



Kiwaniis®

CLUB OF BURLINGTON

November, 2020

Burlington Kiwanis
BurlingtonKiwanis.org

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Weinand



Hi, I'm George,

Wow, October has been a great first month as President of our club. We have settled in to our new meeting location at BGC. I feel like we are gradually getting more members to attend our meetings. Hopefully all are enjoying more upbeat meetings.

We are all really excited to see the continued antics and entertainment of our new Sergeants at Arms, The Lewis and Smith Show. And a great time will be had by all.....

A big thank you to Dennis Wilson for setting up great speakers for our October meetings. I also thank Jim Steer and our membership for providing cans of chicken to Pam Farr and her crew who provided over 500 to go meals per week to children at Burlington Community Schools.

I want to again welcome Kara Roberts and Jodi Sands as new member representatives for Goodwill of the Heartland corporate membership. We are excited to have you with us.

We will continue to have our annual Christmas Childrens Shopping Spree in cooperation with our Target store in West Burlington. We will be changing some of the protocols of the event to maintain the highest degree of safety for all Kiwanis volunteers and children participating.

We are discussing partnering with the Greater Burlington Partnership to find a positive solution to keeping the spirit of Santa Claus alive this year for children during the Christmas season as well as maintaining volunteer safety precautions. I will provide more information when available.

You will soon be receiving an email survey asking for your opinion on if the club should create Zoom meeting capabilities for our weekly meetings. This is being considered to include members who are not able to attend meetings due to Covid or other conflicts. Please take time to respond so we will know your thoughts. We hope to have your responses received by November 14th. Your opinion does matter. Thank you.

Unfortunately, we have cancelled the December Kids Christmas Day activities due to Covid safety concerns and our meeting schedule. We will not have club meetings on December 24th and December 31st due to holidays.

Make certain to put the November 12th meeting on your calendar. We will have a great tribute to our veterans including a veteran's appropriate menu and a special speaker attending. Don't forget bingo on the November 19th meeting.

Let's have a great Kiwanis November. Please stay safe and healthy, George

Sergeant - At - Arms, Explained by Craig Smith

A Little History

In line with President George's theme of keeping tradition alive while adding some progressive thinking, Here are some insights on the SAA, abbreviation for Sergeant-At-Arms. First, let's get our prepositions straight... it's not sergeant with arms, sergeant about arms and certainly not sergeant without arms.

Sergeant-At-Arms is a traditional component of our regular Kiwanis meetings. In the early 1980's the sergeants' material consisted primarily of newspaper clippings and the SAA stood at the podium and shared recent news or events that Kiwanis members were a part of. The fine back then was 25 cents and you brought your quarter up to the front tables where the entire board of directors sat. Once in a while you found a frugal member like B.L. Robinson who would only pay a dime and never any more than that for his fine. In current years, Boast, Bull and Brag has become a popular tradition.

For many years, the dollars that the sergeant brought in were actually part of the annual budget and the sergeant was on task each week to bring in a portion of that budgeted amount. When our club had over 200 members it was not uncommon for the SAA to have to wrangle 2200-2500 dollars per year from the thrifty pockets of the members or approximately 40-50 dollars each week!

Historically the new sergeant was a big secret and not revealed until a week after the president was installed each year. Sergeants were encouraged to have a theme to work with and many of you may recall Dan

Hoffman as the Godfather, Julie Canfield with her sunglasses... because life was so bright, she had to wear shades and even the Ayatollah of Rock and Rolla, Todd Chelf.

In the early 2000's the comedic bit became a part of the SAA landscape and you can probably thank Dave Vavroch for his part in adding some shenanigans to the routine. Following those years, the skits and acts and group fines became more and more common as the articles and trade magazines gave way to new ways to include the members.

It is notable that many officers and directors have cut their teeth as the SAA and it is often a springboard for getting involved in the next level of Kiwanis leadership. Recently we have had dual positions and shared responsibilities as the role requires steady attendance and that is not always easy in our busy scheduled lives.

The sergeant's role is now an attempt to entertain you and to take your money while you are still smiling. They are asked to be creative, informative, clever, a bit ornery and perhaps even jovial as they strive to make you grin while you're handing over a dollar or 2. I like to think of it as hitting you over the head with a velvet hammer...trust me, it won't hurt too much.

A Few Reminders

*If your name is mentioned, please stand up and bring your dollar forward. That's the game and that's the way we play it. Just putting the dollar on the table is fine for group fines or table fines but when you are mentioned, consider it an honor and a gracious way to support our club.

*If you must leave a meeting early, its gonna cost you a dollar to step out on the meeting, the speaker & the SAA.

*Of course the big fine is for the cell phone that goes off during the meeting. \$5 is the rate for that important



phone call interrupting our meeting. Some Sergeants have even charged \$5 for a call that went off at a board meeting.

Let's Not Forget

Overall it's a time for us to recognize our influential members in our community as well as a chance to laugh, groan, giggle, chortle, guffaw or even cringe a bit while letting all the busyness of life go away for just a few minutes. Sometimes the sergeant hits their stride and it adds a lot of fun to our meetings. Other times the best laid plans go awry when certain people you planned to pick on don't make it to the meeting or a joke lands with a thud and the crowd doesn't respond as you hoped. Its never fun to disappoint our Kiwanis friends so hang in there when we don't land on our feet with the most professional act that brings the house down each week. It's a tough job, and it takes time to prepare each week, but it's also a special part of our meeting that most members look forward to. If you'd like to give it a shot sometime, please volunteer and we'll give it a go.

How Can You Help?

Finally, there are a few things you can do to help the sergeant. Got a good tip on a member? Let the sergeant know. Heard a good joke or a one liner? Share it with the SAA in a simple e-mail. If the sergeant asks you to join a skit or get in on a joke, please jump in. Anyone can add to the fun. And remember this...if you happen to see your license plate in the sergeant's hand someday, don't grumble, it's only a dollar to get it back and after all, its tradition.



The Annual Kiwanis and Target Kids' Christmas Shopping Spree

Saturday, December 5, 6:45-8:00 am, Target

If you are looking for an uplifting experience there is nothing better than excited kids patiently or impatiently waiting for Santa to arrive and then having the chance to shop with their own personal Kiwanis shopping partner. Merry Christmas!

Children are encouraged to purchase gifts for other family members as well as themselves.

When they are finished shopping the gift wrappers go into action. Many happy faces leave Target knowing that they will have something to open for Christmas or they have something to give to someone special in their lives.

To volunteer, contact Lois Blythe, lblythe@burlington.lib.ia.us or 319-750-3938



Blood Drive

Our Blood Drive will be November 2 to 14 2020. Donations are down so we are asking for your help. Our incentive to donate is provided by Miracle Car Wash, is The Clearcoat Works car wash for two donors selected from a random drawing.

This Blood Drive we want to encourage new donation, so if you have not donated in the last year or are a new donor you will be entered into a separate drawing for a second car wash from Miracle Car Wash. If you try to donate and are deferred for any reason we will include you in the drawing as well.

BLOOD DRIVE

Burlington Kiwanis

November 2 - 14

Burlington Donor Center 3407 Agency Street

Monday - Wednesday: Noon - 6:30 pm

Thursday - Saturday: 7:00 - 11:30 am

To schedule an appointment, please contact

Emily at eludolph@mvrbc.org or 217-430-8617.

*Be sure to credit your donation by giving code #1035 when you check in!

MASKS AND APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

Please eat before donating and bring Photo ID



GIVE BLOOD, SAVE LIVES

www.bloodcenter.org

That is Two Miracle Car Wash The Clearcoat Works car washes to two of our donors! We all could use a car wash this winter!

To sign up and make sure you are credited to the Burlington Kiwanis account #1035 call Emily at 319-208-0158 or e-mail eludolph@mvrbc.org

Board of Directors Update

Your Directors and Officers met and have approved the following funding requests at the last board meeting.

The following are services and programs of the Kiwanis Club:

The Dictionary & Thesaurus Committee will continue to give area school children books and was funded at \$1,500.

Coats For Kids continues to be a project of the club. Donations will be sought from area businesses and the club will supplement with \$3,000.

Aid to the Needy, which is known as the Nurses Program, where school nurses can purchase necessary items for children in need, \$542.15.

The Holiday Shopping Spree at Target will continue and each child will be given \$50 to spend.

Outside Organization Funding Requests:

Change a Child's Story was awarded \$1,800 to be used to purchase 600 children's books for 450 school-aged children, K-5 th grade, in the Mediapolis Community School District

Club News:

Additionally, the board discussed giving members their own aprons and these will also be given to members when they join the club. The club will purchase 125 aprons to start at a cost of \$1,250.

Respectfully Submitted, Karen Erickson, Secretary

Celebrating Veterans November 12

Please join us as we honor our members who have served our country.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Nagrocki at 319-572-5499 or snagrocki@yahoo.com.

Mark Your Calendar...

November

5 SCC Blackhawks, Lorenzo Watkins
Invocation by Michelle Brown

12 Veterans Day Program
Invocation by Courtney Gustafson

17 Board Meeting, 12 pm @ BGC

19 Feather Party and BINGO Fun!
No guests please.
Invocation by Brent Hartley

26 Happy Thanksgiving, No Meeting
Programs arranged by Jeff Rucker
Invocations arranged by Gina Hardin

Feather Party Fun!

One of our many club traditions - the annual Feather Party! Club members can win a turkey or cash when they shout outINGO!!

This is a fun day for members, so please no guests on November 19.

Pictured are Curry Bernand, Ashlee Hoskins, and Brenna Wonders



Burlington, IA 52601
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