

Inventory of the

**Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club**  
DeKalb, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

**RC 278**

## INTRODUCTION

Norman Schaeffer, Chair of the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club Audit Committee, members of the committee including Herb Buhr, Abby Chemers, and Jack Goodrich, and Kishwaukee Kiwanis President Mary A. Olson, gathered together records of the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club, which were donated to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on September 5, 2006. Additions were added to the collection at later dates. The newsletter continues to be submitted every other week via email, which is then transferred to V:\ARCHIVES\RCElectronicArchives\RC 278 Kishwaukee Kiwanis.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to materials in the collection.

Linear Feet of Shelf Space: 3.75; approx. 412+ digital files (228+ MB)  
Number of Containers: 8  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 278

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

These records partially document the history of the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club since 1969, however most of the documentation for the 1970s is missing. Although incomplete, included here are club newsletters and meeting minutes, correspondence and newspaper clippings, monthly reports, budget and treasurers reports. There is a considerable amount of documentation on the creation of the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Pathway. Also included are files on various committees and activities undertaken by the club, including its annual Halloween Haunted House, and the NIU Circle K Club sponsored by the Kishwaukee Kiwanis. A small number of items are included from the Illinois-Eastern Iowa District, the national Kiwanis organization, and other Kiwanis clubs. The President's records donated at a later date include meeting minutes, newsletters, emails, and supplemental material.

The collection also contains electronic records: Biking with Beanie material from 2012-2014 and born-digital newsletters since January 18, 2012. These records are accessible in the Center's reading room.

Researchers should note that complementary organizational records for the DeKalb Kiwanis Club (RC 18) are also held by the Regional History Center.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

In July 1969 the DeKalb Kiwanis Club president Bob Bennison appointed a committee to study the possibility of sponsoring a second Kiwanis Club for DeKalb. The committee was chaired by Eugene Miller, and composed of Dick Cambridge, Bob Gilmore, Howard Gould

Wendell Lindbeck, Mike Madison, Porter Martin, and Ralph Sherman. A primary consideration was that new club meet at noon to accommodate those men who could not attend evening meetings. After the DeKalb Kiwanis Board unanimously approved the formation of another club on August 25th, a New Club Committee was appointed to guide and assist the new club personnel and officers in their formation and organization. They were chair Eugene Miller, Howard Gould and Harold Wright. A charter was granted on September 30, 1969, and the first meeting of the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club was held Wednesday October 8, 1969 at noon at Sweden House. The first officers of the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club were Ralph Sherman, President; Harold Husa, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Dick Hennegan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Gerald Halasz, Secretary; and Robert Holdridge, Treasurer. Charter night was held Tuesday November 11, 1969 in the University Center Regency Room, with 47 charter members. Bob Bennison of the DeKalb Kiwanis was the master of ceremonies. Guests included dignitaries from various Kiwanis District offices and neighboring clubs, DeKalb Mayor Jesse Chamberlain, and representatives of other local organizations. Neighboring clubs in Division 20 helped establish the new club with various gifts, including a club banner from the DeKalb Kiwanis Club.

On March 19, 1992 Janet Byrnes, Lee Ann Henry, and Patricia “Pat” LaVigne became the first three women to join the Kishwaukee Kiwanis. Since that date women have taken on many leadership positions within the organization. Pat LaVigne became the first committee chair (Community Service) in the fall of 1992, officer (Assistant Secretary) in 1994, member of the board in 1995, and president in 1999.

As of 2007 the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club had approximately 75 members. The 21 committees of the club are divided into four areas. The Club Operations Committees are: 1.Audit, 2.Bulletin/Publicity, 3.Fellowship, 4.House/Yearbook, 5.Interclub, 6.Membership, 7.Nominations, 8.Programs, 9.Risk, Reduction & Avoidance, and 10.Social Sports. The Fund Raising Committees are: 11.Biking with Beanie, 12.Corn Fest, 13.Haunted House, and 14.Peanut Day. The Services Committees are: 15.Community Service, 16.Pathway, 17.Human and Spiritual Values, 18.Young Children priority One, and 19.Youth Services. The Sponsored Activities Committees are: 20.Sponsored Youth, and 21.K-Family. A community service organization, Kishwaukee Kiwanis contributes both manpower and funding to numerous worthy projects. Notable among those projects is its work with the DeKalb Park District to acquire, develop, and maintain recreational paths for safe biking and hiking. Members of the club have worked on projects at Barb City Manor, for the Special Olympics, at hearing clinics, and on community improvement days. In addition the Kishwaukee Kiwanis sponsored the NIU Circle K Club, and also helped initiate the “Gold Card Program” to recognize scholastic achievement and provide athletic equipment to the DeKalb School District.

#### SUBJECT TRACINGS

Bicycle Trails  
Circle K International (Organization)  
DeKalb (Ill.)

Kishwaukee Kiwanis  
Kiwanis, DeKalb  
Service Clubs

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Founding Documents, News Articles, 1969
	2	By-Laws and Amendments, 1987, 1993, 1999, 2004, 2007
	3	Brochures, 1969, 1994, 1995, 2005, n.d.
	4	Officers, 1969-1988, 1998-2002, 2007
	5	10 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> , and 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversaries, 1979, 1994, 2009
	6	Awards, Certificates of Recognition, etc., (1969-2002, 2011)
	7	Meeting Minutes and Agendas, (1979-1981, 1999-2000)
	8	Board Meeting Minutes and Agendas, (1981-2010)
	9	Leadership Meeting, March 2006
	10	Membership Directories, (1972/73-2004/05)
	11	Membership Lists and Member Information, (1979-2009)
	12	Dues Policies, 1999, n.d.
	13	Monthly Reports, (1984-1989, 1993-2008); Annual Reports, 1979/80, 2001/02
2	1	Financial Reports and Budgets, (1979-2006)
	2	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Song and Oath, n.d.
	3	Correspondence, (1979-2005)
	4-17	Newsletters, (1969, 1979-2012)
3	1	Newsletter Fillers, (1969-2006)
	2	Publicity/Newspaper Clippings, (1977-2006, 2008)
	3	Program Schedules, (1981-2000)
	4	Committees, (1979-2000)
	5	Audit Committee, (2002-2006)
	6	Community Service Committee, (1985-2002)
	7	Interclub Committee, 1979/80, 2001/02
	8	Spiritual Aims Committee, 1979
	9	Young Children Priority One Committee, 1999, 2001
	10	Sponsored Youth/Youth Services Committee, (1980-2000)
	11	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Pathway Committee, (2000-2002)
	12-13	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Pathway, (1987-2012)
	14	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Pathway News Clippings, (1988-2001)
	4	1
2		Biking with Beanie, 1999-2002, 2007-2012
3		Projects and Activities, (1980-2008)
4		Bowling, 1975, 1985
5		Cornfest, 1987, 2000-2001

4	6	Haunted House, (1982-2006)
	7	Peanut Day, (1988-2002)
	8	Huskies on Parade, 2008
	9	Community Works Project, 2008
	10	Russian Guests/Production Enhancement Program (PEP), February 1999
	11	DeKalb Kiwanis, 1980, 1984
	12	Kiwanis, Division 11 (1979-1983), and Division 14, (1999- 2002)
	13	Kiwanis Publications and Correspondence, (1974-2002)
	14	Kiwanis International Constitution and By-laws, and Proposed Resolutions, June 27-July 1, 1997
	15	Kiwanis International, Leadership Guide, ca. 1999, 2008
	16	Kiwanis International Official Monthly Reports, (1986-2010)
	17	Kiwanis International Foundation Honors Reception, July 5, 1988

#### ADDENDUM

5	1	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club Scrapbook, Brian Scholle President, 1993-1994
	2-3	Circle K Club of Northern Illinois University, (1981-1991)
	4	Circle K Magazine, (1984 - 2008), and other Circle K Publications, (1982-1991)
	5	President's Notebook, (1980-1981)
	6	President's Records, August 2007-December 2008
	7	President's Records, November 2007-December 2007

#### ADDENDUM

6	1-2	President's Records, January 2008-September 2008
7	Item	Dark Blue, Kishwaukee Kiwanis Mug, n.d.

Oversize Drawer 32	7	Biking within Beanzie Route Maps (4), 2007, 2010, 2017 Haunted House Flyers (3), 2002, 2004, 2005
	8	Biking for Beanzie Posters (2), 2013, 2017 Kishwaukee Kiwanis Talent Show Poster (1), 2017

#### ADDENDUM

8	1	By-Laws, June 2, 2010
---	---	-----------------------

	2	Brochures, 2010
8	3	Board Meeting Minutes, 1988-1989, 2015
	4	Committees, 2012-2016
	5	Membership Lists and Member Information, 1971-1976
	6-7	Membership Directories, 2006-2017
	8	Monthly Reports, 1989, 2004
	9	Annual Audit Committee Meeting Minutes, 2011-2012
	10	Audit Report, 2007
	11	Songs of Kiwanis Booklet, 1989
	12	Correspondence, 1982-2011
	13	Newsletters, 1980-1982, 2005, 2014
	14	Other Circle K Publications (The Plainsview Newsletter), January 1995
	15	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Pathway, 1993, 2010
	16	Biking with Beanie Records, 2013-2017
	17	Corn Fest Photographs, no date
	18	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Haunted House, 1999-2003
	19	Noon Club, 2000
	20	Peanut Day, 2009
	21	Kishwaukee Kiwanis Talent Show, 2017