



PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

September 19, 2023



QUARTER AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Our Quarter Auction fundraiser is fast approaching and will be here before we know it! The event will be held Saturday, November 4, 2023 at the Barberton Moose. We are still in need of a few vendors. If you know anyone that does direct vendor sales or if you have a friend that has a special talent, please let me know so I can reach out to them. We have been busy collecting raffle baskets and donations from the Portage Lakes community and we have some really cool items to auction off.

In addition to the auction we will have a ticket basket raffle, a silent auction, and a 50/50 raffle. Food will be 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 are \$10.00 and include admission and one bidding paddle. Additional paddles will be available for \$5.00 each at the door.

What do we need from our members? Buy a ticket and ATTEND the Quarter Auction, create a raffle basket or obtain a donated raffle basket and bring it to the meeting October 18th or October 25th, sign up to volunteer at the event. If you have already done these things, THANK YOU. If you have not, please bring your donated basket to the Civic Center as soon as possible. Tickets can be purchased every Wednesday from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Civic Center. If you need additional tickets for friends or family please contact me at cathy.dietz61@gmail.com or Kelley at kelbel03@aol.com. You do not need a ticket to volunteer but you do need a ticket if you want to bid on any of the auction items. The past Quarter Auctions have been great fundraisers and lots of fun.

CHARTER PARTY

Our annual Charter Party was held on Wednesday, October 11th at the Canal Grille in Canal Fulton. This event is to say thank you and good bye to our present administration and to welcome our incoming officers and directors. It was a fun social event that recognized many of our members contributions to our club. Our guest speaker/Inductor was Laura Miller the Division 16 Lieutenant governor. Two very special awards were given out; the first was a Founders Recognition to Mr. Tom Longworth. Tom has been a member for 72 years, since the inception of the Portage Lakes Kiwanis in October of 1951. He has gone above and beyond in serving the Portage Lakes Community all these years. At 97 years of age Tom still walks five miles every day. His gift was a Sketchers gift card for a new pair of sneakers! Tom you are loved and appreciated. The second special award was for Outstanding Kiwanian and was presented to Al Grzeschik. It would be a very long list to write out all that Al does but some of the highlights; Al serves on the Board of Directors for PLK, he serves as the President of the Civic Center, he serves on several committees, and is a Past President. Al participates in ALL annual Kiwanis events, and is our Rose Day Chair. Al does snow and yard maintenance as well as our building maintenance. He is head chef and cleans up the kitchen every week, and there is SO much more. Congratulations Al, no one deserves this award as much as you. We appreciate everything you do for our club.

The 2023-2024 Officers and Board of Directors are:

Officers

President - Steve Hess
Vice President - Dale Dietz
Secretary - Cathy Dietz
Treasurer - Dana Roderick
Past President - Larry Hunter

Board of Directors
Juanita Gehm 2024
Rosanne Edwardson 2024
Bob Kansa 2024
Al Grzeschik 2025
Frank Smith 2025
John Hercules 2025
Bob Fowler 2026
Kelley Nagy 2026
Anthony Ponikvar 2026



The outgoing Board of Directors and photo-bomber Stan



The outgoing Officers



Tom Longworth receiving the Founders Award



President Steve and Past President Larry



Community Cash Back is an easy, local fundraiser for non-profit organizations like ours! Simply save your receipts and turn them in to Cathy at any meeting. We did very well with this program last year, so hopefully we can do even better this year. We'll have some contests, drawings, and incentives over the next six months. The program runs from August 1, 2023 to February 15, 2024. Save those receipts, we've gotten off to a great start.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS

On Wednesday, October 18th, Dr. William Lanzinger will come in to speak with us about the amazing things the Autism Society does in our area.

On Wednesday, January 10th, member Bob Kansa's son will come in to speak with us about his career in the Coast Guard and the Tall Ships that come into town every summer.

Many thanks to Chuck Seeley for arranging our speakers this year. We have had a wide variety of subjects and have learned a lot about our community.



Dues statements have been sent out. If you have paid your dues, THANK YOU. If you have not, your dues are now past due. Please pay them as soon as possible. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please let me know. cathy.dietz61@gmail.com. If you will NOT be renewing your club membership, please let me know as soon as possible, thank you.



Thank you to Bethany McKenney and Dorothy Somerville the President of BACM (Barberton Area Community Ministries) for coming in to speak with us about their amazing agency. They do so much to feed people that are struggling, serving thousands every month. We thank them for their service.



Friends in Tents (FIT) has asked us to please hold a sock collection for their clients that live in tents. With winter fast approaching many do not even have the basics for cold weather. They do have a need for some children but the majority of the socks needed are for adults. Next time you are out shopping pick up a few pair and bring them to the Civic Center. We will have a bin available for the collection, and will collect from now until the end of the year.



HEADS UP, details to follow...PLK has been given an amazing opportunity to raise funds for our club. Phantom Fireworks has donated two game tickets thru Lindsay Nagy, (there will be a choice of five dates) where you will sit in the scoring box and have access to the Lexus package; upscale five star restaurant food, beverages, and inside access to places not open to the public. This package cannot be purchased and will be a once in a lifetime evening for two lucky winners. We need to work out the logistics as to how we will sell raffle tickets, so stay tuned!



On October 4, 2023 our club welcomed new member Al Bollas. Al Grzeschik is Al's sponsor and Steve Hess was the master of the ceremony. Al is a long time Portage Lakes resident and the former mayor of New Franklin. Al will be a tremendous asset to our club and we welcome him to the Kiwanis family.





Congratulations to Barry Terjesen and his wife Nancy as they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. They got married on August 4, 1973, fifty years ago.

Congratulations to Frank Smith and his bride Bonnie as they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. They got married on October 11, 1963.

Special dates for these two special couples. Congratulations and best wishes for many more years together.

BIRTHDAYS:

10/2 Denise Goodwin
10/5 Rosanne Edwardson
10/9 Connie Nagy
10/9 Don Reilly
10/14 Frank Smith
10/23 Al Grzeschik
10/27 Kevin Powell
10/29 Jill Flagg Lanzinger

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

Tom Longworth - 72 years
Don Reilly - 47 years
Sue Fassoles - 29 years
Sam Reynolds - 27 years
Debbie Rubino - 13 years
Chuck Seeley - 13 years
Jeff Goodwin - 13 years
Jill Flagg Lanzinger - 9 years

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

10/11 Frank & Bonnie Smith
10/14 Tom Burge & Polly Price
10/15 Dale & Cathy Dietz
10/31 John & Michelle Schermesser

KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS:

- >Frank Smith
- >Barry Terjesen
- >Jim Welton

UPCOMING MEETINGS / CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- >October 18, Speaker/Dr. Lanzinger for the Autism Society
Dinner by the Green High School AFJROTC, beef stew
- >October 25, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting
Dinner by the Green High School AFJROTC, chili

LITTLE FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD:

- >November 4, Quarter Auction fundraiser at Barberton Moose
- >November 17, Girls Night In, Holiday Event
- >November 22, **NO MEETING, Happy Thanksgiving**
- >November 29, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting
- >December 3, Coventry Tree Lighting Event at 5:00 pm
- >December 10, Tudor House Holiday Event
- >December 17, Cookies with Kiwanis / Portage Lakes Towers
- >December 24, Christmas Eve Santa Delivery

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.