



PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

July 23, 2023



PIRATE DAY IS HERE! SATURDAY JULY 29TH!

Our annual Pirate Day will be held on Saturday July 29th at the Portage Lakes State Park swim beach area from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Family fun for everyone! There will be boat rides to Pirate Island, a treasure hunt, costume contest, face painting and pirate crafts, food trucks and community vendors, knot tying demonstrations by the Sea Scouts, a Pirate Jeep invasion, pirates and mermaids, and SO much more. The Little Roaming Railroad will also be available for train rides at \$3.00 per person. If you have any questions or need any additional information please contact Dana Roderick chair of this event at d1687@hotmail.com. It's not too late to volunteer, please contact Dana.



The shoe drive has begun! If you have shoes you no longer want, please donate to our cause of helping third world countries. You can drop off shoes in person any Wednesday evening from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. A container has been put out for drop off any time at the Civic Center. Connie Vaughan is the chair of the shoe drive. Please contact her at dreamcricket@aol.com if you need any additional information or need a pick up. Many thanks EVERYONE that has donated so far.



On Saturday November 4th our club will hold a Quarter Auction fundraiser at the Barberton Moose which is on 31st Street in Barberton. We will have local vendors like Color Street, Pampered Chef, Scentsy, etc to be present to sell their wares and each will be asked to donate a basket to be raffled off. How the auction works: You will bid on quality vendor raffle baskets with one to four quarters, depending on the retail value. Bids are then collected in the basket provided and you hold your paddle up. A randomly chosen number is called. If the person with that paddle number placed a bid, he or she wins the item. Numbers will continue to be drawn until there is a basket winner.

In addition we will have a ticket raffle with baskets donated by club members and businesses in the community. There will be a 50/50 raffle and food available for purchase. The auction will be held from 4:00 to 7:00 pm with doors opening at 3:00 pm for registration and vendor shopping. Tickets will be \$10.00 per paddle, and you can buy additional paddles for \$5.00 each at the door. Tickets will be available soon. Mark the date on your calendar!

We are asking for raffle basket donations from every member and also ask that you sell at least two tickets for the event. We will need several members to volunteer at the event. If you have any questions or need any additional information please email cathy.dietz61@gmail.com

OHIO STATE RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

There is only a couple weeks left to sell your raffle tickets. The Kiwanis Club of Columbus has offered all clubs in the Ohio District the opportunity to sell raffle tickets to make some money on a relatively easy fundraiser. The raffle tickets cost \$5.00 each and for every ticket our club members sell we retain \$3.00. So if we sell 500 tickets we will make \$1,500.00...see easy money. The grand prize is two tickets to the seven home games the Ohio State Football team will play. The seats are located in Section 22 , row 26 on the 45 yard line. The drawing will be held in mid August. Please see Steve Hess to get tickets to sell, he will have them at all Wednesday meetings. You can email him at hess0910@aol.com to arrange pick up of tickets as well. Please turn in sale money on or before August 9, 2023.



At our Board Meeting on June 28, 2023 we voted to accept the membership application of Debra Doan. Debbie is the daughter of Tom Longworth one of our original founders, and Tom will be her sponsor. Debbie has been around the Kiwanis family for many years and we are honored to have her officially join our club. Welcome! An Induction ceremony will be held this coming Wednesday, July 26th with Dale Dietz leading the ceremony.



Our annual Fish Fry will be held at the Civic Center on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Tickets are \$20.00 each and can be purchased from President Larry Hunter. Please bring a covered dish to share. Please make plans to attend and get your tickets soon, this is normally a sold out event.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Many thanks to Chuck Seeley for arranging guest speakers for the next few months.

***Wednesday, August 2nd, Dr. William Lanzinger will come in and speak on behalf of the Autism Foundation**

***Wednesday, August 9th, Cindy Bach from the Closet will come in and speak with us about their organization.**

***Wednesday, September 20th, Bethany McKenney along with the Executive Director of BACM (Barberton Area Community Ministries) Dorothy Somerville, will come in and speak with us about their amazing community support agency.**



The Celebration of Life for member Betty Friess will be held at the Civic Center on Saturday August 12, 2023 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Betty passed away on June 24th, please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers. Betty's obituary can be viewed at newcomerakron.com



On Wednesday, July 19th twenty eight members met at the Prime Vine Winery for a summer outing. It was a very relaxing evening, the weather was great, and the scenery beautiful. It was nice to support a local Portage Lakes establishment.





16 members got perfect attendance for the month of June. Each recipient received a pack of Sharpie Highlighters saying "Let's highlight how sharp you are for attending every meeting in June, Congratulations you got perfect attendance!"

**Gene Cole
Cathy Dietz
Dale Dietz
Rosanne Edwardson
Bob Fowler
Juanita Gehm
Al Grzeschik
John Hercules
Larry Hunter
Anthony Ponikvar
Marcia Ponikvar
Dana Roderick
Betty Seeley
Chuck Seeley
Frank Smith
Stanley Vaughan**

BIRTHDAYS:

**07/24 Tim Peterson
07/25 Bob Kansa**

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

**Connie Nagy - 25 years
Joe Reinmann - 24 years
John Hercules - 9 years
Steve Hess - 5 years**

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

**07/11 Sam & Cynthia Reynolds
07/22 Stan & Connie Vaughan
07/24 Jon & Cassandra Freeman**

UPCOMING MEETINGS / CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- >July 26, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting
- >July 29, Pirate Day on the Lake, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
- >August 2, Dr. William Lanzinger, speaker
- >August 9, Cindy Bach from the Closet, speaker
- >August 12, Dragons on the Lake Festival
- >August 12, Betty Friess' Celebration of Life, at Civic Center

A LITTLE FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD:

- >September 6, Annual Fish Fry at Civic Center
- >September 13, Kiwanis Tower Dinner at Civic Center, **6:00 pm**
- >September 20, Bethany McKenney
- >October 7, Rose Day 2023
- >October 11, Charter Party at Canal Grille
- >November 4, Quarter Auction fundraiser at Barberton Moose
- >November 17, Girls Night In, Holiday Event



This is the very first member spotlight; a new column in our newsletter. Every publication will feature a club member with the hopes of getting to know our Kiwanis family better. I will send out a questionnaire via mail and I'd like you to complete it and return it to me. Participation is not mandatory but I really really would like everyone to join in. This will take quite a while to include everyone so please be patient. I'd also like a photo as several members live out of town and we don't see them very often. Thank you in advance for your participation, Cathy.

Spotlights will not be as lengthy as this first one, this one is very special as we pay tribute to our very own G.O.A.T, Mr. Thomas D. Longworth.

Our very first member spotlight will shine on a very special person, Mr. Thomas D. Longworth, a 1951 founder of the Portage Lakes Kiwanis. Tom was born at home on

Caldwell Drive in Coventry Township in June of 1926. His parents were John W. Longworth (1900-1973) and Myrtle (Pollack 1897-1965). He had one brother, John Robert (Bob 1922-2018). On his father's side there were nine children and on his mother's side there were ten children, so he had a LOT of cousins. Tom attended a one room school from 1932-1938 Kieffers in North Lawrence. There were six grades with one teacher and one row of desks per grade. There was a large furnace in the front of the room with outside toilets. There were no janitors and no buses, you had to walk to school. He attended Coventry schools from 1938 to 1944 and enlisted in the US Navy at age 17, his parents had to approve his entry at that time. He spent two years in the South Pacific in the Marshall Islands. Upon returning home he used the G I bill and attended the Hamel-Actual Business College from 1946 to 1948 and worked for his parents during this time as well. Tom met his wife Joyce at that time as she was working for his parents as well. He started working at Sandy Beach; amusement park, RV sales, mobile home sales, and the Marina. He married Joyce Haralson on January 1, 1949. The night before the wedding Tom went to the hospital with acute appendicitis; he got married sitting down! They had two daughters, Debra born in November 1953, now a retired RN and Renee born in May 1959, now a retired dental assistant. They have two grandchildren, Shawn Banner who works as a surveyor in Cincinnati and Kristina Banner who attends the University of Akron. Tom retired in 1982 after working at Sandy Beach for 36 years. He was also associated with the Robert Weed Plywood Company for 40 years, from 1966 to 2006. Since retiring they did a lot of traveling and volunteer work; they spent 10 years with the American Red Cross in transportation, 20 years with Golf at Firestone in transportation, and 20 years with the All American Soap Box Derby in transportation. For ten years they wintered in Florida living in a 42' trawler with twin diesel. Tom said traveling was his favorite hobby with trips to Fiji and New Zealand being their favorite and a trip to China being their least favorite. Some just for fun questions were asked; what is the last book you read and his answer was two; Harry and Mike Pompeo. What kind of music do you like; and his response was 40/50's and some country. What is a fun fact about you that not many people know and his answer was that he received his Pilot License before he graduated from High School. Question; who inspires you and his answer was his father John W. Longworth and his Uncle Walter Warensford. Next subject KIWANIS!

In October of 1951 it was decided that there was enough interest to start a Kiwanis Club in the Portage Lakes area. The Barberton Kiwanis Club sponsored the newly formed PLK club. On October 10, 1951 twenty nine members, all men, were inducted and officers were elected and installed. Paul Hohman was elected as the first President. Their first regular meeting was held at the Walter Thornwell Inn on Manchester Road. The Portage Lakes Kiwanis received their charter on December 5, 1951 via a Western Union telegram. Our Tom and his brother John (Bob) were two of those original founders. Tom was Club Secretary for 31 years, Civic Center Secretary for 15 years, and Kiwanis Tower Secretary for 40 years; he also served on

every single committee. Tom has been a PLK member for 72 years now. He received the Kiwanis Hixon Award in 1995 and the Zeller Award in 2019. Tom was instrumental in making the Civic Center a reality in 1973 and the Kiwanis Tower a reality in 1979. He saw the beginning of Rose Day in 1957 as well as our Santa Delivery on Christmas Eve. In 1987 he also saw the first female members in Kiwanis! Another question asked was; what have you enjoyed most about your time with the Portage Lakes Kiwanis and his response was the lifelong friendships he has made. The last question asked was; what advice would you give to someone considering joining a Kiwanis Club and his response was 'the more you give to Kiwanis the more you will receive back'. Tom has been so gracious to share some mementos of the past. The original member roster, a copy of the telegram advising the club they were officially chartered on December 5, 1951, minutes from their first official meeting, a program from the first Charter Night, and a few other documents. The print is tiny but hopefully can be enlarged enough to read; they are fascinating. Tom's daughter Debbie has been attending our weekly meetings for the last few months and Debbie has recently joined our club. Stop in any Wednesday and talk with Tom about the history of our club; his stories of the last 72 years are amazing.



Mr. Thomas D. Longworth, Founding Member

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
520 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO 11, ILLINOIS

Levy Bill

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION ROSTER

CLUB Portage Lakes DISTRICT Ohio
CITY Akron PERMANENT ORGANIZATION DATE Oct. 11, 19
STATE OR PROVINCE Ohio NUMBER REPORTED 30

MEMBER	ADDRESS	CLASSIFICATION
✓ Charles D. Baldwin	R. F. D. 10 Box 605 Akron 19, O.	Tires
✓ William F. Buhl	3590 Dell Drive, R. F. D. Barberton	Controller
✓ Carl E. Clark	R. D. 10 Box 370 Akron, O.	P. O. Clerk
✓ Donald J. Corbin	Bo x 165 R.D.4 Akron 19	Deputy Sheriff
✓ Ruel Deem	Portage Lakes Drive, Akron 19,	Grocer
✓ Robert J. Fichtner	R.D.13 Box 558 Akron, O.	Clothing
✓ Mitchell A. Filing	R. D. 5 Box 534 Akron	Gen'l Insurance
✓ Ralph E. Henry	651 Lakemont Ave. Akron	Teacher
✓ Paul H. Hohman	R. D. 10 Box 521 Akron, 19	Real Estate
✓ Alfred Knudsen	R. D. 13 Box 568 Akron	Restaurant
✓ Gerald Arthur Lassen	R. D. 5 Box 104 Akron 19,	Restaurant
✓ Robert W. Long	5758 Manchester Rd. R. D. 10, Akron	Service Station
✓ John Robert Longworth	R. D. 5, Akron	Technician
✓ T. D. Longworth	R. D. 4 Box 225 Akron 19	Amusement Park
✓ Carl Martin	Portage Lakes Drive Akron	Hardware
✓ Guy McEwen	27 Ostende Ave. R. D. 4 Akron	Fire Chief
✓ S. E. McFarren	Box 342 R. D. 5 Akron	Real Estate
✓ Laurits Nilsen	Box 226 R. D. 10 Akron 19	Propane Gas
✓ Elmer Joseph Palmer	R. D. 4 Box 232 Akron	Convention Mgr.
✓ Walter Papich	R. D. 10 Box 175 Akron 19	Tavern
✓ G. Robert Price	Bo x 226 R. D. 10 Akron 19	Hardware
✓ Willard F. Prim	Box 555 R. D. 13 Akron	Physician
✓ Robert P. Rasor	116 Wolcott Rd. Akron 13, O.	Property Mgt.
✓ Elton P. Rathbun	R. D. 4 Box 605 Akron 19	Grocer
✓ Richard Ryder	Portage Lakes Drive Akron	Floor Covering
✓ Bert M. Simpson	R. D. 10 Box 177 Akron 19	Service Station
✓ Ray Sours	R. D. 5 Akron	Realtor
✓ Ralph Steese	R. D. 10 Akron	Minister
✓ Charles J. Stanross	R. D. 13 471 Portage Lakes Dr. Akron 19	Music Instr
✓ C. S. Wallock	R. D. 9 Box 530 Akron 19	School Board

30

file

CLASS OF SERVICE
 This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

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SYMBOLS
DL=Day Letter
NL=Night Letter
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W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

AKB123 CT. CB618 NL PD=WUX CHICAGO ILL DEC 4.

PAUL H HOHMAN, CARE WILLIAM F BUHL=
 3590 DELL DR BARBERTON OHIO=

PLEASE CONVEY TO EVERY MEMBER OF PORTAGE LAKES AKRON CLUB
 CORDIAL GREETINGS UPON THIS OCCASION MARKED BY PRESENTATION
 OF THE OFFICIAL CHARTER OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL. I AM SURE
 YOU WILL INCREASINGLY ENJOY YOUR FELLOWSHIP WITH THE MEMBERS
 OF YOUR OWN CLUB THE OHIO DISTRICT AND KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL.
 WE EXTEND BEST WISHES AS YOU DEVELOP YOUR ACTIVITIES OF
 SERVICE=

O E PETERSON SECRETARY KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

We are enclosing our check in the amount of Five Dollars (\$5.00)
 to apply against the costs of this occasion.

Cordially yours in Kiwanis,
 Kiwanis Club of Edgefield
Ted Armstrong
 Ted Armstrong, Secretary



Charter Night Program

KIWANIS CLUB
OF PORTAGE LAKES

Wednesday, December 5, 1951
SEVEN O'CLOCK P. M.

OFFICERS
Kiwanis Club of Portage Lakes

Paul H. Hohman _____ President
E. Joseph Palmer _____ Vice-President
William F. Buhl _____ Secretary
Gerald A. Lassen _____ Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Ralph E. Herron
Robert W. Long
Stanley E. McFarren
Willard F. Prim
B. Paul Rathbun
Bert M. Simpson
Ray Sours

CHARTER MEMBERS
Kiwanis Club of Portage Lakes

Charles D. Baldwin
Fred J. Botzum
William F. Buhl
Harold D. Courson
Ruel Deem
Robert J. Fichtner
Mitchell A. Filing
Jack H. Force
Ralph E. Herron
Paul H. Hohman
Edward E. Klipstein
Alfred Knudsen
Gerald A. Lassen
Robert W. Long
John R. Longworth
Ted D. Longworth
Colin V. Martin
Donald J. Maxwell
Guy McEwen
Stanley E. McFarren
Laurits Nilsen
E. Joseph Palmer
Walter Papich
Robert O. Poppenhouse
G. Robert Price
Willard F. Prim
Robert P. Razor
B. Paul Rathbun
Richard Rider
Victor L. Schermesser
George E. Seesholtz
Bert M. Simpson
Ray Sours
Charles J. Stenross
Elmer H. Teffner
Charles S. Wellock

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

President _____ Claude B. Hellman, Baltimore, Md.
Immediate Past President _____ Don H. Murdock, Winnipeg, Can.
First Vice-President _____ Donald T. Forsythe, Carthage, Ill.
Second Vice-President _____ Larue F. Smith, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Treasurer _____ Walter J. L. Ray, Detroit, Mich.
Secretary _____ O. E. Peterson, Chicago, Ill.

OHIO DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Governor _____ Malcolm C. Heed, Parma, Ohio
Immediate Past Governor _____ Ellis W. Kerr, Troy, Ohio
Treasurer _____ Sam Walden, Chillicothe, Ohio
District Secretary _____ S. S. "Cy" Corthell, Akron, Ohio
Lt. Governor, 11th Division _____ Karl W. Anderson, Canton, Ohio

SPONSORS

Kiwanis Club of Barberton

OFFICERS

President _____ Daniel R. Buzzard
First Vice-President _____ John H. Nicholson
Second Vice-President _____ Robert J. Anderson
Immediate Past President _____ Harold C. Myers
Secretary _____ Harvey J. Book
Treasurer _____ E. Lester Hunt

CHARTER NIGHT COMMITTEE

PORTAGE LAKES CLUB

E. Joseph Palmer General Chairman
Stanley E. McFarren Publicity
Alfred Knudsen House
Robert P. Razor Program
Mitchel A. Filing Attendance

BARBERTON CLUB

Daniel R. Buzzard
Dave Goldsberry
Carl McNeese
{Walter S. Raymer, Jr. and
{Harold C. Myers
Fred Weller

PROGRAM

TOASTMASTER

Karl W. Anderson—Lt. Governor, 11th Division

Song _____ "America"
Pledge of Allegiance —
Invocation —
Group Singing _____ Audience
Charles J. Stenross, Leader
Introduction of Guests _____ S. S. "Cy" Corthell
Presentation of Gifts _____ Daniel R. Buzzard
Acceptance of Gifts _____ William F. Buhl
Entertainment —
Presentation of Charter — District Governor Malcolm C. Heed
Acceptance of Charter _____ Paul H. Hohman
Introduction of Speaker _____ H. W. "Ike" Driver
Speaker _____ District Governor Malcolm C. Heed
"God Bless America" _____ Audience
Benediction —



APPRECIATION

The Portage Lakes Club wishes to express its sincere appreciation to its sponsor, the Kiwanis Club of Barberton, for contributing so generously to the success of this Charter Night Party.

PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS CLUB

First Meeting October 10, 1951

Chartered December 5, 1951

In September 1951 word came from the downtown Akron Kiwanis Club and the District Secretary, Cy Corthell, that the Portage Lakes area was ripe for a new Kiwanis Club and that many men were interested in forming one.

The outstanding work of the Barberton Kiwanis Club in youth activity, youth guidance, public and business affairs, and civic betterment, caused many business and professional citizens of the Portage Lakes area to the opinion that there was a definite need for a service club, and Kiwanis seemed to be the choice.

The late District Secretary, "Cy" Corthell, did much of the ground work in beating the drums for Kiwanis along with the then Lt. Gov., Karl Anderson. John Longworth of the Portage Lakes area and a half dozen public spirited citizens laid the ground work.

Since the Barberton Club had certain territorial rights and since they were the closest club to the area, it was decided that the Barberton Club should be the sponsoring club. It is of the greatest importance that there be good guidance, sound counsel, and genuine enthusiasm supplied during the formative months.

After several exploratory sessions the international representative, Frank Lawrence, was brought in and speedily handled the legal requirements and other organizational details.

On October 10, 29 members were inducted and officers elected and installed by Immediate Past Lt. Gov., Walter Raymer, Jr.

Eleven officers, directors, and committee chairman from Barberton attended the organizational meeting. Paul Hohman was elected the first president and Bill Buhl secretary.

At the time of the club's formation, the Portage Lakes district represented a population center of between 25,000 and 30,000 persons.

The first regular meeting of the new club was held at Walter Thornwell's Inn, Manchester Road, with President, Daniel Buzzard, of the Barberton Club presiding. Alfred D. Ladd, past Lt. Gov., was guest speaker - his subject "What Is Kiwanis".

The first club bulletin was issued before the second meeting October 17 -- attendance 28 out of 30 members and growing.

The Barberton Club as sponsor for the new Portage Lakes Club organized the Charter Night Program held at the Barberton Elks' Club on the evening of Wednesday, December 5, 1951.

Lt. Gov. of the 11th division, Karl W. Anderson, was the toastmaster, and the charter presented by District Gov., "Mal" C. Heed, who was also the principal speaker of the evening and was introduced by "Ike" Driver.

Many district officers, division officers, and club presidents were present at the Charter Party.

The 10th anniversary was observed on October 11, 1961, at the regular meeting at Chaboudy's.



The Kiwanis Club of Portage Lakes
Invites you to join us for our
Fiftieth Celebration

at

Anthe's Restaurant
4315 Manchester Road
Akron, Ohio

October 20, 2001

6:00 Cash Bar

7:00 Dinner

Reservations Required

Checks made

Payable to:

Portage Lakes Kiwanis

R.S.V.P. Rosanne Mihaly

By October 15, 2001

LAKES SENIOR HOUSING

In 1978 one of the Past Presidents, Dr. Irv Kaplan 1961, felt that the Portage Lakes area was in need for some low income housing for our senior citizens. He had worked on one for the Akron Jewish Center and knew they could be financed by HUD of the U.S. government,

Jim Bacher was President of the Portage Lakes Kiwanis in 1979 and they formed a committee to explore the possibility of building a Senior housing in our area.

The committee met on June 4, 1979. Committee members were - Donald Hallauer, Ed Gaskill, Dennis Lambes, Wayne Breitenstine, Bob Longworth, Tom Longworth, Ted Cole, Ken Spahr and Joe Egert.

At that meeting they elected Gaskill as President, Lambes as Vice President, Hallauer as Treasurer and Tom Longworth as Secretary.

Joe Miller a Past President in 1959 handled the incorporation for the Kiwanis Civic Center would try and get this group incorporated.

A site committee was appointed to find land in our area. They checked the property at 589 Portage Lakes Drive, which is now part of Harbor Inn parking lot. The property at 539 Portage Lakes Drive, which is behind the present Ameritech building and the property at 399 Portage Lakes Drive, which at that time was owned by the State of Ohio. It used to be the office of Portage Lakes Parks. Another parcel was at Killian Road and I 77.

Ken Cox who graduated from Coventry High School and in 1979 was the State Senator from this area had a bill passed in the Ohio legislature for Kiwanis to buy approximate 3 acres of the State land.

Herb Newman helped us thru the HUD red tape. Several architects were contacted and Team 4 in Cuyahoga Falls was selected. Several contractors were interviewed and Transcon Builders was picked.

The committee called or met with all local government elected officials. John Glenn and Howard Metzenbaum was our Senators from Ohio - John Seberling and Ralph Regula were our local Congressman. Every one that could help us obtain the building was ask to help.

All non profit groups had to put up \$10,000.00 with the government for three years and the Kiwanis loaned Lakes Senior Housing the money. It was paid back at the end of the three years.

The Lakes Senior Housing received approval to build 45 units at 399 Portage Lakes Drive thru U.S. Government HUD section 202 with a loan of \$1,894,676.00.

Ground breaking was set for October 1, 1982. It took 3 years and 3 months of work to get to ground breaking.

A open house and dedication for Kiwanis Towers was held from 2 till 4 PM on Sunday September 25, 1983. Just about a year to build, paint and furnish the building.

The loan is for 40 years at 9 1/4% interest.

Summit Management has managed the building on a day to day operation and they take all rental applications and meet all HUD requirements.

PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS

Portage Lakes Kiwanis was chartered on October 10, 1951 by Kiwanis International, which is a world wide organization with over 589,326 members in 96 nations .

The club was formed by 30 area business and professional men who wanted to improve the quality of life and the environment of the area. To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life. To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships. To set good examples for our youth and furnish any assistance to the elderly.

The club sponsors and supports two local Builders Clubs in two of the local school districts. The Builder Clubs have the same ideals as the Kiwanis Club, but the are middle school students.

The club sponsors and supports two local Key Clubs in two of the local school districts. The Key Clubs have the same ideals as the Kiwanis Clubs, but are high school students.

We grant four \$1500.00 scholarships to two local high schools every year. The annual Easter Egg Hunt which we have held for over 45 years for all area children and we are assisted in the project by our Builders Club and Key Club. At our annual Santa Delivery program we deliver over 3000 gifts to area homes by Santa in a sleigh on Christmas Eve. We furnish counselors to the local Camp Quality which is a camp for cancer children. Furnish manpower and money to help local YMCA camp build picnic tables, refurbish stables, screen porches. Work for the All American Soap Box Derby, which is held here in Akron, Ohio. Sponsor a Parenting Fair for teenage Mothers to help them learn about Motherhood and what is available to them.

In 1973 we saw a need for building where area non-profit groups - girl scouts, boy scouts, little league baseball and football teams, banquets for area honor students all could use free of charge. The club formed a Kiwanis Civic Center Board, which made of Kiwanis members and they purchased seventeen and half acres of land on Portage Lakes and built a 40 x 80 foot building with heat, air, toilets and kitchen.

In 1979 we saw a need for our Senior Citizens in our area that were unable to maintain their homes, because of financial or health reasons, but still wanted to live in the area. We then formed the Lakes Senior Housing with the Board being from 9 members of Portage Lakes Kiwanis. They purchased land from the State of Ohio on Portage Lakes Drive in 1980 and applied to HUD for section 202 loan. Ground breaking was September 23, 1982. The Building was occupied September 23, 1983. It has forty five units on five floors. All units are occupied and there is a waiting list.

The Kiwanis Club is now made up of 72 men and women of the Portage Lakes area with ages from 26 to 94 years old and every member is still active in making our place a better place to live. We still feel our youth and elderly are number one priority

Since 1957 our major fund raising activity to support all of our projects is our annual Rose Day sale held the first Saturday in October. We sell one dozen of Roses and delivery them any place in Summit County.

PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS

Fund Raiser The Last 60 Years

Gum ball machines in local business

Peanut sales business and on the street

Scrap Metal Drive

Sales Tax Stamps Refunds

Front license plates when cars only had rear license plates

Horse shows 1971 +

Fruit Cake Sales

Poinsettia Sales

Concession trailer

Water Festival

Chicken Bar-B-Q

Spaghetti suppers

Reverse Raffles

Acme Receipts

Fish Fries

Christmas Cards

Rose Day (1957)

Pirate Days Raffle 2011

Entertainment Books 2011

ALL ABOUT PLK...Our club is currently meeting every Wednesday. You can join us at 6:30 pm for dinner, which is catered by Lukity's Restaurant, a full meal for just \$14.00, or you can attend any meeting which begins at 7:00 pm. We'd love to have you.

**We meet at the Civic Center, located at 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron, OH 44319.
Telephone number (330) 644-8967.**

Our website is: www.plkiwanis.org and please check out and like our Facebook page too, under Portage Lakes Kiwanis.

KIWANIS MISSION STATEMENT - Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

Published on the first and third week of the month, Cathy Dietz, Editor.