

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

July 16, 2012



ANDREW ROBERTS

President, YMCA of Central Ohio



Andrew Roberts is the YMCA of Central Ohio's 17th president in the association's nearly 160-year history. Prior to joining the YMCA of Central Ohio, Roberts served as the Senior Resource Director for Y-USA Region 1 – Northeast, where he led a team of Resource Directors dedicated to providing world-class service to more than 240 YMCA's in the Northeastern United States. In this capacity, he also served on a number of important Y-USA initiatives, including the Living Our Cause body of work and the Impact Measurement Task Force.

As former CEO of the Greater Waterbury YMCA from 2003 through July 2009, Roberts was responsible for the strategic planning and operational management of the association. Over the course of his tenure, the Greater Waterbury YMCA experienced tremendous growth and community impact. His stewardship produced a healthy community institution that focused on implementing the YMCA mission in the Waterbury community. Roberts also served the larger YMCA community as Chairman of the Connecticut Alliance of YMCAs and Chairman of the Association of YMCA Professional's Employee Assistance Fund.

Roberts brings to the YMCA of Central Ohio an impressive record of executive leadership and knowledge of all aspects of operations in both the nonprofit and corporate sectors. Previously, he served as Vice President of Business Development and Marketing at Alloy, Inc. -- a \$270 million NASDAQ-listed company, where he led business development, marketing and revenue-generation activity. His other experiences include conducting financial and operational analyses for business clients as a management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Roberts also managed strategy and operations for Join Together, a foundation-sponsored national substance abuse resource center at the Boston University School of Public Health.

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### Today's Meeting

**Greeters: Okpara Rice**

Starr Columbus

**Sheri Reaze**

Ohio Center for Broadcasting

**Invocation: Kathleen Roberts**

Sweetbriar Group LLC

**Committee meetings:** Music & Arts, Youth Opportunity

**Menu:** House salad, pan-seared tilapia, pineapple salsa

### This week at a Glance

**Birthdays:**

07/16 – Joe Mesenberg

07/19 – Michael Griffith

07/21 – Andy White



**Sunday** – 07/15 – 5 p.m. – The stage play 'Transition' – Columbus Performing Arts Center

**Tuesday** – 07/17 – 7:05 p.m. Kiwanis Night at the Clippers

**Wednesday** – 07/18 – noon – Program Committee at OSU Golf Course Club house

## President's Corner



Jamie Richardson

In the summer of 1976, I was 10 years old, filled with high hopes and love of country as we all ticked down the days until the official celebration of the bicentennial. But even more than being filled with love of country, I was transfixed and transformed by my love of baseball and the Detroit Tigers. Growing up in a small town (Onsted, MI, pop. 552) there wasn't much in the way of entertainment as we know it now – it would be a good seven years until the founding of the Onsted Laundromat and Video store, and "Pong" hadn't even made it to our house at that point. But one thing I could always count on, burrowed deep beneath my covers to avoid detection, was the little transistor radio and accompanying ear plug, carrying across the great divide between Lenawee County and Detroit the voices of Ernie Harwell and Paul Carey.

The 1975 season was my true introduction to Tiger baseball. Or I should say to high hopes and big disappointments. That wasn't just a tough year for the team, it was miserable. Nineteen straight losses before eking out a win against the California Angels on a hot August night – my celebratory note of triumph greeted with the most paltry of shrugs from my family members, concerned with my intense devotion to such a losing team.

I knew 1976 would be different. I knew it in my bones. And it was, thanks to Mark Fidrych. It was my Aunt Lisa who first alerted me to his existence. She was as loyal to the Tigers as I was, and I could sense, even then, her almost quiet sadness about my seeming future of disappointment. She had read a story about a minor league player who, while primarily a pitcher, could play any position – that he hadn't been expected to make the cut in spring training, but in fact, was on the official roster and headed for Detroit. And then I kind of forgot about all that for a while. Things weren't looking great, but they were looking better – we had Rusty Staub, Ron LeFlore, Willie Horton, Mickey Stanley, John Hiller and a host of other hold outs and heroes from the glory days set to propel us back on the path to victory – at least from the vantage point of a 4<sup>th</sup> going on 5<sup>th</sup> grader who always saw the cup as half full, even if we were cellar dwellers in those days.

I'll never forget, like the rosy red fingers of dawn, my conscious realization that the same player my Aunt Lisa had mentioned around opening day, this Fidrych, was the same new young pitcher who pitched a gem of a game against the Texas Rangers in early June, right after the last day of school. That's no tribute to the power of my memory – I was sitting outside with my grandfather – the gentle summer breeze of an Irish Hills, Michigan evening, as he and I worked our way through brown checked wooden laminate cereal bowls chock full of Spanish

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Roberts holds a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University and a master's of management in human services from The Heller School at Brandeis University.

Roberts and his wife, Mimi, reside in Bexley, Ohio with their three children, Simone, Andre' and Derara.

peanuts, and then a bowl of Grape Nuts with Half and Half during the seventh inning stretch as we listened to Harwell and Carey call the game. It went 11 innings, and my 'Grandpa Earl' made one of his many prophetic calls as we take in the innings – 'bout time to wrap this one up' and sure enough, Harwell in perfect synch with the crack of the bat proclaimed that Ben Oglivie had scored and the Tigers had won the ball game.

My grandfather and I repeated this same exact scene the entire rest of the season, every game that Fidrych pitched. Surrounded by crickets, cool breezes, more bowls of those Spanish peanuts, silent and listening for every clue that might give us a half-second edge ahead of the call from Ernie or Paul – talking only to one another when the Marathon Oil and Superior Potato Chip commercials played to signify the close of another inning.

Well, that was the scene for almost every other game that Fidrych pitched. The one exception was June 28, when the Tigers played the Yankees at home, with the Bird on the mound and the game nationally televised on ABC's *Monday Night Baseball*. So, we didn't listen to it on the radio. But we didn't watch it on TV, either. We were there. God bless my Dad – he had scored tickets, so the three of us made the pilgrimage to join the 47,852 others at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull. The Bird took it to the mighty Yanks – and one hour and 51 minutes later, the would-be conquerers were vanquished by the Tigers and Mark Fidrych, 5-1.

Sitting along the third base line, looking down upon the Tigers dugout, I leapt to my feet, certain my exultation was the force driving the thousands of others to do the same. First, he raced off the field, like the gun had sounded for the hundred-yard dash. He stood, bouncing, a reception line of one, greeting Rodriguez, Veryzer, Thompson, LeFlore and every team mate as they ran his way - We watched him doff his cap, curls flailing, his entire face a smile, and wave – caught by surprise just as much as the rest of us that this was actually happening. And then he was gone, but none of us were going to let this moment pass. We were all on our feet, and then from somewhere off to my left I heard, "We Want the Bird!", "We Want the Bird!" In seconds, we were all shouting in unison, "We Want the Bird!" "We Want the Bird!", "We Want the

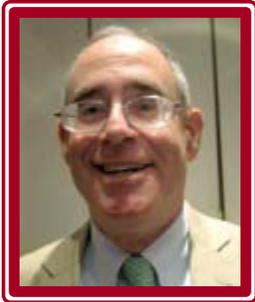
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## Celebrating 25 years ...

It was July of 1987 and the delegates at the Kiwanis International Convention were going to make a historic decision: Should they or shouldn't they break a 72-year-old tradition and allow women to join Kiwanis? We know the outcome of that historic vote, and 25 years later, we are reaping the benefits.



The Kiwanis Club of Columbus is proud to have had three women serve as Club President (**Kristen Sydney, Christy Clark and Char Collister**) with two more, **Lisa Jolley and Kathleen Roberts**, about to step into the position – Lisa on October 1, 2012 and Kathleen on October 1, 2013. Our Club's membership is presently 24% female.



## Ted Coons honored at Kiwanis International Convention ...

It is called the Kiwanis International Presidential Humanitarian Award and Kiwanis International President Alan Penn presented five of these awards at this year's International convention held in New Orleans. The Humanitarian award is given to an individual who, through their work within their local club, division or district, has performed humanitarian acts this year.

Past Club President and past Ohio Governor **Theodore (Ted) Coons** was one of the five people honored. Ted was recognized for his outstanding work with the Kiwanis Ohio District Foundation and the Eliminate Project. Ted has spearheaded the large-club campaign for the Eliminate project and has successfully secured numerous commitments for "Model" clubs.

## Shop For A Cause – ELIMINATE

August – the time to shop for school (k-12 and college), for that perfect football game gear, for those remaining "summer-time" parties and the "watch the leaves fall" parties.

For the shoppers in your family, neighborhood, office, golf league or health club, we have a deal for you. For a donation of \$5 (all of which will be donated to ELIMINATE), you can shop at any Macy's store on Saturday, August 25, and save 25 percent all day long on many items, 10 percent on others. In addition, Macy's will have special store promotions and a raffle for a \$500 Macy's gift card.

And why is this important? This is just another element of our club's five-year goal to raise \$130,000 as our pledge towards the Kiwanis International goal of \$110 million to ELIMINATE maternal/neonatal tetanus (MNT) in the world. KI is partnering with UNICEF in this ambitious yet achievable and life-changing project. Your participation in this and the Club's other activities surrounding ELIMINATE will make each of us a "global health advocate."



Though these numbers may sound out-of-reach, **consider that for \$1.80 (that's less than a gourmet cup of coffee), a woman can receive three vaccinations to protect her and future children** from MNT. Kiwanis International, along with UNICEF, is committed to eliminating a disease that kills one baby every nine minutes. By targeting the poorest, most underserved women and children on earth, the ELIMINATE Project will pave the way for other interventions that will boost maternal health and child survival. You can do the math, relating the \$1.80 and the \$5 donation for a special Macy's coupon.

The Kiwanis Club of Columbus is seeking your help to spread the word so that we can distribute all 100 of our first supply of "Shop For A Cause" coupons at \$5 each. And we can get more coupons – what an easy project!

Remember, each certificate is available for a \$5 donation. All gifts (*checks, cash, bonds*) will be received by the Columbus Kiwanis Foundation and included in our donation to the Kiwanis International Eliminate Project.

Contact **Kathleen Roberts** or any officer/Trustee for additional information ([kathleenkiwanis@aol.com](mailto:kathleenkiwanis@aol.com)).

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Bird” – and the Bird wanted us. In moments, he was back atop the dugout steps – cap off, that wild smile, the slightest of winds blowing his mop of hair. My grandfather – a quiet man by nature, stood with me, my brother in arms – “We Want the Bird!, I heard him exult. I saved my ticket stubs from that game. Years later, I would send them along with a note to Mark Fidrych, asking if he’d be so kind as to sign them and send them back my way in the envelope I had enclosed. You know what? They were back in my hands a week later signed with a happy scrawl.

Perfect moments are perfect because they come along when you least expect it – in ways you might not ever imagine, or ever be able to duplicate again. That’s what makes them perfect. They are rare and often sudden. But it’s the heart of such sudden nature that makes them all the sweeter to savor. All my life I will treasure the magic of those moments spent with my grandfather, Ernie Harwell, and Paul Carey – willing every pitch the Bird delivered as if he were some messenger from the Gods – sent to free us, if just for a moment from our worries and considerations.

When I remember that lanky Fidrych release and the Tigers #20 emblazoned on that kinetic uniform, I’m reminded of another New Englander I think would have found “the Bird” an inspiration ... and maybe he’d even recite one of his better-known works to capture the mood of the moment...

Birches, By Robert Frost (an excerpt).

I should prefer to have some boy bend them.
As he went out and in to fetch the cows--
Some boy too far from town to learn baseball,
Whose only play was what he found himself,
Summer or winter, and could play alone.
One by one he subdued his father's trees
By riding them down over and over again
Until he took the stiffness out of them,
And not one but hung limp, not one was left
For him to conquer. He learned all there was
To learn about not launching out too soon
And so not carrying the tree away
Clear to the ground. He always kept his poise
To the top branches, climbing carefully
With the same pains you use to fill a cup
Up to the brim, and even above the brim.
Then he flung outward, feet first, with a swish,
Kicking his way down through the air to the ground.

So was I once myself a swinger of birches.
And so I dream of going back to be.
It's when I'm weary of considerations,
And life is too much like a pathless wood
Where your face burns and tickles with the cobwebs
Broken across it, and one eye is weeping
From a twig's having lashed across it open.
I'd like to get away from earth awhile
And then come back to it and begin over.
May no fate willfully misunderstand me
And half grant what I wish and snatch me away
Not to return. Earth's the right place for love:
I don't know where it's likely to go better.
I'd like to go by climbing a birch tree,
And climb black branches up a snow-white trunk
Toward heaven, till the tree could bear no more,
But dipped its top and set me down again.
That would be good both going and coming back.
One could do worse than be a swinger of birches.

Now, in my not-so-tender youth, my grandfather is gone. My father is gone. And Mark Fidrych, the picture of life everlasting, is gone too. Thanks, Bird. You gave us the chance to live in the moment, alive with the joy of now. God bless your soul.

Attention golfers ...

The golf committee has set up their next outing for Wednesday, July 25th. The location is yet to be determined, but will be available soon. Tee times will begin around 1 p.m. Please e-mail Tom Christman at tchristman@ohioexterminating.com, if you are interested in playing or need more details.

And for you golfers, a short story: *Two women were put together as partners in the club tournament and met on the putting green for the first time. After introductions, the first golfer asked, "What's your handicap?" "Oh, I'm a scratch golfer," the other replied. "Really!" exclaimed the first woman, suitably impressed that she was paired up with her. "Yes, I write down all my good scores and scratch out the bad ones," the other said.*

2012 Corporate Regatta

There is still time to get in on the action in one or more ways:

- 1- Sponsor a yacht, and/or
- 2- Help us identify one of your business allies or vendors who might be interested in sponsoring and racing a yacht, and/or
- 3- Build your own yacht team, and/or
- 4- Support someone else's effort to build a yacht team, and/or
- 5- Make a contribution directly to the Columbus Kiwanis Foundation, and/or
- 6- Volunteer the day of the event to help with the logistics, and/or
- 7- Attend the event.



Ohio Kiwanis District Convention ...

Our 2012 District Convention, our 95th, will be held at the Holiday Inn Boardman in Boardman, Ohio (7410 South Avenue) from August 10-12, 2012. Basic registration is \$45 per person prior to July 20, and \$55 per person afterwards. You can register on-line by going to the Ohio District website at www.ohiokiwanis.org.

Saturday will be the primary day for the workshop forums and for the official business meeting of the District, where by-laws will be amended and District officers elected.

If you are planning to attend, please let Secretary Paul Bohlman know. We will look into the possibility of car-pooling.



Manna Café ...

On Wednesday, August 22, Kiwanis members will come together to help prepare and serve meals to as many as 200 homeless and needy people who come to the Manna Café each week for a good hot meal. Our Club, through a grant

from our Columbus Kiwanis Foundation, underwrites the cost of the food and provides the volunteers needed. The work is easy and very rewarding. No special skills are needed, just a desire to help and the ability to follow some simple instructions.

We will need 8-10 volunteers to fill two shifts. The first shift will work from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., and they will help prepare the food, set things up and serve. The second shift will work from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and they will help with the set-up finishing touches, serving the food and cleaning up. If you are interested in working one or both shifts, please contact Jim Skidmore at jkskidmor@columbus.rr.com.

Giant Eagle cards ...

With today's economy, it is important to stretch every dollar, and what better way is there to do that than by shopping at Giant Eagle, using the Giant Eagle gift card you purchased through Kiwanis?



That's right, your money can pull 'double-duty' ... it can buy your groceries and gasoline, while simultaneously supporting Kiwanis. The math is simple ... purchase a \$100 Giant Eagle gift card from Kiwanis (see **Paul Bohlman**) and you can use it to purchase \$100 worth of groceries or gasoline while our Club gets \$5. That's free money for the Club! And all you have to do is remember to bring your check book to the meeting on Monday. There is no limit on the number of cards you can purchase, so if you have a big family, you may need to purchase two or three cards each week. Shopping with the gift card earns the same fuel perks as if you were using cash or your credit card.

**A cartoonist was found dead in his home.
Details are sketchy.**

Next week's meeting

(July 23, 2012)

Speaker: Jim Petro – Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents

Greeters: Jim Skidmore
Retired

Sam Vogel
Stifel Nicolaus & Company, Inc.

Invocation: Lisa Jolley
The Columbus Foundation

Committees: Young Children Priority One

Menu: Roasted sirloin, mushroom demi

**England has no kidney bank,
but it does have a Liverpool.**

Kiwanis Club of Columbus

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

Phone: 614-245-8617

e-mail: office@columbuskiwanis.org

website: www.columbuskiwanis.org

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

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Columbus Kiwanis Foundation

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

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