

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."

"Bringing Service Into Focus"



August 31, 2009

Special Combined Meeting Columbus Rotary / Kiwanis



Throughout the years, the Rotary Club of Columbus and the Kiwanis Club of Columbus have each maintained our individual focus, engaged in friendly rivalry and held each other's club in mutual respect.

Rotary International is the world's first service club organization, with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace and eradicate polio under the motto "Service Above Self."

The Columbus Rotary was founded in 1912 as the 38th Rotary International Club, and it is one of the 15 largest in the world. They meet weekly at the Hyatt Regency and will host the Kiwanis Club of Columbus today at noon. In the early years, both Clubs met at the Neil House (current site of the Huntington Center) at the same time for lunch. Members from both Clubs would interact in the lobby area before and after each meeting.

This week's speaker will be Bruce Harkey, executive director of the Franklin Park Conservatory. Built in 1895, the world-class conservatory and botanical garden offers an opportunity for visitors to experience the beauty, diversity and balance of the natural world through a dynamic interpretation of its plan and art collection.

Harkey led the successful implementation of Phase 1 of the Conservatory's three-phase Master Plan, including a lighting installation in the historic Palm House by world-renowned artist James Turrell. The Conservatory has raised \$20.5M of its \$21M capital campaign and will complete construction of three major Master Plan projects by January, 2010.



Prior to the Conservatory, Harkey spent four years in an international management-training program with Honda Motor Company Ltd. in Tokyo, Japan and 14 years in management positions with Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc., in Marysville. He received Bachelor of Science degrees in Landscape Horticulture and Package Engineering from Michigan State University. He is a board member of the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA) and the Asian Festival, and a former board member of the Contemporary American Theatre Company (CATCO).

Don't forget: This week's meeting will be at the Hyatt Regency (Convention Center) located at 350 North High Street.

Reminder: *There is no meeting scheduled for Monday, September 7, in recognition of Labor Day.*



President's Corner

We have had a spectacular year for membership growth this administrative year. Praise is well earned by Membership Chair **Lisa Jolley** for her direction and leadership in growth, but she knows that no member just appears before us - thanks goes to all of the

members who invited a guest, reached out to a friend or business colleague and put in the effort required to recruit a quality new member. In addition, many administrations, past and future, have worked to put our Club in a position that we are ready for growth. We do not want to grow just so we can be the largest, or grow "just for growth's sake." Growth is much more important for our role as community servants - it guarantees that the Kiwanis Club of Columbus will be here to address the needs of our community 30, 50 and 100 years from today.

The passing of one of our most senior members, **George P. "Bucky" Wertz, Jr.**, has crystallized this aspect of our Club for me. Bucky joined Kiwanis in 1956, a true bridge to the "first half" of the life of our Club. It's an obvious statement, but none of our Charter Members from 1916 is with us today. It is the nature of a successful enterprise such as ours that the group continues to evolve and change and adapt to community needs. Membership growth guarantees that our ideals of service and the six permanent objectives of Kiwanis will survive. Each of us should feel that it is our responsibility to sustain our Club through membership growth. As much as I have heard that throughout my Kiwanis career, I know how easy it is to dismiss.

I am a late convert to membership, justifying my lack of sponsored members with my own participation. This year, with a front row seat, I realize not only how vital membership growth is to what we are trying to accomplish as a Club, but how much it enriches the membership experience for all of us. I was a brand new member at my first Auction when I had the pleasure of being seated next to Kitty and **Bucky Wertz**. They were with friends that evening, but were more than gracious to share some of their story and experiences with me and my wife, and were interested in learning about us, as well. It is that kind of interaction that leads to positive collaboration and successful community action, and it is why I love our Kiwanis Club.

Sharing everything that is good about our Club with others is not hard - I found that out this year. It is not as hard as I thought it would be to share "my story" and at least ask people to come and be a guest of our Club to see what we are about. It seems like a large canyon to cross until you take that small step. The rewards for those we serve are endless - membership growth means new ideas, new

projects and sustained efforts in the community. But we are here for each other as well - membership growth also means more opportunities for friendships and increases our ability to be there for each other. I will take both goals as a proud member of the growing Kiwanis Club of Columbus.

Calendar of Events

9/15 – Trustee meeting – Scioto Country Club

9/15 – 2009-10 Membership dues deadline

9/19 – Ohio District Installation Banquet

District Installation Dinner ...

The Installation Banquet for the 2009 Ohio District installation of officers will be held on Saturday, September 19 at the Marriott Columbus Northwest, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The incoming Ohio District Governor is **Donald E. Parker** of the Hilliard Club. Many of you know Don, and it would be great to show our support as he begins his administrative year over the greatest district in all of Kiwanis International!

Cost of the dinner is \$35 per person and you will have your choice of chicken Dijon, Atlantic salmon, herb roasted sirloin or a vegetarian entrée. All Kiwanians and their guests are welcome to attend. We will be entertained in part by What The Heck Four, our Club's totally awesome barbershop quartet. Please contact **Paul Bohlman** by **September 10** if you are interested in attending. You will be billed afterwards based on your reservation.

Division 10-W to meet ...

Kiwanis Division 10-W will hold it's final quarterly meeting of the administrative year on Monday, September 14 at Life Care Alliance (670 Harmon Avenue). The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the serving of dinner. Cost of the meal is \$19 per person and you will be billed afterwards.

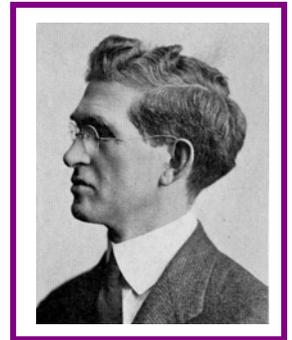
The meeting is being hosted by three Clubs, and you will receive three attendance credits. This is important for those close to attaining their perfect attendance pin. Please let **Paul Bohlman** know by September 8 if you will be attending.

Reminder: *Your 2009-10 annual Kiwanis membership dues are expected by September 15. Please submit your payment on time.*

HISTORIAN'S CORNER by Ron Cook

It is easy to lose track of the extent to which Columbus, like many other cities in this country, was shaped by immigrants who settled here at various points in the city's history. As I have worked at constructing a history of our club, I should probably not have been surprised to discover that our club directly benefited in its early years from the efforts of at least one immigrant.

James T. ("Jimmy") Carroll (1868-1953) served as the president of the Kiwanis Club of Columbus in 1928. He was a charter member of the club. He was president of The Carroll Press Inc. and the Columbian Printing & Publishing Company, with offices at 50 West Gay Street. Beginning in 1905, his companies published, and he was the editor of, the weekly Columbus Catholic newspaper, the Catholic Columbian. His companies also published the Catholic Forester.



Jimmy Carroll was born and raised in Ireland and is to my knowledge the only one of our club's past presidents who was not a natural-born citizen of the United States. He attended college in Glasgow, Scotland, and moved to Columbus in about 1889. He was a prominent member of the Columbus business community in a variety of capacities. He served as president and director of the Union Building and Loan Company and as a director of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and Ohio National Bank. He is one of only four early Kiwanians of such distinction as to have been profiled in the *Centennial History of Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio*, published in 1909. That publication stated that Past-President Jimmy manifested "a spirit of progress in all that he undertakes."

He also became a prominent figure nationally as a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, serving as National Secretary from 1904 to 1908. (The Order was founded in Ireland in the late 1500s as part of an effort to protect the Catholic church and the lives of Catholic priests.) In 1900, Past-President Jimmy had founded Company A of the Hibernian Rifles, a military division of the Order, and one of several divisions serving different areas of the city of Columbus. This military division assisted the victims of the devastating 1913 flood in Columbus.

Past-President Jimmy and his wife and three children lived at 681 Neil Avenue. He served as a member of the Ohio legislature in 1912 and 1913. During his adult years, he returned to Ireland to visit, and in 1922 he wrote an account of his travels there. That account was reprinted by the Catholic Record Society of the Diocese of Columbus as recently as 2003. Past-President Jimmy is buried in the Irish section (the other of the two original sections being the German section) of Mount Calvary Cemetery in Franklinton, the city's second Catholic cemetery.

** With thanks to **Jim Shively** for his invaluable help in digitally preserving the visual history of our club.*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



08/31 – **Ann Bennett**
09/01 – **Daryll Rardon**
09/06 – **Dave Fenner**
09/06 – **Mike Gladfelter**

Trustee meeting date changed ...

The September Trustee meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Columbus has been changed from Tuesday, September 1 to Tuesday, September 15. It will be held at the Scioto Country Club and will begin at 5:30 p.m.

This is the final Trustee meeting of the administrative year and we will need to finalize expenditures, as well as approve several new members. Attendance by Trustees and Committee chairs is very important. Please let **Paul Bohlman** know by September 14 if you will be attending and/or staying for dinner.

"Shred-It" Day scheduled ...

The 12th bi-annual NBC 4 "Shred-It" Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 26. As in the past, the Kiwanis Club of Columbus will be providing manpower to help local citizens unload and cart their confidential documents to the on-site Shred-It Mobile Shredding & Recycling trucks.

We need volunteers for two shifts, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and noon to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Please contact **Paul Bohlman** to sign up. You should note that this event falls on an OSU home football Saturday and therefore will be held at the Columbus Zoo, rather than the Schottenstein Center as it has in the past.

To err is human.
To arrrrrr is pirate.

George "Bucky" Wertz ...

George P. "Bucky" Wertz Jr., 82, passed away August 23, 2009 peacefully with his family by his side after a long and courageous fight with liver cancer. He was born in Tiffin, Ohio on August 7, 1927, raised in Piqua, where he played quarterback for Piqua Central High School under his dad, "Coach Wertz." He joined the Navy in WWII. He was an all-Ohio quarterback playing in the first Ohio North-South All Star Games. He played quarterback and linebacker for the Ohio State Buckeyes from 1946-49. He played in the first Rose Bowl Ohio State ever won in 1950.



At Ohio State, he joined Sigma Alpha Epsilon, forming life-long friendships. He graduated in 1950 with a degree in marketing. He married his wife, Ohio State Pi Beta Phi Catherine (Kitty) Louise Cline on November 11, 1951.

Declining an offer to play defensive back for the Detroit Lions, he started his career in sales, culminating in the establishment of Wertz Associates with his wife in 1969, representing building products. Other "firsts" in his life: co-developer, with his wife, of the first Ohio Ski Area (Snow Trails in Mansfield): first Ohio Olympic ski official (1980 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, NY); and first official from Ohio for a World Cup Ski Race. He was co-founder of Scioto Ridge Methodist Church, a nominee of Agonis for "Flowers for the Living." He was a 32nd degree Mason, 50-year member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Brutal Brother, York Lodge, Aladdin Shriners. Bucky was a 50 year member of Kiwanis, serving as trustee and, Ohio State Committee man. He was Varsity "O" President; a member of the National Collegiate Hall of Fame Board, Columbus Bike Board, Ohio State Alumni, CMA, and Franklin Park Conservatory. Bucky was elected into the Piqua, Ohio Hall of Fame.

Bucky is survived by his wife of 58 years, his five children and eleven grandchildren; Son, Rick Wertz and Lisa, their twins, Corey and Blake; son, Dr. Michael Wertz, his children, Whitney and Eric; daughter, Wendi Hill and Larry, children, Brooks and Charlee Dyroff and Skylar Hill; daughter, Suzi Adams and Scott Adams; daughter, Heidi Garthwaite and Peter Garthwaite, children, Kayla, Kain, Colman and Kiki. Bucky was a true Ohio State fan, working hard to get his teammates into the "Buckeye Hall of Fame". He will be sadly missed by family, friends and business associates.

The family will receive friends at a "Celebration of Life" at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1581 Cambridge Blvd., 11 a.m. Saturday, August 29, followed by a reception at the church. Scarlet and Gray attire is suggested. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Varsity O, or any charity of your choice. To send condolences to Bucky's family, please visit www.schoedinger.com.

TOP TEN INDICATORS THAT YOUR EMPLOYER HAS CHANGED TO A CHEAPER HEALTH CARE PLAN:

- (10) Your annual breast exam is done at Hooters.
- (9) Directions to your doctor's office include, "Take a left when you enter the trailer park."
- (8) The tongue depressors taste faintly of Fudgesicles.
- (7) The only proctologist in the plan is "Gus" from Roto-Rooter.
- (6) The only item listed under Preventive Care Coverage is "an apple a day..."
- (5) Your primary care physician is wearing the pants you gave to Goodwill last month.
- (4) "The patient is responsible for 200% of out-of-network charges" is not a typographical error.
- (3) The only expense covered 100% is "embalming."
- (2) Your Prozac comes in different colors with little M's on them.

AND THE NUMBER ONE SIGN YOU'RE NOW IN A VERY CHEAP HEALTH CARE PLAN:

- (1) You ask for Viagra and they give you a Popsicle stick and Duct Tape.

The Kiwanis Club of Columbus

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