



Kiwanis[®]

CLUB OF BURLINGTON

December, 2016

Burlington Kiwanis
BurlingtonKiwanis.org

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Greetings and Happy Holidays!

The season of giving is upon us and I would like to thank everyone for reaching into their pockets and providing a holiday bonus to the wait staff at Comfort Suites during the Feather Party. The staff was truly appreciative of your kindness. Also, kudos to the Feather Party planners for another fun day of BINGO, well, we could've lived without the jokes of course!!

Since we are a few days late in getting the December newsletter out, I am happy to report that we had a fabulous time at Target on Saturday with the annual Kids Christmas Shopping Spree. I have not personally participated in this event in several years but I was thrilled to be there yesterday. The smiles on the faces of those children, even at the early hours of the day are totally worth it. The direct interaction with the children is a wonderful way to connect and be reminded why we do what we do, especially entering the holiday season. Several members were there for the first time ever and my observation was the member's smiles were just as big as the kids. Thank you to Lois, Cassie, the committee, all of the volunteers and to Target for another successful, heartwarming event.

As we continue to reflect on the season of giving, please allow me to remind you that Thursday, December 8th, you can help provide a needy child with a coat when we take up our annual collection for Coats for Kids. If you are unable to attend the meeting and still wish to donate, please contact Tom Jones.

Friday, December 9th we will be ringing bells around town to assist the Salvation Army in their annual kettle campaign. As you are aware, The Salvation Army also helps children and families in need throughout the year. They could not sustain their programs without their annual campaign and it is our pleasure to assist in that for one day. If you have not signed up and you want to help, please contact Jim Sleister.

The Santa project is happening Saturdays and Sundays at FunCity through December 18th. I believe there are a few spots remaining open for volunteers, please contact Jon Hart if you can give a couple hours of your time. Last weekend as I was volunteering with Heath Hillyard and Pat Shier, I was a reminded that even if the line of children is not as long as the building, volunteering at Santa is a great way to connect with other members of the club

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President's Message Continued

you may not get to chat with very often, we had a wonderful time. I'd like to offer one more shout out to Jon Hart & Gary Young for technical support as well.

With the way the holidays fall this year, we will have our regular Thursday meetings all month. New this year, on the Thursday before Christmas, the 22nd, we will have a "Holiday Celebration" at our meeting without an outside program. Please mark your calendars to join in the fun and entertainment. We will have our Ugly Sweater Contest this day and since Mark Foster got married and moved away, someone else has a chance to win!! If you are interested, we will also have a quick \$5 limit White Elephant gift exchange. If you want to participate, please bring a wrapped gift. Finally, the Kiwanis Singers will serenade us with some holiday cheer, there will be a couple of 'special guests' we have not met before. I hope to see you there!!

Lastly, we will have Kids Day on Thursday, the 29th with a Polar Express theme to suit kids of all ages. Please plan to bring your children, grandchildren, neighbor children or other children you know this day for some fun!

Oftentimes this time of year we say "If I don't see you, have a Merry Christmas", but does that even make sense when you think about it? Because I want you to have a Merry Christmas if I see you just as much as if I don't see you. With that, I hope to see you this month, but regardless of that, please have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cheers and Blessings, Melissa



Come visit Santa at FunCity!

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS
NOVEMBER 26 - DECEMBER 18

NOVEMBER 26	• 11AM-6PM
NOVEMBER 27	• 1PM-5PM
DECEMBER 3	• 11AM-6PM
DECEMBER 4	• 1PM-5PM
DECEMBER 10	• 11AM-6PM
DECEMBER 11	• 1PM-5PM
DECEMBER 17	• 11AM-6PM
DECEMBER 18	• 1PM-5PM

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
BURLINGTON KIWANIS CLUB



Thank you to all who helped during the Kiwanis and Target Kids' Christmas Shopping. It was a wonderful day for many.

Coats for Kids

The Coats for Kids project is 25 years old this year. Started in 1991 we have been providing New Coats for children sizes from newborn to 5 years old. Over the 25 years we have given away well over 2,000 coats.

On December 8th at our Kiwanis noon meeting we will be doing our annual member donation collection for Coats for Kids. You all have been very generous over the years for this project. If you fail to bring any cash or a check we will have IOU's for you to fill out. As in the past, Sarah Schwartz is heading up our corporate grant / donation portion of the project. Last year we received funding from Winegard, ShopKo, Burlington Baseball Assoc., and Dave & Cindy Vavroch memorial.

This year we have already distributed 76 coats to The Nest and to Head Start/Early Head Start program. It has been a warm fall and the parents may not have been thinking about a winter coat. Therefore we are anticipating some additional needs to be identified. This is Leah Haberichter, Family Development Specialist at Head Start accepting our delivery of coats on November 10, 2016. As we were taking the coats out of the bags one teacher says, is that a 12 month size and indicated that the little girl came to school without a coat today. I am sure she went home with it that day.

Once more, a **BIG Thank You** to all our Kiwanis members for the enormous support you have provided over the years. Sincerely, Bruce Wibin, Karen Erickson, Sarah Schwartz and Tom Jones.



Holiday FUN

Featuring the Kiwanis Singers, the December 22 meeting will be one of fun and holiday festivities.

Wear your ugly sweater & participate in a \$5 White Elephant Gift Exchange if you choose.



A White Elephant gift is typically something you already have and would like to "regift" because you are no longer using it. The goal is to entertain rather than gain.

Board of Directors Meeting

At the November board meeting, your Directors & Officers approved the following funding requests:

- \$100 for a Pizza Party for the youth group that won during Clergy Appreciation Day in October.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Randall

Perfect Attendance Congratulations!

Several members earned Perfect Attendance and were recognized in December. In addition, club members who were recognized at a different time, are also listed.

- 1 Year: Melissa Jones, Jason Strandberg
- 2 Years: Jeff Strause
- 3 Years: Jon Hart
- 5 Years: Bob Reid, Jim Sleister, Karen Erickson
- 7 Years: Richard Goughnor, Jerry Parks
- 11 Years: Ed Larson
- 12 Years: Rocky Roxlau
- 15 Years: Tom Vance
- 22 Years: Karen Clay
- 25 Years: Bob Prall

Is "Perfect Attendance" your goal? Did you know that you can earn a "make-up" meeting by attending a board meeting OR completing a service project?

Please let Michelle Randall know if you are shooting for Perfect Attendance.

Mark Your Calendar...

1 – Des Moines County Living Well, Jake
Tanumihardjo

8 – YMCA, Andy Dahl

8 – Birthday Table

15 – Early Childhood Iowa, Tasha Beghtol

20 – Board Meeting, 12 pm @ Bees Stadium

22 – Holiday Celebration, Kiwanis Singers,
Ugly Sweaters and NEW! \$5 White

Elephant Gift Exchange

29 – Polar Express Theme Kid's Day

Programs arranged by Cassie Gerst



Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.



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