



## PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

September 19, 2023

### ROSE DAY 2023



**ROSE DAY IS COMING UP FAST!** The roses have been ordered and the website is up and running. Please ask everyone you know to place an order for roses...your friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers. We will also need as many Kiwanis members as possible to delivery roses on Saturday October 7th. Please let AI know what area you can deliver to. The rose office will be opening soon. If you could volunteer a few hours here and there it would be a big help. Please let AI know! Surprise someone you love with a dozen beautiful roses.



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!

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS

On Wednesday, September 20th, Bethany McKenney and Dorothy Somerville from BACM (Barberton Area Christian Ministries) will come fill us in on the many things they do for our community. They have grown enormously in the last few years!

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.



**Our fundraiser Quarter Auction will be here before you know it! Saturday November 4th our club will hold a Quarter Auction fundraiser at the Barberton Moose which is on 31st Street in Barberton. WE NEED VENDORS! If you know of any vendors like Color Street, Pampered Chef, Scentsy, Tupperware, please let me know so I can contact them to see if they would like to participate.**

**In addition we will have a ticket raffle with baskets donated by club members and businesses in the community, as well as a silent auction. 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. 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](mailto:cathy.dietz61@gmail.com)**

## CHARTER PARTY

Our annual Charter Party will be held on Wednesday, October 11th at the Canal Grille in Canal Fulton. This is to say 'Good bye' to our present administration and to welcome our incoming officers and directors. It is a fun social event that recognizes our members contributions to our club as well. Social time will begin at 6:00 pm, Invocation, pledge, and dinner will be at 6:30 pm, and the passing of the gavel will be at 7:30 pm. Our guest speaker/Inductor will be Laura Miller the Division 16 Lieutenant governor. Dinner will cost \$32.00 per person and you will have your choice of four entrees:

10 oz strip steak  
pork chop  
seared salmon  
lemon chicken

All entrees will come with a baked potato, green beans, and a salad. Coffee, tea, and soda is complimentary. The price includes all taxes and tip. Please turn in your reservation with payment and your choice of entree no later than October 5, 2023 to Cathy Dietz or Al Grzeschik. This is an **AWESOME** evening, please plan on attending.



I have a few thank you's to catch up on...

The Fish Fry was a wonderful event! Thank you to all who pitched in and helped. Thank you to our chef's; Chuck Seeley, Gene Cole, Bob Fowler, Barry Terjesen, and Tom Burge. Also thanks to members Al Grzeschik, Betty Seeley, Vicki Kepnes, Polly Price, Juanita Gehm, Cathy Dietz, and Dana Roderick for helping out. Thanks to Kay Lukac for filling in as the guest speaker on short notice, she did GREAT! Thanks to Larry Hunter for catching hundreds of fish to feed us and to everyone that brought in a side dish to share.

Thank you to the Kiwanis Towers for providing dinner for our club and all the residents of the Towers. Jim Davis, President of the Towers gave an update of the current events and let us know of what is on the horizon for our residents. Thanks to Rose Villa for preparing a wonderful meal for all of us.

Thank you to Barry Terjesen and the Coventry Class of '59 for making a donation to our Scholarship fund in memory of a long time Coventry teacher Mae Packan. She was a teacher and mentor to many many Coventry students over the years. Your generous gift was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to our own Portage Lakes Dragon Dream Team for a very kind donation to our club. August 12th was their Dragon Festival and 19 members of our club volunteered at the State Park to make their event possible. We helped out shuttling people and equipment in and out of the park, emptied trash, delivered lunches, and helped at the registration table. Thank you for the donation; we very much appreciate it.



Dues statements have been sent out. Our Kiwanis year runs from October 1st thru September 30th each year. Please pay your dues no later than October 1st. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please let me know. [cathy.dietz61@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.dietz61@gmail.com). If you will NOT be renewing your club membership, please let me know as soon as possible, thank you.

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

09/05 Devin Allman  
09/09 Bob Fowler  
09/15 Debbie Rubino  
09/25 Dana Roderick

#### **CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:**

Gene Cole - 47 years  
Larry Hunter - 21 years  
Marcia Ponikvar - 1 year  
Betty Seeley - 1 year

#### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

09/02 Larry & Judy Hunter  
09/15 Dan & Lisa Fouser

### **KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS:**

>Please keep Marcia and Anthony Ponikvar in your thoughts and prayers with Christian sympathy for the loss of their son.

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

- >September 20, Bethany McKenney & Dorothy Somerville with BACM, speaker, also induction of new member Al Bollas
- >September 27, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting
- >October 7, Rose Day 2023
- >October 11, Charter Party at Canal Grille
- >October 18, Speaker/Dr. Lanzinger for the Autism Society

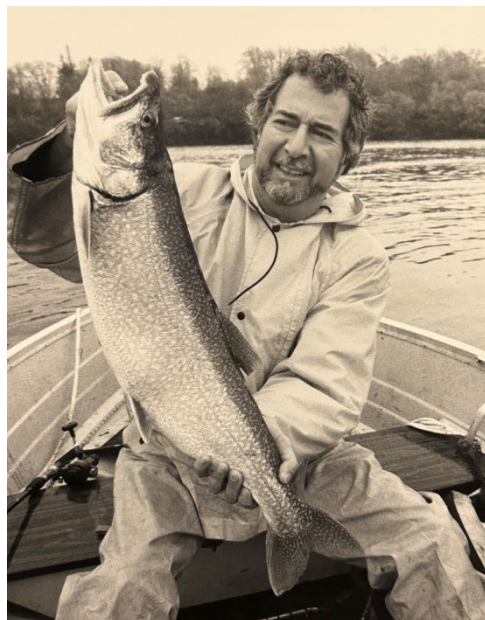
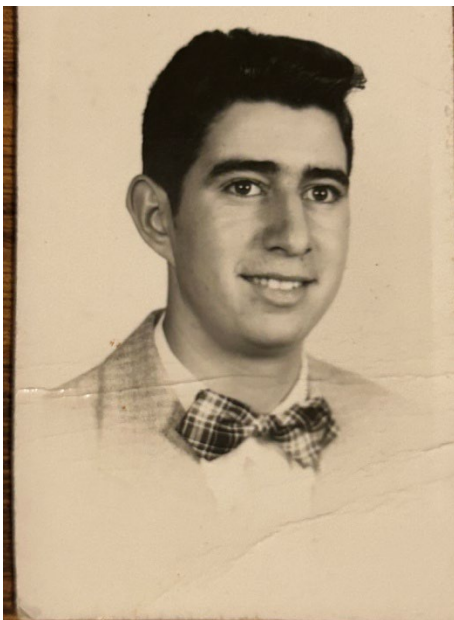
### **LITTLE FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD:**

- >November 4, Quarter Auction fundraiser at Barberton Moose
- >November 17, Girls Night In, Holiday Event
- >December 3, Coventry Tree Lighting Event at 5:00 pm
- >December 24, Christmas Eve Santa Delivery



This week our member spotlight will shine on Honorary member Glen Sheets. Glen was born in Akron, Ohio in 1937. He has lived in Coventry and Manchester, and now resides in Canal Fulton. Glen attended grades 1 thru 6 in Springfield Township, grades 7 thru 12 in Coventry, and then attended the University of Akron. He played basketball his Junior and Senior years and was in the Minstrel program. He ran for President but lost by six votes, the closest race ever at Coventry. He was also in the Junior and Senior class play productions. Glen met his wife Georgia at Coventry High School and they dated through their junior and senior years. They got married on August 9, 1959. They have a son Guy who lives near Philadelphia and a daughter Colleen who lives here locally. They have four grandchildren; Kyle, Tori, Rachel, and Ryan and two great grandchildren Leo and Luka. In the 80's he worked at East Ohio Gas, then taught at Coventry High School for 30 plus years. After retiring from

teaching he worked at the Portage Lakes Park on the Lake Patrol team. After that he was a tour escort for several years. A fun fact that most people would not know is that he plays the ukulele. He was also elected as a State Representative in Cole County. Glen's favorite hobby is fishing and watching sports and attending games. His fishing buddies were Paul Lepley and Paul Liikala, both of which passed away far too early. Glen's favorite music is 'older' tunes. He has done a lot of traveling as a tour escort and some of his favorites were New York, the Florida Keys, and Lake Erie. The one item he can't live without is his wife, the apple of his eye. The people that have inspired him the most are his wife Georgia, his friends Paul Lepley and Paul Liikala, and also teacher Mae Packan. Glen joined the Portage Lakes Kiwanis in April of 1995. He can't remember who his sponsor was! Glen has received two Legion of Honor Awards. He was Santa Claus on Christmas Eve for several years, helped at the Pancake Breakfast, and did some music programs in the club. Christmas Eve is what he has enjoyed the most about being in our club. The advise he would give to someone joining Kiwanis is to attend the meetings and to support fundraising activities. He is thankful for the Kiwanians that volunteer time after time and do so much to keep the club together through the years. One of his favorite memories is being chosen by Coventry to represent the Buckeye Boys at State. Thank you Glen for telling us your story. Below are a few photos that Glen would like to share.



**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.**

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