



**A Monthly Publication of Janesville, WI    Blackhawk Golden “K” Kiwanis Club**

Post Office Box No. 2712 Janesville, WI 53547

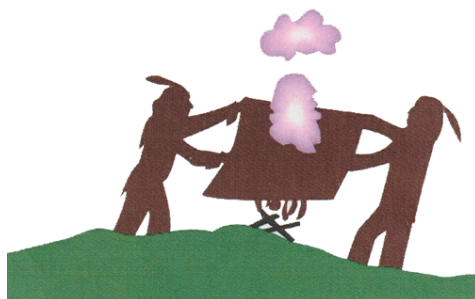
**Web: [goldenk.org](http://goldenk.org)**

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Meeting Each Wednesday: 9:30AM @ Rotary Botanical Gardens, 1455 Palmer Dr. Janesville, WI  
Wisconsin / Upper Michigan Governor: *Kathy Durner* Division 4 Lt. Governor: *Vacant*

## OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	Richard Johnson
<b>Pres. Elect:</b>	Tom Neumann
<b>Past Pres:</b>	Roger Willeford
<b>Vice Pres:</b>	Jim Farrell
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Greg Turco
<b>Asst. Treas:</b>	Linda Bontly
<b>Secretary:</b>	Paul Neitzel
<b>Asst. Sect:</b>	Bruce Jorenby



## DIRECTORS

2025-'28	Ryan Lewis
2025-'28	Steve Skelly
2024-'27	Carl Cramer
2024-'27	Ray Szczepaniak
2023-'26	Linda Bontly


***“KIWANIS IS A GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEERS, DEDICATED TO”***  
***“Improving the world one child and one community at a time”***

## PROGRAMS

<b>October</b>	<b>Chair: <i>Luci Cramer</i></b>
<b>01 Program</b>	<b>Cedar Crest by Ben Reese</b>
<b>08 Program</b>	<b>Mystery Author by Sherry Derr-Wille</b>
<b>15 Program</b>	<b><i>Human Trafficking by Dawn Fiedler</i></b>
<b>22 Program</b>	<b>Gifts Mens Shelter by Holly Shrum</b>
<b>29 Program</b>	<b>Janesville Parks Dept. by Cullen Slapak</b>
<b>November</b>	
<b>05 Program</b>	<b><i>Stability Testing by Sharon McKilligan</i></b>

## OCTOBER CLUB CALENDAR

01	9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
08	9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
15	9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
22	9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
29	8:15 Board Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
	9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens
<i>November</i>	
05	9:30 Club Meeting @ Rotary Gardens

	<b>GREETERS</b> <i>Chair: Maury Frey</i>	<b>RAFFLE</b> <i>Chair: Maury Frey</i>	<b>DEVOTIONS</b> <i>Chair: Carl Cramer</i>	<b>SERVER</b> <i>Chair: Glenn Disrude</i>
Oct 1	Mel Lemirande & John Sarnow	Linda Bontly	Richard Johnson	Bob Knudson
Oct 8	Dave Figi & April Wright	Ryan Lewis	Ron Shuler	Bob Knudson
Oct 15	Rau Szczepaniak & John Janes	John Janes	Carl Cramer	Bob Knudson
Oct 22	Tom Neumann & Jerry Langdok	Ray Szczepaniak	Bob Knudson	Bob Knudson
Oct 29	Bob Knudson & Ron Shuler	Glenn Disrude	Ron Shuler	Bob Knudson
			<b>October Juice Man:</b> Maury Frey	

## **BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting: 9/17/25**

Called to order by President Willeford at 8:15 a.m.

### **OFFICERS**

President: Roger Willeford  
Past President: Robert Wilcox  
President Elect: Richard Johnson  
Vice President: Tom Neumann  
Treasurer: Greg Turco  
Secretary: Paul Neitzel  
Asst. Secretary: Bruce Jorenby

**Directors:** Ron Shuler, Dave Thill (abs), Linda Bontly, Carl Cramer , and Ray Szczepaniak.

**Others Present:** Luci Cramer, Glenn Disrude, Ryan Lewis, and Steve Skelly

**Secretary's Report:** Paul gave an update to the board regarding membership for the coming year and expects the enrollment to drop by about 5-6 members due to health concerns. The minutes were approved as printed in the Smoke Signal.

**Treasurer's Report:** Greg reported that the administrative checking account was up about \$2000 and the service checking account was up about \$125. Linda Bontly moved to approve the report and was seconded by Richard Johnson and approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Membership Committee Report:** Tom Neumann stated that Lions Chicken Roast for publicity was a bust and not worth the time and effort and suggested that we discontinue this in the future. He expressed satisfaction with the Senior Fair and may have some possible new members as a result of this effort and would definitely continue participation in this event.

### **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** Roger Willeford suggested that the Board create a committee to come up with a possible list of potential fundraising events such as Scoops Night or an Applebee's Fund Raiser where flyers are distributed to people to redeem for 10% of proceeds to benefit our club and other ideas to generate more funds for our club.

**COMPARING BUDGET TO EXPENDITURES:** The board reviewed the expense budget and most charitable contributions have increased for 2026 to cover inflation. They decided to cut the Janesville Multicultural Scholarship by \$500 to \$1000. We will spend about \$3000 more for Buddy Benches in 2026 and plan to increase fundraising to support that. The club will spend \$900-\$1000 on a new Key Club this year.

**REVIEW OF CHARITIES:** In reviewing the charities we support; it was suggested that we discontinue the \$1000 contribution to the Janesville Parks and change that to \$500 for the parks and use the other \$500 to go towards repairing the pier at Kiwanis Pond.

Another change involved reducing the amount allocated to the Janesville Multicultural Teaching Scholarship from \$1500 to \$1000 to reflect keeping in line with our other scholarship amounts. Greg Turco made a motion to reduce this amount to \$1000 and was seconded by Carl Cramer and approved.

**BUDDY BENCH:** Glenn Disrude and Steve Skelly talked to the Board about reaching out to other service organizations to help with the cost of producing the Buddy Benches for installation in our public schools. We need more information from the school district to determine the number of benches needed and the cost to produce them.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.  
Submitted by Secretary, Paul Neitzel



September 3 ~ Dan Pico



September 17 ~ Sarah Hagenow



September 10 ~ Carlee Fosco



2024-'25 president Roger Willeford reads a thank you letter from an organization that received Kiwanis funds.



Kathy Durner, Kiwanis Governor Wisconsin-Upper Michigan honors past president Roger Willeford and new president Richard Johnson.



Past president Roger Willeford presents the gavel to new president Richard Johnson.  
Please note: A special thank you for the installation photos which were taken by Ray Szczepaniak



## Happy Birthday Wishes

Oct 1	Jerry Langdok
Oct 1	Paul Neitzel
Oct 10	Dale Fulton
Oct 23	Dick Peck
Oct 24	Dave Figi
Oct 26	Robert Wilcox
Oct 28	Steve Skelly
Oct 29	Darlene Johnson



John Janes promoting our Blackhawk Golden Kiwanis group at the Lions Club Chicken Roast. Photo by tom Neumann.

## 2025 Senior Fair

Below L-R: Dale and Doris Henning, Steve Skelly, and Tom Neumann promoting the Blackhawk Golden Kiwanis at the 2025 Senior Fair. Photo provided by Tom Neumann



The Kiwanis Bell and gavel are symbols of leadership, unity and tradition within the Kiwanis International organization.







Mel Leirande leaves no doubt as to who just drew the 'Joker'!



When April Wright called out "058" a lucky raffle winner was chosen. Then, as a follow-up a card is drawn, if that card is a 'JOKER' then the raffle winner wins the Grand Prize. Each week the deck of cards is diminished by the card drawn.

# Blackhawk Golden Kiwanis

## Serving Children of the World

**SUPPORTING**

- High School Scholarships
- New Teacher Scholarships
- Early Literacy for Preschoolers
- Boys and Girls Club
- Craig and Parker Closets
- Camp Wawbeek for the Disabled
- Homeless Students (Project 16:49)
- Aid for New Mothers & many more

**FUNDRAISERS**

Truck on Ice | Lily Day | Tree Sales

**COMMUNITY ACTION**

Blood Drives	Bike Race
Bell Ringing	Kiwanis Park
Meals on Wheels	Kiwanis Pond
Flag Retirement	Kiwanis Trail
Renaissance Faire	

*Mission Statement: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.*



Speaker chair Luci Cramer updates the status of current programs.



New director Steve Skelly.



New director Ryan Lewis.