

Fall 2009



Serving the Children of Grand Rapids and the World  
Meeting Every Tuesday at 12:00 noon at the Radisson at Ann Street and US 131

# Kiwanis Grand Rapids North

## Service Activities 2008-2009

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### On-Going Service Projects

- Terrific Kids Program at 5 elementary schools in the Grand Rapids Public School System
- "We Do Care" at De Vos Children's Hospital
- Medical Assistance Program at Catherine's Health Center (formerly Catherine's Care Center)
- Volunteering at St. John's home

### Youth Service Activities

- Girls Choral Academy
- Dictionary Project
- Michigan State Police Academy
- Palmer Elementary School Weather Station
- GRAYO Kids Football Team
- Kaboom playground project

### Community Service Activities

- NECOM Food Pantry
- Community Action Food Pantry
- Women's & Children's Shelter
- Senior Neighbors Food Pantry
- God's Kitchen
- Other Way Mission
- Salvation Army bell ringers
- Christmas Food Baskets
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### Young Children Priority 1

- Kids First Food Basket
- Medical supplies for Booth Clinic for pre-natal care
- Strawberry Fest for Kids

### Churchill Fund Service Leadership

- Michigan Foundation — \$1,680
- Michigan District — \$126
- Kiwanis International — \$210
- Disability Advocates — \$250
- Kids Good Basket — \$600

### Youth Service Funding

- Girls Choral Academy — \$300
- Dictionary Project — \$979.20
- State Police Academy — \$500
- State of MI License Fee (Texas Hold'Em) — \$75
- Catherine's Health Center — \$3,500

### Community Service Funding

- Northoek Academy — \$1,000
- NECOM — \$2,500
- State of MI License Fee — \$75
- Kaboom playground project — \$1,000

### Young Children Priority 1

- Irina's Fund — \$250
- Strawberry Festival License — \$60
- Helen DeVos Foundation — \$3,000

# Programs You May Have Missed

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## Sep 29: Spiritual Care Consultants

Presented by Chaplain Gale Kragt

**Mission:** Be a support to the medical community across West Michigan by addressing the spiritual needs of clients

- Finding help for the whole person
- Assessing spiritual needs
- Inviting spiritual wellness
- Teaching abundant life
- Helping the healing process

## Oct 6: Driving Under the Influence

Presented by Craig Avery

Unlawful Blood Alcohol Level (UBAL) - typically 200 cases per year in the 1970s; now 5-10 cases per year

Law changed in late 1970s

- Jury must find you guilty if you are driving intoxicated; don't need evidence of bad driving
- If refusing breathalyzer, you lose your license for one year
- If UBAL greater than 0.17, will be considered second offence
- Second UBAL in 7 years—15 day jail plus double fines
- Three or more UBAL in your lifetime: 1-5 year in prison; usually 6 month jail and 6 month probation

## Oct 20: US Census Bureau

Presented by Terry Satchel

- The Grand Rapids office has responsibility for 51 northern counties
- Census results must be to president by Dec. 31, '10
- Initial return is expected to be 70%; census personnel must visit non-respondents which will be about 1,000 people in Kent and Ottawa Co.

## Nov 10: New City Neighbors

Presented by Eric Schalk

Operating in the Belknap and Creston neighborhoods:

- It's about restoration
- It's about urban renewal
- It's about relationships
- It's about investing in the life of a child
- It's about making a difference by doing small things

Summer program is the **Breaktime Bakery**, open late June through early August, providing experiences in bakery baking and operation. Located at Fourth Reformed Church, 1226 Union NE

## Nov 17: Creston High School Robotics

Club started in 2001 and participated in national competition in 2008 and 2009

Academic related competition:

- Club is given a task and must build a robot to complete the task in six weeks
- An after hours program with students from multiple schools participating
- Multiple teams created to accomplish objective, including marketing, animation, design
- Mentors come from local industries
- Cost: parts—\$5,000; state competition — \$4,000; national competition — \$5,000 plus travel expenses

## Nov 24: Health Care for All: A Basic Human Right

Presented by Dr. John Cavacece, DO

- What is the right thing to do for our country: 45,000 people died last year because of no health insurance
- Insurance started as a community thing; now greater than 50% of health care expenditures are government
- 50% of uninsured are employed with annual incomes less than \$37,000
- Insurance premiums are up 143% since 2000
- For Profit health care rations care by ability to pay

## Dec. 29: Genuine Parts Company

Presented by Thad Smith

- GPC is an \$11 billion company, that has been profitable every year (except 1929)
- 6,000 NAPA stores are part of GPC, with \$4 million in parts sales per month
- NAPA Auto Care Centers (independently owned) account for 80% of core business

## Upcoming Program Responsibility

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- **January — Rick Zweering**
- **February — Dan Williams**
- **March — Jason VanDam**
- **April — Linda Paige**

# Norm's Quotable Notables

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## September 2009

Adopt the pace of nature; her secret is patience.  
*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

The world breaks everyone and afterward many  
are stronger at the broken places.  
*Ernest Hemingway*

There are limits to material growth, but there are  
no limits to inner enlightenment. We can never be-  
come awakened or enlightened until we can move  
beyond form. Every philosopher who ever lived  
has taught that.  
*Staying on the Path by Dr. Wayne Dyer*

The truth does not change according to our ability  
to stomach it.  
*Flannery O'Connor, 1925-64*  
*American short story writer*

## October 2009

Things I have learned: The oddest, shortest  
words — “yes” and “no” — are those that require  
the most thought.  
*Pythagorus 500 BC*  
*Greek mathematician and philosopher*

It isn't your position that makes you happy or un-  
happy, it's you disposition.  
*God's Little Instruction Book*

The heart is the happiest when it beats for others.  
*God's Little Instruction Book*

Truths: How many legs does a dog have if you call  
the tail a leg? Four! Calling a tail a leg doesn't  
make it a leg.  
*Abraham Lincoln*  
*Don't Forget to Sing in the Lifeboats*

True Grit: Courage and cheerfulness will not only  
carry you over the rough places in life, but will en-  
able you to bring comfort and help to the weak-  
hearted and will console you in the sad hours.  
*William Osler, Canadian physician 1849-1919*  
*Don't Forget to Sing in the Lifeboats*

## November 2009

Don't Worry, Be Happy: Do not anticipate trouble,  
or worry about what may never happen. Keep in  
the sunlight.

*Benjamin Franklin, 1706-90*  
*Statesman, printer, writer, scientist*  
*and one of our founding fathers*

How To Live: Finish each day and be done with it.  
You have done what you could. Some blunders  
and absurdities no could crept in; forget them as  
soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; you shall  
begin it well and serenely.  
*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Some people succeed because they are destined to,  
but most people succeed because they are deter-  
mined to.  
*God's Little Instruction Book*

Money: With enough insider information and a  
million dollars, you can go broke in a year.  
*Warren Buffet*

## December 2009

Success and Failure: The sun doesn't shine on the  
same dog's ass all the time.  
*Jim "Catfish" Hunter, 1946-99, Baseball pitcher*  
*Don't Forget to Sing in the Lifeboats*

Success and Failure Corollary: If you ain't the lead  
dog, the view never changes.

A man is rich according to what he is, not accord-  
ing to what he has  
*God's Little Instruction Book*

Survival Tactics: It is not the strongest of the spe-  
cies that survives, nor the most intelligent that sur-  
vives. It is the one that is the most adaptable to  
change.  
*Charles Darwin, 1809-82*

Try, Try Again: I have not failed, I have just found  
10,000 ways that won't work.  
*Thomas Edison, 1847-1931*  
*Inventor of the phonograph and light bulb*  
*Granted 1, 093 patents*

## KIWANIS GRAND RAPIDS

**Located in Grand Rapids,  
Michigan, and dedicated to  
Serving the children and  
youth of the greater Grand  
Rapids Area.**

Email: [kiwanisgr@yahoo.com](mailto:kiwanisgr@yahoo.com)

**We are on the web  
[kiwanisgrandrapids.org](http://kiwanisgrandrapids.org)**

## KIWANIS—Serving the Children of the World

**Purpose:** To improve the quality of life for children and families.

**Mission:** Kiwanis is a global organization of men, women and youth dedicated to serving the children of the world and improving the quality of their life.

### Objectives:

- To give primacy to human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business and professional standards.
- To develop by precept and example a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and goodwill.

## Member News

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**Sep 29:** Craig Avery—Happy \$ for successful installation of a pacemaker

**Nov 3:** Roger Brook announced arrival of grandson Joshua Jeremiah Shaw at 9lb 13 oz

**Nov 10:** John Bigari has a new job with an independent Radio Shack dealer in Hastings

**Nov 17:**

- Gordy found gut shot deer dead on his lawn
- John LaPorte helped brother gut two deer
- Linda Paige has (hopefully) has first paying client

**Nov 24:**

- Ron Karelse won the 50/50 progressive pot
- John LaPorte had success with a LEED project
- Rick Zweering enjoyed family time without presents

**Dec 1:** Goldy bought an 1800 Goldwing with heated seats and handle bars; sold one of his three motorcycles

**Dec 29:**

- John LaPorte announced new grandson Matthew Aiden, 8 lb 4 oz
- Linda Paige was featured in the Sweet Talk column of the Grand Rapids Business Journal
- Linda Paige thankful for the non-smoking legislation
- Rick Zweering had a good Christmas with family
- Gordy is celebrating a non-working vacation

## Note From the Editor

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Fall 2009 turned out to be extremely busy, or extremely inefficient. The last newsletter covered July and August. This edition is a recap of the club's 2008-2009 service activities, and a review of meetings (that I attended) for the months September thru December.

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Email membership news items to Roger Brook at [kiwanisgr@gmail.com](mailto:kiwanisgr@gmail.com)

If you are not receiving this newsletter by email, contact Roger Brook at [kiwanisgr@gmail.com](mailto:kiwanisgr@gmail.com)