Coronavirus pandemic cancels most Kiwanis activities

A message from Kiwanis International, March 16, 2020:

As we’re all impacted by the spread of COVID-19 to some degree, Kiwanis International wants to keep members and the kids we serve safe during this time. We are asking all clubs to postpone all events — including in-person meetings, projects and fundraisers — through the month of April. . . Work together to generate ideas on how your club can help your community — and when things return to normal, you’ll be ready to help kids. . . Thank you for all you do for Kiwanis. Let’s work together to stay strong during this uncertain time so we’ll all be healthy and ready to help those who need us most.

We have all been “sheltering in place” during the Coronavirus pandemic by order of the City and County on March 18. We all have much to be thankful for as we hunker down and try to make sense of the challenges ahead. If anyone is in need of any support, please feel free to reach out to our members. Because we are a service club, there may be ways that we can support not only our members but others in our community during this unusual time.

Be safe!

Happy Easter
Dear Kiwanis Family,

Boy do I miss seeing all of you. This has been the craziest thing ever. I hope that all of you are well and that you have been learning new things in your down time. Before this is over we should be fluent in French. Things remain good at Healdsburg Senior Living. No Cases of virus so far.

My folks are holding up well but they are bored seeing the same faces every day. Thank goodness for technology. Face time has been such a joy for all involved. I am learning to cook; I made a tri tip and it turned out pretty good. not as good as Patti’s though. Please feel free to call me at any time for anything. I appreciate those of you that have checked on me and my residents.

Big virtual, heartfelt hugs.

Queenie

New Club Membership Category Approved

The proposed new corporate membership category was approved by membership vote at the March 10 meeting. The new category is described as follow:

- $1000 Corporate Membership (Current Business Membership Upgrade Option)
- Includes recognition and logo on Website and on monthly newsletter.
- Opportunity to host on-site Kiwanis meetings.
- Opportunity to be a premier sponsor of Club Projects.
- The company is able to represent its interests in the Club and develop a relationship with a well-respected service organization in the community.
- On-site Club service projects will be available throughout the year.
- Expand wording for Business Membership to include ability to have the business designate a member (we already do this).
- Update By-Laws to reflect increase of dues and consolidation of Senior and Associate memberships to Regular Without Meals.
Board of Directors Meeting

*Summarized from minutes by Liz Bippart*

The March Board meeting was held by teleconference while everyone “shelters in place” during the Coronavirus pandemic.

**Grants/Donations/Requests**
- All financials tabled until April Board meeting.

**Upcoming Projects**
- Fitch Mountain Footrace – canceled due to the virus situation and time needed to organize the event.
- Pancake Breakfast – canceled.
- FFA Fair – Pending. The event can be accomplished with less time and will be addressed at the next Board meeting based on then current virus information.
- Liz described a potential joint fundraiser with the Santa Rosa Symphony League (SRSL) for a musical cabaret to be held in June 2021 at the 6th Street Playhouse. All expenses and profits would be split between the two groups. Dress rehearsal tickets will be $40. The Board voted to support this event.
- August Casino Event – The Board approved a motion to place a two month pause on this project as there is no certainty that a large group event will be possible due to the virus health hazards. We would support cancellation of the Casino project.

**Scholarships**
- $15,000 will be available for senior scholarships this year. With the possibility of school being cancelled for the remainder of the year, it is important to proceed. Honorees will be posted in the local newspaper. Loretta, Dick and Jan will be responsible for selecting the recipients.

**Weekly Meetings**
- The Villa will be closed through April and no meetings will be held. Dues will be re-calculated reflecting the reduction in weekly rent and food preparation savings.

**Seniors in Need**
- Anna reported that the Senior Center will be helping seniors in need during “shelter in place”. Please contact her with names of people who may need assistance.

**Meeting Programs**

**Mar 10:** Tyra Benoit - More Than a Billion Animals Gone: The Warming World That Our Grandchildren Will Inherit

Tyra Benoit holds an MA in History and has taught about world civilizations for more than forty years. In 2019 after she had retired, her concern for the survival of her own civilization led her to the Climate Reality Project. She is currently a member of the Climate Reality Leadership Corps.

In her very interesting and informative presentation, she discussed the future impact of climate change and provided some insight on how we can address this crisis – the bad news and the good news.

We are all mindful of the bad news, with the continuing impact of wildfires on our local community, the recent fires in Australia and the more severe weather conditions resulting in droughts and floods. It is estimated that the energy trapped by man-made global warming pollution is now “equivalent to 500,000 Hiroshima atomic bombs per day 365 days per year”. Tyra also noted that “The total area burned in the western United States over the past 33 years is nearly TWICE what it would have been without any human-caused warming”. Worldwide, 2019 was the 43rd consecutive year with a global temperature above the 20th century average.

But there is some good news. Tyra cited a study by Project Drawdown “the most comprehensive plan ever proposed to reverse global warming. Project Drawdown® is a nonprofit organization that seeks to help the world reach “Drawdown”— the future point in time when levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop climbing and start to steadily decline. Project Drawdown conducts an ongoing review and analysis of climate solutions—the practices and technologies that can stem and begin to reduce the excess of greenhouse gases.
gases in our atmosphere—to provide the world with a current and robust resource. The Drawdown Review is core to our efforts to respond nimbly to the rapidly evolving landscape of solutions and the urgency of the challenge humanity faces. “

https://www.drawdown.org

Mar 17: St. Patrick’s Day Celebration at the Plaza. Canceled.

Mar 24: Brant Arthur - Community Affairs Specialist for the SCTA and RCPA. Canceled.

**Interclub Visits**


**Impact of BSA bankruptcy filing**

The potential impact of the BSA recent Chapter 11 filing on our relationship with local Troop 21 was reviewed by Bob Taylor at our March 3 meeting. The impact will be minimal. Troop 21 is financially independent from the national BSA organization. All the Troop’s assets including the Scout Hut, Camp Rosenberg and other real estate are locally owned. Our club has been Troop 21’s sponsor since it was Chartered in 1939.

**Club receives recognition for Toys-for-Tots sponsorship**

Healdsburg Kiwanis has become a very active partner in the Toys-for-Tots drive in the past few years. The Marine Corps League has presented our club an award acknowledging receipt of 192 presents for the Toys-for-Tots program in 2019.

**Members sheltering in place**

Two scoundrels hunkered down and sheltering in place, but not 6 feet apart

Fines in order?

**Susan Sheehy**

I’m spending lots of time with my three granddaughters, Abby, Lily and Sidney. Abby and Sidney come up to my house in the morning and I get them started with school while mom and dad, both teachers, teach remotely from home. Because our houses are so close, we can go freely between the two and have ample room to run around. I am blessed to have more time with them.
Nancy Arsenault

I wanted to share with the group a website that might be of assistance with transportation or shopping needs for high-risk or elderly in our community. The website is www.kindnessinthenameofjesus.com and is ready to serve you. To ask for assistance with transportation, shopping, or other needs click on the Contact tab to complete the Get in Touch information. Someone (that would be me) will be in touch. I hope all is well with everyone.

Blessings, Nancy

Denny Stead planning for Brandt’s Beach

All nonprofits are being hit very hard during this epidemic and our Kiwanis club is no exception. Brandt Beach may be the one shot we have this year to raise some money. I would like to hit it and hit it hard and for that reason I am asking all of you to please save any salable items that you have for the event’s silent auction. Many of us will be cleaning out and updating with all the time we have on our hands. Whatever you think is salable can be dropped off at my garage for holding, or after things settle down, I can come by and pick it up. We will also be having a live auction of larger items so if you have something in that category that would be great.

Diane Pierce

I am here with my daughters in Rockland. My girls didn’t want me stuck home alone. Blessing to all. Diane.

$$Happy/Sad$$

Loretta Strong happy that with the latest contribution to Jordy’s memorial for the Children’s Fund is over $4100.

Bob Taylor will know tomorrow is he is happy or sad (election day).

Vern Loch happy to thank volunteers for all the help to make the concert a huge success.

Susan Sheehy uncertain about cruise to France.

Liz Bippart happy to be entrusted to care for two grandchildren for two hours.

By email:

Randy Collins – A sad $ for the impact this has had on us all, both human and economic.

Harry Jackson happy for Mary’s new knee. Mary happy that surgery was done before hospitals stopped doing electives.

Dick Bugarske - Some happy dollars staying at home with daughter and two grandchildren. Jury is still out if Grandpa still has his "teach at home" chops.

Quarantined with Hubby for two weeks – Gertrude is knitting something special for him!
Thoughts for the day

*Thanks to Randy Collins*

The only ones among you who will really be happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.

Albert Schweitzer

How O’Hare Field got its name

During the course of World War II, there was a fighter pilot named Butch O’Hare who was assigned to an aircraft carrier in the Pacific. During one particular mission, after becoming airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge, realized someone had forgotten to top off his tank and he would not have enough fuel to complete his mission and return to his ship. After being told by his Squadron Leader to return, having a strong desire to contribute his part to the mission, Butch reluctantly complied and turned his plane home.

As he was returning to his carrier, he encountered a squadron of Japanese Bombers heading to attack his fleet. Realizing how vulnerable they would be without friendly air cover, Butch knew it was his duty to defend the American ships. Single-handedly, he did his best to defend the fleet by diving his Wildcat fighter into the formation of Japanese planes to attack them. Continuing the attack until all his ammunition was gone he then dove into the enemy planes, trying to clip off a wing or tail or anything to disable them and from reaching the American ships. Due to Butch’s tenacity, the Japanese squadron eventually abandoned their attack and Butch limped his badly damaged plane back to his carrier.

Although he shared his story it was not until the film from the camera on his plane was developed, did the Navy realize the extent he had gone to protect his fleet. He was subsequently recognized as the first Naval Flying Ace and the first naval recipient of the Medal of Honor in WWII. In the first ever night-time fighter attack from a carrier in November 1943, Butch O’Hare was shot down and his plane never found. To honor his deeds, in 1945, the Destroyer USS O’Hare was named after him. As a further distinction for his actions, after the war, O’Hare Airport was also named after him.

Prior to the war during the dark days of prohibition, there was a man named Easy Eddie who worked for Al Capone in Chicago. Easy Eddie was Al Capone’s lawyer, and was very good at it. To show his appreciation, Al Capone paid him very well. Not only did he earn big money, but he received extra perks such as a residence that filled an entire Chicago city block. The house was fenced, had live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day.

Easy Eddie happened to have a son whom he loved and gave him all the best things while he was growing up including the best education he could provide. Realizing his own indiscretions, he also worked hard to teach him the difference of right from wrong. But one thing he couldn’t give his son was a good name, and a good example. As his son grew Eddie came more to realize the hypocrisy of his lifestyle. Eventually, his conscious got the better of him and he decided to go to the authorities, rectify the wrong he had done and set a good example for his son by testifying against Al Capone. He also knew as a result, Capone would do his best to have him killed.

Within a year of testifying, he was shot and killed on a lonely street in Chicago. In case you are wondering what the connection between these stories, Butch O’Hare was Easy Eddie’s son.

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