

Kiwanis

GREEN BAY – DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917



KIWANIS KEY

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown

CLUB MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

We had a total of 18 attendees at the meeting this week, the largest turnout since May. The total included 15 members, two speakers, and one guest, Lorna Wood. Emmet led us in prayer and President Pat chaired the meeting and served as song leader. We sang *Hey, Look Us Over, Smile-Sing a Song*, and only the chorus of the *Packer Fight Song*. President Pat felt that by singing the entire *Packer Fight Song* last week, we might have jinxed the Packers and caused them to lose!

Lunch consisted of Ham, Swiss, and Cheddar Wraps; Snack Mix; and Fresh Fruit.

Former member Mike Donart was in the news regarding his new job at Cotter Funeral Home.

Happy Dollars were provided by Steve, Anne, Joe, and Rick. Rick's Happy Dollar was for the Vikings victory over the Packers.

Our speakers this week were Barb Moore and Nancy Friebel from the Altrusa Club of Green Bay. Altrusa International was started in 1917 as a women's organization. The Green Bay chapter formed in 1930, with a goal of solving problems in our own backyard. The local chapter currently has 29 members and supports Tank School, Habitat for Humanity, and also provides scholarships. Their biggest ongoing project is Altrusa House, which is located on Mason Street on a lot provided to them by Bellin Hospital.

Altrusa House provides a place to stay for people from out of the area, who are in Green Bay for ongoing out-patient treatment at local hospitals. The facilities are also available to family members of hospital patients who are undergoing in-patient treatment at the hospitals. In 1985, Altrusa House started in a vacant house owned by the hospital, and moved to their current location when it was built in 2001. The house has 12 rooms for guests, two kitchens, and a complete laundry.

Guests pay only a one-time fee of \$10 to stay in the house, with the Altrusa Club absorbing the rest of the operating costs, which are budgeted this year at \$124,400. To cover this cost, they hold fund-raising events, which include a Golf Outing and a Phantom Ball. They also accept donations, which are tax-deductible. Starting with their first bequest of \$100,000, they have been successful in raising

funds to build and maintain Altrusa House. This is quite a challenging project for a club with only 29 members!

Next week's Guest Speakers will be Tom Miller, Director of Austin Straubel Int'l Airport, and Marty Platte, Assistant Director.

by Bob Rowan