

# the Normal Kiwanian

the Normal Kiwanis Club Newsletter



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## heartbreak hotel?

### close, but no

It was the Governor-Elect training at Kiwanis International Headquarters in Indianapolis. Illinois-Eastern Iowa Governor-Elect Kevin McConnell attended the event held from November 5-8. Training was led by International President-Elect Paul Palazzolo (Springfield-Downtown Club) and Kiwanis International staff. Club President-Elect Josh Barnett and Past I-I District Treasurer Brian Davis (Chatham Club) were invited to attend to learn more about the training process and Kiwanis International. The training culminated on Saturday with a Las Vegas dinner and game night.



Josh Barnett, Kevin McConnell, and Brian Davis are pictured here with "Elvis," part of the Vegas Night entertainment

## mission accomplished!

The generosity of central Illinois residents and businesses helped Operation Santa ship over 35,000 stockings to our troops abroad. Here are a few quick facts...

- The goal was to send 30,000 stockings
- Donations were received from 10 different states
- 25 K-9 Warriors were supported with dog beds, food and toys

Thanks to all of you Kiwanians who sewed stockings, donated items, stuffed stockings, wrote Christmas cards or donated funds. Your efforts will touch the lives of our troops!

## toys for tots

We were privileged to have Matt Drat, Director of Toys for Tots—McLean County, speak to our club on November 20. According to Drat, our local organization has taken on the challenge of collecting toys for an expanded age range. To prevent parents from facing the difficult situation of having nothing for their older children, Toys for Tots decided to collect items for kids up to 16 years of age, and parents can go to "the toy shop" to select the toy for their child. Toys for Tots' goal is to have a toy and stocking stuffers for every child in need this Christmas. And last year, that meant 7000 children.

Drat left our meeting with several bags of toys—**thanks to all of you for your generosity!**

For more information and to locate drop-off points, go to [www.mcleantoysfortots.org](http://www.mcleantoysfortots.org).



## greeter schedule

Dec. 11 ..... Julie Lindstrom

Dec. 18 ..... Randy Clark

**Don't forget:** Each greeter is responsible for providing the fun prize and questions for their scheduled day. If you cannot serve on your selected day, please arrange for your replacement.

## service anniversaries

None for November or December

## upcoming speakers

Dec. 11 ..... Bruce Reynolds  
from H&R Block

Dec. 18 ..... No Speaker  
(Christmas gift exchange)

## let's get presidential

We all have had the election on the brain lately, and in honor of our privilege to vote, here are a few nuggets of presidential trivia (*answers are on the next page*):

- **Which president was born Leslie Lynch King, Jr. after his biological father, and then renamed after his adoptive father?**
- **Which president wore a ring containing a lock of Abe Lincoln's hair to his inauguration?**
- **This president, who studied nuclear physics at Annapolis, is a speed reader. He has been recorded reading 2000 words per minute.**
- **Who is the only U.S. president to also serve as president of a labor union?**

## president's address

### Matt Giordano, 2008-2009 Club President

There are so many demands and competing priorities for our time and talents, so I want to start by saying thank you for choosing to make a difference in our community through Kiwanis Service. I'm excited to be part of our rejuvenated efforts to bring back to life our club bulletin—thanks to Dena for taking the charge.

November marks Kiwanis Family month, which is a celebration of the outstanding group of Kiwanis-sponsored organizations such as our own University High School Key Club and Holy Trinity Builders Club. The Kiwanis family of organizations provides numerous opportunities for us to help shape the character of these young adults and instill in them a sense of pride and a duty to serve others, which will carry with them throughout their lifetime.

As we look to the new year, there are plenty of opportunities to continue building by partnering with other K-Family organizations in our community and sponsoring a new Aktion Club in McLean County or a Circle K Club at Heartland Community College.

Kiwanis Family Month also reminds me about how we as Kiwanians can make serving our community a real family endeavor. There are many opportunities to share our gifts and talents by helping others and what better way to do so than to involve our own family and friends in Kiwanis Service—children, grandchildren and neighbors. As we look forward to our service projects throughout the year, please consider inviting your family and friends...it's a great way to share the Kiwanis mission with others and a great way to grow our club.

Finally, as we head into the holiday season, I'd like to give thanks for each and every one of you for all you do in changing the world—one child and one community at a time. I wish you and your family the very best for a Happy Thanksgiving, a blessed Christmas, and all things good for 2009.

## pencil it in

### Dec. 6: Kiwanis & You—Club Growth Seminar (Chicago)

[www.ii-kiwanis.org/midwinter.html](http://www.ii-kiwanis.org/midwinter.html)

### Dec. 11: Midwest Food Bank

*Sort/organize food items*

### Dec. 26-29: State Farm Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament

*Run the concession stand at Normal West*

### Feb. 13-15: District Midwinter Convention (Decatur)

[www.ii-kiwanis.org/midwinter.html](http://www.ii-kiwanis.org/midwinter.html)  
*for details*





## something's fishy

### don't let that potential new member get away!

That's right—we're fishing for new members! The club has been divided into 10 teams of 3 as indicated below. Between now and June 1, 2009, our goal is to recruit and sign up 10 new members (or 1 per team).

#### TEAM 3

Chad Kemp  
Matt Lauritzen  
Geoffrey Maier

#### TEAM 6

Robert Baker  
Brett Burns  
Randy Clark

#### TEAM 9

Mac McElroy  
Barb Quick  
Julie Smith

#### TEAM 1

Dave Axtell  
Josh Barnett  
Anne Bliss

#### TEAM 4

Dena McDonald  
Merle Murray  
Krista Sheppard

#### TEAM 7

Rich Clemmons  
Joe Davie  
Chuck Erickson

#### TEAM 10

Steve Timmermann  
Dee Wilson  
Jim Woodward

#### TEAM 2

Ben Clawson  
Joe Cronenberg  
Brent Douglas

#### TEAM 5

Ron Stack  
Barb Wells  
Di Shepherd

#### TEAM 8

Diane Kerr  
Julie Lindstrom  
Kevin McConnell

### How does this work?

- Each of us is to think of at least 2 prospective members and write their names (and yours) on Go Fish cards. You can use the same prospective name on both cards, but then you must bring that person to 2 meetings or service projects.
- Return your cards to "Little Mermaid Anne Bliss" or "First Mate Chuck Erickson."
- Each team should come up with its own name. Submit these to "Admiral McConnell."
- Starting Dec. 4, 3 cards will be fished from the pond each week. If your card is drawn, you will have 3-4 weeks to invite your prospective member to a meeting or service project. Don't wait until the last minute—start baiting your hook now!
- Punishments for not catching your fish have yet to be determined.
- This should be a team effort. Although the set goal is 1 new member per team, more would work swimmingly!
- A Gill Street gift certificate will be awarded to the member who signs up the most new members. In the event of a tie, a Go Fish card game play-off will determine the winner.
- If our club signs up 10 new members by Jun. 1, Matt Giordano will sit in a fish pond (wading pool), and each team will get to throw a 5-gallon bucket of water on him at our annual summer social at Lake Bloomington.
- Direct any questions to Captains Quick and Sheppard.

## 2008-2009 club leadership

### President

Matt Giordano

### President-Elect

Josh Barnett

### Vice President

Barb Quick

### Immediate Past

#### President

Dave Axtell

#### Secretary

Diane Kerr

#### Treasurer

Matt Lauritzen

### Board of Directors

**2007-2009:** Krista Sheppard, Brent Douglas, Julie Smith

**2008-2010:** Ron Stack, Robert Baker, Barb Wells

### Governor-Elect

Kevin McConnell

### President's Counselor

Geoffrey Maier

### Club Bulletin Editor

Dena McDonald

## board meeting schedule (2008-2009)

Meetings held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm at Jamani Java unless notified otherwise:

<b>Dec. 2</b>	<b>Apr. 7</b>	<b>Aug. 4</b>
<b>Jan. 6</b>	<b>May 5</b>	<b>Sep. 1</b>
<b>Feb. 3</b>	<b>Jun. 2</b>	<b>Oct. 6</b>
<b>Mar. 3</b>	<b>Jul. 7</b>	

## trivia answers

(from page 2)

Gerald Ford

Theodore Roosevelt

Jimmy Carter

Ronald Reagan

## boy, that frosts me...

(from last page)

Frosty's alter ego is Barb Quick!

# annual dinner

The Kiwanis Club of Normal held their annual dinner and program on Oct. 9, 2008 at the Redfire Grille in Bloomington. Lt. Governor Glen Beaman was on hand to oversee the new member induction. New members inducted include Chad Kemp, Julie Lindstrom, Dena McDonald and Di Shepherd.

**Congratulations to Josh Barnett, the Kiwanian of the Year recipient!**

*Lt. Governor Glen Beaman and Dee Wilson*



*Sponsors Josh Barnett and Matt Giordano with new members Dena McDonald and Julie Lindstrom*

*Kiwanian of the Year Josh Barnett and Jenny Barnett*



*Sponsors Kevin McConnell and Barb Quick with new members Chad Kemp and Di Shepherd*

*Chad Kemp and Ron Stack—they make a lovely couple...*



*Randy Clark, Ben Clawson and Fran Strebing (from the Bloomington Kiwanis Club)*

***Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.***

Dwight Eisenhower

## got news?

If you have any photos to share or news or announcements to publish in the bulletin, please contact Dena McDonald **by the 25th of each month** at [djmcDonald70@yahoo.com](mailto:djmcDonald70@yahoo.com) or by phone at 309.838.1922. Embarrassing photos are always welcome!

## boy, that frosts me...

Several club members volunteered to help box trees during The Baby Fold's annual Festival of Trees event held Nov. 20-23 at the Interstate Center. However, one member participated incognito.

**Can you name that Kiwanian?**  
*(answer can be found on page 3)*

