



"The Downtowner"

KIWANIS CLUB OF ROCHESTER, Rochester, MN

www.kiwanisroch.org

July 12, 2019 Coming Programs

July 18 (Irv Nehring) Kristin Mannix interim director of Rochester's Elder Network

July 25 (Paul Austinson)

Aug 29

The availability of low cost housing continues to be a serious issue in Rochester. Aaron Wager, the Pastor of Bear Creek Church will be presenting a plan their church is pursuing to address this problem. (McClocklin)



The Circle for July is: Charlie Graham, Irv Nehring, and Paul Austinson.

(Circles should send Clare their programs as quickly as possible so they can be included in the **Downtowner**.) It helps if **one** person reports for the entire circle. **The Circle for August is Colleen Maddox, Paul Austinson and Bob McClocklin.**

Stay alert for signup opportunities online at www.kiwanisroch.org

Significant Expenses since last issue: None except regular cost of meals averages about \$230/week. However, we are reminded that due to meals not eaten or paid for means that our intake is about an average of \$180/week. We can charge some speakers and guest meals to the CE account, but not all. No problem today, but keep in mind the difference. How will we make up the difference?



Children's Book and Reading Project Review

Our club's participation

in the Kiwanis Children's Reading Project for 2018 – 2019 resulted in 150 books given to preschool children, ages 3 – 5, in Rochester. This reading project is a partnership between Kiwanis Clubs and the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF) who provides all the books.

The following daycare centers children were read to and each given a book by members of our club:

Meadow Park Day Care Center - children	32
Civic League Day Nursery - children	50
Rochester YMCA Early Childhood - children	31
Good News Children's Center - children	37

Thank you to our club's volunteers who read to children one time or more this past year. They are Mary Tompkins, Linda Hull, Cindy Kerr, Dan Carlson, Bonnie Schultz, Colleen Landherr Maddox, Al Lun & Dick Weltzin.

Some historical information about this project. It began about 8 years ago, when Stewart Ross of Mankato, came to club meetings in the district and asked for participation in a partnership with

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SMIF. Our club approved going forward. This year past year, 2018 -19, SMIF provided 5000 to the participating clubs. In the prior year, 6000 books were provided.

For the past 8 years, our club has had between 150 to 200 books that we have been responsible for distributing in our community.

As one of our primary service projects, this means that well over a thousand children have received a book because a Rochester Kiwanis member took time to read to them and give them a new book. **Thank you to everyone who has participated over the years!**

Project Coordinator – Bonnie Schultz



Al Lun
Shared an invitation from the Diversity Council to attend the fund raising

dinner at the Markt Platz next Wednesday July 17. The Diversity Council is requesting support for their fundraising event. Given that Dee and Diversity Council have given quite a bit of their time to talk to our club and have offered future effort to help our area's clubs to be more inclusive, He is suggesting we support as follows:

1. Our club sends one of our co-presidents to this event by either fully paid or subsidizing the ticket of \$65.
 2. Our club to donate up to \$300 to support the Diversity Council at the event.
- More information can be found on the website dees@diversitycouncil.org

*****It was voted at the meeting to send a check for \$250 for their support.**



Fred Krebsbach was speaker on July 11. He is originally a farmer just over the IA border, and eventually a long time employee of IBM. His topic was about his experience in the military in Viet Nam.

We all know the controversy of the war then, and the way some of the soldiers were treated back home.

(Personal Opinion: Fred's stories and the writing of the book, were some symptoms of what would be considered PTSD today)

He is a very good speaker and speaks from the heart. He felt that troops were sent over there as 'individuals', not as a cohesive group. Hence they always felt that they were on their own. A major help in his learning to live with the experience was to write a book about it. Fred had a pile of the books with him which he passed out to those who wanted. Then he was personally signing them.

It was a tough story to tell, hear, and ponder. Most of us know other soldiers of that war that don't offer to talk about it. War is tragic and sad for those who are the targets and those waging the action. Lacking a clear goal and cohesiveness among the troops makes it even tougher. Thanks to Fred for sharing this perspective. We need to hear it.

*******If you are interested in the Summer Fruit Sale, go to:**
www.teenhopeministries.org
Recommended by Colleen.

Let's lighten up a bit.....

Wait, wait... you're telling me...



If I pee in the yard, I get a TREAT?

We need to work on your KISSING skills!



Anger management:
When angry with someone,
it helps to sit down and
think about the problem...



**But...But...my paws ARE still on the ground,
so technically, I am not on the furniture!**

Thank you note from Bolder Options:
Kiwanis Club of Rochester,
When we came to speak to you about
our Bolder Options program, we were just
thrilled to share information. The more we
can help each other is the community, the
better. So, thank you for that opportunity
and of course, thank you for the \$300
donation. Some kids will get a bike with
that!

Thanks, Bolder Option