



Kiwaniis
CLUB OF GREEN BAY



GREEN BAY – DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917

KIWANIS KEY

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown
Kiwaniis Club Meeting on September 8th, 2025

Lunch today at the Hyatt Regency was chicken marsala, caesar salad, southwestern soup, breadsticks, brussels sprouts, fingerling potatoes, and cheesecake. Enjoying the excellent meal were Bob, Ben, Maria, Pat, Rick, and our guest speaker. We applauded Ben and our new “Home Club - Lieutenant Governor” banner awarded at last month’s district convention.

During our prayer, Pat remembered our 57-year member Ben Wagner, who passed away in August after a brief illness at the age of 91. We know he was riding his bike on the Fox River Trail until just a few months ago! Ben freely gave his time to many charitable groups and will be greatly missed by family, Kiwanis, his breakfast friends at the Allouez Cafe, and a large portion of the Green Bay community. Pat’s prayer was followed by a moment of silence for Ben.

Rick passed around club mail which included three thank you cards and a newspaper article about the YMCA’s 69th annual Wisconsin Youth in Government Conference. Our own Ben got Green Bay school students involved again when he moved here from Minnesota. Before Ben, our schools had been absent from the conference for 12 years.

Ben recapped the Wisconsin Upper Michigan Kiwanis District Convention held at the Oneida Casino August 22-24. Ben was conference coordinator in

addition to being installed as the Division 10 Lt. Governor for the next two years. Five of our members attended. We had a great time at the railroad museum pig roast, including our ride on the “Commander Buerschinger,” the open rail car donated by Bill Buerschinger to honor Wally Buerschinger, his father and former member of our club.

Ben also had a special convention surprise for Maria and Pat. “Governor’s Excellence Award” plaques for their superior club President and club Secretary leadership! See the photos at the end of these minutes. Congratulations Maria and Pat!

Our speaker today was Nick Meisner, VP of Communications at Discover Green Bay. Their small staff was the driving force behind the huge economic success of the recent NFL Draft! We watched a fun video recapping the event. A total of 362,588 unique visitors (some people attended multiple days) came to Green Bay. The state-wide economic impact was \$104 million. Nick said that in the past some nationwide conference planners have told Discover Green Bay that their group is “too big for Green Bay.” Now Nick’s response is “are you bigger than the NFL Draft?” Haha! Nice job, Nick, thanks for visiting our club!

Upcoming meetings:

Tuesday, September 30th, 5:00 PM at Zambaldi’s. Pizza and beer social!

Monday, October 6th, noon at the Hyatt Regency. Regular club meeting, Rick will give the annual treasurer’s

Report By: Rick Satterlee

See photos below...























Ben Wagner

July 2, 1934 — August 17, 2025
- [Link to Obituary](#) -