

Dear Kiwanians:

Monthly Reflection: "What ever enlarges hope will also exalt courage." by Samuel Johnson.

This month's quiz: What member recently became a great, great, great, grandfather? **Answer to last month's quiz:** There are 11 clubs in our division.

January 5th Meeting

❖**Guests:** Mrs. Borka, Gail Rust, and Jeanne Herbe.

❖**Key Club:** Frank Says they are trying to get two alternative education student in the club.

❖**Board Meeting:** Our President, Adam Zettel presented us with a summary of the Board meeting.

▪Basically the topic of discussion was the **Elms Road Park project** for this spring. They allocated up to \$6,000. for it. The various service clubs are going to work on this. The S.C. Lions club are going to work on the drinking fountain

▪The Board also approved Suezette Hodge as a new member.

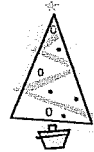
❖**Lapeer Inter-Club:** Wed A.M. Sandy Raffelli went alone. And on the third Wednesday P.M. there will be a inter-club to Linden.

❖**Presentation to a "Young Marine":** President Zettel introduced Mike Borka and his Mother, a 8th grade Middle School Student. Adam presented him with Steve's help a big check for \$700.00. He is the "Young Marines", a youth program. Her is working in the drug reduction program and will go to Camp Pendleton top a "gunnery school". His Mom thank us and told after the school he is going on a cattle drive out west. Mike Borka has also worked on the Elms Road Park clean-up project with his group.

❖**Middle School "Giving Tree":** Gail Rist and Jeannie Herbie, both counselors at the Middle School were present are informed us of the "Giving Tree", which they described. Jeannie explained how the student names are selected, three gifts are given for each student and 21 families were served. She informed of how all the student

helped with raising the money.. It is the third year. Our Club participated in this year project due a greater need, up to one thousand dollars, which was not totally used, and as your may remember Katrina Ockerman went out and purchased the gifts with I believe help from other members.

❖**50-50:** And the winner this week was Lisa. The co-owner, Lisa, of County Carriage for \$13.00!



PROGRAM: This *Jim Bleau* introduced *Lynn Cavett*, Community School Director. Lynn stated that the Community Schools has the largest child care in the area at Mary Crapo School, and it very affordable. She then discussed "The Cage" on Morrish Road. The new owner as of July 1st will be the schools. She mentioned the program that will be there: pickle ball, along with Yoga. On

Wednesday P.M some 35 people come from as far away as 40 to 50 miles. The fees will be lower with the school owning it. They will be hosting a tournament in he spring at the Middle School, a Summer Survivor camp. It will be for young people in the summer. They will teach "how to" to he basics of life in he big school, of locker, how to travel the lunch line, it will help the kids transion form a elementary school to the middle school. She feels 200 kids will attend. Thank you Jim Bleau for inviting Lynn and to Lynn for coming to inform us, and to lets us know how they and our club has help young people in our school district!!

January 12th Meeting

•**Guests:** Seth Zubke.

•**Meijer Store Construction:** Doug Stephen, who is the Chairman of the Planning Commission, reported that the are scheduled to start this coming April. The sit planned was update and approved at the last Planning Commission.

•**Prayer Breakfast:** Chuck Shults stated that Dr. Halls, the new School Superintendent will be help helping him. Brian Kelly at the church is to have the youth from the Church help. Thank you Chuck, he is on the job!

•**Future Inter-Clubs:** (1) Linden, next Wednesday, 6:00 P.M. at the Shiawasee Shores trailer park, Club House off Rolston Road. (2) Lapeer Sunrise on the 18th, Wed. A.M.

•**50-50:** And the winner was Phil Bracey for \$14.00!

PROGRAM: This week *Jim Florence* introduced the program to as *Charles Kelly* and *Josh Justin* and *Commer* from Den Leader Pack 357 and Scout Troop 122. Charles told, the troop leader said the troop has done a lot of good and have at least one flag retirement at Veterans Day. They had a five day trip to Traverse City and canoe trip on the river. Please call him if you see a project needing to be done. The expense and with inflation are a big thin. It cost \$260.00 to send a boy to camp per scout to Camp To-Pic-co in Kalaska. They try to re-cycle shirts etc. to help the individual scout. Adam has a project for a Eagle Scout. They have 40 scouts, if they all showed, but they have 25 to 30 per week. Five are working on their Eagle projects. The Flint area Council is staying here. Other are being done away with, 11 are going to be 7. Thanks Charles Kelly!

January 19th Meeting

Guests: none.

Linden Inter-Club: Last Wednesday night the following went on a fishing expedition: Frank and Willadean Vitous, Fritz Henke, Mike and Sharon Shumaker and Roger Meier. They brought back two fish in the shape of their bell and a gavel!

Lapeer Sunrise Inter-Club: Last Wednesday morning the following got up early: Steve Mardlin, Doug Stephens, Richard Mattison, and Jim Florence.

Chili Dinner: Friday, February 10th, from 4 to 7 P.M. at the Methodists Church. The Swartz Creek Women's Club is

sponsoring this event to raise money for the upcoming Elms Road Park Project. Boots Abrams passed out ticket books. Remember we are the lead sponsor on this project.

50-50: Well, for the second time this month Phil Bracey was the winner for \$16.00 !

PROGRAM: *Jeannette Van Dusen* obtained the speaker this week. She introduced, *Doug Snyder*, an accountant educated at the U. of M. Flint, from Muskegon. He is the founder of the Genesee Regional Young Professionals. The short name is "GRIP". It started in 2009 from a core group of from 9 to 12. The members are more from financial institutions, with a strong commitment to Genesee County. Many young people left for the south for jobs. In 2010 their first event. They did a speaker series of prospective business people who told of their personal stories. They have their own Web page and did a "Mix on the Brick" last summer. They do public service events and help raise money for the events around. They now have 140 member, which is certainly good for Downtown. Thank you Jeannette and to Doug Snyder!!

Let's tell the young professionals that we know of this group!

January 26th Meeting

- ◆ **Guests:** Seth Zubke, Shay Peske from the Scout office.
 - ◆ **Board Meeting:** ??? Ask Mike, call Frank
 - ◆ **ABC Awards:** nominations are in and is scheduled for a program on Feb. 9, as Ray or Greg Thornton reported.
 - ◆ **Inter-Club:** two are in the work as discuss last week. One of these will be on February 3rd at Burton with four signed-up.
 - ◆ **Prayer Breakfast:** Our long-time chairperson, Chuck Shults informed us that Jeff Hall, a frequent guest is to help him, and he said it is moving along.
 - ◆ **Croquet:** Doug Stephens told us that plans are being "hit around" for this spring.
 - ◆ **Chili Dinner:** On February 10th from 4 to 7 PM. the Swartz Creek Women's Club is having a Chili Dinner on the United Methodists Church to raising money for the Elms Road Park project. Remember our club is spearheading this project. Let's get out and support them!
 - ◆ **Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Dinner:** The Blue and Gold Award yearly event is at the Nazarene Church on Morrish Road.
 - ◆ **Book Sale:** This Saturday at City Hall starting at 9 to 12. This is sponsored by "Friends of the Library", who, also is working with us on the Elms Road Park project.
- 50-50:** Chuck Shults was the winner this week for \$11.00!

PROGRAM: *Mike Shumaker* introduced the program this week. It was *Roy Hodge*, husband of Suzette Hodge, a very recent member, and grandson of Roy Lovegrove, one the charter members of our club and a Past-President. Roy is a attorney and a tax attorney. He was present today to inform us of the changes that will effect our return this year or for tax year 2011. Roy started by telling us that the big changes are the one that effect our state return and the next year.

FEDERAL LEVEL CHANGES: (1) Energy tax credits.

These tax credit are significantly reduced. The credit which is for home improvements such, as window, insulation, furnaces, has been reduced to 10 % of the money spent with the overall credit limit of \$500. If you have taken any energy tax credits since 2005 over the \$500 amount, you will not qualify for this credit in 2011.

(2) College expenses: it still includes the cost of the books.

(3)-The capital gain maximum tax rate will stay at 15%.

(4) The \$1,000. Credit tax credit will remain. The Earned Income Tax Credit will still be in place for 2011.

(5) The big red flag is foreign bank accounts with balances over \$10,000.

STATE OF MICHIGAN CHANGES: The two main areas were:

(1) -Business taxes. Effective January 1, 2012, the State will only impose the Michigan Business Tax on C corporations. This means that all sole proprietorship, S corporation, LLC's and partnership will not have to pay MBT tax in 2012.

(2) Tax on pensions. Major changes have happened starting in 2012. The impact depends on the age of the person receiving the pension.

*born before 1946, no change on your pension.

*born between 1946 and 1952. In effect, if single, the \$20,000. Of pension is tax free. If married, the first \$40,000. is tax free.

*born after 1952. All pension amounts are taxable. This is the equivalent to Charlie Brown getting a rock for Halloween!

OTHER CHANGES: The City income tax exemption is gone and for public donations. Credit for homeless and others. The homestead property tax credit has changed, if 65 or older you get 100% credit up to \$1,000.00. At 65 you get only 60% of credit.

Roy Hodge made a point of informing us to make sure the tax prepare is licensed by the I.R.S.; and uses a "P" number when signing your return.

Thank you so much for the "wealth of information"!!

DATES TO REMEMBER PROGRAM

FEBRUARY	
2 ABRAMS	9 THORNTON
7 BOARD MTG	16 MAJESKE
10 CHILI DINNER	26 G.HUYCK

FEBRUARY BIRTHDATES

24 RONNA GETTEL

MIKE

