



A Monthly Publication of Janesville, WI Blackhawk Golden "K" Kiwanis Club

Post Office Box No. 2712 Janesville, WI 53547

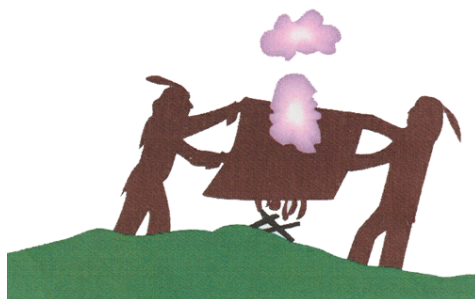
Web: goldenk.org

Editor: Dave Figi, dfigi@charter.net

Meeting Each Wednesday: 9:30AM @ Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Dr. Janesville, WI
Wisconsin / Upper Michigan Governor: *Tim Lubinsky* Division 4 Lt. Governor: *Vacant*

OFFICERS

President: Roger Willeford
Pres. Elect: Richard Johnson
Past Pres: Robert Wilcox
Vice Pres: Tom Neumann
Treasurer: Greg Turco
Asst. Treas: Linda Bontly
Secretary: Paul Neitzel
Asst. Secr: Bruce Jorenby



DIRECTORS

2022-'25 Ron Shuler
2022-'25 Dave Thill
2023-'26 Linda Bontly
2024-'27 Carl Cramer
2024-'27 Ray Szczepaniak

"KIWANIS IS A GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEERS, DEDICATED TO"
"Improving the world one child and one community at a time"

PROGRAMS

January Chair: *Luci Cramer*

01 Program No Meeting: Happy New Year!

08 Program *Keep Kids Learning* by Claire Gray

15 Program *United Way* by Lisa Hurda

22 Program *Forward Janesville* by Claire Gray

29 Program Rock County Sheriff by Curt Fell

February

05 Program *BrightStar Care Services* by Justin Makowan

JANUARY CLUB CALENDAR

01 _____ No Meeting: Happy New Year!

08 _____ 9:30 Oak Park Place

15 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

22 _____ 8:15 Board Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

29 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

February

05 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

GREETERS

Chair: Maury Frey

RAFFLE

Chair: Maury Frey

DEVOTIONS

Chair: Carl Cramer

SERVER

Chair: Glenn Disrude

Jan 01

No Meeting

No Meeting

No Meeting

No Meeting

Jan 08

David Calverley & Tom Neumann

Ray Szczepaniak

Richard Johnson

Glenn Disrude

Jan 15

Jim Farrell & Bob Wilcox

John Janes

Ron Shuler

Glenn Disrude

Jan 22

Don Kellogg & Dick Fay

Ryan Lewis

Carl Cramer

Glenn Disrude

Jan 29

Bob Knudson & Dave Figi

Glenn Disrude

Ron Shuler

Glenn Disrude



December Juice Man: Maury Frey

BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting: 12/18/2025

Called to order by President Willeford at 8:17 a.m.

OFFICERS

President: Roger Willeford
Past President: Robert Wilcox [abs]
President Elect: Richard Johnson
Vice President: Tom Neumann
Treasurer: Greg Turco
Secretary: Paul Neitzel

Directors: Ron Shuler, Dave Thill, Linda Bontly, Carl Cramer [abs], and Ray Szczepaniak.

Others Present: Glen Disrude, Luci Cramer, Ryan Lewis, and Steve Skelly.

Secretary's Report: Paul informed the board that if anyone is interested in attending the Kiwanis International convention, it is being held in Pittsburgh, PA. June 25-28, 2025. The minutes were approved as printed in the Smoke Signal.

Treasurer's Report: Greg Turco reported that the administrative checking was down a little due to the \$90 payment for the WI/Upper MI. Kiwanis District Convention fee and dues to International. The service checking was also down a little due to the Craig/Parker Closet holiday gifts. Greg also stated that he filed the federal tax form 990EZ and closed the fiscal 2024 accounting on Oct 31, 2024. Greg made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and was seconded by Richard Johnson and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Key Club: Ray has been in touch with the Craig/Parker/Milton H.S. regarding starting up a key club. So far Craig H.S. is the only school to show interest and they had their first meeting last week. Ray said that they will get back to us regarding involvement from our club and how we can possibly work together.

Aktion Club: Linda said she would update the board at our next meeting.

Golden K Study Meeting: Glenn Disrude presented a handout to the board summarizing their first meeting to determine the benefits we receive from our membership in Kiwanis and if it merits our continued membership or if we should look into other options for our membership. The study committee is made up of Glenn and Linda Bontly, Jerry Burhans, Maury Frey, Bruce Jorenby, Tom Neumann, John Sarnow, Bob Wilcox and Roger Willeford. They will continue to meet once a month for the next 4-5 months and then

present their findings to the board and finally to the membership to vote on whether to stay as a Kiwanis Club or form a new group.

Interclub: Luci Cramer gave an overview of their visit to the Beloit Kiwanis Club and expressed how interesting it was to see how other clubs operate and what they do and also to get new ideas on fundraising that maybe we could adopt. She stated that it was a very positive experience.

Kiwanis Grants: Roger Willeford explained the requirements for earning a grant through Kiwanis International and due to time constraints, it is not something we are looking at right now but possibly in the future. We would need a signature project and someone to write the grant proposal.

Kandu Christmas Tree: Linda Expressed a great appreciation for our club getting involved with this worthwhile endeavor to help the people at Kandu Industries. She especially thanked Ron Shuler for his help in acquiring the decorations and Nancy Targo for her help in decorating the tree along with Linda. The tree sold and the whole project was a big success for Kandu.

NEW BUSINESS

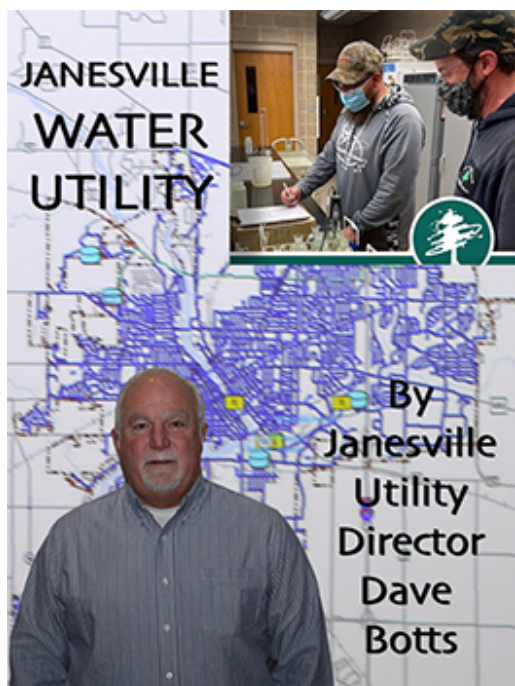
Festival Foods Brat Stand: Roger brought up the idea again about contacting Festival Foods about running the Brat Stand outside the store one weekend this summer. We could designate a good cause such as the Aktion Club or Key Club that the proceeds would go for and publicize this project to maybe raise around \$500. Festival would provide everything at cost. Ray Szczepaniak said he would look into it for more details. We could also do a Culvers Scoopie Night to raise additional funds. Tom Neumann said he would contact Culvers about this idea.

The Buddy Bench: Steve Skelly handed out a diagram on how to make a "Buddy Bench". This is an inexpensive project that would involve about \$20-\$30 in materials and could be inscribed with a Kiwanis brand logo. The idea is to set them up in an elementary school cafeteria where a new kid looking to make friends could sit on the bench to let other kids know they are looking for a buddy. These benches could also be set up at Kiwanis Pond and be securely put in place so no one would walk off with them. They could also be made for sale such as at the tree sale and maybe make a nice profit for the club. Steve and Glenn Disrude will make up a proposal and inquire at the school district office if they would be interested in this idea. This is just another way to make ourselves known in the community.

OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE JAN. 22, 2025 at 8:15 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paul Neitzel



December 4 ~ Dave Bott



December 11 ~ Janesville Business Academy

Parker students [L-R] Awnna Phalin, Addison Lami, and Haley York



December 11 ~ Janesville Business Academy

Craig students Sawyer Punzel [L] and Haidan Kelly [R]



December 18 ~ Yuri Raskin

Happy Birthday Wishes

January 3rd Janet Hay
January 6th John Janes
January 12th Stephen Johnson
January 17th Roger Willeford
January 26th Jim Hay

Craig/Parker Closet Student Christmas Program

Jerry Landok [right] announces our club's donation of \$3,000 to the Craig/Parker Closet program. Below L-R: Bruce Jorenby, Deri Eastman [Parker HS Social Studies Teacher], Heather Last [Craig HS Administrative Assistant to Student Services], and Jerry Landok. The 'closet' programs provide materials and support to those who are low income as determined by free and reduced lunch status. Thanks to all of you for your support of this worthwhile program. This was our 11th year helping students and their families have a better Christmas. Bruce and Jerry said "Because of your generosity we were able to help over 20 students again this year. THANKS AGAIN."



December 11th Program: Janesville Business Academy
Presenters: Students From Craig and Parker



Mark Steinke from Rotary Gardens sets up our meeting room. Mark's work is greatly appreciated.



Members [L-R] Tom Neumann, Ray Szezepaniak, and John Janes are shown prepping the "Truck On Ice" with lights for the Jolly Jingle parade held in Janesville, December 7. Not shown: Dave Figi.



Kiwanis member Jim Farrell introduces a program speaker. Jim is a member of the program committee.



Matt Davis of Davis Citgo and family at the Jolly Jingle parade Saturday, December 7, 2024.



KANDU's Festive Forest Extravaganza featured decorated Christmas trees. Nancy Tarco and Linda Bontly helped decorate the Kiwanis tree. The flowers were donated by Ron Shuler while Linda made the ornaments. Nancy then decorated the tree.



Jolly Jingle Parade : The Truck On Ice on a Davis Citgo tow truck driven by Matt Davis.



Three alert members have already dialed a '9' and a '1' on their cell phones just in case a 'Joker' comes up on the weekly raffle.



John Janes Truck On Ice briefing



Program director Luci Cramer highlights speakers



Tom and Cathleen Neumann above left and Carl Cramer volunteering at a Salvation Army Bell Ringing collection site at Woodman's Food Store



Dan Heerey at the West Side Daniels Foods store selling tickets for the Truck On Ice program. The weather forecast for January gives hope that this year the truck will be on the ice at the Traxler Park lagoon. This year February 8th is the target date for placing the truck at the lagoon.



Paul Neitzel at the Daniels Foods ticket station