

KIWANIGRAM of SKIDAWAY



President's Message

January 2014

Dear fellow Kiwanians,

A new year will be upon us in just a few days. Once again, every time we write a check, we'll have to stop and think for a second, what year is this again? 2014? Has it really been 14 years since we were all afraid our technology

would crash and all elevators would stop as the clock hit midnight and we entered the year 2000?

January is a time for resolutions. Several years ago, having failed to ever keep a resolution, I resolved to stop making resolutions, but I can't even keep that one. Here are a few resolutions I'd like you to consider as a member of the Kiwanis Club of Skidaway:

1. Find a new member for our club. There are lots of folks who might just be waiting for someone to ask them to come to a meeting and see what Kiwanis is like. We do good things and we have fun—let a friend see that by inviting him or her along.
2. Make a donation of any size to our Kiwanis Foundation. This is the fund that serves as an "endowment" for our club's donations to kids. We are able to give the interest on this account to the agencies we support, so every addition to this account helps local kids and will continue to do so over the years.

3. Get involved with one of our agencies, if you haven't already. There is a long list of needs, and every one of our members should be involved with at least one agency. You have a lot to offer our local kids.

4. Come to more meetings. We have members we see very rarely, and we miss you!

5. Consider a leadership position in our club. You might head up an event, join our board, take over the songs for a month, find some speakers, help with set-up. There are jobs large and small that need your participation.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas, and a happy, healthy, and active 2014!

- Melissa

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Pat Cummiskey and Chuck Ortmann came out on December 13 to show their support for our club's Over the Edgers.

KIWANIS
CLUB of SKIDAWAY



Fundraising News

Pancakes Help Kids!

It's seven in the morning and a wonderful smell drifts through the door and finds its way into the meeting hall of Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church. At first, you have no idea why in the world you are up so early on a Saturday morning, but then the smell really registers. You know that smell. You love that smell. That smell brings back fond memories of friends and family gathering together. It is the smell of freshly made pancakes just waiting for you! And there, on the table, all fluffy and warm, are the homemade pancakes you have been dreaming about! And, they are by far the best pancakes you will ever have in your life!

Why are they the best pancakes you ask? Is there a special ingredient that makes these the best ever? No, what makes these pancakes the best ever is that they were made by the volunteers of Kiwanis to share with the community; all for the common goal of supporting our neediest children of Chatham County.

So mark your calendar for the 21st annual Kiwanis pancake breakfast! The breakfast will be held on, February 8, at Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church. The fun begins at 7 a.m. with ceremonial flip of the first pancake by Club President, Melissa Emery, and the serving line will close at 11 a.m.

As always, tickets are \$10 if purchased before the event and \$12 at the door. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or a book of 8 for \$10. The Pancake Committee is working diligently on securing some amazing raffles, so stay tuned for details! There will be great prizes from local merchants and much, much more!

Important Pancake Dates

- January 9th—Don't forget that we are doing a raffle ticket pre-sale....Kiwanis members who sell raffle tickets between now and January 9th will be entered into a "members only" raffle for a \$50 restaurant gift certificate! Bring your cash and ticket stubs to the meeting on the 9th!
- And also on January 9th—Each member will receive their allotment of tickets to sell. Let's broaden our exposure for all of the great work we do by inviting some of our off-island friends to join the fun! We need each one of our Kiwanis members to sell their allotted number of meal tickets and raffle tickets. If you can't sell your tickets, please don't return them to us but instead purchase them and donate the tickets to the Club. We will find a good use for the tickets.
- January 16th—Volunteers are reminded that there will be a meeting on January 16th at 9am or following the conclusion of our weekly meeting! If you would like to participate in this fun event, please make arrangements to join us on the 16th.
- February 8th—The big day! **Pancakes, Pancakes, Pancakes!**

The Pancake Breakfast is one of three major community events that our Club does each year. It's a great source of revenue, and we rely heavily on it to help fund our Club's donations to local organizations.

If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact us! We are co-chairs for the Pancake Breakfast and will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

- Cecilia Russo, Chris Swanson & Matt Spencer
Pancake Breakfast co-chairs



Over the Edge for Boy Scouts & Kiwanis

- Special to the Kiwanigram from Matt Spencer

Savannah's first-ever Over the Edge event has mobilized over \$58,000 in donations and counting. Proceeds are split 50/50 between Boy Scouts of the Coastal Empire and other participating agencies. So far, Kiwanis of Skidaway has raised nearly \$700. Club members may continue to make donations online at www.otesavannah.org or by check (payable to Boy Scouts) turned in by our January 9 meeting. Thanks to all who have participated in what I hope is our club's dry run for even greater success next year!



Pancake Breakfast



Saturday, February 8
7 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Skidaway Island
Presbyterian Church
Contact Cecilia Russo, 352-7977 or
Christine Swanson, 598-2999

\$10, kids under 8 free
(\$12 at the door)
Tickets available from any Kiwanian,
at Smith's service window,
and www.kiwanisofskidaway.com

Proceeds benefit at-risk kids

Sponsor Update

Please join me in thanking these sponsors for renewing their sponsorship for FY2013-2014:

- Bernard Williams Insurance
- Comfort Keepers
- Jalapeños
- Merrill Lynch Wealth Management
- The Savannah Bank
- Wild Birds Unlimited

Sponsors are very important partners in our club's fundraising efforts to help Savannah's at-risk children. Be sure to thank these businesses—and all of our sponsors—when you have the opportunity.

- Jeff Heeder, chairman
Corporate Sponsor program
598-3457, jeffrey.heeder@suntrust.com

Agency News

The Salvation Army

- Special to the Kiwanigram from Ron Morris

Please accept my personal thank you and that of our Savannah Salvation Army for another great year of bell ringing. We gathered each day from Dec. 2 through Dec. 7 at Belk's entrance leading into the Oglethorpe Mall, and "rang" bells from 10AM until 8PM. As usual, each day produced a gamut of human relations experiences, ranging from someone dropping pennies in the red kettle to that unexpected moment when a mother, leading three to four pre-school children, reached into her purse and placed a ten-dollar bill into our hand and cheerfully said, "Merry Christmas!" It tugs your heart!

Our paddles were a hit once again, with most people exclaiming frustration at the political correctness we experience these days, with no real bells allowed. But our paddles sure help break the ice and bring smiles to most faces.

Traffic was slow this year, and giving was down. This was echoed across the city. For our six days, we collected a total of \$3,046.19 for The Salvation Army. This is the lowest total in the last eight years and might speak to the economy, for the most part.

Once again, our Kiwanis efforts are really appreciated. And please let me add that I really appreciate all of you who participate. Thanks again.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Armstrong Circle K

Greetings from Armstrong Circle K! First, we'd like to say thank you for your club's continuous support.

We appreciate everything you do and are very excited to continue working with you all to serve our community.

This was our first fall semester as an official student organization at Armstrong, and we have made a lot of progress. We now have twelve official club members, as well as many other students who participate in



(L-R): Pam & Tom Rood outside Belk



our community service activities. We look forward to expanding our membership even more in the spring semester.

This fall, we participated in several events on campus, we volunteered at two different events at the Oatland Island Wildlife Center, and six club members taught Junior Achievement at White Bluff Elementary School. For the upcoming semester, we've planned partnerships with both the Red Cross and the Broad Street YMCA, as well as work with another student organization, Autism Speaks.

Finally, we'd like to say a huge thank you to our new club advisor and member of the Skidaway Kiwanis club, Julie Gerbsch. She's done a wonderful job helping us to grow and increase our involvement on campus and in the community, and we truly appreciate all the work she does!

Thank you again for all of your support and Happy Holidays!

Rebekah Robinson
Armstrong Circle K Club President

Thanks for Serving the Children of Savannah, One Child at a Time

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Coastal Georgia

Dear Kiwanis Club members,

Thank you for your donation to Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). Our mission is "to offer help, hope, and hospitality to homeless families with children." Thanks to your generosity and the support of others like you, we are able to do that 365 days a year. As families continue to be the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, IHN works to alleviate the effect that homelessness has on the children.

Your donation will help to support the services and programs of IHN to help these families and their children regain their independence, transition back into the community, and live healthy and productive lives. On behalf of the children whose lives will be changed forever, we thank you for your support and generosity.

Thank you to the committee and all members. Your gift will change the lives of homeless families with children.

Sincerely,

LaVanda Brown, M.Ed., Executive Director
www.ihsav.org, www.facebook.com/interfaithsavannah

Note: If you would like to visit IHN, plan to attend their Open House on February 13 (12:30 p.m.) or March 13 (6:30 p.m.). For more information, contact Mark Forsell.

"I encourage you all to visit an agency this year that you haven't yet seen in action."

- Melissa Emery, in her November 2013 message

Wesley Community Centers of Savannah

Dear Members of the Kiwanis Club of Skidaway,

It was a pleasure to attend this year's 2013 Annual Agency Awards & Installation Breakfast this morning. I enjoyed the program and spending time with you all. On behalf of Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, I write to thank you the Kiwanis Club of Skidaway for your donation.

Each year Wesley serves more than 7,800 homeless and low-income women, children, and families. Our numerous programs including quality early childcare, youth services, and a Women's Center (day shelter, emergency assistance, adult education, career clothing closet and more) all work together to provide short- and long-term solutions out of poverty. We could not do this work without your support. Thank you again for your dedication to this community.

We are truly grateful for your support.

Kind regards,

Tammy A.K. Mixon, Executive Director
www.wesleyctrs-savh.org
www.facebook.com/pages/Wesley-Community-Centers-of-Savannah-Inc/196998193186

For more information about The Eliminate Project, see <http://sites.kiwanis.org/Kiwanis/en/theELIMINATEproject/home.aspx> or talk to Gene McDonald.



Georgia District Calendar

February 21-23	Circle "K" District Convention - Peachtree City, Ga
Feb 28 - March 2	Key Club District Convention - St. Simons Island, Ga
March 1-3	Key Club District Convention - Atlanta, Ga
March 8	Mid-Winter Training Conference - Macon, Ga
March 21-23	Key-Leader Conference FAA - Covington, Ga
April 26	District Art & Music Showcase Finals - Carrollton, Ga
May 2-4	Lt. Gov. Elect only Training - Albany, Ga
May 16-17	Lt. Gov. Spring Board Retreat - Macon, Ga
July 17-20	Kiwanis International Convention - Tokyo, Japan
August 15-17	Georgia District Convention - Savannah, Ga



Club & Members News

Date	January Guest Speakers
January 2	No Meeting —Happy New Year!
January 9	ZaDonna Slay , Executive Director, Savannah/Chatham Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
January 16	Gregg Schroeder , President & CEO, United Way of the Coastal Empire
January 23	Lois Modell , Executive Director, Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision
January 30	Liz Longshore-Stephens , Executive Director, MedBank Foundation

Upcoming Events

- **Pancake Breakfast Pre-Sale Raffle Drawing**
Thursday, January 9, during our membership meeting.
Contacts: Cecilia Russo, Christine Swanson, and Matt Spencer
- **Club Board Meeting**
Monday, January 13, starting at 8:15 a.m.
Contact: Ron Weber
- **Pancake Breakfast Volunteers**
Thursday, January 16, starting at 9 a.m.
Contacts: Cecilia Russo, Christine Swanson, and Matt Spencer
- **Junior Achievement Training**
Thursday, January 16, starting at 9 a.m.
Contact: Tom Stephens
- **Take a Chance on Kids Drawing**
Thursday, January 30, we will draw our \$500 winner for January during our membership meeting.
Contact: Tom Sharp
- **New Member Orientation**
Thursday, January 30, immediately following our membership meeting.
Contact: Keith Glenn
- **Pancake Breakfast**
Saturday, February 9. 7a.m.-11a.m. at Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church
Contact: Cecilia Russo, Christine Swanson, Matt Spencer
- **Show the Colors**
Presidents Day is Monday, February 17. We will be installing flags shortly before and removing them after the holiday. Volunteers wanted!
Contact: Keith Glenn and Phil van Ess

January Birthdays

- Jan 3—Toni McBride
- Jan 4—Charles Sitrin
- Jan 7—Tim Athey
- Jan 11—John Geraghty
- Jan 14—Jerry Beets
- Jan 15—Greg Stinson
- Jan 17—Pat Cummiskey

Membership Milestones for January*

- 1 year—Susan Disney-Greenberg, Bill & Trish Shanahan, Amy Utlej
- 3 years—Kelly Bouchillon
- 4 years—Jim Overton
- 5 years—Jacqui Donovan, John Fishburne, John Geraghty, Ali Rahini
- 7 years—Gary Hughes
- 12 years—Terry Overton
- 16 years—Bob Reinhard
- 25 years—Jim Giddens

*Data provided by Kiwanis International. If you were a member of another club before joining our club, please let us know and we will update our records.

Happy
New Year!



Kiwanis International

2013-14 Distinguished Programs

Members/Clubs/Divisions/Districts

BASED ON THE SIX OBJECTS OF KIWANIS,
THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE AND THE ELIMINATE PROJECT

	CLUB	CRITERIA	★
MEMBERSHIP	Membership Growth Existing Clubs	Did the club have a net increase in membership? <i>A club must be at charter strength, 15 or more members to qualify.</i>	★
	New Club Growth Initiative	Did the club sponsor or co-sponsor a new Kiwanis club?	★
	Leadership Education	Did the club's officers participate in Club Leadership Education?	★
	Conference Attendance	Was the club represented by a member at one Division meeting and one of the following: Mid-year-or Zone - Conference, District- or Regional-Convention or Kiwanis International Convention?	★
SERVING THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD	Local Community Service	Did the club provide service projects or programs for children of the community?	★
	Global Community Service	Did the club support the Eliminate Project and or the Kiwanis International Foundation?	★
	Service Leadership Programs	Did the club sponsor a Service Leadership Program or contribute to the District/Nation foundation?	★
Mark the reached stars! The club must have 6 stars out of 7 to be a <i>Distinguished Club</i> Distinguished Clubs receive: President lapel pin, Distinguished Club banner patch and certificate			Total Stars
Division must have 1 new club at minimum, plus net increase in membership to be a <i>Distinguished Division</i>. Divisions achieving distinguished status will receive: Distinguished Lt. governor lapel pin.			
District must have a net increase in membership and achieve a ranking in the top 25% of all districts in each region to be a <i>Distinguished District</i>. Districts achieving distinguished status will receive: Distinguished Governor and Secretary lapel pin, Distinguished District Certificate, and special recognition during the 2015 Kiwanis International Convention. Presidential Citation Certificate will be awarded to the top 25% of all district and Kiwanis nations not achieving Distinguished District status.			
Distinguished Member must sponsor 2 new members and participate in 2 Kiwanis service projects. Distinguished Members will receive a letter from the 2013-14 Kiwanis International President and a Distinguished Member lapel pin.			

CHILI COOK-OFF

What a Great Competition!



(Above L-R):

- **Sandfly Bar-B:** 1st place Judges' and People's Choice awards (restaurant division)
- **Deer Creek Club:** 1st place Judges' and People's Choice awards (commercial division)

Left:

- **Jalapenos:** 1st place Hottest Chili and Best Presentation awards (restaurant division)

Below (L-R):

- **Smith's:** 1st place Presidents' award (commercial division)
- **Merrill Lynch:** 1st place Hottest Chili award and runner-up Judges' award (commercial division)



CHILI COOK-OFF



(Above L-R):

- **Plantation Club:** 1st place Best Presentation and runner-up Presidents' award (commercial division)
- **Texas Roadhouse:** 1st place Presidents award and runner-up People's Choice award (restaurant division)

Left:

- **Starfish Cafe:** Presidents' award runner-up (restaurant division)

Below (L-R):

- **Brasserie 529:** Judges' award runner-up (restaurant division)
- **Raffle Time:** President Melissa Emery, Susan Disney-Greenberg, and Christine Swanson pull the winning raffle tickets
- **The Marshes of Skidaway** serves up a tasty sample



Thanks to all our competitors for helping to help Savannah's at-risk children!

KIWANI GALLERY



Above: Prominently placed placards at our Chili Cook-Off promote our sponsors and show our appreciation for their generous support.

Below: Judges' tables.



Photo credits this issue

**Over the Edge (p 1): Melissa Emery
Salvation Army (p 3): Ron Morris
Chili Cook-Off: (pp 7-9): Dick Glover
Dec. 19 Meeting (p 9): Keith Glenn**

December 19 Breakfast Meeting



Clockwise from above: Devon Smyth (Director of Family Ministries, SIUMC), Matt Hines (Minister of Youth/Education, SIBC), and Sam Henderson (Interim Pastor, SIPC) share special Christmas messages on December 19.



Below (standing): Pancake Breakfast co-chair Matt Spencer works a packed meeting room to kick off raffle ticket pre-sales.



VALUED SPONSORS

Diamond Sponsors

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Bronze Sponsors

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Bronze Sponsors

Savannah Sommelier
The Savannah Bank
The Skinnie
TWATL
Wild Birds Unlimited
Zipperer Land Management

Corporate Sponsors are very important partners for our Club and 100% of their donations are used to help children. Annual donation levels are \$3,000 for Diamond sponsors, \$2,000 for Gold sponsors, \$1,500 for Silver sponsors, and \$750 for Bronze sponsors. Kiwanis Club of Skidaway recognizes our sponsors through publicity at fundraising events, at membership meetings, on our website, and in our monthly Kiwanigram, and provides complimentary general admission tickets to our Chili Cook-Off, Pancake Breakfast, and Concert on the Green fundraising events as a gesture of appreciation for their support.

For more information about the Corporate Sponsor program, contact Jeff Heeder (jeffrey.heeder@suntrust.com). Sponsor application forms are also available at www.kiwanisofskidaway.com/sponsors.

GA District Lt. Gov. – Tom Crankshaw

2012/13 Board Officers

- **President** – Melissa Emery
- **Past President** – Dan Umbel
- **President-Elect** – Bob Norton
- **VP-Secretary** – Ron Weber
- **VP-Treasurer** – Jay Ahrens

Board of Directors

- **Terms expiring 2014:**
Jeff Heeder, Jim Overton, Tom Sayers
- **Terms expiring 2015:**
Joyce Glenn, Frank Liebgott
- **Terms expiring 2016:**
Chris Butler, Ben Gustafson, Phil van Ess, Jan Wright
- **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
- Dollars for Doers – Dan Umbel
- Education/Orientation – Keith Glenn
- Fundraising – Bob Norton
- Human/Spiritual Service – Rev. Jim Giddens
- Inter-Club – TBD
- Kiwanigram – Jan Wright
- Legal Counsel – Bob Schivera
- Marketing & PR – Frank Liebgott
- Membership – Greg Stinson
- New Member Experience – Joyce Glenn
- Photography – Keith Glenn, Dick Glover
- Programs/Speakers – Ben Gustafson
- Safety – Jack Sherrill
- Social & Trips – Dave Fox
- Sunshine – Gwen Leathley
- Website – Jan Wright

2013-2014 Fundraising Committees

- **Chili Cook-Off** (November 2, 2013) – Bruce Custis, Jim Overton
- **Pancake Breakfast** (February 8) – Cecilia Russo, Christine Swanson, and Matt Spencer
- **Concert on the Green** (May 4) – Frank Liebgott
- **Corporate Sponsors Program** – Jeff Heeder
- **Show the Colors** – Keith Glenn, Phil van Ess
- **Take a Chance for Kids** – Tom Sharp

Volunteer Service to Community Agencies

- America's Second Harvest – Gary Bocard
- Armstrong Circle K Club – Frank McCarthy and Chris Aiken
- Backpack Buddies – Tim Baldwin
- Bethesda Academy – Gary Hughes
- Bethesda Key Club – TBD
- CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates for Children) – Charlie O'Brien
- Childhood Cancer Family Support – Jim Beurle
- Coastal Children's Advocacy Center – Skip Salus
- Corporate Academy—Jack Sherrill
- 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 – Tom Stephens
- 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
- Music Medicine Institute – Elizabeth Jacobi
- National Museum of the Mighty 8th Air Force – Tom McMullin
- Notre Dame Academy – Gary Bocard
- Park Place Outreach – Jack Hart, Jim Overton
- Performance Initiatives – Jeff Heeder
- Red Cross Blood Drive – Chris Britten
- Savannah Friends of Music – Melissa Emery
- Savannah Philharmonic – Julie Gerbsch
- Social Apostolate – Bob Egan
- Special Olympics – Bob Reinhard
- Telfair Museum – TBD
- The Salvation Army – Ron Morris
- Wesley Community Centers of Savannah – Jan Wright
- Youth Challenge Academy – Keith Glenn, Pete Liptrot

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 \$1.3 million to agencies that provide services to these children and their families.

KIWANIS CLUB OF SKIDAWAY

600 Landings Way South
Savannah, GA 31411
www.kiwanisofskidaway.com