



## **PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR**

June 4, 2023



### **SCOTT SHOOKMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET**

The scholarship banquet for the four 2023 scholarship recipients was held at the Civic Center on Wednesday May 31st. Dinner was prepared by Chef Al and there were 55 people on hand to enjoy it. Recipients and their families were present, along with Manchester Superintendent Shaun Morgan and Coventry Superintendent George Fisk, as well as the Shookman family. Many thanks to the scholarship committee which consists of Sam Reynolds, chair, Becky Shookman, Gene Cole, and Cathy Dietz.

Now, let's meet the recipients!

Corinne Hite from Manchester High School has been very busy the last four years. She was Vice President of the Key Club and has helped deliver roses for several years. She was in the Panther Pack Peer Mentor Program, the National Honors Society, the Pep Club, was on the Varsity Cheerleading team, as well as the basketball and softball team. Out in the community she volunteers at the Tudor House, Akron Children's Hospital, and with sports camps. In the fall Corinne is headed to the Ohio State University where she will major in Chemistry on a pre-med track.

**Natalie Pham from Manchester High School is the Key Club President leading many projects. Natalie was President of the National Honors Society, President of the Summit County 4H Trail Blazers, is on the Summit County Jr. Fairboard, was a Panther Pack Mentor, President of the Science Club, and a member of the Art Club. Natalie is a hard worker, she has coordinated book drives and blanket making for St. Luke's Nursing Home and headed holiday card making for those deployed serving in the military. Outside of school Natalie is a horse lover, participating in collecting barn and horse equipment to donate to horse sanctuaries, also volunteering at those sanctuaries. In the fall Natalie will attend the University of Akron, Williams Honors College studying accounting in the College of Business in preparation to become a CPA and possibly continue on to law school.**

**Chase Rankin from Coventry High School was on the Varsity football and Varsity baseball teams, was a Key Club Member, a Guiding Star, on the Principal Advisory team, and the Journey of a Comet participant. Outside of school Chase assembles bikes for the Lebron James Foundation, coached and mentored at youth football camps, installed docks for the Portage Lakes Yacht Club, and assisted with lawn care at the Community Church of Portage Lakes and fall lawn clean-up for Coventry senior citizen residents. Chase finished high school with a 4.38 GPA. In the fall he will further his education at Grove City College where he will major in Mechanical Engineering. Chase had some very impressive letters of recommendation from Coventry teachers and counselors.**

**Anthony Bokar was not able to attend our scholarship banquet because the date conflicted with his college orientation. He was Senior Class President, Key Club Vice President, in the National Honors Society, played Varsity Soccer and ran Varsity Track. Anthony was also a member of the Senior Video program. Outside of school Anthony volunteered with cleaning up neighborhoods and cleaning up Portage Lakes Drive. Anthony does landscaping for Coventry senior citizen residents, has helped our club deliver roses as well as participating in our Easter Egg Hunt. He plays piano for nursing home residents as he is an accomplished musician. He volunteers at One of Kind Pet Rescue and KJ's 5K Memorial run for Mental Health. As a book lover he regularly volunteers at the Portage Lakes Library. Anthony ranked second in his graduating class with a 4.36 GPA. In the fall Anthony will head to the Ohio State University to double major in Education and Political Science, with the hope of obtaining his Masters and PhD degree in Educational Policy.**

**Congratulations to these four recipients of the Scott Shookman Memorial Scholarship. Each one of them is smart, kind hearted, and motivated to succeed in their college endeavors. We wish them all the best for a bright future. The BEST of the BEST.**



**Corinne Hite, Natalie Pham, Chase Rankin  
Congrats to our 2023 Scholarship Recipients**



**At our meeting on Wednesday, June 14th, Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro will be our guest speaker. She will fill us in on activities, events, and future planning for Summit County.**

Please attend this meeting to support our speakers. Thank you to Chuck Seeley and his committee for arranging these wonderful speakers to come in.

## **OHIO STATE RAFFLE FUNDRAISER**

Have you picked up a batch of raffle tickets to sell to your family and friends? 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 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](mailto:hess0910@aol.com) to arrange pick up of tickets as well. Please turn in sale money on or before August 9, 2023.



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 any Wednesday evening from 6:00 pm to 7:30 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](mailto:dreamcricket@aol.com) if you need any additional information or need a pick up. Many thanks to all those that have donated so far.



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**Our club had a float in the New Franklin Memorial Day Parade again this year. Thanks to Steve Hess who chaired this event along with his crew. The parade kicked off from Grace Church at 10:00 am and led down Manchester Road ending at the Manchester Cemetery for a short memorial service. Our major events were**

highlighted on the float, and this is a great way to show our presence in the community. It looked great!!

## UP-COMING KIWANIS EVENTS

The Kiwanis International Convention will be held June 21-24, 2023 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Registration is now open to sign up for this event. It is always a good thing to have our Club represented at any of the conventions; local, Ohio, or International. Our Club will sponsor two members to attend this event.

The Ohio District Convention will be held August 11-13, 2023 in Springfield, Ohio. Registration will be opening up soon. Our club will sponsor two members to attend this event.

If you are interested in either one of these conventions please let Cathy know so we can get you registered. [cathy.dietz61@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.dietz61@gmail.com)

On Wednesday May 24th we had dinner out at The Blue Iguana over on 619 where Dietz's landing used to be. We had a great turn-out with 31 people attending. Sorry to the table on the north end...their service was not great and they had to wait and wait and wait for their food. Once they arrived, the food and drinks were excellent!



On Wednesday June 7th at our regular meeting we will have a special Memorial Service of remembrance to honor our club members that have passed on. President Larry Hunter will be leading the service. Please attend to remind us all that these members were important, and while they are gone they certainly are not forgotten.

IN LOVING  
*Memory*



Division 16 will be hosting a Rubber Ducks ballgame on Thursday, July 6th. Tickets are \$30 each, which includes admission along with an all you can eat picnic buffet, and some non-alcoholic beverages. Buffet will start 1 hour before the first pitch and goes around 1 to 1.5 hours after the first pitch. This year's seats will be in left field, the foul territory, where there are picnic tables. This will allow members that are unable to do stairs, or have wheelchairs/walkers access to join in. **Oh...and our very own Governor David Kuhn will be tossing out the FIRST PITCH!!** Get your tickets here - directly from the Rubber Ducks at <https://fevogm.com/event/Division16>. Hope to see you there.



### **PIRATE DAY IS ON THE WAY...**

Our annual Pirate Day will be held on Saturday July 29th at the Portage Lakes State Park swim beach area. The committee has great plans for a fun free community event day. There will be boat rides to Pirate Island, a treasure hunt, costume contest, pirate crafts, food and community vendors, knot tying demonstrations by the Sea Scouts, a Pirate Jeep invasion and **SO** much more. The Little Roaming Railroad will also be available for train rides. Mark your calendar for this

very popular Kiwanis event. If you would like to volunteer, set up a booth, or need any additional information please contact Dana Roderick chair of this event at [d1687@hotmail.com](mailto:d1687@hotmail.com)

### **BIRTHDAYS:**

06/01 Carol Derry  
06/04 Joe Reinmann  
06/08 Ryan Bayonnet  
06/17 Lisa Geiger-Houck  
06/25 Jay Feldman  
06/26 Tom Longworth

### **CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:**

Ryan Bayonnet - 6 years  
Bricey Bayonnet - 6 years  
Connie Vaughan - 3 years  
Lisa Fouser - 2 years  
Dan Fouser - 2 years  
Jonathan Zito - 2 years

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

06/01 Bob & Mary Kansa  
06/06 Jim & Wendy Davis  
06/15 Ryan & Bricey Bayonnet  
06/15 Kevin & Heather Powell

### **KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS:**

Please keep the following Kiwanians in special thought and prayer:  
Betty Friess  
Pinnow Family

If you know of any members that are in need of prayer, please let me know. I will be happy to add them to our prayer list.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS / CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

>June 7, Memorial Service of Remembrance and Board Meeting  
>June 14, speaker Ilene Shapiro, Summit County Executive  
>June 21, Regular Meeting & Committee Meetings  
>June 25, Buckeye Martin Fest  
>June 28, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting

**A LITTLE FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD:**

- >July 6, Division 16 Rubber Ducks game
- >July 8, Portage Lakes Fireworks
- >July 29, Pirate Day on the Lake
- >August 12, Dragons on the Lake Festival



**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](http://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.**



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