

# Kiwanis



Kiwanis Club of Meriden Bulletin

2014/2015 - No. 03

www.kiwanis.org

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The Kiwanis Club of  
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Thursdays at 12:15 PM  
at Il Monticello  
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## NOTES FROM THE WEEKLY MEETING HELD OCTOBER 16, 2014

President-Elect, Corinne Balcher, filling in for Brian Cofrancesco, called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM. We sang "My Country Tis of Thee", recited the Pledge of Allegiance and prayed along with Bob Meister. Ten members of the club attended today's luncheon.

**GUESTS:** We had three guests today: Natasha Ramos and Jacqueline Dante from the Maloney High School Key Club, and our guest speaker, Jason Teal, President of the Meriden-Wallingford NAACP.

**BIRTHDAYS:** We sang "Happy Birthday" to Dorothy Elkin (October 21st) and Angela Colella (October 23rd).

**ANNIVERSARIES:** We sang "Happy Anniversary" to celebrate the wedding anniversary of Ed and Joan Siebert (October 17th).

There were no Kiwanis anniversaries this week.

**50/50:** Won by Daria Davis (for a 2nd time).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- David Elkin is in MidState Medical Center with pneumonia. We all wish him a speedy recovery.
- Brian Cofrancesco was in the ER last night and we wish him well.
- October 25th bus trip to Foxwoods casino. Contact Lauren Rizzuto at (203) 530-2095 to reserve a seat.

**HAPPY DOLLARS:** ☺ Bob Gollnick - Happy because October 15<sup>th</sup> is the last day to file for income tax extensions.

- ☺ Julia Kane - Hopes and prayers for Jim Gamble and David Elkin.
- ☺ Bob Meister - Yesterday was not a good day for Bob. He needs a new shower door as his old one fell off directly on his foot. Then, he spent the entire day in the doctor's office.
- ☺ Doc Roccapiore - Happy to be here.
- ☺ Daria Davis - Happy to have won the 50/50 for a second time.
- ☺ Lauren Rizzuto - A check for five happy dollars: one for quick recoveries for David Elkin, Jim Gamble and Brian Cofrancesco, another for Corinne's excellent job of chairing the meeting today, and three dollars for the casino bust trip, which is almost at the break-even point.
- ☺ Corinne Balcher - Happy to be running her first luncheon meeting.

**TODAY'S PROGRAM:** Corinne introduced and welcomed Jason Teal, President of the Meriden-Wallingford NAACP, one of the youngest chapter presidents in the country. Mr. Teal is also involved at the state level as a consultant for economic development for NAACP. Jason also owns his own business, Teal Communications, a business development firm. Prior to forming his own company, Jason worked as a senior executive for Clear Channel Communications, one of the world's leading media and entertainment companies. He is also a graduate of Maloney High School here in Meriden.

Mr. Teal spoke about the involvement of the NAACP in educating young adults regarding the political process and urging them to register to vote, and getting out to vote in local elections where elected officials have a definitive effect on the day-to-day necessities in the community.

He also informed the group that at the next state conference, which will be held in Hartford, the individual NAACP chapters will be discussing policy reform related to the use of tasers by police. He stated that there have been fourteen deaths in the state associated with the use of tasers since 2005. Four of those deaths occurred in Meriden.

The NAACP sponsors a Youth Council at Platt High School. The Council focuses on training and developing leadership skills and educates teens in the areas of civic and human rights and political engagement. Mr. Teal is also trying to establish a Youth Council at Wilcox Technical School.

Mr. Teal is also the founder of "Change the Play", a nonprofit organization for at-risk youth. The goal of the organization is to enlighten students about careers in sports, music, and entertainment that do not require being on stage or playing on the field. These include broadcasters, music producers and engineers and entertainment lawyers. The odds of becoming a professional athlete, artist or actor are slim. This organization illustrates to young people other possibilities in these fields.

Mr. Teal announced a few upcoming NAACP events, including their annual Freedom Fund Dinner and the Family Health Fitness and Fun Day, a free event focused on preventative health measures and obesity. The event also includes sporting events for children and adults.

Corinne thanked Jason and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Kiwanis bell. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM.



Jason Teal, President of the Meriden-Wallingford NAACP

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*Immediate Past President*

**Kiwanis Club of Meriden Bulletin:**

Lizabeth Fast,  
*Reporter*

Corinne Balcher,  
*Editor*

David Wyskiel  
*Photographer*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup>: Night meeting to further brainstorm on the club's 2014-2015 goals, Lincoln Middle School, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM.
- OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Rehearsal - Lincoln Middle School, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.
- OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>: Luncheon Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.
- OCTOBER 25<sup>th</sup>: Bus trip to Foxwoods Casino. Bus will leave from Bee Street commuter parking lot at 10 AM. Contact Lauren Rizzuto at (203) 530-2095 to reserve your seat.
- OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>: Luncheon Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.
- OCTOBER 30<sup>th</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Rehearsal - Lincoln Middle School, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.
- NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Rehearsal - Lincoln Middle School, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.
- NOVEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>: Board meeting at Lauren Rizzuto's house, light fare at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 PM.
- NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>: **There is no Kiwanis Kapers Rehearsal tonight.**
- NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>: Luncheon Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.
- NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Dress & Technical Rehearsal. Lincoln Middle School, 6:30 PM.
- NOVEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Dress & Technical Rehearsal. Lincoln Middle School, 6:30 PM.
- NOVEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>: Night meeting, Lincoln Middle School, 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM.
- NOVEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Dress & Technical Rehearsal. Lincoln Middle School, 6:30 PM.
- NOVEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Show! Cast and crew to arrive at Lincoln Middle School, 5:30 PM.
- NOVEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>: Kiwanis Kapers Show! Cast and crew to arrive at Lincoln Middle School, 5:30 PM.
- NOVEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>: New England District 2014 Fall Training Conference, Portsmouth, NH.
- NOVEMBER 26<sup>th</sup>: Roundtable meeting at Huxley's Bookmark Cafe, E. Main St., Meriden, 12:15 PM.
- NOVEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>: **Happy Thanksgiving!**
- DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>: Board meeting at Hunter's Ambulance Training Center, 474 West Main Street, in Meriden. Light fare at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:00 PM.