

KIWANOGRAM

April 23, 2010

MADISON WEST KIWANIS

An Explanation, Not Another Apology

The situation around good old MWK is getting desperater and desperater. Here's why. Following up my grab bag KOG several weeks ago, last week there was simply a vast hole--as in "no-KOG-at-all." Then I learned from **Prez Dave**--VERY belatedly I should point out--that apparently there was no designated editor again this week. Believing as I do that even another grab bag edition is better than a vast hole (yeah, I realize some will disagree) I volunteered to cobble something together. Here you have that cobble, generated principally from memory, but with a bit of supplement from Wendricks' (virtually undecipherable) notes.

Contributing Kiwanians

Presiding.....Dave Wendricks
Greeting.....Various
Checkpoint.....Bob and Dick Vilstrup
Opening Word.....Boomer
Music.....Mary Mennes and Boomer
KOG Editor.....Fred "Ever Reliable" Ross

In Attendance

72 MWK members and no guests.

President's Announcements

- An ear-shattering round of applause for **Harley Skjervem, Al Wearing, Boomer, Bob Richardson**, the other principals, and some thirty five Westies who suited up and showed up to make the 43rd Annual All City Music Banquet last Wednesday at Edgewood High School another resounding success. We served some 200 young musicians and parents, and learned about not only what they have done but what they aspire to do in the future. Talk about a feel-good project! This baby is it! With young folks like this, the world can indeed be a better place.
- Actually this one is from **Mary Mennes**: The District Governor, **Kathy Vorpahl**, will be in Madison for a visit on May 15 at Mt Zion Church at 2019 Fisher Street. More than just the Governor's visit, this is also a work project. Mary put out the call for (indoor) painting help to complete the project in a few hours. Needed beside busy hands and happy hearts are brushes, ladders, rollers, buckets, and other accouterments that go with painting.

- **NOTE THIS:** Because we were unable to assemble a critical mass of members interested in attending, the biannual **MWK Auction, scheduled for Sunday, May 3, was cancelled.** We'll look for other opportunities to auction off the collected goodies.
- April is Skip-a-Meal month, and we Westies will be, well, not actually skipping a meal but signing up for an \$8.00 equivalent donation to Kiwanis International. Many are called, some have signed up, there are still a few spaces on the signup sheet. But your editor's impression is that time has fled and the opportunity to fill these spaces is, unlike the prodigal son, lost and never to be found.
- Madison's Annual Soap Box Derby, once again to be conducted by Madison West Kiwanis, is scheduled for Saturday, June 26, same place. Stay tuned; there will be more on this as events unfold.

Member Announcements

- **Bruce Hoehne**, pinch hitting for the ailing Dave Dickson, started around a signup sheet for the John Watts Memorial Golf Outing, to be held this year on May 24, again at the Lake Wisconsin course. As usual, this splendid event will be followed up our traditional tube steak roast at Camp Wawbeek
- **Ed Reisch** urge Westies to attend the West High School Key Club meetings. The group is coming along, sez Ed, but they can profit by "adult" ideas and input at these meetings.. Remember that Key Clubbers and Circle K'ers are the future of Kiwanis, and we need to support these young people in the service they do.
- Upon urging from President Wendricks, **Mary Mennes** reported that because of a dwindling base of MWK volunteers to staff UW concession stands the Board of Directors has decided to discontinue our involvement in this continuous, 45 year project. What can one say? Thanks to people like **Mary Mennes, Rich Grooms, Bruce Hoehne, John Schwab, Bill Battista**, and others, this fund raising effort has been of enormous benefit to us, producing a healthy share of the revenue we generate each year for our service projects. Times are a-changing, our club is an-aging, but this one, at least for your editor, still stings. No, I don't have any ready answers, but I have to ask myself—and all of you—if we're really ready to become just another "Checkbook" club? If not, what do we do to replace the foregone revenue? Answers, I suppose, are plentiful; laborers in the vineyard are, evidently, rare.

Future K-Meetings (prime opportunities remain for Greeter and Opening Word)

- April 30 **Shana Martin**, About Huntington's Disease
(Greeting is **Ron Schuler**; Open Wording is **Mary Mennes**)
- May 7 Middle School Awards Luncheon
- May 14 **Emily Auerbach** (UW English Prof), Odyssey Project Update

Upcoming Activities and Events

May 24	John Watts Golf Outing and Camp Waubeek
June 26	Soap Box Derby
August 14	Paint-a-thon

This Week's Program

The speaker today, **Dan Stein**, from 2nd Harvest Food Bank, gave an excellent update on the fine work this largely volunteer organization does in feeding the hungry in Southern Wisconsin. All in attendance were impressed with the figures Dan cited, not only on the need of the hungry but on the resources that are assembled from many sources to ease this need.

Unfortunately, not knowing I would be taking on this week's editorship, I lack the notes to do justice to Dan's comments. For this, MWK apologizes to Dan.