

Kiwanis

GREEN BAY – DOWNTOWN, Founded 1917



KIWANIS KEY

Weekly Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Green Bay – Downtown

KIWANIS MEETING OF DECEMBER 28, 2015

The title of Thomas Wolf's 1940 novel was "You Can't Go Home Again," meaning that you can't relive the past. Well, we did relive the past on Monday. We returned to our "home" of many years, with our meeting at the hotel that was a Holiday Inn when we first started meeting there and later became the Clarion. We have many fond memories of those two hotels and it was interesting to tour the building and see the major renovations that have been made in the hotel that is now a Hampton Inn.

We had a nice attendance at the meeting with 16 members and two guests for dinner, and one more member who came later for the building tour. The two guests were Emmet's wife and Vince's daughter from Florida. The Black & Tan chef prepared a gourmet sandwich and pasta salad box lunch that was brought to us at the Hampton Inn.

Our meeting was somewhat unusual with our Pledge of Allegiance to an American flag that was pictured on a laptop computer, and one of the very rare meetings when we didn't sing.

President Pat presided at the meeting and commended Anne Van Ess for the great job she did in coordinating our Holiday Party at the Riverside Ballroom with 84 third grade students from Nicolet School last week. We applauded Anne for chairing that very successful event.

We had outstanding "members in the news" as the Production Farm of Wyatt and Carolyn was featured in a front page article in the Press Gazette last week. The article explained the purpose of the Farm and gave nice recognition to the Kuethers for their dedication in establishing the Farm.

Doug had another good riddle. Doug said "what do you call a snowman with a suntan?" ---
--Ann Patteson immediately replied "a puddle". Ann attributed her astounding riddle
ability to the extensive time she spends with her kids.

Our program consisted of a presentation by two longtime friends from our days at the Clarion: Barb Myer, who is now the General Manager of the Hampton and Kirstin who is the Director of Sales at the Hampton. Barb gave a history of the hotel which opened as a Holiday Inn in 1974 and changed to a Clarion Hotel in 2010. In 2013 the Clarion went into receivership and was purchased by the City of Green Bay on a temporary ownership until a permanent owner was found. When a new owner was obtained the hotel underwent very extensive remodeling and opened in September, 2015 with 135 guest rooms. After Barb's presentation, she and Kirstin led us in two groups on a tour of the Hampton Hotel and the adjacent attached KI convention center. We toured the Hampton guest rooms, the exercise facility, the breakfast room for complimentary hot breakfast meals for hotel guests, the gift shop and the 24-hour free coffee station. The remodeled Hampton is a beautiful hotel and we were very impressed with the facility. We also toured the KI convention Center and what astonished me was a huge, totally empty room that appeared to be larger than a football field. The room is used for large dinner groups and for convention exhibitors to set up displays.

This coming Monday, January 4th, we will have a special program with President Pat presenting a review of our 2015 Kiwanis Club activities and events----with pictures! It's also Birthday Monday with cake added to the buffet lunch. AND---the Board of Directors will meet at 11:15, before our lunch on Monday. Directors: BE THERE!

Future program responsibilities are: Jan. 11th, George O'Hearn---Jan. 18th, Ann Patteson--Jan. 25th, Doug Ramsay---Feb. 1st, Bob Rowan---Feb. 8th, Rick Satterlee---Feb. 15th, Steve Schneider---Feb. 22nd, Lindsay Tafelski. THE MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAMS should arrange for their program promptly and tell Anne Van Ess what the program will be.

by Bob Fahres