

THE BLACKHAWK SMOKE SIGNAL

A publication dedicated to serving CLUB MEMBERS and promoting the Objects of Kiwanis International.

Issue # 4

September 24, 1989

Good morning ! Welcome to the meeting of The Kiwanis Club Of Janesville, Wisconsin, Blackhawk Golden "K".

Object # 6 Of Kiwanis International

" To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and good will."

Any newspaper worth the cost of printing and our time to read helps us to meet the 6th Objective above. The Janesville Gazette/Sunday Gazette is such a paper.

Mark Torinus, Editor of The Janesville Gazette became Professor of Journalism to Club Members acting as editors at our September 20, 1989 meeting.

Opening his program with a well informed review of The Gazette's 144 years of continuous service to the community Editor Torinus moved to the question: To print or not to print? Using facts from actual newspaper stories our task was to decide as acting editors to print or not to print.

Members came away from this stimulating discussion with inside knowledge about editing a newspaper. Freedom of the press is very much alive.

Then And Now

1803: President Jefferson purchases 1,172,00 square miles. Cost: 4¢ per acre. The Louisiana Purchase.

1989: Janesville, Wisconsin: Lot 11 & S½ Lot 10, Block 3, Crestlawn Addition assessed land value: \$8300.

This lot size is 75' x 1368 or 10200 square feet or .2342 of an acre. Anyone care to compute the inflation rate?

"Ring Out The Old,
Ring In The New."

Installation Banquet; October 4, 1989. Ladies event. Cost \$ 7.50 per person. All members are encouraged to attend with their spouse/friend. An evening event at the Alpine Restaurant.

Interclubing

Interclub Chairman Elmer Nielsen reports a very successful year. Once again our Club has earned the Round Robin patch. Members are urged to sign up for the last interclub this year; Thursday, September 28, 1989. Our parent Club, Janesville is targeted.

Governor's Visit

Division 3 hosts Governor Bailey's visit the evening of November 10, 1989. Let's have a great turnout from Blackhawk Golden "K". Cost: \$7.50 per person. Place: Buffa's, South Beloit.

Sick List

Frank Mundth - Mercy Hospital. Please note: Mrs. Mundth has a list with several Club members names to call upon for drivers.
Biernie Thompson - Reports Bear and Deer bagged in the Northwoods. Tough hunt !
Biernie has a cast to the shoulder on one arm.
Donald Draeger - Surgery last Wed. Pr. Excl.

John Dooley

Mark Torinus is editor of the Janesville Gazette.

He is a graduate of Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, with a degree in government.

A Green Bay native, Torinus began his career in journalism at the Menominee {Mich.} Herald-Leader, 60 miles north of Green Bay in the Upper Peninsula.

He worked at the 5,000 daily as circulation manager, advertising salesman, reporter, news editor, managing editor and finally editor. The newspaper was purchased by the Gazette Printing Co. in 1982, with Torinus joining the Gazette newsroom in 1986.

Coming from a Fox Valley newspaper family, Torinus's wife, Maryclaire, is also from Green Bay. They have three children and live in Janesville.

He is an avid Packer fan, a member of St. John Vianney Church, Morning Rotary, the Chamber Beautification Committee and the Rotary Gardens Board.

You be the editor

1. A youth in a city in our circulation area kills himself with a gun in the seclusion of his home. The paper normally does not report suicides done in a private manner. The schools, however, decided to have an in-house seminar for students on depression and suicide in order to avoid copy-cat acts of suicide. Now do we report the incident? The name?
2. A reporter comes to you and says she notices that Janesville has very few blacks while Beloit, ten miles away, has a significant black population. She asks if she can take on the project and asks if she will have your backing if her stories show the city is racist and/or the realtors are helping to keep blacks out.
3. A reporter, on a tip from a politician, discovers that the district attorney has been taken to court more than a dozen times over the past decade for not paying his bills. When asked for his comments, the DA asks the editor for an off-the-record conference. At that conference, he announces he will not be seeking office again when his term ends in five months. He asks that you not print the embarrassing information for the sake of his family.
4. An elderly lady calls to say she has been arrested for shoplifting. The experience has mortified her and she promises never, never to do it again. She says she cannot bring herself to attend the first offender program but asks that we keep her name out of the paper anyway. She feels she will have a nervous breakdown if her neighbors find out about her shame.