

KIWANIGRAM

The monthly newsletter of the

KIWANIS CLUB *of* SKIDAWAY



APRIL 2008

President's Corner

Coming Events

By **Erv Hietbrink**

Our next fund raising event, the **Concert on the Green**, is about a month away and shortly we'll be hearing from **Gary Hughes** and his team about what each of us can do to help make it a success. The entertainers this year will be the **Skyelite Jazz Band**, from the **Savannah Arts Academy** and I'm sure our friends and neighbors will enjoy their performance.

On the subject of fund raising, you all recognize that our business sponsors contribute significantly to the success of our overall effort. We want to encourage all members shop at these businesses when in need of the goods and services that these folk offer. To help you remember who they are, **Emerson Ham** is preparing posters that will be prominently displayed at our meetings in the near future.



Before long, **Keith Glenn** will be convening our Nominating Committee to identify candidates for club board and officer positions and prepare us for elections that will occur in May. I'm sure we'll be hearing more from him as he forms the committee and charters its work. If you personally would like to become involved as a nominee or have someone in mind that you'd like to have considered as a candidate, don't hesitate to suggest names to Keith. The results of our election need to be communicated to the Georgia District no later than June 1.

Within the next few months your board of direc-

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Greenbriar Children's Center

By **Melissa Emery**

Greenbriar Children's Center was founded in 1949 as the first orphanage for black children in this community. Prior to that time, black orphans were sent to penal farms to live with criminals.

These days, Greenbriar provides the final "safety net" for children who need shelter, protection from abusive or negligent parents, and a caring environment for those to whom so little love is available.

GCC offers 5 types of service to disadvantaged, abused, and neglected children in Chatham County:

- A long-term residential program for boys and girls ages 10 to 18. This program provides long-term, supportive care for children who cannot remain in their homes or who cannot adjust to family foster care. Many of these children have been abused, neglected or abandoned.

- A residential program for older teens and young adults learning to live on their own. "Transitional Living" serves youth 16 – 21 who are without supportive families or foster care. "Supportive Living" serves homeless youth ages 17 – 21, including teen mothers who have one child under the age of 5. These are the only such programs in Southeast Georgia.

- An Emergency Shelter for children from newborns through age 17. This facility is available 24/7 and 365 days per year for children in need of immediate shelter and/or protection. Children are often dropped off at the Emergency Shelter by family members who say they cannot cope with the children, or children are placed there by the Department of Family

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President's Corner (from page 1)

tors will be addressing the subject of charitable donations for 2008. This effort will involve all club officers and board members but be spearheaded by **Bill Wright**, our VP of Service. At our June meeting we will decide how much, in total, we have to distribute. This will be based upon the final results of our fund raising efforts and the earnings from our Foundation accounts. It will also be influenced by our desire to meet our "bold and motivating" club goal of contributing \$1,000,000 by September 30, when we complete our 20th year. In July we will determine which agencies will receive the funds and how much. That will be based upon Bill's recommendation after he's had an opportunity to look at how our funds have been used in the past by the 20+ agencies who have been regular recipients of our donations. In addition, he will be looking at newly identified youth related community programs that might enable our funds to achieve even greater impact on young lives in the future. Knowing that this effort is underway I would encourage all members who have invested considerable personal time at a specific agency, and have detailed information on the youth related benefits provided there, to engage with Bill as he formulates his recommendations and prepares us for these important decisions.

Special thanks to **Steve Downing**, program chairman for March; to **Jim Waterman**, our music maestro; to **Curt Shambaugh**, our 50/50 maven and good humor man; and to **Allen Berger** and **Gary Bocard** for meeting setup. All of your efforts were appreciated!



Directors Meeting

Debbie Kittrell, our Division 22 Lt. Governor, attended the Club's Board Meeting on March 10th. She announced the Division's Leadership Award was given to our President, Erv Hietbrink at the recent Division Rally at Vidalia. She also said the District (state) will conduct a District "Day Of Service," to make the achievements of Kiwanis more visible. All Clubs are urged to participate.

Mrs. Aiken, Pancake Chair, said the net income of the Breakfast was \$1400 over plan, and the patrons seemed to enjoy themselves. Good job, Chris.

Mrs. Emery reviewed some interesting plans for Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Club this coming September. More about that later.

Mr. Hietbrink again stressed the membership goals, and thanked Bill Wright for agreeing to host the prospective new members Cocktail party at his home.



Welcome New Member

Joyce C. Parker joined our Club this month, sponsored by Ralph Schilly, who has helped three new members join this year. Mrs. Parker moved here from Diamondhead, Mississippi, a victim of the Katrina Hurricane. Joyce attended Louisiana State University, and lives at 103 Saltwater Way. She has already helped at the Pancake Breakfast last month.

Bob Longueira (Robert M.) was asked to join by the Club's membership Chair, Tom Rood. Bob studied at the University of Hawaii, and at American University, and worked in the Telecom industry, moving here from Flemington, New Jersey. Here, Bob and his wife, Rosemary, live at 22 Long Island Road. We know he plays golf well.

The Club is happy to welcome back, a former member, Randle Mitchell. Randy and his wife, Kay, live at 4 Springpine Lane, following residence in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

He earned a Bachelor of Economics at the University of Pennsylvania and MBA at the Wharton School. Randy was involved in

Suggestions for Speakers

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Who do you know that would be a good speaker for a Kiwanis meeting? Or maybe you don't know them, but would still like to hear them speak at one of our meetings.

Please give 2007-2008 Speaker Chairman Tom Sharp a call (598-5422), or send him an e-mail (tmsarp@bellsouth.net).

Your suggestions will be welcome.

CAGREENBRIAR (from p. 1) and Child Services.

- Two pre-school programs, Windy's Pre-school and W.W. Law Learning Center.

- The Family Preservation Program – an in-home counseling service to help families deal with crises and family problems. Licensed social workers, several of which have masters degrees, provide counseling and referral services for families suffering from poor parenting skills.

Recent changes in the law and reductions in funding by DFACS have resulted in hard times for Greenbriar. Georgia has taken the position that group homes, such as Greenbriar, should be the destination of last resort. The state tried to place children either with relatives or in foster families rather than sending them to Greenbriar.

DFACS is the only state agency that reimburses Greenbriar for the residential programs (Emergency Shelter, Residential and transitional programs.) Due to changes in the rates being paid by DFACS, the total amount being received by

GCC was reduced from \$1.8 million in 2006 to \$1.1 million in 2007.

The average amount received per child has been decreased from \$120 to \$101. This is causing GCC to run at a loss, despite significant efforts at private fundraising and effective cost-cutting to offset these reductions.

In addition to these decreases, amounts received from DFCS Homestead, DFCS Wrap Around, and DFCS Assessments programs have also been decreased. These programs provide the primary funding for pre-K programs run by GCC. Greenbriar does have the opportunity, however, to expand their services through the Family Preservation program, allowing them to provide more wrap-around services to families in the community.

Security issues for many of the children who come go Greenbriar make it impossible to use their names or photos. Face to face, however, alumni will tell you what a wonderful influence Greenbriar was in their lives. The loving, car-

ing staff insists that these children do well in school and stay out of trouble. The girls' and boys' cottages have kitchens where the children help with meal preparation, and their sleeping rooms must be neat and tidy at all times. They learn to do everyday chores and gain life skills that their parents couldn't offer them.

Shardae Boynton is one example of a successful alumna of Greenbriar. Shardae was in residential care at Greenbriar for one year and then successfully transitioned to Greenbriar's Independent Living program. Shardae has now completed coursework at Savannah Technical College to become a certified Medical Transcriptionist and is currently enrolled at Savannah Technical College to receive her Associate's Degree in Administrative Office Technology.

Greenbriar, as the final resource for the lost and neglected children in our community, needs the help of Kiwanis, private individuals and companies in order to continue these vital services.



(Member Non-commercial Ad)

Opera at the Lucas

Verdi's "La Traviata" will be presented by the Savannah Choral Society and Sinfonietta on Saturday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lucas Theatre. This will be the first-ever locally-produced opera in Savannah, and will be conducted by Peter Shannon. Four soloists from Europe and New York will be joining the Chorus. Tickets are \$100 for preferred seating and a champagne reception prior to the opera, or \$47, \$37, and \$27. See Melissa Emery or Erv Hietbrink

(Member Non-commercial Ad)

Golf for Greebriar

CSX will host a golf tournament at Henderson golf Course on June 20 to benefit Greenbriar Children's Center. Kiwanis is a sponsor of Greenbriar. If you would like to play in this event, cost is \$100 per person. Contact Melissa Emery for more information.

(Member Non-commercial Ad)

Hunter 30 Sailboat

1981 sloop with Yanmar diesel, wheel steering, Harken roller furling with 150% and 110% genoas, GPS, bimini, two burner stove, propane grill, sleeps six, easily handled by two - perfect for a couple. Moored at Landings Harbor. \$15,000. Call Mark Forssell at 598-8137 or Nelson Lawson at 598-8570.

(Member Non-commercial Ad)

Computer Controlled Telescope

Meade ETX-60AT Digital Telescope with Autostar Computer Controller and good stable Tripod - free to first calling Kiwanian whose kid or grandkid would treasure such an item - 598-8065.

Concert on the Green

Our last fund raising effort of the season will be The Concert on the Green scheduled for Sunday May 4th with a social hour from 5 to 6 p.m., immediately followed by the concert. A rain date is scheduled for Monday May 5th.

This year we will have a change of pace in our music selection. Performing for us will be the Skyelite Jazz Band from the Savannah Arts Academy directed by Michael Hutchinson. The band, formerly known as the Blue Light Jazz Band, was formed in 1992 and their performances have taken

them to London and China with scheduled appearance in Australia later this year.

The cost of the event remains at \$15.00 or \$17.50 at the door and children under 8 will be free. A patron ticket is \$100.00 for two people. For those who are Kiwanis partners, you may convert your two tickets to a Patron level for an additional \$70.00.

The patron ticket sales are a most important element in our efforts to raise funds for our charities. What a convenient and comfortable way to attend a concert with family and friends. Free from preparing food and drinks and lugging them in coolers along with

your chairs. Simply bring your appetites and enjoy a superb variety of hot and cold foods along with a selection of wine, beer, soft drinks, and water in a relaxed preferential seating area. It will also provide an opportunity for us to mingle with and thank our sponsors for their continuing support.

As one might expect, there will be a need for volunteers to ensure a successful and enjoyable concert and we encourage your full support in requests for assistance.

Concert on the Green co-chairs:

Bob Caswell
Jeffrey Heeder
Gary Hughes



Savannah Arts Academy's Skyelite Jazz Band



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DANA TAYLOR, Editor

Web site, <http://www.kiwanisofskidaway.com> - (Members, Contact Richard Watters or Melissa Emery for ID and Password)

Officers and Directors, Committee Chairs and Other Contacts:

Officers:

- President - Ery Hietbrink
- President Elect - Gary Bocard
- VP-Services - Bill Wright
- VP-Fund Raising - Gene McDonald
- VP-Marketing - Melissa Emery
- VP/Recording Secretary - Richard Shomaker
- VP/Administrative Secretary - Richard Watters
- Treasurer - Harry Krogh
- Past President - Keith Glenn

Directors - all officers plus the following:

terms expiring 2008

- Don Kipp
- Robert Caswell

terms expiring 2009

- Gary Brewer
- Frank Zugel

Terms expiring 2010

- Mark Forssell
- Dave Fox

Board Advisor

- Tom Sharp

Committee Chairs and Other contacts:

Administration:

- Attendance Reception - Jack Hart
- Attendance Records - Gary Brewer
- Awards - Pat Cumiskey
- District/Division Reports - Frank Zugel
- Inter-Club - Jim Chapman
- Kiwanigram - Dana Taylor
- Kiwanis Education/ Orientation - Keith Glenn
- Membership (New) - Tom Rood
- Membership (Retention) - Keith Glenn
- Programs/Speakers - Tom Sharp
- Legends of Golf - Dave Smith, Jim Giorgio

Fund raising events:

- Chili Cook-Off - Jim O'Malley, Jim Beurle
- Concert on the Green - Gary Hughes
- Pancake Breakfast - Chris Aiken, Ron Weber
- Corporate Fund Raising - Emerson Ham, Jeff Heeder, John Hamson

Services—Community:

- Community in Schools - Joyce Glenn
- Dollars for Doers - Bruce Powley
- Habitat for Humanity - Frank Guy, Bob Yeomans
- Interfaith Hospitality Network - Mark Forssell
- Juvenile Court Citizen Review Panels - Chuck Ortmann
- Kids Café - Gary Bocard
- Library for the Blind - Dave Wyland
- Med Bank - Emmet Casey
- Mediation Center - Dick Watters
- Outstanding Citizen - Sid Carr
- Pediatric Oncology Support - Pete Liprot
- Red Cross Blood Drive - Chris Britten
- Salvation Army - Ron Morris
- Social Apostolate - Bob Egan
- Telfair Museum - Jack Neises
- Village Library - Jim Chapman

Services - Young Children:

- Fishing Program - Tom Rood
- Greenbriar - Melissa Emery
- Early Childhood Education - Tom Clark

Services - Youth:

- Bethesda Home - Dave Smith
- Children's Advocacy Center - Skip Salus
- Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) - Allen Berger, Mary Hull
- Hesse Bears - Emmet Casey
- Junior Achievement - Dave Cooper
- Mighty 8th AF Museum - Jim Keller
- Notre Dame Academy - Gary Bocard
- Park Place Outreach - Jack Hart
- Special Olympics - Robert Haas
- St. Paul's Academy - Bill Trice
- Youth Challenge Academy - Jack Huber

SPONSORED YOUTH PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- Bethesda Key Club - Chuck Owen
- SCAD Circle K - Dianne Franz

NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT

- West Chatham - Hazel Brown, Dick Shomaker

HUMAN & SPIRITUAL SERVICE

- Human & Spiritual Service Programs - Jim Giddens

SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS

- Auditor - Roger Nord
- Board Advisor - Hazel Brown
- Club Historian - Martin Otto
- Legal Counsel - Bob Schivera
- Marketing and Web Page - Melissa Emery
- Publicity - Tom Rood
- Photography - Melissa Emery; Martin Otto, Emeritus
- Safety Coordinator - Jack Sherrill
- Social and Trips - Dave Fox
- Song Leader - Dave Wyland
- Sunshine - Gwen Leathley
- 50/50 Drawing - Sid Carr

Kiwanis Club of Skidaway Meeting Assignments for March

Breakfast Meeting Set Up and Greeters -

Jeff Heeder & Frank Saponara

Song Leader - Jim Waterman

Invocation -

Apr. 3 - - Nancy Hamson

Apr. 10 - - Jeff Heeder

Apr. 17 - - Dianne Franz

Apr. 24 - - Gwen Leathley

Speaker Chair - Bob Vinyard

(Member Non-commercial Ad)

Computer and Components

*Desktop Gateway computer (purchased in jan 2000),Ppentium III, 500 mhz, with Windows 98, Quicken and Works suites, cd burner, 2 USB ports, auxilliary speakers, keyboard, with *Samsung 17"LCD monitor, 1280 x 1024 resolution, model 770tft, parallel port connector, all for \$100.

Tom clark - 598-9723 - tas-clark@aol.com or www.sallyclark.net or www.landingsart.org

Kiwanis Calendar of Coming Events

- April 3 Membership Meeting - Speaker, Terry Rudicille, A Mother's View of Service in the Armed Forces
- April 10 Membership Meeting - Speaker, Jim Robinson, President, the Landings Company
- April 17 Membership Meeting - Speaker, Mark C. McDonald, CEO, Historic Savannah Foundation
- April 24 Membership Meeting - Speaker, Dr. Paul Pressly, Ossabaw Education Alliance Director, the Ossabaw Island Foundation
- May 4 Concert on the Green - Landings Association Athletic Field.
- May 7 Special Olympics Spring Games - 10:00 a.m., Savannah Country Day School
- June 26-28 2008 Kiwanis International Convention, Orlando, FL
- Aug. 15-17 Georgia District of Kiwanis Convention, Peachtree City, GA