

Kiwanis

GREEN BAY – DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917



KIWANIS KEY

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown

KIWANIS MEETING OF JULY 20, 2015

Our 16 members, plus two speakers, enjoyed a meal of Kielbasa (a sausage sometimes called Polish sausage by people who are not food-knowledgeable) with baked sauerkraut, rice pilaf, and French bread.

Former original Packer Lumberjack Band member Boyd Henry chose “Hey Look Us Over” with the motto “we’re builders all”----the Packer Fight Song to recognize the Brett Favre celebratory weekend. I noted that some (actually many) of our members have still not memorized the words to that song----and “God Bless America,” written in 1918 by Irving Berlin.

Joe told us that Anne (Charneski) Van Ess and her husband Matt are both having surgery-related medical issues. We wish both of them a speedy recovery.

Joe also donated a dollar to tell us that he and his son hiked in the Smoky Mountains, and that he (Joe) had a hole- in- one (qualified by the fact that it was on a miniature golf course).

Joe explained a possible project for our club involving sponsorship of a billboard on Main Street in the Olde Main District, advertising our club’s 100th anniversary in 2017. There would be a substantial cost involvement, but Joe said that his company and some other potential donors would cover most of the cost.

We had an interesting program about “The Production Farm,” by Wyatt and Carolyn Kuether. The Kuethers are planning to establish a production farm as a film-making facility for disadvantaged teenagers, to teach them the technical aspects of film-making. The farm would also provide horticulture therapy and interaction with farm animals. The Kuethers said that 450 teenagers in Wisconsin “age out” of foster care each year, and that

more than half of the 22,000 prisoners in the Wisconsin correctional system have spent some time in foster care. These statistics indicate the definite need for a post-foster care program. Carolyn Kuether is especially knowledgeable about troubled teen agers since her grandparents are John and Jan Gillespie, the founders of Rawhide Boys Ranch. The Kuethers are dreaming big, since a major part of their plans involve receiving very substantial donations to acquire property and establish the programming. Their project reminds me of the lyrics from two songs: "To dream the impossible dream" from "Fiddler On The Roof"-----and "the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true" from "Somewhere Over The Rainbow." But, Wyatt and Carolyn are (relatively) young people and they will do their utmost to make their dream project actually happen.

Be sure to see the club calendar on our web site for members who are responsible for our weekly programs. This Monday, July 27th, Gloria Yu is responsible for the program.

by Bob Fahres
