

The Bulletin

The Kiwanis Club of Columbus



"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world - one child and one community at a time."

“Great yesterday, better today, better still tomorrow!”

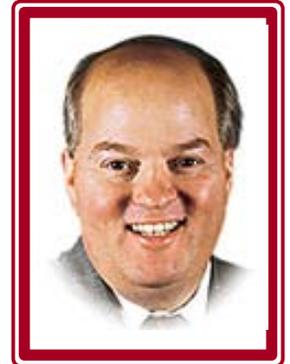
Noon to 1 p.m. luncheon meeting at The Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215

May 21, 2012



Benjamin J. Marrison

Editor, Columbus Dispatch



The Columbus Dispatch was founded in June 1871 by a group of 10 printers, with \$900 in financial capital. They published their first issue, a four-page paper with a cost of four cents per copy, as *The Daily Dispatch* on July 1, 1871. It has been the only mainstream daily newspaper in the city since *The Columbus Citizen Journal* stopped printing in 1985.

A native of Ashtabula, Ohio, Ben Marrison began his journalism career in Toledo at *The Blade*, covering numerous beats, including Toledo City Hall, the utility industry, county government and non-profit agencies.

He left Toledo for Cleveland in 1990, to begin working for *The Plain Dealer*. He began working in the suburbs exploring fraud and abuse in various municipalities and within 18 months was promoted to cover City Hall. There he exposed widespread abuses of city government, including theft by city council members and contract steering by the mayor and his staff. He was assigned to the Columbus bureau of *The Plain Dealer* in October, 1994 and was named bureau chief in January 1996.

He became editor in November, 1999 as Managing Editor/News. In that position, he led the newspaper's news-gathering and story production on a day-to-day basis.

Marrison is a 1985 graduate of Bowling Green State University, majoring in journalism. He has won awards for investigative reporting and feature writing. He is past president of the Associated Press Society of Ohio, is a member of the Bowling Green State University Hall of Fame and its Journalism Alumni Board and is a member of the Advisory Board of the Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs Journalism at The Ohio State University.

Marrison and his wife, Ellen, live in Pickerington with their four children.

Today's Meeting

Greeters: **Linda Kay** - WesBanco Trust & Investment Services
Jonathan Moody - Moody / Nolan Inc.

Invocation: **Perry Fisher**- Perry Fisher Co.

Committee meetings: Music & Arts, Youth Opportunity,
Young Children Priority One

Menu: **House salad, pan seared chicken, red pepper
coulis**

Presentation: Central Community House

Next Two Weeks at a Glance

Birthdays:

05/22 – **Mark Sweptson**

05/25 – **Jim Skidmore**

06/01 – **Susan Black**

06/01 – **Joyce Bourgault**

06/03 – **Alan Weiler**



Monday - 05/28 – Memorial Day – no meeting

Thursday – 05/25/1953 – The first public television station in the United States officially began broadcasting as KHUT from the campus of the University of Houston.

President's Corner



I heard the clicking and clacking of my dead battery that cold February winter morning in 1996, but I couldn't believe it. I had to be at the airport to catch a flight for an important meeting, and now I was stuck. I grabbed my bags and made my way four blocks over to the bus station, where a line of cabs sat, coaxing the sun to somehow rise again. The first cabbie was sound asleep and didn't stir when I tapped on his door. I looked to the second in line, a red, white and blue model, with "Chief's Cab" scrawled on the side. I blinked. Twice. The spitting image of Uncle Sam was opening the passenger door and motioning me to get in – he had long, flowing white hair, a small goatee and a stars and stripes bicycle cap. "Hop on in," he said. I told him I needed to get to the airport quick. He only grunted.

Ten minutes later, he spoke. "Once, an uptight fella from New York got in my cab. 'I'll give you a \$50 tip if you can get me to Detroit Metro in 15 minutes or less' he said. 'Okay' I said. I did what he wanted. He was sorry. I topped out at 125 miles per hour. He was white like a ghost. He didn't know I flew planes in WWII. Driving a taxi is nothing like flying planes. Hey, do you know how old I am?" "Not for sure," I responded.

"You know why you don't know? Because I'm an Indian – I'm one half Cherokee, quarter Sioux, quarter Irish – the Irish is how I learned to dance. My name is Benny White Eagle, but you can call me Chief." I watched the speedometer creep to 90. "So, you served in the war Mr. White Eagle?" I asked nervously.

"Yes. I was on an Allied base in Germany where we kept Prisoners of War – we treated them well. Good food. Good clean quarters. We just wanted the war to end. There was a German Sergeant. Have you ever met a German Sergeant?" "No," I said. All I could think of was "Hogan's Heroes," but I kept quiet.

Chief continued. "This German Sergeant's name was Schatzie. He was a good man. He and I would always talk at dinner. He would say two words and every other German prisoner would fall in line. We talked about our families. You know, I told him – 'I've got 12 kids.' Know why? It's the quickest way I can get my land back! Then he would laugh. He had pictures of his son and two daughters he showed me. He always carried them with him."

"One night we were outside the barracks, talking about motorcycles. I had an idea. 'Why don't we ride around the camp.' I said. Schatzie got on and started to ride. We were both laughing. I remember thinking that if it wasn't for the war, we could be friends. But then something bad happened. Schatzie started to ride outside the camp. The gate was open for a truck to come in. He was looking over his shoulder saying, 'Something's wrong, Benny – I can't turn it – it won't stop.' He was escaping. If he escaped under my watch, I would have to serve out the rest of the war as a prisoner. I yelled for him to stop. He looked back and said he couldn't. I pulled my gun out and just as I was about to pull the trigger, a picture of his children appeared in my head. I put the gun down. Just then, he stopped. He got off the motorcycle and pushed it back to camp. 'I couldn't do that to you Benny', he said."

I looked at Chief in the rear view mirror. He was smiling through glistening eyes. "I just got back from seeing him in Europe – it was a 50-year party for the end of the war. He's a good man."

The speedometer hovered at 92. And we were coming in for our landing at Detroit Metro Airport, fine on time.

Today, there isn't a Memorial Day that doesn't go by when I don't think of Chief Benny White Eagle, with gratitude for his service and thanks for the story he shared. A great reminder that somehow human dignity also transcends space and time, and the life we save, often, is our own.

So many of our brave men and women in Kiwanis have also served, wearing the uniform of our country. So this Memorial Day, take just a moment to thank the members of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy for their commitment to service, and the freedom they provide us to be our best for our communities.

Club Trustees to meet ...

The May Trustee meeting of Kiwanis Club of Columbus will be held on Monday, May 21, at Barley's Smokehouse and Brew Pub (1130 Dublin Road). The meeting will begin at 6 p.m., but you are welcome to arrive early to enjoy one of the house specialties. You are also welcome to stay after the meeting to enjoy some additional fellowship and dinner.

Club Trustees and committee chairs are expected to attend, but the meeting is open to all members of the Club. Your input is welcome on all discussions and business decisions being deliberated that evening. If you will attend, please be sure to let Secretary **Paul Bohlman** know.

The history of Memorial Day ...



Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with more than two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War: A hymn published in 1867, "Kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet, carried the dedication, "To The Ladies of the South who are Decorating the graves of the Confederate Dead" (Source: Duke University's *Historic American Sheet Music, 1850-1920*).

While Waterloo, New York was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings; each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860's tapped into the general human need to honor our dead, and each contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated in General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, giving his official proclamation in 1868. It is not important who was the very first; what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.

Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, [LC-B8172- 6403 DLC (b&w film neg.)] Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868, by General Logan, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York, in 1873. By 1890, it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every state on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three-day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional, separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

*We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers, with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later, a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael, and when she returned to France, she made artificial red poppies to raise money for war-orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later, and Madam Guerin approached the Veterans of Foreign Wars for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922, the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later, their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms. Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red three-cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

Traditional observance of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

~~~ **Thank a Veteran** ~~~

## Remember, no meeting on May 28 ...

On Monday, May 28, our nation will be celebrating Memorial Day and we will not have a Kiwanis luncheon. But, that doesn't mean Kiwanis should be far from your mind.

Most of us will be enjoying our three-day weekend by going to parades, cook-outs, family get-togethers and the like. There will be plenty of opportunities to meet people and to talk about Kiwanis. And there is much to talk about: Great speakers every week; plenty of opportunities for hands-on community service; social events; networking opportunities; leadership opportunities; and much more. We are changing the world, one child and one community at a time. Why not ask a friend to a Monday meeting or an upcoming service project? You may be surprised at how anxious they are to get involved.

## 'Shred-it' Day set, again ...

Take two. WMCH-TV4 has re-scheduled the spring 'Shred-it' Day for Saturday, June 9, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shred-it will shred documents at the Jerome Schottenstein Center's Gray Parking Lots, located at the corner of Fred Taylor Drive and West Lane Avenue, on the Ohio State University campus.



This is a **drive-thru only** event; attendees will not get out of their cars. Vehicles will drive by Shred-It trucks, and event volunteers will remove boxes from cars to be loaded into Shred-It vehicles. Documents will be shredded on-site or shredded the same day at the Shred-it facility.

Kiwanis Club of Columbus will again be providing many of the volunteers to help run this event. We need your help in filling each of the three shifts, which will start at 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity for spouses, teen-aged children and potential members to get involved. Please contact Scott Doellinger at [sdoellinger@dgcolumbus.com](mailto:sdoellinger@dgcolumbus.com) to sign up, or call him at 614-255-0515.

## Annual Membership meeting ...

Two significant pieces of business were approved by the general membership of the Club at the annual membership meeting held Monday, May 14, as part of the regularly scheduled Club luncheon meeting:

- 1- **Jim Skidmore, Cindy Sturni, Stephanie Harris, Mark Poepelman** and **David Brainin** were elected as Club Trustees, to serve two-year terms running from October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2014.
- 2- Kiwanis Club of Columbus will commit to becoming a "Model Club" for the Kiwanis International Eliminate Project (\$130,000 over five years) and to set an internal goal of contributing \$250,000 over that same time period.

Why do they call it real estate?  
Is there such a thing as fake estate?

## Next week's meeting

(June 4, 2012)

**Speaker: Jim Foley** – President, Christo Rey High School

**Greeters: Joyce Bourgault**  
Helping Hands Health & Wellness Center

**Neil Distelhorst**  
Retired – Deloitte Touche

**Invocation: Donna Zuiderweg** - Columbus Metropolitan Library

**Committees:** Scholarship, Golf, Behavioral Health & Wellness

**Menu:** Smoked chicken Alfredo, roasted tomatoes, fettuccini

## Kiwanis Club of Columbus

P.O. Box 20334, Columbus, OH 43220-0334

**Phone:** 614-245-8617

**e-mail:** [office@columbuskiwanis.org](mailto:office@columbuskiwanis.org)

**website:** [www.columbuskiwanis.org](http://www.columbuskiwanis.org)

### CLUB OFFICERS

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Jamie Richardson | President        |
| Tim Barhorst     | Past President   |
| Lisa Jolley      | President-Elect  |
| Kathleen Roberts | Vice President   |
| Nick Tomashot    | Treasurer        |
| Paul Bohlman     | Secretary/Editor |

### CLUB TRUSTEES

|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| <b>2012</b>    | <b>2013</b>      |
| Jack D'Aurora  | Tom Hayden       |
| Lisa Jolley    | Kathleen Roberts |
| Brian Seitz    | Mareion Royster  |
| Troy Terakedis | David Timmons    |
| Nick Tomashot  | Joyce Waters     |

## Columbus Kiwanis Foundation

P.O. Box 20334, Columbus, OH 43220-0334

### FOUNDATION OFFICERS

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| S. Ronald Cook | President      |
| Alan Weiler    | Vice President |
| Jim Bechtel    | Treasurer      |
| Paul Bohlman   | Secretary      |

### FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Jamie Richardson | Lisa Jolley   |
| Kathleen Roberts | Mark Swepston |
| George Ruff      | Sam Vogel     |