

Kiwanis Club of Columbia, Missouri



Newsletter

December 5, 2006

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

James Powell & Ed Curtis Welcomed

James Powell (center in photo) and Ed Curtis (second from right) were inducted into our club at the November 28 meeting. James is a retired United Methodist minister and Ed is a retired high school principal. Both men bring a real commitment to helping the youth of our community and we welcome them heartily.



A Sign Of The Season

The long-standing tradition of ringing bells for the Salvation Army at Christmas time continued this year. Our club, under the leadership of Betsy Happel, committed to ringing bells at the J.C. Penney store at the Columbia Mall on Friday, December 1, and Saturday, December 2. A record snow fall on Thursday night virtually closed down the town, including our bell ringing, but club members were out in force for the Saturday ringing. Thanks to all who took the time to spread the spirit of Christmas.



E. Bentley Steps Up As Ass't Scribe

Elliott Bentley is now taking over the responsibilities of assistant secretary, providing Secretary Ernie Lee some relief from the paperwork.

Taft Completes History Book

Bill Taft recently announced publication of the book he wrote updating the history of the Missouri United Methodist Church. Bill has authored many books on various aspects of two of his passions, his profession of journalism and American history. Congratulations to Bill on yet another publication. Hey Bill, what's next?

A Blessed Christmas To All



DECEMBER PROGRAMS

(Jim Bowman, Program Chair)

Dec. 5 – Bill Taft. “Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus.”

Dec. 12 – Circle K and Ray McClure with a “Focus on Youth” followed by a Christmas Quintet.

Dec. 19 – Judge Ellen Roper, “Reflections of a Circuit Judge.”

Dec. 26 – No meeting.



Jason's Thoughts

I have come to find out that as we grow older, and hopefully more mature, our preferences change. Growing up, I think I can say without a doubt, my favorite time of year was summer. The days were warm and the nights tolerable. Fall signaled that not only was

school going to start back up again but that days would become shorter. I don't think I ever really cared much for fall. Winter was cold, and the only good days were snow days for obvious reasons. Spring had its good points, like the end of school and anticipation of summer vacation. But spring was also filled with tests.

But now, as I have grown older, I think I like all seasons almost equally. I like spring because of the beauty of seeing the world come back alive. Gardening has also become somewhat of a hobby of mine (although I am not very good at it). I also look forward to mowing the lawn, and spending spring nights visiting with friends—outdoors of course. Summer is always a favorite because of the time that can be spent working and playing outdoors. I think summer will always be enjoyable. Winter is still a challenge, but can be seen as a time of rest. And is there really anything more refreshing than filling your lungs with the cold, crisp fresh air?



My thoughts about the seasons, and fall in particular, I think started changing about three years ago. This was soon after joining Kiwanis, and upon reflection, I think a major reason for the change. There have always been the holidays, with all the hustle and bustle of the season. But more importantly, I see the opportunity to help others and to engage in fellowship with new friends.

When I look out into our audience on Tuesdays, or as I look at our membership roster, I know that I am looking at great men and women. Not because of a particular name, or any particular accomplishments. Those things never truly impress me. Instead, I am impressed by knowing that every one is a Kiwanian who is devoted to helping others, and in particular, helping children get a start on their lives in the best way possible. It is your character. It is what you do.

So, in the time of year when it is common that time disappears, and there is a focus on close friends and family, I applaud what you do for others who you do not know, and may never even meet. You spend your precious time working for children around the world. You get out in weather that is less than inviting. You act selflessly, and work with selfless others, never asking to be paid, and often giving money in addition to your time. Thank you for working concessions and giving up your weekends and evenings. Thank you to all that have or will ring the bell for the Salvation Army and bearing the weather that is upon us. And probably most important of all, thank you for giving hope of a better life to the children of the world.

Kiwanis has helped me become thankful for all my blessings. I now see how I can help others, and the good that can be done. I know that with more like-minded people, we can accomplish so much more. So when you invite someone to our Club for a visit and they ask why they should come, tell them why Kiwanis means so much to you. And tell them why I think Kiwanis has made me a better person. And finally, tell them to come to the Columbia Kiwanis Club, where it is *EXCITING* to be a Kiwanian.

Jason

"Granny" Puts Young Children First

The warmth and support given by "Granny," a.k.a. Pam Ingram, and her helpers to the children who visit Granny's House was on full display at our November 14 meeting. Pam recounted that Granny's House opened a short five years ago with a mission "to infuse children with love and enthusiasm by having a loving place to visit." She certainly makes us proud of our support for this project. You can find out more of the story of Granny's House at <http://grannyshouse.org/>.



Granny's House provides Columbia's inner-city kids with a safe and loving environment.



Summary of Minutes of Board Meeting November 8, 2006

Treasurer Dale Metcalf reviewed the financial reports for October, 2006. The year end audit of club financial records will begin next week.

The club budget for October was based on last year's budget, pending approval of the new budget.

The Foundation budget has \$7,220.42 in cash assets. The Memorial Trust Fund continues to grow. When adding the investment portfolio to the cash assets in the foundation fund, the total net worth of the MTF now stands at \$126,372.70.

The board officially placed member M.F. "Thursty" Thurston in senior membership category.

The Doris Chiles plaque project was reviewed. The plaque will be presented in the spring of 2007 pending arrangements with family members.

Ron Lemonds, was granted a leave of absence for the period of October 2006 to May 2007 as he is wintering in Arizona.

Two new members were approved for membership: they are James T. Powell, sponsored by Otto Steinhaus and Edgar (Ed) Curtis, sponsored by Ray McClure.

A review was conducted concerning the members that have not paid dues. Board members volunteered to contract selected members about renewing their memberships.

Sally Robinson reported on behalf of the Memorial Trust Fund Committee. They recommended to the board that we invest the \$9,000 cash in the MTF in the Franklin Income Fund A (FKINX), with a front load of 4.25%, expense ratio of 0.65% and yield of 5.53%. Motion was approved. Also, the committee will manage resources so as to be able to fund the \$4,000 figure to support the Nora Stewart project. The full report is available for review.

Ray McClure reported on Circle K. They appreciate the club providing them with an opportunity to work in concessions and supporting them with their work projects. They are trying to build their membership base and they will use the funds raised by their activities to help defray the cost of dues. The club meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, and their board of directors meets on the first and third Wednesdays.

President Simmons presented the 2006-2007 budget proposal. The budget, similar to last year's, was approved.

The board approved a document to make necessary changes in our records with the Boone County National Bank.

An alternate fund raiser of sponsoring the Carson and Barnes Circus was discussed and not approved.

Board meetings are at First Christian Church, 101 North 10th Street, Columbia, Second Floor/parlor (enter rear door), second Wednesday each month 7:00 a.m.

Summarized by Ye Editor from the Official Minutes recorded by Secretary Ernie Lee.

Helping Beyond Our City Limits

Sally Robinson, program chair for November, included two inspirational programs during the month on mission work reaching out beyond our city to help others. On November 21, Reverend Fred Erickson, minister at the Millersburg Christian Church, talked about the work of the Disciples of Christ in the Congo. The work of this group has centered around improving communications to and from isolated villages that don't even enjoy roads in many places.



Rev. Fred Erickson

And on November 28, Kathie Jackson, Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, told of their church mission trips to help with relief in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. One of the things that Kathy stressed was that while the physical labor was important in helping clean up and rehab homes, it was equally important to sometimes just listen to the stories that the disaster victims needed to tell.



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The Columbia Kiwanis Club Newsletter is published monthly for members, Kiwanis officials, organizations, and friends of Kiwanis.
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December Birthdays:

2 – David Sapp
3 – Ray McClure
5 – Leroy Sharp
11 – Darrell Courtney
11 – Beuna Lansford
19 – Mel Wilson
26 – Ed Curtis
30 – John Haralson
31 – Ella Vallar



December Anniversaries:

21 – Ernest & Pat Hilderbrand
23 – Weldon & Lynn Durham
26 – Omi & Toshi Sehgal
28 – Otto & Carolyn Steinhaus

Teacher Recognition

Some of you may have seen an article recently recommending that the Columbia Public Schools do more to recognize the district's teachers. It seems that their human resource policies don't necessarily foster much recognition for all the teachers do for our children. It should make all club members very proud of the long tradition that our club has of providing monthly recognition for two of the district's finest teachers, which recognition, by the way, would not be possible without the support of the school administration in coordinating the program.

Our two latest "stars," Lisa Fortner and Cathy Hughes from Grant Elementary School, were recognized at our November 7 meeting. Fortner is a School Counselor and Hughes is a Media Specialist. Both Mizzou grads. Thanks to Lisa and Cathy again for all they do to help our children.

Some Nice Feedback

The club received a nice thank you letter from the Boone County 4-H Recognition Night Committee for our support of their 55th Annual 4-H Recognition Night. The letter was signed by co-chairs Julie Holle, Michael Casady and Felicia Casady.

Interclub

Ed Andler reported that an interclub breakfast was held the day before Thanksgiving with the Boonslick Club at Lenoir. Everyone shared in the meaning of Thanksgiving. Ed said that "It was a wonderful way to see what all Kiwanians have in common on this occasion." Ten members of our club attended, including: Ray Lansford, Ed Maynard, Sally Robinson, Leigh Nutter, Don Rowland, Bob Piest, John Yonker, Curtis Bohl, Bill Spicer and Ed Andler.



Columbia Kiwanis Club

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Meets Tuesdays at noon
Stephens College Stamper Commons, Broadway
& College.

Visit our website @
<http://columbia.kiwanis.missouri.org>