



## PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

September 4, 2023



Don't forget, our annual Fish Fry will be held at the Civic Center THIS Wednesday, September 6, 2023. I believe there are still a few tickets left, they are \$20.00 each and can be purchased from President Larry Hunter. Please bring a covered dish to share. Mike Studeny from the ODNR will be our guest speaker for the evening. You don't want to miss this dinner, good food and lots of good conversation. Thank you to Larry Hunter for catching all of the fish and for chairing this event.

## KIWANIS TOWER DINNER

Our annual Kiwanis Tower Dinner will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at **6:00 pm**. This dinner will be held at the Civic Center. The Kiwanis Tower residents will be joining us for dinner that night, as this dinner allows us to meet and greet with the residents and get an update of events going on at the Tower. Please attend this dinner to show our support for the residents of the Tower. This invitation is open to all Kiwanis members and all Kiwanis Tower residents. There is no charge to attend this special dinner.



**ROSE DAY IS COMING UP FAST!** The roses have been ordered and the website will be up and running for orders this week. Roses are \$25.00 delivered to most zip codes in Summit County. Al has sales posters and order forms available to put up around town, we have to get the word out! Please let Al know if you can take a few to put up anywhere where a lot of people will see it. We will also need volunteers to deliver roses on Saturday October 7th. We need our members to help; please let Al know if you can deliver roses. Surprise someone you love with a dozen beautiful roses.

On Wednesday August 23rd Chris Patterson from **Friends In Tents** came in to speak with us about their agency. They do so much for the homeless folks making sure they have the things we take for granted like shelter, food, and clothing. Their agency has grown by leaps and bounds in the last few years and they do a great service for our community.



## 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.

On Wednesday, January 17th, Alyssa from Gardner Pie will come in and speak with us about the PIE business. What could be more fun than that!

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)**



**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!**

## **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. Your invitation is enclosed with your annual dues statement which has been mailed to each member. Guests are welcome.**



**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**



**On Wednesday, September 30th, the Board of Directors accepted the membership application of Al Bollas. Al is the former mayor of New Franklin and a long time resident of the Portage Lakes area. Al has helped on many Kiwanis projects over the past several years and will be a wonderful addition to our club. Al Grzeschik will be his sponsor. An Induction Ceremony will be scheduled soon.**

**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.
- >Frank Smith

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

- >September 13, Kiwanis Tower Dinner at Civic Center, **6:00 pm**
- >September 20, Bethany McKenney & Dorothy Somerville with BACM, speaker
- >September 27, Regular Meeting & Board Meeting

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

- >October 7, Rose Day 2023
- >October 11, Charter Party at Canal Grille
- >October 18, Speaker/Dr. Lanzinger for the Autism Society
- >November 4, Quarter Auction fundraiser at Barberton Moose
- >November 17, Girls Night In, Holiday Event



**Jay and his wife Connie**

**In the last edition of Member Spotlight, in error I captioned below Jay's photo that he was pictured with his wife Ellen. Sadly Jay's wife Ellen passed away in 2002. Please accept my apologies for getting that wrong. Above is Jay with his wife Connie.**



This week our member spotlight will shine on Rosanne Edwardson. Rosanne was born and raised in Akron, she attended Coventry schools, graduating from Coventry High School. While in High School she participated in the band. Rosanne's first husband Bob Mihaly was a Portage Lakes Kiwanis member; he sadly passed away at far too young of an age. Rosanne met her husband Terry Edwardson at church. They were both in the choir. He inquired about the pretty girl that sat in front of him but since there was a ten year difference in age Rosanne was 'jail bait' and too young for him at the time. Rosanne has two children; Angel and Kimberly plus five step children. She has six grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Rose spent thirty years working for the county, the first few years in the Auditor's Office and the last 25 years in the Clerk of Courts with 18 of those years as a supervisor. She spent another six years working at the Coventry Schools and the last five years for Beautiful Minds; a long and rewarding career. Some fun facts; the last book she read was Sea Wolves by her favorite author Clive Cussler. Her favorite hobbies are traveling, reading, cruises, and watching old movies with her grandson John, our own PLK member. Her favorite kind of music is classic rock. Her favorite trip was going to Ireland and her least favorite trip was to Mexico. On her Bucket list is Scotland and Hawaii. I asked if she had to eat one meal every day for the rest of her life what would that be; **CHICKEN**, baked, broiled, or stewed. It's good no matter how it is fixed! The one thing she could not live without is 'hair spray' that gave me a good chuckle! The one person that most inspires her is her dad Thurman Cole, AKA Ted Cole. He was a hard worker and his word was his bond. He showed by example what it meant to serve our community. Rose was asked to join the Portage Lakes Kiwanis shortly after her husband Bob Mihaly passed away. She was the first woman to join and says it was not easy. Bill Vielhaber was her sponsor. When Bill's son Jon Vielhaber recently joined our club, Rosanne was his sponsor, very cool!

Since joining our club in 1988 she has served in many roles, starting out as Editor of the Bulletin, Board of Directors, Santa Delivery, Easter Egg Hunt, and Key Club mentor. She was the first woman President of the Portage Lakes Kiwanis serving in 1997 and then again in 2020. She is a two time Lieutenant Governor of the Ohio District. She worked Safety Town and attended International Conventions in Salt Lake City, Denver, and Miami as well as attending several Ohio District Conventions. She has received three Legion of Honor Awards and received the Hixon Award in 2005. The friendships and being involved in activities is what Rose has enjoyed the

most about being a member of the Portage Lakes Kiwanis. The advice she would give to someone considering joining Kiwanis is 'get involved', you won't learn anything by sitting back. You get so much out of the projects and seeing the happy faces on the kids and the silent 'thank you's' from the parents is so rewarding. My next question was how has Kiwanis changed over the years and she responded; 'when I joined the club EVERYONE was involved, there was no question as to who would help, you just showed up. It made for successful fund raisers and projects. Now I wonder why people join and never give of their time or talent in a service organization, some join and we never see them again, very sad'. I asked for a memorable story: Kenny Tallman did my installation. Back then your life story was read to help people get to know you. Well Kenny got to my age and said I was 40, I immediately said I'm 39, my birthday isn't till October. He replied 'oh great, she's already telling me what to do' my face was bright red! On a side note, don't mess with a woman's age, lol.

We are blessed to have Rosanne in our club. She is very knowledgeable on by-laws, rules and regulations, and the history of our club as well as Kiwanis International. She is always willing to step up to the plate and help out whenever needed. Kiwanis has been ingrained in her life beginning with her dad Ted a 60+ year member of Portage Lakes Kiwanis, Rosanne herself and her brother Gene long time members and her sister Becki a Past President, and now sharing Kiwanis with her grandson John. Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the Kiwanis organization.



**Rosanne and her grandson John ready to pass out gifts to the Kiwanis Tower residents.**



**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.**