



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

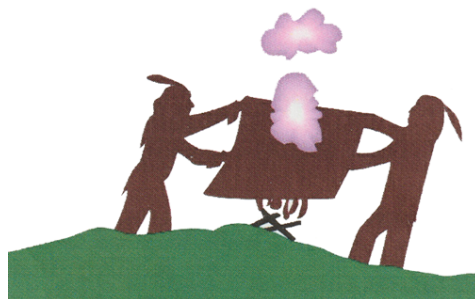
Post Office Box No. 2712 Janesville, WI 53547 Web: goldenk.org

Editor: Dave Figi, dfigi@charter.net

Meeting Each Wednesday: 9:30AM @ Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Dr., Janesville, WI
Wisconsin / Upper Michigan Governor: Dr. Lori Bents Division 4 Lt. Governor: Kathy Strong Langoff

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

September Co-Chairs: L. Cramer & A. Wright

02 Program Rock County Restorations by Rita Key
09 Program Meeting followed by tour of Oak Hill Chapel
16 Program Forward Janesville by Shar Hermanson
23 Program Shine Technologies Overview by Mike Glonet
30 Program Induction of Officers
October
07 Program Kwik Trip Organization by David Niemi

SEPTEMBER CLUB CALENDAR

02 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
09 _____ 9:30O Oak Hill Chapel
16 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
23 _____ 9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
30 _____ 8:15 Board Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

October

07 _____ 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>
Sept 02	Doris Henning & Dave Figi	Linda Bontly	Richard Johnson	Bob Knudson
Sept 09	Oak Hill Chapel	None	David Calverley	-----
Sept 16	Roger Willeford & Dave Peterson	John Janes	Bob Knudson	Bob Knudson
Sept 23	Bruce Jorenby & Tom Neumann	Dale Henning	Carl Cramer	Bob Knudson
Sept 30	David Calverley & Bob Knudson	M. Frey & J. Langdok	Bob Knudson	Bob Knudson
			September Juice Man: Maury Frey	

BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting: 8/26/26

OFFICERS

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

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

Others Present: John Janes

Treasurer's Report.

Greg Turco notes the club's bylaws require the budget be completed by October 14th.

Discussion transpired regarding the charities to which Kiwanis donates. A suggested topic was reduction of some charitable giving to recipients with less conveyance of Kiwanis' message.

Discussion/Policy Options

Steve Skelly suggested Spotlight on Kids, which is headquartered in the Janesville Mall and involves children's involvement in JPAC plays.

Greg mentioned some scholarships were not claimed. They will be followed up upon. – Later update, Glenn Disrude explained one individual did not go on to higher education. A motion was made to add a scholarship to Rock University High School by Linda Bontly. Ryan Lewis seconded the motion. Following discussion, it was passed, receiving a nay from Ray Szczepaniak and Greg Turco.

A motion was made to support Janesville Schools Outdoor Lab (Robert O. Cooke Memorial Arboretum), particularly the worn and sometimes unreadable trails' signage explaining which plant is nearby, for \$500. It was seconded by Linda Bontly. The motion passed unanimously.

Steve Skelly made a motion to support Spotlight on Kids, \$500 minimum (to be reevaluated). Steve will liaison with the organization. Ray Szczepaniak seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Ray Szczepaniak made a motion to support the organization formerly known as the Rock County Children's Museum with \$500 yearly. Tom Neumann seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Ray Szczepaniak presented and discussed the results of the surveys returned with the Mid-year Appeal. – Later, it was

said there is more to come during the Officers' inductions meeting, per Ray.

John Janes spoke upon signage for Kiwanis, increasing the club's visibility in the public eye. John stated that Milton, Edgerton and other area communities have signage entering the areas for the local clubs, e. g. "Lions, Kiwanis and etcetera are here" with their logos, signs along the highways and interstates.

John Janes relayed that per the survey results, Kiwanis would like to continue with the Tree Sale. The trees must be ordered now at quantity 500 per type to receive the standard pricing. John may evaluate fewer types of trees.

Truck on Ice and other sponsorships are being evaluated for improvement. Advertising on Facebook last year was effective, per Ryan Lewis.

John Janes mentioned the truck will be at the Pistons and Props air show this weekend.

Discussion occurred to solidify an event for the eventual return of the flag deposit box at Kiwanis Park, currently being refurbished. John Janes will follow up with the individual donating the work and time.

Jim Farrell discussed the intent to use Summit Credit Union for CDs and a savings account, to better earn capital with Kiwanis' existing funds.

Discussion occurred regarding better recognizing members' years of service. Kiwanis International offers pins for every five years of service. Steve Skelly made a motion, seconded by Ryan Lewis, for a \$200 budget to investigate which members have been with us for what duration, and purchase pins for those lacking them, and those who earn them for five years' increments of service, moving forward, during officer inductions or during weekly business meetings (to be determined). The motion was unanimously approved. Tom Neumann made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Roger Willeford. MtA carried at 9:15am..



Kiwanis Donate To Early Literacy

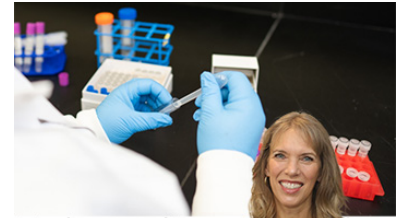




Laura Kenyon Kristin Hesselbacher
ROTARY BOTANICAL GARDENS
August 5, 2026



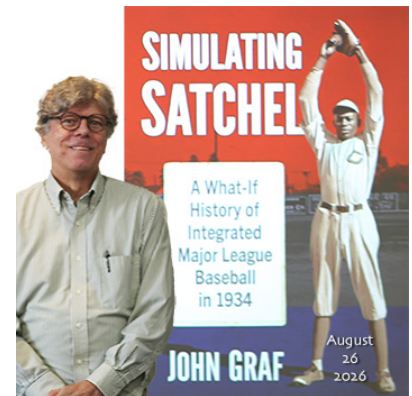
Hanna Van is the Senior Manager for the Walk to End Alzheimer's - Rock County, WI. The 2026 event takes place on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at Palmer Park. Register begins at 8:30 AM and the walk starts at 10:15 AM.



Understanding Alzheimer's
by
Heidi Neeley
August 19, 2026



Liz Collins
August 12, 2026



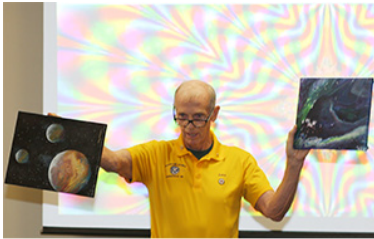
Kim Lewis the Education Manager for Rotary Gardens wrote a letter thanking our Blackhawk Golden 'K' Kiwanis Club for our \$1,160 donation.

That helped with a kid's art project involving the solar system. The photo on the right shows a large group of youngsters who benefitted from the Kiwanis help with their art project. Their events included multi-day creative camps filled with art that blend science, nature, and creativity.





Sample kids art project



John Janes showing examples of artwork that Kids produced at Rotary Gardens thanks to Kiwanis monetary support.



Hamish Martin
Visiting from UK

ALZHEIMER SUPPORT

On **Wednesday, Sept. 16**, we will be taking up a collection for

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 Bell Ringing Meals on Wheels Flag Retirement Renaissance Faire	Bike Race Kiwanis Park Kiwanis Pond Kiwanis Trail
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Mission Statement: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

Alzheimer's. We have done this for the past three years in the hope that a cure can be found for this terrible disease. It is too late for my wife who battled Alzheimer's for nine years but it might help someone in the future. In past years our members donated around \$2000 each year. That is super. In addition. The Frey family has raised nearly \$15,000 each year.

So far this year, over \$12,000 has been raised by the Frey Team for Alzheimer's towards a goal of \$20,000. Anything you can give is appreciated. Donations can be by cash or check. If by check it can be made out to "Alzheimer's Association".

Money collected on Sept. 16 will be donated to Alzheimer's by the "Frey Family Walkers" at the Walk on Sept. 19 in my wife's name.

Thanks for your help for this worthwhile cause.

Maury Frey

**Happy
Birthday
Wishes**

Genn Disrude
September 26

Our 2025-2026 Charitable Giving

Hedberg Public Library Donat	10,298	24%
Camp Wawbeek (Easter Seals)	3,900	9%
Early Literacy Jnsvl Schools	3,800	9%
Echo Donation	3,225	8%
Rotary Gardens Kids Programs	2,700	6%
Boys & Girls Club	2,204	5%
Salvation Army Donation	1,825	4%
Janesville Schools/Bags of H	1,700	4%
Pregnancy Helpline	1,500	3%
Kiwanis Children's Fund	1,333	3%
Craig Closet Annual Gift	1,300	3%
Parker Annual Gift	1,300	3%
Scholarship expense	1000	2%
Jnvl Multicultural Teach Schlr	1,000	2%
Blackhawk Tech College	1,000	2%
Key Club	907	2%
Glacier's Edge Boy Scouts	900	2%
Project 16:19 Homeless Educa	800	2%
Badgerland Girl Scouts	700	2%
District Foundation	600	1%
Kandu Industries	500	1%
Isaac Strong Foundation	500	1%

Treasurer Greg Turco has suggested the following:

The goal is to approve the charity budget at the August meeting, and approve the whole budget at the September meeting.

We should plan at least one new fund raiser, and plan to give 4-10 % more next year.

Let's stop being a group that "donates to lots of charities," and target our donations so that our donors can understand how we help the community. One way to do that is group our supported charities, and then focus on the ones most aligned with our mission.

Two examples suggested by Greg are:

1. Kids First Fund of Janesville Golden K

Nourish — food bank, Salvation Army meals, homeless students.

Grow — early childhood education, libraries, literacy, outdoor learning,

Belong — Key Club, Boys & Girls Club, scouting, youth programs.

For example: "Kiwanis Kids First: Nourish — "Today we supported the Salvation Army meal program with a \$2,000 gift. Thank you to our donors who make this possible."

2. The Janesville Kiwanis "Badger Boost"

>Fund Strong Starts (early childhood literacy, Boys & Girls Club, Camp Wawbeek, Rotary Garden's Kids program)

>Full Plates (food bank, Salvation Army, Craig's Closet)

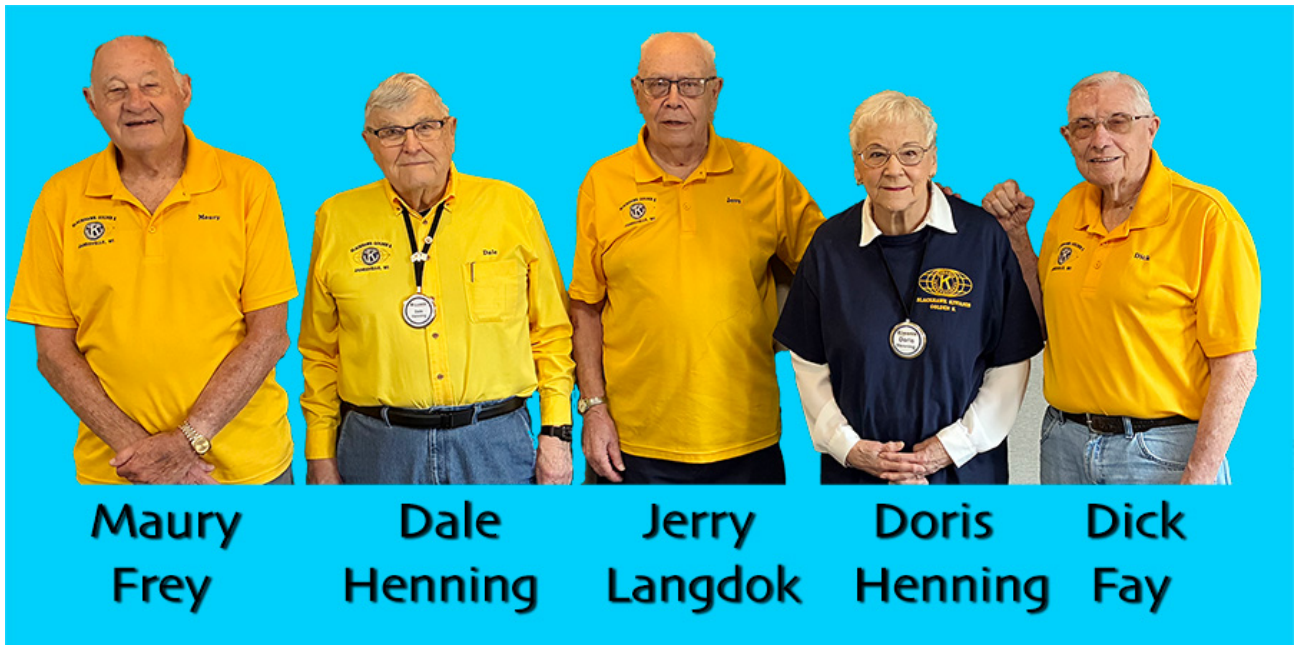
>Bright Futures (Key Club, scouting, scholarships)



April Wright and Tom Neumann
DISTRICT CONVENTION ~ BROOKFIELD, WI
August 15, 2026



The District Kiwanis organization presented our club with a certificate signifying a membership increase. April Wright and Tom Neumann attended that district meeting in Brookfield.



Jerry Langdok is pictured with the special “90 Year Club”. Maury Frey joined Kiwanis in 1998. Maury cited being a member, the programs, having volunteer opportunities and working for children as main reasons for being a member.

Dale Henning joined Kiwanis in March of 1973. His main reason is “he loves being a member!”

Doris Henning joined Kiwanis June 3, 2026. She cited being able to meet all the wonderful Kiwanis members as a main motivator to her membership.

Dick Fay joined Kiwanis in 1997. Dick’s main motivation behind his membership is the group of people who make up our club.



John Graf’s September 26th program on Satchel Paige featured a photo that as an image highlights the Kiwanis objective to form enduring friendships regardless of differences.



Our club’s goal is to help children. But those youngsters also return the help by exhibiting the Kiwanis goal of living the Golden Rule in all human relationships. Track photo from the 2017 WIAA State Meet by Dave Figi.