one but can not afford the expense of a head stone.

Portage Lakes Historical Society – one day at a time records the history of the Portage Lakes. Co sponsors the Antique Boat show and more.

Akron Public Library offers many programs for children as well as adults. **Portage Lakes Purple Martin Assoc.** Help by caring for and feeding the purple martins and their new born babies. The benefit to this is it keeps the bug population down in our area. **Dragon Dream Team** through fund raisers help support woman who have breast cancer or are survivors of breast cancer. **Coventry AARP Chapter 3820** organizes fund raisers to help other area organizations. **Coventry Schools Foundation** provides grants and scholarships to Coventry Schools through donations and fund raisers. **Scottish American Society** proceeds from this organization help the

Pegasus Farm. **Goodyear Boat & Yacht** promotes interst in safety, functional of boating aspects.

Friends of the Park promotes partnership with outdoor enthusiasts and the parks.

Portage Lakes Community Council collaboration of club leaders that facilitates dialogue and resources between service organizations.

Portage Lakes Advisory Council approaches in a team framework to facilitate, educate, promote and evaluate the Portage Lakes community. **Portage Lakes Rowing Assoc** offers recreational and competitive rowing opportunities for adults in the Akron and Canton area.

Portage Lakes Disc Golf Assoc. Disc golf is played likeregular golf except that you are throwing a disc (Frisbee)

Portage Lakes Polar Bear Club provides was for people of all ages to give to various organizations. **Pirate Days Committee** through donations from local area business's and individuals provides a safe place for children and families to enjoy a day with the pirates. **Portage lakes Kiwanis** donations to fire department and families as well as donated time to other organizations.

Each of these groups or organizations has helped another group in the Portage Lakes in one way or another. To list everything I would need to go on for days.

And that is why we felt they needed to be celebrated. If you would like to know more about the individual groups visit their websites. I am sure you will love what you see.

This is a community that sticks together, a community where it is a pleasure to live.

Special points of interest:

- Presidents Upcoming events
- What is happening this summer

Healthy Kiwanis Food Drive

We are currently participating in the "Healthy Kiwanis, Healthy Community" food drive.

What is this you ask?

From now thru March 5th we will be collecting non perishable food and supplies.

The items collected will be distributed to communities through out Ohio who are in need of food and other non perishable household items in their pantry's.

Sometimes we take for granted that the items (ex: soap, toilet paper, a brush or comb, a can of

Tuna or a box of crackers will just be there when we reach for it. How many of us have actually thought about those who don't have the luxury?

There are pantry's in towns, and church's all over the State of Ohio that help to supply food to needy families. But they run low on supplies also.

How can you help? Reach in your cabinet and pull out a couple cans of corn or a box of corn bread and donate. The food you are not eating could help a child, elderly person or a parent wanting to put food on the table for their family.

To date we have collected

approximately 2 boxes of non perishable food. It can be any type of non perishable food or product. Example: toilet paper, shampoo, dish soap, body soap, can goods, boxed items (ex: corn bread, hamburger helper ect.)

Think about it and see how far in your cupboard you can reach. It only takes a couple of items to put a smile on someone's face.

There is a group of Portage Lakes Kiwanians who will be traveling to Columbus on March 8th for the Mid year convention and they will take all collected items with them.

Please drop off any times you get to: PLK Civic Center @ 725 Portage Lakes Dr.

PROJECT ELIMINATE

Project Eliminate is an ongoing project that many Kiwanis Clubs have chosen to participate in. It is a 5 year project to help support the removal of Tetanus in Third World Countries. There are many ways that a person or club can help. Hold a fund raiser and donate all the money collected to "Kiwanis International Project Eliminate"

Have your members, their families and kids collect change. Everyone has loose change laying around. Portage Lakes Kiwanis have chosen this method of collecting change and to date have met our goal of collecting \$ 1,000.00 in change. And we are still collecting, some of the bottles have gotten a little bigger. And some of the local business's like Friess Welding, Akron Coin & Jewelry have placed these on their front counters for customers to drop coins into.

Remember it only takes \$ 1.68 to save 1- mother and all of her unborn children from Neo Natal Tetanus.

Save a mother from watching her child suffer. And save that same child from not being able to be held, loved, nurtured the way a baby should be. For more details please contact: Dale Dietz

KIWANIS FAMILY

Please keep the following members and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they go through some trying times over the next several months:

Scott Shookman - Scott's surgery was on Tuesday and all went well. He has been moved out of the ICU and is in a regular room. They have him walking four times a day. And inbetween that he is trying to get some rest but we all know how hospitals can be. Today they are hoping to start him on a liquid diet and then possible he will be home next week. Once home he will have 4 weeks of rest and then 3 months of Chemo Therapy. Let's continue to keep Scott and the family in our thoughts and prayers.

Judy Hunter - Judy had Chemo treatment on Tuesday but it is reported by husband Larry Hunter that other than being a little tired Judy was doing well and felling pretty will also. Judy our thoughts and prayers are with you also.

Bob Denglier - We have not had any recent updates on Bob but we pray that all is going well for himself and wife Helga. Keeping you in our daily prayers.

Jeff Goodwin & Family - This past week Mr. Jerry Goodwin passed away in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. The next several days will be a very sad and trying time for the Goodwin Family and extended family. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers that they can get through these days with fond memories of a father, grandfather, neighbor and friend.

BIRTHDAY'S – ANNIVERSARIES – CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

February

BIRTHDAY'S

Tom Varley Feb. 4th
 Kerri Gleisinger Feb 8th
 Bob Goff Feb 28th

ANNIVERSARIES

Jay & Connie Feldman Feb. 4th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Jay Feldman 31 years Tom Burge 19 years
 Vicki Kepnes 13 years Jacob Grimm 13 years
 Juanita Gehm 12 years Drew Alexander 12 years
 Phil Pinnow 7 years

Upcoming Portage Lakes Events

There is always something happening in the Portage Lakes Area and this year is no different. There has already been a Polar Bear Jump @ Dano's. And there will be another on in February at New State Park Swim Beach. You have the Classic Boat Show, Purple Martin Festival, and Purple Martin Boat Rides (*which by the way – Larry Hunter is already getting calls to purchase tickets for the boat ride. So if you are considering taking that boat ride make your reservations now with Larry.*)

And that is not all you have the Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt, Dragon Dream Team Festival in addition to the Pirate Days Reverse Raffle/ Silent Auction and Kids Treasure Hunt, Celtic Beltane Festival May 18th. How about going to the lakes and watching the Portage Lakes Boat Parade or watching Fireworks with the family from the beach area at State Park Swim Beach. In addition to all that the local hot spots always have something going on like Upper Deck Hot Dog eating Contest/ Dunk Tank, Outdoor Music through the summer months at the Upper Deck, Howies on the Lake. There are Golf Tournaments, Quarter Auctions, Dano's Poker Run and more. Please watch the website and this newsletter as we are trying to make an effort to keep everyone updated on what is happening in our area. If we have missed anything

KEY CLUB NEWS

ELLET: Every Tuesday they work at First Glance helping in the Nursery. They are helping clean and set up for Haven of Rest. Making their final collections for Akron childrens Hospital and they raised \$ 1,600 for Salvation Army through ringing the Red Kettle Bell during the Holidays.

MANCHESTER: They bought supplies and are still supplying lunches for “ Spring Time of Hope . “ They are also collecting for “ Jean Drive “ which provides blue jeans to needy children and teenagers

COVENTRY:
 Please continue to watch this section for updated news about our Key Clubs.

Membership Drive

On March 12th, 2014 we will be hosting a “ Membership Dinner “ at the Civic Center located @ 725 Portage Lakes DR.
 Current members we encourage you to bring a friend, relative, neighbor with you and enjoy the evening, fellowship and dinner.
 Are you interested in getting out and doing more within the Portage Lakes Community, or maybe meeting new people. If so you are exactly what Portage Lakes Kiwanis is looking for.
 We have already had names turned in to invite people to this special dinner. Please submit your names to Mr. Hunter as soon as possible.
 If you would like to attend this meeting and find out what Kiwanis is all about please contact either the Civic Center or Larry Hunter @ 330-644-1540 and he will provide you with more details.

GUEST SPEAKERS

We are trying to schedule having a Guest Speaker the 2nd Wednesday of each month. And we would like to have it be someone you are interested in hearing from. **Next Wednesday – February 12th, 2014 we will have a “ Mystery Guest Speaker at the Civic Center. Come join us and see who this speaker is. SO.....**
 If there is someone in particular you would like to hear speak at one of our regular Wednesday Night Meetings please contact **Jeff Goodwin** and Let him know.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- February 26th -- Regular Meeting / Board Meeting
- March 8th -- Ohio Mid-Year Education Conference – Columbus, Oh
- March 12th -- Membership Dinner
- March 13th -- Pirates on the Lake Meeting 6:30pm Civic Center
- March 19th -- Regular Meeting
- March 26th -- Regular Meeting / Board Meeting

REMINDER TO ALL BOARD MEMBERS ON MEETINGS:

All Board Meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month unless otherwise noted. Please try to be in attendance as much as possible as the board needs your vote.

Bacher Funeral Home

Joe

