

# THE NEWS FROM the

**VOLUME XLVIII, NUMBER 12**

**LUNCH:** Chicken and/or pork fajitas, and cookies.

KISHWAUKEE KIWANIS CLUB of DeKalb, Illinois

## January 18, 2017 Editor: Paul Stoddard <http://www.kishkiwanis.org>

. **SONG:** *My Country, ‘tis of Thee* led Bill C.  **Invocation**: Joe G.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS, EVENTS

**Officers for 2016-2017**

President Joe Gastiger

President Elect Bob Higgerson

Vice President Roger Seymore

Treasurer Lisa Small

Asst. Treasurer Sue Doubler

Secretary Ken Doubler

Asst. Secretary Jerry Wahlstrom

Immediate Past President

Dick Dowen

Lt. Governor Juanita Mundy

District Governor Rick Poulton

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**Kishwaukee Kiwanis Meetings**

2nd, 3rd, 4th, (and 5th) Wednesday at 11:45 a.m.

Faranda’s Banquet Center

302 Grove St.

DeKalb, IL

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**K-Family Events/Meetings**

**Circle K Every Monday night at 8:00 p.m. in Neptune Central 110. Hint: To stay young, attend one of their meetings!**

**AKtion Club –** Second Wednesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. at Opportunity House (357 N. California St.) in Sycamore.

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**Defining Statement**

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

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**Flag Salute**

As our flag signifies purity, valor, and justice, may we as true Kiwanians exemplify these virtues as we serve the children of the world.

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# and OPPORTUNITITES

**Our Next Interclub:** will be tomorrow: January 19 at 6:00 pm. We’re passing the gavel to Tri-County at the South Moon BBQ. Also – the DeKalb evening club is having a mayoral forum on Feb 6 6pm at the Elks Club (would qualify as an interclub). At least 2 of our members are pretty sure to be there.

**Yearbooks:** Paper copies are in. If you didn’t get yours today, they are available at the meetings. Feel free to take one or two.

**Beanzie Meeting** tomorrow morning at 8 am at the Lincoln Inn.

**Site Meal:** February 6 at 5:15 pm at the Elks’ Club, before the Mayoral Forum. Sign ups are happening.

**Program Committee** will be meeting next week at 1, after the regular meeting.

**Kiwanis Show:** Gold Circle dinner will be before the show, here at Faranda’s. Who could we invite that might be willing to pay $75 for dinner and the show?

**Volunteer Opportunities and Other Goodies**:

If you haven’t filled out a survey, Ken would like to invite to do so by next week.

**Toiletries**- We’re collecting these for Safe Passage. (See below.)

**Sue – DUES ARE DUE!** (Same as the old dues).

Joan is collecting **box tops** and **Coke lids. General Mills products,** helps local schools.

AKtion Club is collecting **aluminum cans and other recyclable materials**.

**P.o.P./Health Box**

Norm PoPped Bob Gilmore for having been President of the DeKalb Kiwanis (well, Bob’s father was Prez, and his father-in-law was Secretary) at our Charter Night.

# 🟊🟊🟊🟊 PROGRAM 🟊🟊🟊🟊

Eric Olson, editor of the Daily Chronicle, came by to offer us his thoughts on the year just ended (that was 2016, for those of you who may have slept through it) and the one coming up. Jerry Smith, sans voice (general applause), introduced him. Eric’s been a newspaperman for 17 years, mostly with Shaw Media. Five of those years have been here at the Chronicle. He’s the next President of the DeKalb Rotary (general boos). Eric passed around his business cards, and encouraged people to contact him regarding news and mistakes. He touched on the upcoming election and issues the City Council will have to address, including the possible need to borrow some money, as TIF money will run out soon. TIF funds have been used for street repair. The municipal building no longer houses the police, but security is still needed. Not to mention the building’s old. Eric sees an increase in crime as an issue that will need to be addressed. He cited an October murder in the 800 block of Kimberly, and how the residents of that area often hear gunshots. Decreasing enrolments at NIU will also provide challenges for the community. Rental properties are therefore seeing downward pressures.

Another issue of interest to Eric is the fate of the Otto’s building. It’s been vacant since the sprinkler system froze in the polar vortex. Demolishing and rehabilitating the building are both costly propositions. Lawsuits abound. Eric further wonders if we will see some residential growth in DeKalb this year. The middle class is the economic engine that drives the community, and we need to increase the middle class here. Illinois created an “Enterprise Zone” here, and that might help.

Eric talked about the school board, and how we have 10 candidates for 3 seats. That’s a sign of dissatisfaction. There is the ongoing saga of the superintendent being on paid leave, and debt issues related to incorrect assumptions about the economy. Increasing diversity are posing challenges as well. (There are 15 languages spoken at the Jefferson school.)

You can reach Eric at [eolson@shawmedia.com](mailto:eolson@shawmedia.com) or (815) 756-4841.

**Heard around the tables:**

There’s a new car in the parking lot.

**Quote for the Day**

“Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.”

- *Benjamin Franklin*

**UPCOMING PROGRAMS:** (Why not invite a guest? – that could also mean a prospective member!)

January 25   Paul Kassel, Dean NIU College of Visual & Performing Arts

**February 1 BOARD MEETING @ the Lincoln Inn**

February 8   Patty Poorten “My Mission Trip to Bulgaria”

February 15 Ralph Sherman Kish Kiwanis Show

February 22 DeKalb Public Works Tim Holderman Director

**Today’s Attendance:**

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| --- | --- |
| 33 | Kish Kiwanians |
| 0 | K family: |
| 0 | Other Guests: |
| 1 | Speaker: Eric |
| **34** | **TOTAL** |

Serving the Children of the World