

February 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

Fund Raising Projects

The Board of Directors has been working on several ideas for fund raising activities. Following are the details on two projects that were discussed at the last meeting, February 24.

Strawberry Shortcake Festival

Background Information: A few years ago while in Indianapolis, I attended the Christ Church Cathedral Women 41st Annual Strawberry Festival on Monument Circle. The event was held on the second Thursday in June from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Cathedral Women volunteers, Cathedral parishioners and staff, and 300 volunteers from other churches serve 18,000 shortcakes and six tons of strawberries to thousands of Indianapolis-area residents and employees during the Cathedral's largest annual event.

Festival-goers may order any combination of strawberries, shortcake, ice cream and whipped cream, with "the works" selling for \$5. Christ Church Cathedral Women grants more than 95 percent of the proceeds to local, national and international not-for-profit agencies. In 2005, it granted \$52,695 to 33 not-for-profit agencies as a result of the Strawberry Festival.

Various entertainers will perform on the north side of the Circle beginning at 11 a.m. Carry-out and large orders will be available in the Cathedral basement. In case of rain, the event is held on the following day, Friday on the church lawn or inside the church.

The first annual Strawberry Festival was held in 1965, although occasional festivals date back as early as 1857. The festival was modeled after the English tradition of the "strawberry fete."

Proposal: The Kiwanis board of directors has discussed having a strawberry festival as a fundraising project in downtown Grand Rapids. Rosa Parks Park is available on Friday, June 12 and could be used between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to sell strawberry shortcake. The primary target audience is the large group of downtown office workers who would be attracted to the event through television, radio and print media promotion. The mayor, George Heartwell, has already expressed support for the project. The festival would occur near the beginning of summer when many workers walk to various local restaurants for lunch. The use of posters and other promotions could help attract a sizable group of customers.

Challenge: A project of this magnitude would require 100% participation from our membership. Besides the health department regulations there are also many other areas that require the assignment of important tasks, i.e. obtaining city permits, promotional aprons, tent, food supplies, paper products, clean-up and finances.

Email membership news items to Roger Brook at kiwanisgr@gmail.com

If you are not receiving this newsletter by email,
contact Roger Brook at kiwanisgr@gmail.com

Texas Hold'Em Tournament

When: April 23 4pm – 2am
24 4pm – 2am
25 2pm – 2am

Where: 6211 S Divison

We will only need a handful of volunteers who are willing to work in shifts to run the register and distribute chips. TJ's Charity Card Room provides the rest. We can name more than one chairperson for this event so the same person does not have to cover all of the hours.

This type of Charitable Gaming started when the Michigan Lottery's Charitable Gaming division expanded the types of games available for fundraising years ago, and included Texas Hold' Em, a type of poker that exploded in mainstream popularity around 2000.

The state mandates that the charity hosting receive 50% of the gross profit. The only expense that our club has to pay is the license fee which is \$150.00.

How does make money: When you take total sales, subtracting out only the prizes and redeemed chips (people buy chips, play for a while, redeem what they have left and go) and that is the figure that is divided between the charity and TJ's Charity Card Room. TJ's Charity Card Room then pays their expenses out of "the other" 50%. They pay the workers, equipment, room rent, utilities, insurance, etc.

If we make \$2,500.00 over the three days we will have made over \$75.00 an hour.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

MARCH

9 Norm Ginebaugh
21 Linda Paige

APRIL

4 Sarah Pastoor
10 John Molhoek
17 Dan Williams
19 Craig DyKgraaf

ANNIVERSARY

APRIL

4 Carla & John Tamboer
13 Delores & Marv Haight

Programs You May Have Missed

February 10 — NOAA/National Weather Service

Mission: protect life and property

Public Forecast and Warnings:

- Marine — new shore and open water
- Aviation — airports (6 in GR service area)
- Hydrology — rivers and other surface waters
- Fire — forecasts for land management agencies
- Observing — satellite, radar and buoys

Products

- Hazardous weather outlook
- Non-Convective Watch (12-48 hours)
- Advisories (0-24 hours)
- Warnings for hgh impact events
- Forecast discussions

Web Address: weather.gov/grr

February 27 — American Red Cross (Cheryl Bremer)

- 700 US chapters (GR serves West Central since 1917 with 18 staff and 771 volunteers)
- There when disasters happen (350 disaster action team members respond within 72 hours)
- Provide transport (free) and training (fee based)

February 24 — Christian Counseling Center (Greg Sherman and Shaunen Van Buren)

Mission — Dedicated to pursuing excellence in providing affordable counseling, consultation, and educational services through professionals committed to Christ.

Services

- Counseling for children and adults; group therapy; pastoral therapy
- Monthly enrichment seminars; quarterly seminars for pastors/church leaders; annual conferences
- Free or minimal costs services to inner city and lower income individuals through Project Hope

Member News and Happy Dollars

Lisa Bonney — glad to have an official name badge; glad that she needed her sun glasses to drive

Rick Zweering — glad to have had a week away

Dan Williams — glad to be back (but where were you?)

Marv Haight— joined Kiwanis 52 years ago

John Biagri — for winning the progressive 50/50 draw

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

**We are on the web
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 like.
- 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.

Quotable Notables

January 27

Love is never lost. If not reciprocated it will flow back and soften and purify the heart.

Washington Irving

February 3

A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.

Bacon

February 10

It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself ...
Serve and thou shall be served.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

February 17

God has two dwellings: one in heaven and one in a grateful heart.

Isaac Walton

February 24

What counts is not the number of hours you put in, but how much you put in the hours.

Gods Little Instruction Book

Seen in America



*Spring's almost here in Michigan ...we can now see
the deer moving around.*