



**Alpine Rockford Kiwanis  
Theme for 2008-2009**



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# Alpine

## E-NEWS

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## Kiwanis Nights Adopts Homeless Youth As Holiday Project

During October's Kiwanis Nights monthly meeting, President Michael Simmons and Vice-President Jeanne Sullivan challenged the nighttime membership to brainstorm on projects that the club could adopt as a service project. New Kiwanis member, Diane Potts, mentioned that a prior guest speaker, Sue Kanthak of the Rockford Public Schools, had made a big impression on her as to the needs of homeless students. It was agreed by the membership of Kiwanis Nights to investigate how the club could assist in meeting the needs of homeless youth. Two ideas were proposed—one to collect money to purchase food gift certificates so homeless kids could have at least one meal during the upcoming holiday break and to see if the club could assist Rock House Ministries in their mission of helping children.

In November, Alpine Kiwanis members had researched both proposals. According to school officials, 26 homeless students had no access to meals during the holiday break. In addition, a team of members visited Rock House to see if the club could be of assistance. Based on the team's

recommendations, the Rock House project would be too large of a project currently to be taken on and that the club could better serve Rock House by looking at purchasing a commercial stove.

The Kiwanis Nights membership agreed they would like to provide food gift certificates for the 26 students and a request to the Charities Committee was proposed for matching funds up to \$1,000. This was approved during the November board meeting. On Wednesday, November 26th's morning meeting, Dave Helland, Charities Chair, made an impassioned plea to the morning membership to pass the hat to collect funds to help feed the 26 at-risk students. More than \$1,100 was collected during the meeting from members. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Jeanne Sullivan as soon as possible.

In addition to the homeless students project, Nights members were encouraged to bring food items for the local food pantry. Also, old cell phones and used printer cartridges are being collected for the Children's Miracle Network.

The Kiwanis Nights membership continues to grow. In addition, any member is welcome to attend the meetings as a make-up. December's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Thunder Bay Grill instead of the last Thursday of the month due to Christmas.

**Alpine Rockford  
Kiwanis meets –**

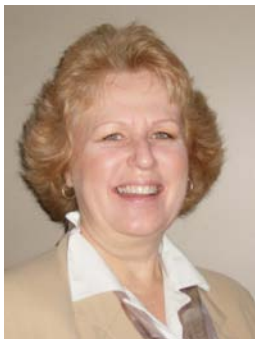
**WEEKLY:  
THURSDAYS  
7:10 a.m.  
HOFFMAN HOUSE  
(eat at 6:45 a.m.)**

**MONTHLY:  
LAST THURSDAY  
6 p.m.  
THUNDER BAY  
GRILL**

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## Meet Our New Members



### **Paula Neville**

Born in Fort Worth, Texas, I am able to claim myself a Texan when we visit our family in the Dallas and Houston areas. This is important when the alternative is being ridiculed for “being a Yankee”. However, I have lived in Rockford for over 40 years, so it is hard to hide my Northern ways. My husband,

Warren, is a barber at East Gate Barber Shop. I have a disabled son who is 29, four terrific stepchildren, and seven grandchildren, ages 2 months to 20 years old. Through my son, I volunteered as an adapted aquatics instructor at Muhl Center and eventually became a special educator. I earned a Master’s in Special Education from Rockford College and a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Madison. I taught high school special education for a few years before I left to train teachers at the university level. I have taught at several universities, including UW-Whitewater and National Louis University. Although I loved working with student teachers, I missed the school students. Last year, I left NLU and took a special education position at Harlem High School where I teach classes in Arts and Cultures, and math. Locally, I serve on the Board of Directors of Access Services. My hobbies include painting, gardening, spending time with kids, and camping at our place at Woodhaven Lakes. Some of you may have known my step-dad, Al Kaser.

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### November 2008 Board Briefs

Charities Board approved the guidelines presented by the Charities Committee for disbursing funds. A request from Alpine Nights, to match funds given by Alpine members, was approved for up to \$1,000 so \$5.00 McDonalds gift certificates could be purchased and given to 26 homeless school children for daily meals during the 15-day Christmas break. Also, approved was \$555 to Kiwanis International Foundation for the club’s annual gift, based on \$5.00 per member.

The Administration Board approved the application of Robert Prosser, a former member, and the resignation of Nancy Sanders, former Membership Secretary. Also, Honorary status was approved for Robert Kuhlmeier



### **Diane Potts**

Diane became a member of the Alpine Kiwanis on October 30, after having been a guest of Jim Yarwood. Diane was born and raised in Milwaukee, WI, and remained there throughout her grade, high school and college years.

She graduated from Marquette University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Chemistry. Diane served as a Poison Control Specialist at Milwaukee Children’s Hospital. It was there that she met her husband-to-be, Dr. Michael J. Potts, who was completing his residency at the hospital. The couple married in October 1983 and moved to DeKalb, IL.

In 1986, Diane earned her first Master’s Degree (Science) at NIU. In 1989, Diane and Michael became the proud parents of twin sons, Gregory and David, and welcomed their youngest, Kevin, in 1991. The twins are in their sophomore year at the University of Illinois in Champaign, both studying chemistry. Kevin is a junior at Boylan High School.

Diane and her family moved to Rockford in 1993. She re-entered the work force in 1999 as assistant principal at Holy Family School and then as principal at St. Rita School. In 2003, she earned her second Master’s Degree in Administrative Leadership from Alverno College.

Currently, Diane is teaching chemistry and biology full-time at Boylan High School. She is an adjunct professor for St. Xavier University-Rockford cohort and an Academic Skills Specialist for the University of College of Medicine-Rockford.

Diane has recently directed her attention to volunteering with the Rockford Public Schools Homeless Program to help the underprivileged. She is most humbled and appreciative of the opportunity to have been inducted as a member of the Alpine Kiwanis and looks forward to sharing in the experiences of such a fine group.

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### Board Briefs Continued ...

and Everette Johnson due to health reasons. Approved payment of dues for Joe Etminan and Paula Neville, our faculty advisors at Rock Valley Circle K and the new Harlem Key Club.

## BIRTHDAYS

Name	December	Name	January
Delos Lewis	19	Mark Lewis	5
Jim Yarwood	21	Fred Ellenberger	6
Wayne Perrett	23	Joe Etminan	10
Maleeah Cuevas	24	John France	12
Melissa Miller	26	Larry McGee	12
Ryan Kralka	29	Sophie Davis	13

## ANNIVERSARIES

Name	December	Name	January
Fred Beck	4	Dave Helland	4
Marlow Anderson	15		
Lawrence McGee	22		
Wayne Perrett	23		
Loren Johnson	27		
Verla Sterett	31		
Ward Sterett	31		

## GREETERS

December	Name	Name
4	Harold Branstiter	Larry McGee
11	J.D. Clemmons	Doris McLendon
18	Jim Coffey	Dom Mencarini
24	Bruce Dearborn	Jim Merrick
31	Fred Ellenberger	Amanda Meyers
<b>January</b>		
8	Joe Etminan	Melissa Miller
15	Steve Ferrall	Roger Miller

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

### **Business Telephone Correction:**

Roxanne Vanderheyden  
Hononegah High School  
(B) 815-624-5099

## WORD OF THE DAY

December	Name	Name
4	Steve Ferrall	Robert Thorsen
11	Keith Forberg	Karen Tilly
18	John France	John Vanderheyden
24	Mary Ann Gaunt	Gary Ven Rooy
31	Will Geske	Jeffery Wallem
<b>January</b>		
8	Dave Gomel	Jeff Walton
15	Anders Gredenius	Tom Weingartner

## WORD OF THE DAY

### **Oct. 30—Jim Coffey**

VOTE

### **Nov. 6-Bob Conner**

As the covered wagon rolled and pitched  
One sat looking forward  
And one sat looking back,  
Along the prairie track.

One searched for the wide horizon  
For a bright and better day;  
And, one saw the disappointing road  
"Till it too slipped away."

As the covered wagon rolled and pitched  
Along the prairie track,  
One sat looking forward  
And one sat looking back.

-Author Unknown

### **Nov. 20-Fred Ellenberger**

AMENDS

Make amends-do something in order to make up  
for a wrong inflicted on someone.

### **Nov. 26-Joe Etminan**

Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can.

## UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

### **J.R. Sullivan's Annual Hometown Holiday**

Saturday, December 13 @ 2 p.m. • N.A.T.

## Membership Committee Notes

As we continue into the New Year, the Membership Committee would like to remind everyone that it is your responsibility to ensure that your dues and attendance is current and correct. Any changes in member status (meals, no meals, night, etc.), leave of absence, adjustment in dues, etc., must be requested in writing to either the Membership Committee Chair or the Membership Secretary for approval by the Membership Committee and Board of Directors. At club meetings, members must sign in, record any additional hours (special events, service projects, committee meetings, etc.) and announce any guests for the Secretary's record.

As of this issue of the newsletter, Alpine Kiwanis is approximately \$4,000.00 behind in past dues. Funding for club expenses come exclusively from membership dues. If you have any questions, please see either an Officer or member of the Membership Committee. Thank you!

## DECEMBER PROGRAMS

**December 4:** American Red Cross, Jason Broadus

**December 11:** Head Start Program, Sonia Jacobs

**December 18:** Early Childhood Program,  
Lisa Warren

**December 24:** Christmas Program

**December 31:** TBA

## NEW MEMBERS

**Diane Potts (Michael)**

5945 Old Millstone Road

Rockford, IL 61114-5526

(H) 815-637-4608

Boylan High School

(B) 815-877-0531

E-mail: dpotts@rockriver.net

Hobbies: Interior decorating, Reading, Crafting

Sponsor: Jim Yarwood

**NEXT DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2008**

### **ALPINE NEWS EDITORS**

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**KIWANIS CLUB**

