



Kiwanis Club of Independence Newsletter Judy Luffman-editor

Dates to Remember

- Thurs., Nov. 20: **Blue Valley Club Chili Day**
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; \$6 per ticket
Salvation Army Building
6618 E. Truman Rd.
Kansas City, MO
- Thurs., Nov. 20, **Mayor's Prayer Breakfast**, 6 a.m. lower level, Community of Christ Auditorium

Coming Soon

- Sat., Dec. 6 and Dec. 13; Bell Ringing for Salvation Army in front of Sam's Club in Independence; sign up at the next meeting for one-hour time slots.

Birthday

November 16 Emory Parks (honoray member)
November 17 Barb Bellew

Anniversary

None

Meeting Preview

Kate Schwaller, Director of Development at Drumm Farm, along with David Rock will be the guest speakers at the November 18 meeting.

Announcement

Joe Donald is hard at work updating the membership directory. See Joe to review your information page and make any edits or updates. You are also welcomed to submit a different digital photo if you wish. Just email it as an attachment to Joe.

[November 18 Assignments](#)

Set-up **Ann Winston**
Pledge Leader **Barb Bellew**
Song Leader **Don Coffman**
Opening Prayer **Michael Hahn**

Brag Bag

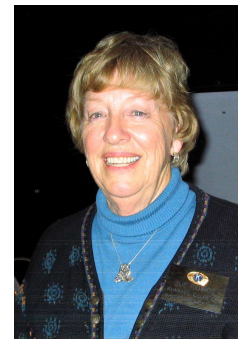
Sue Ridings: She bragged (*again*) about Texas Tech's success on the football field this year.

Scott Roberson: He had a great time at a father/daughter event at NWMS in Maryville and saw Dan Montgomery there with his daughter.

Marina Womack: Her daughter performed a solo at the fall concert at her middle school.

Getting There Was NOT Half the Fun

Member Sue Ridings entertained the club with a narrative of a trip she and Max took last summer. The start of the trip seemed to be a classic case of Murphy's Law, at least as far as Sue was concerned.



Sue and Max were contacted to chaperon a group of American AFS students to Thailand where the students were to spend six weeks with host families. The original flight was canceled and in the rebooking process, Max was dropped off the system. By the time Sue discovered that glitch Max had to be booked on a flight that left two days early. That left Sue playing chaperon to 44 teens all by herself.

The teens were not inclined stay together or follow directions so Sue had her hands full trying to keep track of them all. In fact, during the boarding process she couldn't locate two girls and was not permitted to get off the plane to search for them. It wasn't until they had been airborne for half an hour that she found them on board.

Once everyone arrived in Bangkok and was processed through immigration, Sue and Max met up once again and were free to pursue their own agenda. They spent a week on the island of Phuket which still bore a few signs of the tsunami that had devastated the area; they then returned to Bangkok. They enjoyed their experiences in both places. Some of their observations included

- seeing how cashews grows

- noticing English signage everywhere
- finding plastic food bags polluting the environment
- seeing a culture largely unspoiled by colonization.

One picture of Sue demonstrated just how far they were from home: it showed Sue in a tiger sanctuary gingerly holding onto one tiger's tail just so she could proclaim to one and all that she'd "had a tiger by the tail". Max didn't have any comment!

Call for Volunteers

- There is still time help write down clothing sizes and gift lists for people who have applied to the Salvation for assistance. Plan to help on Thursday evening, November 20, from 5-7 p.m. Volunteers are also needed during daytime



hours (M, Tu, W, F 9-11:30 a.m., 1-3 p.m.) so spread the word to your friends and family who might be available. The Corps is on Truman Road a little east of Noland Road as you head toward Blue Springs. Phone 252-3200 to sign up.

- Donations of the following items are needed for a health care team who will be volunteering in a rural clinic in Jamaica in January. They will be presented to the guest speaker on either Dec. 2 or 9.

Vitamins: children, adults, prenatal
Antifungal ointment
Antibiotic cream
Used suitcases to carry supplies

We're Still Trucking after 79 Years!

By Barbara Langley

It's time to celebrate our 79th Anniversary on Tuesday, Nov. 18, at our regular luncheon. Sue Ridings, past Lt. Governor, will tell us a little about the club's history and Ophelia's will treat us to a birthday cake. According to Ridings, the Kiwanis Club of Independence received its charter from Kiwanis International on Nov. 19, 1929, and Harry Truman was a charter member.

The club was "born" during a year of turmoil and economic strife. Joe Donald reports that in 1929 the population of the United States of America was 106.5 million; 2.1 million of those were unemployed. Average annual earnings were \$1,236 but teachers averaged only \$970. Life expectancy for males was 53.6 years; for females, 54.6 years. There were 387,000 miles of paved roads. It took 13 days to drive from New York to California. Gangland crime included racketeering and murder such as occurred on the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. On March 26, 1929, the New York Stock Exchange traded 8.2 million shares and then crashed on Oct. 29, 1929, known as "Black Friday."

Fortunately, our Club hasn't crashed and has fared well since its beginning 79 years ago. Tuesday's celebration will be in addition to our regular program.

Board of Directors Meeting Update

- Approved Chyanne Lockhart Cardarella for membership
- Approved donation of \$5 per member to Kiwanis International Foundation
- Granted a leave of absence to Wayne Shakespeare
- Supported reestablishing a Key Club at the Independence Academy

Members Minute

Kiwanians, through guidance and example, work to develop future generations of leaders. Every day, Kiwanians are revitalizing neighborhoods, organizing youth-sports programs, tutoring, building playgrounds, and performing countless other projects to help children and communities. Ordinary people performing extraordinary work! Invite someone to join you.

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time."