

Kiwanis



Kiwanis Club of Meriden Bulletin

2013/2014 - No. 17

www.kiwanis.org

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The Kiwanis Club of
Meriden meets:
Thursdays at 12:15 PM
at Il Monticello
577 South Broad Street
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NOTES FROM THE WEEKLY MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 6, 2014

President Lauren opened the meeting at 12:15 PM.
We sang, pledged, and prayed along with Elaine Murphy.

GUESTS: Loyd Davis brought his daughter, Daria, as his guest.

BIRTHDAYS: We sang "Happy Birthday" to Roger Vandal (February 4th).

ANNIVERSARIES: We recognized the Kiwanis Anniversaries of Don Parker (February 3rd - 14 years) and Thomas Ferry (February 5th - 33 years).
There were no wedding anniversaries.

50/50 DRAWING: Won by Elaine Murphy!

ANNOUNCEMENTS: February 13th - International coffee and desert potluck night meeting at the Sandman Gallery. Coffees will be served. Members are asked to bring a dessert. Contact Julianna Rathonyi at jr06424@gmail.com or (203)426-4930 for details. Julianna would like to know in advance what members are bringing so as to avoid duplicates.
February 20th - Luncheon Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.
February 27th - Evening meeting - more details to follow.

HAPPY DOLLARS:

- * Lauren Rizzuto - happy to see those who came out for the meeting today;
- * Julia Kane - happy because she loves the snow;
- * Elaine Murphy - happy because she won the 50/50 and because she was very happy to see Julianna Rathonyi at today's meeting; and
- * Pierre Blanchet - happy because he also loves the snow and because he's going skiing!

TODAY'S PROGRAM:

Because our scheduled speaker was sick, our President, Lauren Rizzuto, had the group participate in a fun activity intended for members to get to know each other a little better. Lauren had everyone choose a penny from a large envelope. Members were then asked to tell the group something they did during the year their penny was made. Everyone was able to remember something. The activity was full of fun, especially when the penny had an old date. David Wyskiel got a penny from 1964 and told the group that was the year he went to the New York World's Fair and, for the first time, saw the "It's a Small World" attraction.

Lauren adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.



LET'S COUNT THE WAYS TO LOVE YOUR CLUB THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

For millions of Americans, Valentine's Day represents that one day of the year to go the extra mile in the name of love. Whether you express your affection with a bouquet of roses, a heart-shaped box of chocolates or a touching greeting card, you don't want to miss the opportunity to show someone special that you really care.

With the holiday quickly approaching, have you thought about sharing some extra love for your favorite organization? There are plenty of ways to say "I love my club," including the four listed below.

1. Tell others about Kiwanis. When you truly care about something or someone, it's hard to keep silent about it. Think about the things that excite you about your club. Is it the fellowship? The impact it's making on children in your community and far away? Now, carve out some time to genuinely express to others why you're a part of Kiwanis. Encourage them to join or support Kiwanis through donations. This can be as simple as sending out a few messages via Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

2. Make a donation. According to a report by CNN, Americans spend an average of \$130.97 for Valentine's Day. Why not commit part of your Valentine's Day budget to Kiwanis as a way of helping children? Whether you donate funds to Kiwanis International or to your local club, you can be confident that you're giving a gift of love to someone who truly needs it. Think about it. The price you pay for chocolates could actually save a life or support an after-school educational program.

3. Commit to volunteering more. It appears that our time on social media exceeds our time spent on volunteering. The average person in the United States spends 6 1/2 hours each month on social media, including Facebook, according to Nielsen's annual Social Media report. In contrast, the people who volunteer - about a quarter of the population - spend an average of 50 hours on volunteer activities within a year. That's about four hours a month. Find out how you can dedicate an extra two or three more hours a month to helping your club. You could leverage that time by getting others to commit to spending more time volunteering through Kiwanis.

4. Express your gratitude to other members. Sometimes, as volunteers, we all need an extra word of encouragement. Take some time to think about the ways members in your club have made a difference. Pick out special instances in which you were impressed by their spirit of giving. Pull out some old-fashioned stationery and pen heartfelt messages about how they are making a difference. Handwritten notes are incredibly special, particularly in this digital age.

This Valentine's Day and beyond, make sure you share your stories on why you love your club. Love can be contagious. You just could inspire many more people to fall in love with Kiwanis and all the causes it supports.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- FEBRUARY 12th: Board Meeting, Lauren Rizzuto's House; 6:30 PM snacks, 7:00 PM meeting.
- FEBRUARY 13th: International coffee and dessert potluck night meeting, Sandman Gallery, 14 West Main Street in Meriden, 6:30 PM. Members are asked to bring a dessert. Anyone attending is asked to contact Julianna Rathonyi at jr06424@gmail.com or (203)426-4930 by Monday, February 10th.
- FEBRUARY 17th: Community Projects Meeting, Brian Cofrancesco's home, 6:30 PM.
- FEBRUARY 20th: Luncheon Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.
- FEBRUARY 27th: Night meeting, Connecticut Baptist Home, 292 Thorpe Avenue in Meriden, 6:30 PM. Game night with our SLP Clubs. \$5.00 per person for pizza and soft drinks.
- MARCH 6th: Luncheon Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.

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- Lauren Rizzuto, *President*
- Brian Cofrancesco, *President-Elect*
- Julianna Rathonyi, *Vice President*
- Lorraine Gamble, *Secretary*
- Doreen Roddy, *Recording Secretary*
- Julia Kane, *Treasurer*
- June Vandal, *Immediate Past President*

Kiwanis Club of Meriden Bulletin:

- Lizabeth Fast, *Laurene D'Amico Reporters*
- Corinne B. Balcher, *Editor*
- David Wyskiel, *Photographer*