
KIWANIGRAM *of* SKIDAWAY

MARCH 2013



Message from Club President Dan Umbel

Fellow Kiwanians,

What a great February for our club! One of the best Pancake Breakfasts in the last few years, tremendous membership growth, an amazing speaker lineup, and continued community involvement that sets us apart from the rest of our peers. Great job team! Take a quick water break, catch your breath, reflect on what we did, and then commit to finish the first half of our year as well as we started.

Since we already have so many successes to celebrate, I'm going to take a page out of past president Bill Wright's leadership book. During one of our April meetings, we are going to have a mid-year award banquet to recognize the outstanding service and accomplishments of our amazing members. I'll let you know when we confirm which Thursday.

Without the commitment and passion of our members, we wouldn't be who we are; and—like you—I love who we are.

Proud to be a Kiwanian!

Dan



L-R (above): Griddle masters Tom Sharp, Charles Sitrin, Bob Egan, and Ernie Ranfft keep those delicious pancakes coming!

Lower right: Connor helps his Dad with the raffle.

Credits: All event photos taken by Dick Glover.

KIWANIS 
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Fundraising News

Pancake Breakfast Breaks Club Record!

The 20th Annual Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast—held Saturday, February 9 at the Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church—was a huge success.

We served over 800 people and were able to collect \$800 in ticket sales the day of the event. More amazingly, led by Hazel Brown with support from her team of enthusiastic raffle salespeople, over \$1,600 was collected in raffle sales on the spot. Most impressive, Connor Umbel—Dan's son—led the way with well over \$400 in raffle ticket sales.

Final figures are not quite in yet, but we expect to net over \$12,000 for this event. This builds upon the success of prior years and sets a new club record.

A big thank you goes out to all Kiwanis members. We had over 90% participation by members this year! And of course, a big thank you to all who worked the day before and/or the day of the event. Without all of you, the Pancake Breakfast would not happen.

- Chris Butler & Matt Price



Top: Jerry Beets responds to a youngster's request for "More pancakes, please!" L-R above: Jim Overton and Steve Duesler keep the juice and coffee coming to our 800 guests. Left below: Jackie Donovan pours on the charm as she and the rest of Hazel Brown's team sell raffle tickets at the event. L-R (below) Betha Pingel and Marianne Schutz keep the excitement high with raffle ticket drawings throughout the morning for fabulous prizes organized by Cecilia Russo.



More Fundraising News

Show Our Colors Campaign Raises \$2,500 More for Savannah's Kids

Since its inception in June 2012, the Show Our Colors campaign has raised over \$11,000, including \$2,500 raised with last month's Presidents Day outreach. "We distributed American flags to over 220 homes for Presidents Day," said campaign co-chair Phil Van Ess, as he thanked the 17 Kiwanis volunteers who made this possible. "We look forward to Memorial Day and the 4th of July and hope to have close to 250 participants with the help of fellow club members spreading the word. We have the flags in stock to make this happen."

How does the program work? For a \$50 donation, Kiwanis will install two lawn flags at the home of participants on each of four National holidays. Memorial Day and the 4th of July are huge holidays and a great opportunity to invite more of our neighbors to join in showing their patriotic pride while supporting at-risk kids in Savannah.

To support the campaign, contact Keith Glenn or Phil Van Ess. Registration forms will also be posted on our club's website at www.kiwanisofskidaway.com.

Coming Soon... Concert on the Green!

Well it's time to start thinking about the 2013 Concert on the Green. Last year's event surely raised the bar led by Team McLaughlin & DeGood. Certainly, something this year's Team is focused on exceeding.

Team 2013 has gotten a bit of a late start, so we are working scheduled overtime to overcome our start timing:

- Our talent and bookings department has been interviewing world-class orchestras and bands, and currently our legal department is in negotiations for our mainline performers. It's a bit too early to announce who, but we are sure you will recognize them for their international acclaim when we do.
- Stage sets are currently being designed by our talented in-house set designers so audience seat viewing will be maximized for all attendees. In conjunction with set design, our sound engineering department is finalizing some truly interesting approaches for your entertainment enjoyment.
- We are currently in discussions with one of the best Culinary Institute of America's rising young stars, who we are sure will please the palates of Conductor Circle Members as they are dining under the stars.
- Publicity and tickets sales will be handled locally this year by a new—and we might add, a very talented—group to come on the Savannah scene.

After Team 2013 finalizes the strategic plan, we will be reaching out to each one of you for logistics support, ticket sales, guidance, and attendance. Forget about your other commitments: Just say, "YES" when asked to help. After all, isn't it all about the children that we Kiwanians support?

- Jim Overton, Team 2013 Captain, Concert on the Green

Member News...

Our Newest Members! Member (Sponsor)

- ☞ Art Chapple (*Mark Forssell*)
- ☞ Wayne Fitzgerald (*Tom Brendle*)
- ☞ Clare Higby (*Howard Gandelot*)
- ☞ Pat Howard (*Frank McCarthy*)
- ☞ Bill Shanahan (*Ben Gufstafson*)
- ☞ Trish Shanahan (*Ben Gufstafson*)
- ☞ Matt Spencer (*Jeff Heeder*)

Congratulations, Toni McBride!
Toni was recognized as The Landings
Association's 2012 Volunteer of the Year!

Agency News



Habitat for Humanity is a builder, like any other builder, with four vital differences:

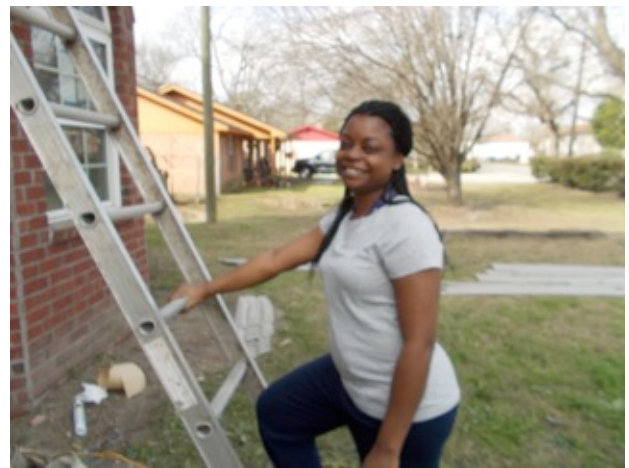
- 1) We sell our homes at zero profit.
- 2) All labor, except for the skilled trades, and much of the materials that go into our homes are donated.
- 3) The buyers of our homes undergo a rigorous qualification process and must complete 350 volunteer hours of labor.
- 4) Habitat provides zero interest loans to its buyers.

As a result, Habitat can offer homes to its families for less than the market price. Typical Habitat houses in Savannah sell for approximately \$95,000 but are appraised at \$120,000. A typical Habitat homeowner makes payments of between \$300 and \$400 a month, in many cases half of what they'd been paying in rent.

Savannah's Habitat for Humanity welcomes construction crew volunteers to help build or renovate 10 homes in 2013-14 for needy Savannah families. Volunteers learn new skills, form new friendships, and make a life-changing difference in the life of the family. The construction site is open to volunteers 8:30AM-2:30PM every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday throughout the year. Additional volunteer opportunities are available on a flexible schedule in Habitat Savannah's ReStore, a retail store for new and used construction supplies and materials, and the Habitat Savannah offices.

Kiwanians participate in the Tuesday and Wednesday work crews and over the years have helped build 120 houses. We can use any skill level from beginner handyman to advanced construction skills. We typically build a one-story, three-bedroom, two-bath house. Volunteers build the entire house except for foundation/slab, plumbing, HVAC, electrical, roofing and drywall work. A house is complete in 90-120 days.

To learn more about what we do, contact Howard Gandelot (hgandelot@aol.com, 598-5404). For more information and to schedule your volunteer day, contact Florence Hale at Habitat Savannah, 353-8122 or admin@habitatsavannah.org. Check out Habitat Savannah's web site at www.habitatsavannah.org.



Top: Kerrina Lawton, the future homeowner of 107 Alfred. Her smile says it all! She and her three children will move to their new home in late March 2013. **Middle:** Wednesday crew starting framing for a new house on 55th Street. **Bottom:** Tuesday crew completing soffit and eave work on the same house about 5 weeks later.

Kiwanis of Skidaway member Howard Gandelot contributed this article. He has helped build 49 homes during his 11 years of service as a Habitat volunteer.

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Savannah Sommelier
The Savannah Bank
The Skinnie
TWATL
Wild Birds Unlimited

Questions about our Corporate Sponsor program? Contact Jeff Heeder today!



Club Events and Member News

Date	Upcoming Guest Speakers & Programs
March 7	Joe Marinelli, President, Visit Savannah Bill Hubbard, President & CEO, Chamber of Commerce <i>Topic: Our Role in Savannah's Future</i>
March 14	Trip Tollison, President & CEO, Savannah Economic Development Authority <i>Topic: Our Role in Savannah's Future</i>
March 21	Patrick Graham, Executive Director, Savannah Airport Authority <i>Topic: Our Role in Savannah's Future</i>
March 28	Lee Beckman, Manager, Legislative Affairs, Georgia Ports Authority <i>Topic: Our Role in Savannah's Future</i>

Upcoming Events...

- **New Member Orientation**—Thursday, **March 28**, immediately following our membership meeting.
Club contact: Keith Glenn
- **Kiwanis One Day of Service**—**Thursday, April 4** at America's Second Harvest. We will be boxing food packages.
Club contact: Gary Bocard
- **Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf**—**Friday-Sunday, April 26-28** at Savannah Harbor Golf Resort. We will be helping with cars before, during, and after the event.
Club contacts: Jim DiGiorio, Terry Overton
- **Concert on the Green**—**Sunday, May 5** at The Landings Association's athletic field.
Club contact: Jim Overton
- **Kid's Fishing Derby**—**Saturday, May 25**, at the Kids' Fishing Lagoon.
Club contact: Tom Rood



March Birthdays...

- **1st** Mark Forssell
- **2nd** Larry Wills
- **3rd** Gene McDonald
- **14th** Jerry Nusloch
- **17th** Millie Pitts DiCicco
- **20th** Jim Waterman

March Songs...

Betha Pingle and Mark Forssell are our songmeisters for March.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May sun shine warm upon your face,
the rains fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.



Photo credits: All new member and guest speaker photos taken by Melissa Emery.

Introducing 6 Newly Inducted Members!



Left column, top-bottom, L-R (sponsor, new member, Club president Dan Umbel):

- Chuck Beck introduced Phil Van Ess
- Gene McDonald introduced Tom Stephens
- Jim Waterman introduced Bob Chandler
- Jim Buerle introduced Mack Webner

Above, top-bottom (sponsor, new member, Club president Dan Umbel):

- Ery Hietbrink introduced Charlie Arraiz
- Bruce Schneidewind introduced Tom Horner

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Photo Gallery

February's Literary Line Up



Guest Speakers for February

(Left column, top to bottom)

☞ **Robin Gold**, CEO, Savannah Book Festival

☞ **Jack Ramanos**, Former CEO, Simon & Schuster

☞ **Mike Trainor**, Publisher, Savannah Morning News

(and below)

☞ **David Harper**, Fortune 500 Consultant on Organizational Transformation



Thanks to Mark Toth for organizing such a fantastic speaker program for February! If you'd like to recommend a speaker for a future meeting, please contact Bob Norton.

KIWANIS CLUB OF SKIDAWAY

600 Landings Way South
Savannah, GA 31411

www.kiwanisofskidaway.com

**GA District Lt. Governor**

Allen Rassi

2012/13 Board Officers

- President – Dan Umbel
- Past President – Greg Stinson
- President-Elect – Melissa Emery
- VP-Secretary – Ron Weber
- VP-Treasurer – Jay Ahrens

Board of Directors

- **Terms expiring 2013**
Gary Hughes, Frank McCarthy, Jim O'Malley
- **Terms expiring 2014**
Jeff Heeder, Jim Overton, Tom Sayers
- **Terms expiring 2015**
Joyce Glenn, Frank Liebgott, Bob Norton

Board Advisor: Tom Sharp

Club Administration:

- Attendance Reception – Jack Hart
- Attendance Records – Gary Brewer
- Auditor – Roger Nord
- Awards – Dan Umbel
- Club Historian – TBD
- District/Division Reports – Ron Weber
- Education/Orientation – Keith Glenn
- Fundraising – Bob Norton
- Human/Spiritual Service – Rev. Jim Giddens
- Inter-Club – TBD
- Kiwanigram – Jan Wright
- Legal Counsel – Bob Schivera
- Marketing – Frank Liebgott
- Membership – Greg Stinson
- New Member Experience – Joyce Glenn
- Photography – Melissa Emery
- Programs/Speakers – Bob Norton
- Publicity/Website – Frank Liebgott
- Safety – Jack Sherrill
- Social & Trips – Dave Fox
- Sunshine – Gwen Leathley

2012/13 Fundraising Committees:

- **Chili Cook-Off** (November 3, 2012)
Marianne Schutz, Jim Overton
- **Pancake Breakfast** (February 9)
Chris Butler, Matt Price
- **Legends of Golf** (April)
Jim DiGiorgio, Terry Overton
- **Concert on the Green** (May 5)
Jim Overton
- **Corporate Sponsors & Partners Program** – Jeff Heeder
- **Dollars for Doers** – Jim O'Malley
- **Show the Colors** – Keith Glenn
- **50/50 Raffle** – Marianne Schutz

2012/13 Volunteer Services to Community**Agencies:**

- America's Second Harvest – Gary Bocard
- Bethesda Academy – Gary Hughes
- Bethesda Key Club – Tom Morrisett
- CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates for Children) – Charlie O'Brien
- Childhood Cancer Family Support – Jim Beurle
- Coastal Children's Advocacy Center – Skip Salus
- Early Childhood Education – Tom Sharp
- ELIMINATE (Eliminate Maternal & Neonatal Tetanus) – Gene McDonald
- Greenbriar – Gene McDonald
- Habitat for Humanity – Howard Gandelot
- Horizons – Greg Stinson
- Horsin' Around – Pete Liptrot
- Interfaith Hospitality Network – Mark Forssell
- Junior Achievement – Steve Duesler
- Kids Cafe – Gary Bocard
- Kids Fishing Program – Tom Rood
- Landings Military Family Relief Fund – Lou Molella, Jack Munroe
- Library for the Blind – Dave Wyland
- L.O.V.E. (Local Outreach Volunteer Educators) – Joyce Glenn
- Mediation Center – Jerry Nusloch
- Mighty 8th Air Force Museum – Tom McMullin
- Music Medicine Institute – Elizabeth Jacobi
- Notre Dame Academy – Gary Bocard
- Park Place Outreach – Jack Hart, Jim Overton
- Red Cross Blood Drive – Chris Britten
- Savannah Friends of Music – Melissa Emery
- Social Apostolate – Bob Egan
- Special Olympics – Bob Reinhard
- Telfair Museum – Jack Neises
- The Salvation Army – Ron Morris
- Wesley Community Centers of Savannah – Jan Wright
- Youth Challenge Academy – Jack Huber

***Kiwanis Club of Skidaway** is dedicated to helping the disadvantaged and at-risk children of the greater Savannah community. Since our Club was established in 1988, our members have volunteered over 300,000 service hours and raised and distributed over \$1.2 million to agencies that provide services to these children and their families.*

***Friends of Kiwanis Club of Skidaway:** If you would like to receive an email copy of our monthly Kiwanigram newsletter, please contact our Editor, Jan Wright (vjanw@comcast.net).*