

March 13, 2009

K-Business of the Day

Today's Attendance:

There were 51 Kiwanians in attendance today and Wayne Hammerstrom from the Belleville club was a guest of **Randy Hansen**, and Ed Read from Madison East Kiwanis was a guest today and he still is planning on transferring to the Madison West Kiwanis Club.

This Week's Program Summary

Today's presentation was from Linda Colletti from Tender Tears. Her presentation was on Comforting the Bereaved, and she was introduced by **Bonnie Hansen**.

Ms. Colletti began her presentation by informing West Kiwanis that she has been a grief counselor for over 20 years, primarily in hospice care, and with a local funeral home. As a result of her experience with many people grieving, she formed Tender Tears in the hope that these gift boxes would assist the bereaved through the grief process.

Linda provided some advice today on how to assist and help the bereaved in their time of grief. All of us have always felt uneasy and uncomfortable as to what to say in those situations, so Linda provided all of us with a primer on what not to say, and even some advice on what to say to handle the situation a little better.

In summary, Linda suggested to avoid some of these fairly common statements because they may not be quite interpreted as well as intended by the person who is grieving at the time: I know just how you feel (you probably do not), S/he lived a long life (therefore grieve less?), Let me know if there's anything I can do (the bereaved has no idea right then), It was a blessing (survivor may not think so), You are holding up well (bereaved feels like s/he must act strong), At least you still have other members of your family (says to the person that the deceased is less important), and I thought you would be over this by now (one does not ever really get over grief). Many of these statements are well intended, but it is difficult to actually understand and comprehend the pain and loss of the bereaved at that time.

Linda did offer some better choices to consider when approaching some in grief such as: I am so sorry, Please know how much I care, My heart is with you, I remember when, A touch of the hand, and maybe the best-less is more when trying to say comforting words. Linda suggested other ways to help as well such as: send a sympathy card with a personal note, remember birthdays and anniversaries for the survivor follow through on any promises, and stay in contact and call regularly.

Moral of the Story: "You say it best when you say nothing at all" Allison Kraus

Contributing Kiwanians

PRESIDING.....Ron Schuler
GREETER..... John Thomas
CHECK POINT..... Bob and Matty
OPENING WORDFred Ross
KOG Reporter.....Al Wearing
MUSIC.....Boomer and Mary
RAFFLE.....Dave Wendricks
Music Banquet Fund
Present Membership.....98

WEBSITE: madisonwestkiwanis.tripod.com

For a listing of FUTURE PROGRAMS:

<http://www.wml.org/scripts/BillB/Programs2009.htm>

President Ron's Announcements

Ron announced that he had received a congratulations note from Golden K Kiwanis on the 50th Anniversary.

For February, there were four birthdays for the following members: **Bonnie Hansen, Bob Laurion, Bruce Dewey, and Dave Dickson** and their birthday contributions to the Foundation amounted to \$185.00, and this would bring the 2009 total to \$273.50.

Future K-Meetings

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>KOG EDITOR</u>	<u>GREETER</u>	<u>OPENING WORD</u>
March 20	David Miller, Executive Director Middleton Outreach Minister, Ministry Update	Al Wearing	Marv Schaeffer	TBD
March 27	ASA Participants Report on ASA Ski Trip to Colorado	Al Wearing	Harold Green	TBD
April 3	Ashley Huibregate, Alice in Dairyland The Alice in Dairyland Program of Wisconsin	Al Wearing	Jordon Geiger	Ed Reisch
April 8	Annual Meeting with Madison East Kiwanis			
April 10	Good Friday-No Meeting			
April 17	Gary Close, Assistant Basketball Coach UW Mens Basketball Update	Al Wearing	Dick Vilstrup	TBD
April 24	No Noon Meeting, 50 th Anniversary Party in the evening at Monona Terrace			
May 1	Angelina Jopke, Health Service Coordinator Preventive Health	Al Wearing	TBA	Karyn Schairer

Upcoming Activities and Events

April 1	West Kiwanis Board Meeting	7:30	Vitense Golf
April 8	Wednesday Kiwanis Meeting	11:45	East Madison Kiwanis
April 10	No Kiwanis West Meeting		
April 18	Spring Football Concession	TBD	Camp Randall
April 22	Music Banquet	6:30	Memorial High School
Apr 24, 2009	Madison West Kiwanis 50 th Anniversary		Monona Terrace
May 8 th	Brewers/Cubs Game	TBD	Miller Park
Sept 23-25	Camp Wawbeek Leadership Program		Camp Wawbeek

Member Announcements.

Hockey Banquet

John Schwab indicated that the Hockey Banquet went very well and he was very appreciative of the Kiwanians who volunteered that evening. John especially wanted to thank Fred Ross, Boomer, Bob Richardson, Bob Spencer, Rich Grooms, and Ed Ornes.

Interclubs

Ed Reisch announced that Ron Schuler, Boomer, Joe Dresser, and Ed Reisch attended an Interclub with the Downtown Kiwanis on Monday March 9th. In addition, Ed indicated that Dave Wendricks, Ed Reisch, Fritz Lutze, Ron Schuler, Boomer, and Chuck Stumpf attended an Interclub with Golden K on Wednesday March 11th. Finally, Boomer announced that there was an Interclub with Middleton which Ken Niemeyer, Ken Saville, Boomer, and Wilma Rohweder attended on March 12th. Dave Wendricks also announced that he is looking for volunteers for an Interclub next week on Thursday March 19th with the Stoughton Club which meets at 12:00 noon.

Dave Dickson Update

Rich Grooms announced that Dave had been released from the hospital and that both of his sisters had flown into Madison to assist him. In fact, one of his sisters was already able to leave Madison and go back home since Dave was doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances. Rich suggested sending cards and notes to Dave for continued encouragement.

Spring Football Concession Stand

Rich Grooms announced that West Kiwanis would be working the spring football game again this year and asked everyone to consider helping on April 18th. Rich will send around a sign up sheet at next week's meeting.

Grant Applications

Bonnie Hansen reminded everyone that West Kiwanis is still looking for grant applications for both community and youth sponsorship programs. Bonnie indicated that applications are slow in coming this year, so she was hoping that the Club would look to organizations and recommend that they consider asking West Kiwanis for a grant application. Bonnie brought a number of applications for the members to take with them at the end of the meeting.

Belleville Club Update

Wayne Hammerstrom, our guest from Belleville, invited all the West Kiwanians to consider attending the Belleville Club Meeting next Thursday, March 19th, at 6:00 pm at Leoni's Restaurant in Belleville. The speaker for that evening will be the President of Gilda's Club.

Program Website

Bill Battista would like to remind all the members that AOL is discontinuing the web storage feature which is used to post future events. In the short term, Bill will store the information at the following location:
<http://www.wml.org/scripts/BillB/Programs2009.htm>
 Please note that Bill has updated this website to reflect 2009. Also, Bill would like to remind everyone that the Kiwanis phone line has been disconnected because there were never any calls, and we saved some money as a result.