



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

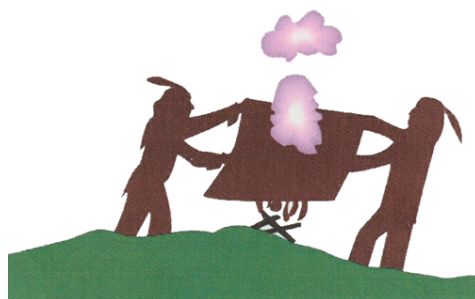
Post Office Box No. 2712 Janesville, WI 53547 Web: goldenk.org

Editor: Dave Figi, dfigi@charter.net

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

OFFICERS

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



DIRECTORS

2025-'28 Ryan Lewis
2025-'28 Steve Skelly
2024-'27 Carl Cramer
2024-'27 Ray Szczepaniak
2023-'26 Linda Bontly

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

PROGRAMS

August Co-Chairs: Luci Cramer & April Wright

05 Program Rotary Gardens by Laura Kenyon & Kristin Hesselbacher

12 Program Longevity with Liz

19 Program Alzheimer's & New Treatments by Hanna Van & Heidi

26 Program Simulating Sachel by John Graf
September

02 Program Rock County Restorations by Rita Key

AUGUST CLUB CALENDAR

05 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
12 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
19 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
26 _____ 8:15 Board Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

September

02 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

	GREETERS <i>Chair: Maury Frey</i>	RAFFLE <i>Chair: Maury Frey</i>	DEVOTIONS <i>Chair: Carl Cramer</i>	SERVER <i>Chair: Glenn Disrude</i>
Aug 05	Steve Skelly & Maury Frey	John Janes	Richard Johnson	Glen Disrude
Aug 12	Roger Willeford & Ray Cummings	Dale Henning	David Calverley	Bob Knudson
Aug 19	Dave Calverley & Ryan Lewis	Ray Szczepaniak	Bob Knudson	Bob Knudson
Aug 26	Bob Knudson & Doris Henning	Glenn Disrude	Carl Cramer	Bob Knudson
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			August Juice Man: Maury Frey	

BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting: 7/29/26

OFFICERS

President: Richard Johnson
President Elect: Tom Neumann
Past President: Roger Willeford
Vice President: Jim Farrell
Treasurer: Greg Turco
Secretary: Paul Neitzel

Directors: Linda Bontly (abs)., Ryan Lewis, Steve Skelly, Ray Szczepaniak , and Carl Cramer.

Others Present: Luci Cramer, Darlene Jonson, April Wright

Secretary's Report: Paul informed the Board that we are eligible to award a Hixson Award this year due to our contribution to the Kiwanis Children's Fund. The Board will consider candidates for this honor. We have been informed by the Wisconsin/Upper Michigan District that our club is being recognized at the annual district convention in Brookfield, WI. on Aug. 15th at 8:00 a.m. Discussion about filling the vacancy of President Elect was also brought to the attention of the board since it's a requirement of Kiwanis International to inform them of our upcoming officers for the International Website. The minutes were approved as printed in the Smoke Signal.

Treasurer's Report: Greg's monthly treasurer's report showed that our administrative checking was up about \$1400 due to the midyear appeal and the service account was down a little due to the unbudgeted donation to the Isaac Strong Foundation. Greg also stated that our major charities are paid for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Greg filed the Wisconsin Form 5 Annual Report with the state and gave an update on investing our club funds. The plan is to get an account at a Wisconsin based Credit Union so that we can start earning about 4% instead of nothing. Greg said he would prepare a 2026 full year forecast for next month's meeting so the board can prepare the 2026-27 charity budget to vote on in September. Greg made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and was seconded by Roger Willeford and approved.

Service Clubs: Jim Farrell stated that there are many service organizations in Janesville and how helpful it

would be for current citizens of Janesville and the surrounding area plus for people moving to Janesville to have knowledge of the various organizations, what they do, where and when they meet and how to join and get involved. Jim thought that the Gazette could be very helpful in publicizing this information and that our club should look into talking with the Gazette to see if this is something they would consider promoting.

District Convention: Linda Bontly, Tom Neumann, and April Wright said they would be willing to attend the district convention in Brookfield, WI. Aug. 15th as representatives for our club to accept the recognition that our club will be receiving at the awards breakfast at the Brookfield Sheraton Hotel.

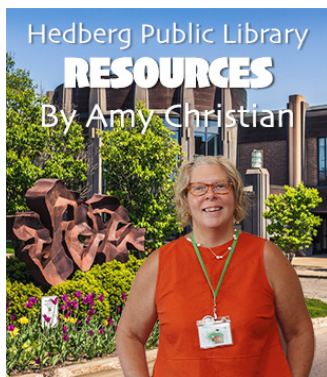
Fundraising: It was suggested that our club needs to generate more funds and Ryan Lewis made a motion to organize a fundraising committee to approach more corporations to sponsor us and was seconded by Roger Willeford.

Vice President Position: Carl Cramer said that most clubs don't have a vice president and it is not required by Kiwanis International. He proposed to eliminate this position and this motion was seconded by Tom Neumann and approved. Greg Turco will become the new President Elect on October 1, 2026 when Tom Neumann takes over as President. Jim Farrell will be the new Treasurer and Paul Neitzel will remain on as Secretary for 1 more year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Submitted by secretary, Paul Neitzel





July 1, 2026

New Member
Laura Kenyon



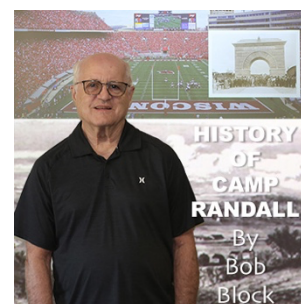
July 15, 2026



July 8, 2026



July 29, 2026



July 22, 2026



Some of the members who traveled to Camp Wawbeek which is a Kiwanis supported Easter Seals camp

Camp Wawbeek is a camp for youth, teens, and adults with disabilities located in the Wisconsin Dells area.



Bookmobile that our club helped purchase.



Jim Farrell speaking at the dedication of the Bookmobile.



Kiwanis secretary Paul Neitzel does a great job of recording the history of our Kiwanis meetings.

**Blackhawk Golden
Kiwanis**



***Serving Children
of the World***

 **SUPPORTING**
 High School Scholarships
 New Teacher Scholarships
 Early Literacy for Preschoolers
 Boys and Girls Club
 Craig and Parker Closets
 Camp Wawbeek for the Disabled
 Homeless Students (Project 16:49)
 Aid for New Mothers & many more

 **FUNDRAISERS**
 Truck on Ice | Lily Day | Tree Sales

 **COMMUNITY ACTION**
 Blood Drives Bike Race
 Bell Ringing Kiwanis Park
 Meals on Wheels Kiwanis Pond
 Flag Retirement Kiwanis Trail
 Renaissance Faire

Mission Statement: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.



Ray Szczepaniak and his flowers are a welcome gift to a raffle winner.

Happy Birthday Wishes

Toim Neumann

August 6

Maury Frey

August 7

April Wright

August 9

Dan Heerey

August 10

Carl Cramer

August 13

Luci Cramer

August 16

Dave Peterson

August 21

Jim Farrell

August 22

John Bennett

August 29

Greg Turco

August 29

Ray Szczepaniak and Tom Neumann took photos of the recent trip to Camp Wawbeek. The camps goals are outlined in the paragraph below from the Easter Seals Wisconsin website:

“Imagine a place where campers with disabilities are free to be themselves and valued for it, where they are able to try new things and make new friends in an accessible, inclusive, and fun environment. Campers of all ages and abilities can challenge themselves, set goals and accomplish them – making the most of their camp experience. In this relaxed environment, families and caregivers can be confident their loved one is safe and taken care of, and in return, they receive a respite. Campers will have the time of their lives at a place they’ll never forget.”

The photos show the camp entrance and the pool for the campers. A Renowned Tree Climber Champion risked his body by going down a slide with Governor Kathy [below].

Dave Peterson and his wife Mary [right] are shown with John Janes.

The cook [right] at the camp prepares over 80 meals per day.

Our guides [below right] for the day were Kat and Cathy.



John Janes &
former member
Wayne Olson



Ryan Lewis
looking for
the joker!!





The annual July 4th parade in Milton had 91 floats and groups that marched in the parade. Our Kiwanis Truck On Ice Float was #44. Davis Citgo Service Towing again helped our group with an awesome contribution of equipment and time. Davis Citgo made it possible to display the truck to the huge turnout of people viewing the parade. In the image above L-R: Bobbie and Matt Davis and son, John Janes, Ryan Lewis, Glenn Disrude, and Ray Szczepaniak. Matt Davis is the owner of

Davis Citgo. His company also was a key player in placing and retrieving the Truck On Ice at Traxler Park last winter. John heads up the organization and planning for our truck in the parade. Ryan provided a sound setup to give a patriotic music background to the Truck on Ice viewing.

On the left are Glenn and John who were the 'tail gunners' on the truck during the parade.

John Jane's Note Regarding the 4th of July Parade

"Thanks to Glenn Disrude, Ray Szczepaniak, Ryan Lewis and Dave Figi for their great team work in decorating our Truck on Ice display. Special thanks to Ryan for providing a music system which played during the entire route.

Again, Davis Towing & Recovering Service with Matt Davis and family, donated time and use of equipment so we could participate in this annual event.

Glenn announced this would be his last year riding on the back of the flat bed waving and greeting people along the parade route. Thanks, Glenn, for all the years of service."

