





GREEN BAY - DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917

## **KIWANIS KEY**

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown KIWANIS MEETING OF November 6, 2023

We did something very special today! Anne, Maria, Bob, Ann, Rick, Ben W. and his daughter Karen toured Green Bay Action Sports Organization (GBASO) in Ashwaubenon. Fellow member and GBASO Executive Director Shane Stout was our guide. Our lunch was generously provided by Pizza Ranch, a major GBASO supporter.

GBASO is an indoor park offering opportunities for community youth (and adults) to learn and practice skateboarding, scootering, in-line skating, and BMX. We were truly "blown away" by what we saw! It's a huge facility full of ramps, rails, decks, and bowls in all shapes and sizes. Oh to be ten years old again!

Many of you will recall the club's \$1,000 donation to GBASO earlier this year. Our club name and the Kiwanis logo is on a skateboard mounted near the front entrance. Shane has an impressive list of companies, clubs, and individuals that have made donations, but he said more is needed to keep up with the \$350,000 yearly operating budget. Fundraising is a constant challenge for Shane.

Our donation was used to support GBASO's "No One Left Out" program. It gives kids month-to-month memberships at the price their family can afford. Regular monthly memberships are \$50. Shane also has been working

closely with Green Bay public schools setting up buses to bring kids straight from school to the park. Buses later bring them back directly to their homes.

Shane's list of plans and projects is almost endless, but it was interesting to hear that he is working with the City of Green Bay to design and build a skatepark in Joannes Park. He also just returned from a trip to Ashland, Wisconsin, where he is advising local officials on their park operations.

We floated the idea of bringing the Nicolet School third graders here sometime. Anne will discuss with the teachers. Speaking of Nicolet, we are giving each of the three third grade teachers a \$100 gift card to use for classroom supplies. Thanks, Anne, for delivering the cards and staying on top of their needs.

We greatly appreciated your hospitality today, Shane, and look forward to hearing about your continued success. None of us, however, are quite ready to sign up for lessons yet. We'll contentedly watch the kids from the "parents rail"!

Our next meeting will be on November 20th at noon back at the Hyatt Regency. One topic of the meeting will be holiday season donations to local charities. Please attend and share your thoughts!

By: Rick Satterlee

- See GBASO photos below -



