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At Lincoln Middle School  
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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 JANUARY 15, 2015

President Brian Cofrancesco called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM. We sang "My Country Tis of Thee", recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and prayed along with Bob MacDuff.

**TODAY'S PROGRAM:** Brian then announced the program, a performance by the Francis T. Maloney High School Allegrettos, under the direction of David Pelletier. The students performed several songs, including "Angels Watching Over Me", "In the Bleak of Midwinter" and Simon and Garfunkle's "Bridge Over Troubled Water". The performance was wonderful and Carol Reiss-Miller presented the group with a Certificate of Appreciation, a Kiwanis Bell and a check. Carol praised the Allegrettos and said they brought a lot of life to a cold January day.



The Maloney Allegrettos and their director, David Pelletier.

**50/50:** \$9 was won by Bob Meister.

**HAPPY DOLLARS:** Doc Roccapiore - A happy dollar for the wonderful performance today by the Allegrettos.

- Bob Gollnick - Two happy dollars: one because he is looking forward to the start of tax season; and a second for Cliff Bradley, he has retired and doesn't have to put up with this "stuff" any longer! Congratulations, Cliff!
- Rhudean Raye - A happy dollar to thank the Meriden Kiwanis Club for sponsoring the MLK breakfast and hopes to see you Monday morning.
- Sandy Gollnick - Two happy dollars: one for the Maloney Allegrettos, they are wonderful and going to Berkley for competition; and a second for the enjoyable holidays she shared with her family.
- Eileen Bongiovanni - Three happy dollars: one for the Allegrettos; a second for the great holiday party on Sunday; and a third for her new baby granddaughter, who was born smack in the middle of Christmas and New Year's.
- Jessica Lupoi - Happy to be here and wants to thank us for having Key Club members as guests for lunch today.
- Brian Cofrancesco - A few happy dollars: one to have stolen Julianna's "ugly Santa" gift - a lobster shaped Jell-O mold; one for the Allegrettos (so many have been in a Builders Club before and they expressed interest in joining Maloney's Key Club); one that the board approved to charter a Key Club at Wilcox Technical School. Last night, Cindy D'Agostino, who will be the Club's advisor, hosted an informational meeting and 11 girls from Wilcox attended. They even knew exactly 4 more members would be needed to charter a club, and are going to try to make it happen. Also in attendance were: Dante Solano, the Key Club Lt. Governor, Brian Cofrancesco, and Julie Kane.

**GUESTS:** Two officers from the Maloney Key Club, Rashmi Patel, Treasurer, and Jessica Lupoi, Secretary.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** We recognized the Kiwanis anniversary of David Elkin (54 years); Ed Murphy (45 years); Richard "Doc" Roccapiore (61 years); and E. Jack Shorr (39 years).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Past President's/Legion of Honor/Legion of Merit Dinner has been moved to Thursday, January 29th at Il Monticello, 6:00 PM social hour, 7:00 PM dinner (choice of prime rib, baked stuffed sole, or chicken marsala). \$28 per person. Please RSVP with your choice of entree to Brian Cofrancesco at (203) 641-8147 or bcofran@gmail.com. In addition to honoring our past presidents and members who have reached a milestone in membership, we will be giving out two red jackets and a Walter Zeller award that evening.**

- For the next week or two, we will be collecting two things from members: 1) your favorite memory of Kiwanis; and 2) a word or phrase that describes the Kiwanis Club of Meriden to you. We want all members to contribute.
- The Kapers wrap-up meeting on Monday was a success. 15 people came to the meeting and the committee will have a report and recommendations for the Board of Directors in Meriden.
- Julianna Rathonyi announced a new fundraising effort for the club: sale of Sees Candy. Please contact Julianna if you want to place an order at (203) 426-4930 or jr06424@gmail.com
- Rhudean Raye gave the group a summary of the Martin Luther King/Albert Owens Scholarship Breakfast is 8:00 AM on Monday, January 19th at Lincoln. Rhudean started this event and has been running it for 30 years. Please attend if you can as the club would like a good showing of members.
- Next meeting, is Thursday, January 22nd. A potluck at Gouveia Vineyards at 6:30 PM.
- Sunday, January 25th – Community Projects Forum - 1:00 PM at CT Baptist Homes (community room), 292 Thorpe Avenue, Meriden. This is an **important club-wide meeting** to determine the use of Community Projects funds available. *All thoughts and ideas are welcome.* If you cannot attend and wish to voice any ideas, please contact Corinne Balcher, Community Projects Chair, at (203) 213-2182 or cbb68@rocketmail.com.
- Elaine Murphy gave a description of the new Kiwanis Spelling Bee – recently taken over from AAUW. 6:30 PM Monday, March 30th at Roger Sherman Elementary School. Members are urged to attend. Elaine is chairing the event this year and David Wyskiel is the "Bee Master", as usual.
- Will be speaking with Wallingford to do an inter-club together with the Cheshire club on Wednesday, January 21st, at the Waverly Tavern. Dinner is \$20. Please contact Brian if you wish to come along.
- Member of the Month – the Unsung Hero - December 2014 – Liz Fast.

Brian asked if anyone had any questions or announcements. He adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.

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**Kiwanis Club of Meriden Officers 2014-2015:**

- Brian Cofrancesco, *President*
- Corinne Balcher, *President-Elect*
- Julianna Rathonyi, *Vice President*
- Melissa Neville, *Secretary*
- Doreen Roddy, *Recording Secretary*
- Julia Kane, *Treasurer*
- Lauren Rizzuto, *Immediate Past President*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>:** **HAPPY 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL!**
- JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>:** Membership Committee meeting, 7:00 PM at Cheryl O'Connor's house. Please let Bill Passarelli or Cheryl O'Connor know if you will be attending.
- JANUARY 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Evening social meeting, 6:30 PM at Gouveia Vineyards, 1339 Whirlwind Hill Road, Wallingford. Bring a snack to share and come enjoy the view.
- JANUARY 25<sup>th</sup>:** Club-wide Community Projects Meeting. 1:00 PM, CT Baptist Homes (community room), 292 Thorpe Avenue, Meriden.
- JANUARY 29<sup>th</sup>:** Past President's - Legion of Honor - Legion of Merit Dinner at Il Monticello. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM and dinner at 7:00 PM.
- FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>:** Board Meeting at Hunters, 474 West Main Street, Meriden. 6:30 PM snack; 7:00 PM meeting.
- FEBRUARY 5<sup>th</sup>:** Lunch Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM.
- FEBRUARY 12<sup>th</sup>:** Night meeting and Valentine's Day Social. Watch for further details.
- FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>:** Lunch Meeting, Il Monticello, 12:15 PM. Presentation by B.A.B.E.S.(Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies), a Community Service Organization which our club supports. Come out and see what it's all about!.
- FEBRUARY 26<sup>th</sup>:** Night service project meeting. 6:30 PM, Connecticut Baptist Homes, 292 Thorpe Avenue, Meriden. Pizza will be served.

**Kiwanis Club of Meriden Bulletin:**

- Lizabeth Fast, *Reporter*
- Corinne Balcher, *Editor*
- David Wyskiel, *Photographer*