

# Kiwanis®

Burlington, Iowa

Serving the Children of the World®

January, 2012

## **Burlington Kiwanis** **BurlingtonKiwanis.org**

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Michelle Randall  
Vice President  
and Secretary



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Sharon  
Graham



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Dr. Emily  
Stumpf



#### *Directors, 2 Years*



Julie  
Canfield

Jon  
Hart



Brandon  
Kipp

Bruce  
Widbin



Dear Fellow Kiwanians,

December was certainly filled with opportunities to put into practice our 2011-2012 Club Slogan "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Each week we gave of our time and financial resources starting off the month with our collection of \$972 for the Boots & Coats program followed by our annual Kids Shopping Spree at Target with 24 members (and family members) participating to give 22 children a \$50 Christmas shopping spree. Then on Thursday December 8th we collected 250 plus cans and boxes of food for the Salvation Army food drive plus took up a collection for our servers of \$575. And on Friday, December 16th 45 members rang the Salvation Army Bell for 55 hours to collect \$4,315.69 for this great program. If that's not enough giving, 48 members (including 4 new members plus 16 non-members) gave 522 hours to staff the photo positions (including Santa) for our Santa project from November 19 through December 24 (we were still taking photo's at 4:10 on Christmas Eve).

Plus somehow we found time to induct six new members during the month, which reminds me to remind you, of the importance of inviting prospects to our meetings. If you recall, I reported previously that only 11% of our members invited a prospect last year while we converted 62% of those prospects to members. So if we can just improve our # of prospects invited to our meetings, membership growth will take care of itself. Please invite your neighbors, coworkers, vendors, customers, etc and don't forget your prospective member's meal cost is paid by the club.

Dennis Wilson, Your President in Training

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

## **Directory Updates**

**Chuck Brockett**, chuck@gobees.com, 319-754-5705

**Jim Sleister**, sleistersj@aol.com

**Ryan Gerling**, ryandgerling@mediacombb.net, 319-752-4537

**David Lane**, david.lane@scouting.org, 309-840-1568

**Dennis Kuster**, dennis@kusterklan.net, 319-753-0994,

**Annette Steffensmeier**, annette.steffensmeier@usbank.com, 319-753-8763

**Kay Sackville Breuer**, kaybreuer@mchsi.com

## **After School Program**

Roughly two years ago, we decided to pursue a large community project. A committee of Kiwanians was formed to pursue a Boy's and Girl's Club, but after researching the idea it was determined we could not commit to the financial needs of the project. Another idea gave way and the After School Program was born. Grant money, a determined principal, Gene Cleland, and a caring teacher, Jackie Swink, made the After School Program at Aldo Leopold Middle School a success. By spring, James Madison was on board, lead by another tremendous teacher, Jenny Mehaffy. Kiwanis assisted by providing funds to ensure the students had healthy snacks and reward trips throughout the spring.

As the result of the program and a lot of hard work, the students showed a huge improvement. Grades at James Madison improved by 10% in Math, 14% in Science, 11% in Social Studies, and 10% in Literature last year. Several students showed even more amazing results, one increased his Math grade 37% from an F at 53% to an A at 90% and another student increased from 48% to 84% in Social Studies. In the future, we plan to track attendance, disciplinary infractions, and standardized test scores, in addition to academic grades.

As with several government sponsored programs, budget cuts at the federal and state levels, resulted in the loss of the grant, and the end of the After School Programs. Our committee has worked hard to come up with a quality program on a tight budget. The Burlington School District is working with us and providing facilities including all utilities. We have found ways to limit the costs of snacks and transportation to reduce our overall expenses.

We have also reduced the number of days a week for the program from 4 to 3. The result of collaboration and hard work by the committee is a reduction of the total cost to about \$9,000 for the second semester (16 weeks) at each school. This funding will pay for 3 teachers to lead each day, snacks for the students, and a ride home. To fully fund the program at Aldo Leopold Middle School, we have a pledge of \$1,000 from the Burlington Education Foundation and up to \$8,000 from Kiwanis. We are currently working with other service groups and organizations to acquire resources to provide an After School Program at James Madison, and eventually at West Burlington.

Funding, however, is only part of the need. Vital to the success of the program are the volunteers that make a difference in the lives of the children. Every day, the program will consist of three separate sessions, one part of the day will be academic, another session will be a program where students learn life skills, and there will be time for a snack and physical activity. The program will begin February 14 and run Tuesday - Thursday from 3 - 5. Volunteers are needed to help the teachers. The success of the program relies on adult role models to encourage the students to work hard and, even more importantly, just be there to care for them. These students do not go home to someone who asks how their day was, they do not have someone who tells them "Way to go," or to someone who finds education important.

To make a difference in the lives of these children, contact Michelle Randall, 759-2456, or Brandon Kipp, 572-5049. Special thanks to these fellow Kiwanians for all that they have done to make this a reality, Jerry Parks, Sharon Graham, Tom Pilcher, Carol Bartles, Pam Farr, and Deb Hatteberg.

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## **Thanks from Santa**

The Santa Committee would like to thank all of the volunteers who assisted in the Kiwanis Santa Project. We had 64 volunteers who signed up for 171 slots. The volunteers included Kiwanis members, Key Clubbers, spouses and friends of Kiwanis. We would also like to thank Pzazz and especially Tony from the Boogaloo Cafe. We are very grateful to them for their sponsorship. The \$5 Fun Cards that Pzazz donates are a big part of our success.

As always, we have had some very rewarding moments with the kids and a few unique photo opportunities. As an example we had a family of 20 and a 2 day old baby. There were several letters to Santa including one with pasted color pictures of the requested toys, but most were verbal requests. We also had one child whose only request was that mommy and daddy would get back together. The expressions that we see and the interactions with the children each year are to be cherished and they are why most of us enjoy working on this project.

We have not finalized the totals yet and we are still due some proceeds from the Pzazz employees party. The committee has already discussed some issues and we plan on addressing some key points that we feel we can improve upon. We know that we deliver a good product at a good price, we just need more exposure without a high cost attached to it.

Once again, thank you volunteers! Co-chairs, Tom Pilcher & Gary Young, Technical Advisor, Phil Bartleson



## ***Kid's Shopping, A Holiday Tradition***

It was a dark and rainy morning on December 3 but that didn't dampen the spirit of the young lady and her parents who were at Target at 6 a.m. They were filled with groggy (after all it was early in the morning) excitement as they patiently waited for the arrival of SANTA at 7 a.m. and SHOPPING!!!!

The Kiwanis Target Shopping spree brought joy to the faces of 22 children. Pat Bryne and her crew from Target prepared a continental breakfast for the children and provided a gift bag for Santa to give to each of them before heading out to shop with one of the Kiwanis helpers.

Santa, George Rinker, former Kiwanian now living in Quincy, Il and his wife Susan mingled with the children throughout the morning. Santa autographed the children's pictures that were taken by Santa's helpers Phil Bartleson and Larry Turley.

Twenty-four Kiwanians and their spouses were on hand to escort the children as they shopped and to wrap gifts once they were done shopping.

As we celebrate this season, may we be mindful of those who are struggling with life's many challenges. I pray that we constantly keep reaching out and providing that light of hope that so many are in need of. God bless you and your families during this season of renewed hope and joy for our world, Lois Blythe.



## ***Your Board of Directors***

Your Board of Directors approved up to \$8,000 for an after school program at the Burlington middle schools. The "Boys and Girls' Club" committee is working hard to solicit funds from other organizations to ensure that a program happens three days a week at both schools, beginning February 13. If you'd like more information, please see Brandon Kipp. The board also approved \$1,000 to the Aldo Leopold Prairie Outdoor Classroom.

A new member application was approved from Dennis Kuster. Please welcome Dennis the next time you see him at a meeting. Dennis, we are happy to have you as part of our Kiwanis family!

Submitted by  
Michelle Randall,  
Vice President



## ***Kids Day***



## ***Programs***

Arranged by Pam Farr



5 - What's happening in Burlington Schools, Superintendent Jane Evans

12 - Siemens, Jim Jones, Plant Manager

19 - BHS Jazz Band Performance, Derrick Murphy

26 - Updates on Iowa Workforce Development, William Stuflick and Debbie Dowell

## ***Invocations***

To be announced at club meeting.



PO Box 15  
Burlington, IA 52601



# January, 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Board Meeting 5 pm, The Drake	4	5 Kiwaniis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Burlington Schools	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 <b>Birthday Table</b> Kiwaniis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Siemens	13	14
15	16	17 Board Meeting 12 pm, The Drake	18	19 Kiwaniis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites BHS Jazz Band	20	21
22	23	24	24	25 Kiwaniis Meeting Noon, Comfort Suites Workforce Development	26	27
28	29	30	31			