



THE COMMUNICATOR

PORTAGE LAKES PIRATE DAYS

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Another year of Pirate Days in the Portage Lakes has come and gone. And what a weekend it was. July 18th, 2014 through July 20th, 2014 was a very busy time for anyone living or visiting the Portage Lakes.

Friday Night started off with the Reverse Raffle/ Silent Auction held at Prime 93 on Manchester Road in New Franklin. There were approximately **140** tickets sold for the evening. The pirates were everywhere and the food, grog and laughter was flowing.

The adult costume contest was held and won by **John Hercules**.

As the evening progressed there were poker games to play Dealer for these games was **Al Grzeschik**, and there was more food than anyone knew what to do with. A balloon pop, Popcorn machine (run by Frank Smith) and much more.

The silent auction had some unique and extraordinary baskets in it for bidding. Special Thanks to **Esther Cole, Vicki Kepnes & Bonnie Smith** for all their hard work in securing basket's , putting baskets together and setting up the tables the day of the event. **Cass & Jon Freeman** for organizing payments and pick up of the individual baskets.

Our MC for the Reverse Raffle was our own **Mr. Chuck Seeley**, with Guest Celebrity speaker **Sara Shookman**. And boy were they a pair. They also had the help of member **Tom Burge**.

Treasurer **Charlie Kepnes** was in charge of running the " Live Auction " which consisted of Jewelry, paintings and more.

The evening was a total success and everyone had a wonderful time. If you were unable to attend this year you may want to consider booking the dates in your calendar for next year.

Saturday Morning started off at 8 am with a Pancake Breakfast sponsored by Goodyear Boat & Yacht Club

And all this was followed up with the " **PNC Bank Kids Treasure Hunt** " on Saturday July 19th, 2014 form 11am to 3 pm. The day started out dreary and rainy – but that certainly didn't stop the local Pirates from coming to the Beach area of State Park.

And there were even pirates: **Robert & Mary Kansa, Paul & Michele Hunter, Lewi Cogar, Ted Miller Jr.** and a capsized catamaran with cannon's on Treasure Island. Many Thanks to our Pirate Ship drivers: **Sue Harding, Tim Peterson, The Seahawks, John Pasowitch and the Bellivues.**

On land we had pirate kids and adults everywhere. **Larry Hunter** who initiated this whole Pirate Experience 4 years ago and **Jeff Goodwin** - Club President helped everyone before and after this wonderful event. As well as **Rich Gleisinger** all around pirate who not only helped man stations but delivered props for some of the stations and helped with set up and tear down. Our special Thanks to the Manchester Girl Scout **Troop 90991 & Troop 90441's** for manning the Tattoo Station (new this year), Face Painting (new this year) and the Walk the Plank station in addition to the Letterbox Treasure Hunt (new this year). Other new stations this year included the Kiwanis Pirate Hotdog Station (run by **Esther Cole and Cindy Williams Schukert**), Maps Air Museum (**Kim Kovesci**), Bricks 4 Kids (**James Salisbury**), Pirate Boats Sponsored by **Goodyear Boat and Yacht Club** – (**Run by Vicki Kepnes and Mindy Grubb**), Bounce House (**sponsored by Camp Y Noah manned by Rick Grubb**), Wild Life Animal Rescue (**Fran Kitchen**), Ohio Historical Barn Builders (**sponsored by Paul Knoble**) & Pirate T-Shirt Sales (**Dale Dietz**) and the Final new station Pirate Stories by (**Chuck Seeley member & Mayor of**

new Franklin Al Bollas)

In addition to all the new things the children could participate in we had our faithful returning pirate stations like Friess Welding (**run by Jeannette Bell**) YCP1 – (**run by Sherry Leavitt**), Library Station and new Riddle walk to the Boat Rides(**Cheryl Luck**), Kerri's Confection's (**Kerri Gliesinger and Marlana**), Pirate Costume Contest & Create a Pirate Hat (**run by The Portage Lakes Secret Sisters**), Registration: (**run by Judy Hunter, Betty Seeley, Debbie Rubino.**) Dig for Buried Treasure for the wee ones (**run by Phil Pinnow – Member and Secret Sisters**)

As the afternoon came to an end, and everything was cleaned up most volunteers from either the Island or Land gathered together to celebrate at the Upper Deck and some (**Debbie Rubino**) participated in the Dunk Tank.

And this was followed up by the after party which most volunteers attended on Sunday at Dusty's Landing put together by **Charlie & Vicki Kepnes**.

We have posted many pictures of the weekends events on our facebook page at Portage Lakes Kiwanis Pirate Days and encourage all to view them as there are too many to post in this news letter.

We hope that everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next years events. Our sincere Thanks and Appreciation go out to all who helped over the weekend. This weekends events would not have been a success without everyone's involvement, dedication and hard work.

Sincerely,

The Treasure Hunt Committee

Special points of interest:

- KIWANIS FAMILY
- Dates to Remember

Portage Lakes Kiwanis Motorcycle Poker

Over the past several years Portage Lakes Kiwanis has embarked on several Fund Raising Projects so that more can be put back into the community we all love so much. We have had the **Haunted Hay Ride, Quarter Auction, Reverse Raffle/ Silent Auction, Portagelakesopoly Game and more.**

This year the Fund Raising Committee decided to try their hand at Poker. And the end result was that the First Portage Lakes Kiwanis Motorcycle Run was set up.

And again we needed help of Friends, Family and Kiwanis Club Members in order to be able to pull this off.

Club Member **Kerri Miller Gleisinger** who worked not only on securing prizes for winners of the Poker Run – she and Husband **Rich Gleisinger** ran and mapped out the route the bikers would take.

This run started out with approximately **31 bikers** not counting their passengers. First Bike out was at 11:30 from the Kiwanis Civic Center – 725 Portage Lakes Dr. South bound to the **Ohio Veterans Memorial (which was manned by: Esther Cole & Larry Hunter)** to draw the first of 5 cards.
What a wonderful place - And

the individuals at this location went above and beyond the call of Duty. Temperatures that day were near 87 degrees. The workers/ caretakers of the Veterans Memorial were on hand as our troops came in to hand them free bottles of water and encourage them to visit the memorial. Once they left here is was on to **Troyers Market in Applecreek (manned by Al Grzeschik & Ted Miller Jr.)** some people stayed a little longer at this station an visited the stores .

Ater there they headed onto **BG' Main Event** Locate in Rittman (manned by **Beth Borbely & son Nathan**). And from there it was on to JW Cheers in Norton (manned by **Dana Roderick & Rick Grubb**)

And then it was on to the final destination of "**Upper Deck**" where riders could turn in their tally sheets. Purchase **50/50** Raffle Tickets sold by **Debbie Rubino (Club Member)**. Which was followed by dinner cooked and served by **Nick Carruthers, Nicole Maden & Elisha Cole**

All in all it was a beautiful day and everyone had a great time. We members of the Fund Raising Committee feel very privileged that **Lt. Govenor Larry Griffin** joined us for this Fund Raiser.

And for our own Club Members Like **Russ Friess, Chuck Seeley, Charlie Kepnes** and **Al Grzeschik** who purchased poker hands either before the event or during the event as well as buying 50/50 tickets at the event. For the Auction Items: Wine Basket – **Al Grzeschik** and Auto Basket – **Jeff Goodwin** donated in addition to **Jeff Goodwin's** \$ 50.00 cash donation.

Rich Gleisinger was lead bike for the run as well as made plaques for each of the winners High Hand and Lowest Hand.

Highest Hand was won by our own Club Member: **Mr. Russ Friess** who graciously and out of the kindness of his heart donated the money back to our Project: Summer Camp for Kids.

It was our mission to help children get to experience summer camp on their summer break. And our Moto was "**It's all about the Children**"

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this Fund Raiser a success. Volunteers as well as Lisa Geiger @ the Upper Deck with soda and the band. We could not have accomplished what we did without each of you helping.

Project Eliminate

To date our club alone has collected approximately \$ 2,000.00 towards this very worthy cause.

This deadly disease affects Mother's and their unborn children in Third World Countries.

We currently have baby bottles for individuals and business owners. Drop your loose change in the bottle and every \$ 1.60 that is collected helps one mother and her unborn children for a life time.

If you would like more information

on this project or have ideas on another fund raiser for this Project (it is a 5 year project that we are only 2.5 years into, Please contact Dale Dietz – President Elect.

KIWANIS FAMILY

Please keep the following Kiwanis Members and their families in your thoughts and prayers:

Scott Shookman: Has been home for several weeks now. He did stop briefly by the Civic Center to say "Hello" to everyone. Scott is working part time from home and is doing well. And attended the Reverse Raffle/Silent Auction. Continuing prayers for Scott and his family

Bonnie Smith: Bonnie is doing well and is doing light things around the house. Attended the Reverse Raffle/ Silent Auction.

Judy Hunter: Judy is doing well though she tires easily – Helped with the Treasure Hunt.

Tom Longworth: Is currently in rehab.

Let's keep all in our thoughts and prayers

July Birthday's Club Anniversaries, Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

Richard Marsh	July 14th
Tim Peterson	July 24th
Jerry Schrop	July 24th
Bonnie Smith	July 26 th
Scott Shookman	July 29th

ANNIVERSARIES

Sam & Cynthia Reynolds	July 11th
Jon & Cass Freeman	July 24th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Connie Nagy	16 yrs
Joe Reinmann	15 yrs

What's Going on in your neighborhood?

With summer almost over and people in a rush to get those before school vacations and activities done.

We would like you to take a brief minute out of your busy schedules and Breathe. Remember that the kids are still out playing ball and riding bikes.

In a few short weeks there will be school buses back on the roads in the early mornings and late afternoons. And some children still walk to school. Slow your cars down and take extra caution as we all try to do for the motorcycle riders.

Remember: The local school buses or buses traveling to Coventry, Manchester and Green for sports activities are not only carrying precious cargo. They are carrying someone's children and grandchildren.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 30 th	Regular Meeting / Board Meeting
Aug 6 th	Regular Meeting
Aug 8-10 th	Ohio District Convention Crowne Plaza Hotel Columbus, Ohio
Aug 13 th	Field Trip to Clinton Veterans Memorial & Potluck Dinner ?????
Aug 20 th	2014 Rose Day Kick – Off Dinner Meeting
Aug 27 th	Regular Meeting – Board Meeting
Sept. 3 rd	Regular Meeting (Fish Fry) ???????

We encourage all of you to visit our webpage @ www.plkiwanis.org and also view our facebook page for updated pictures and more detailed information on up coming events



Kiwanis
International

