



**Kiwaniis**<sup>®</sup>  
CLUB OF MEDINA

# **Medina Kiwanis New Member Guide**

2025-2026

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\*\* NOTE: Please refer to the by-laws for additional information \*\*

# 1. Welcome Message

Welcome to the Kiwanis Club of Medina! We are thrilled to have you join our family of volunteers dedicated to improving the lives of children and enhancing our community. Your involvement will help us continue our tradition of service, fellowship, and fun.

Feel free to reach out to any member for guidance, and we encourage you to participate in our programs and events. Together, we'll make a difference!

# 2. Kiwanis Overview

## 2.1. Medina Kiwanis Overview

Our defining statement, said at the beginning of each meeting:

**"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child, and one community at a time."**

The primary purpose of this club is to improve the quality of life for children and families worldwide by adhering to the objectives of Kiwanis International, which are:

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide, through this club, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build a better community.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

## 2.2. Kiwanis International

Kiwanis International was founded in Detroit, Michigan, on January 21, 1915. Originally created to support members' businesses and their community, it quickly expanded. The second club was chartered in Cleveland, Ohio, followed by clubs in Pittsburgh, New York, Los Angeles, and Hamilton, Ontario. Kiwanis adopted its motto, "We Build," in 1920, shifting its focus to service and philanthropy. The guiding principles of the organization were formally adopted in 1924.

## 2.3. Kiwanis Club of Medina: A Proud Legacy

Despite skepticism about its viability in small towns, the Kiwanis Club of Medina, Ohio, was chartered on February 19, 1920, making it the first in a town under 10,000 residents. Originally organized in November 1919, the club had 51 charter members. Huber Root became its first official president in January 1920 and uniquely served two full terms.

The club has seen 107 presidents and only twelve secretaries in its 107-year history. Notable members include Samuel Brainard, secretary for 47 years and the longest-serving in Kiwanis International history.

Medina has also produced multiple Lt. Governors and two Ohio District Governors. Medina's O.C. Duke held the global record for longest Kiwanis membership at 75 years.

The club proudly sponsored other Kiwanis organizations, including the Wooster Club (1923), the Medina Breakfast Kiwanis (1972), and Key Clubs at Medina, Highland, and Buckeye High Schools. It also helped launch Builders Clubs at Medina Jr. High (now Claggett Middle School) and A.I. Root Middle School.

### **2.3.1. Women in Kiwanis**

Women were officially admitted into Kiwanis International in 1987, following court rulings and policy changes. The Kiwanis Club of Medina welcomed Alice Chester as its first female member in 1987. She would later become club president in 1994-95 and the first woman inducted into the club's Hall of Fame, which began in 1984 and has honored 64 members to date.

### **2.3.2. Honors and Distinctions**

In 1983, the Kiwanis Children's Fund established the George F. Hixson Fellowship. Named for Kiwanis International's first president, Hixson Fellowships are awarded to donors who give US\$1,000 or more to the Children's Fund. Our club has made donations in the name of members that we wish to recognize for contributing significantly to the work and leadership of the Club. The Member Recognition Committee makes the determination for these awards.

The outgoing Club President names both the Kiwanian of the Year and bestows the Nose to the Grindstone award, both of which recognize members who have gone above and beyond in leadership with the Club.

### **2.3.3. Medina High School Key Club**

Chartered in 1970, the Medina Sr. High School Key Club has a rich history of excellence. It has won numerous Ohio District awards and produced 22 Lt. Governors and five District Governors. The club has had just twelve advisors in 55 years—four of whom were former Key Club members themselves. Longtime Kiwanis members Jeffrey Eble, Patty Barany, and Terry Shuman have each served in state-level Key Club leadership roles.

### **2.3.4. Commitment to Community**

Needless to say, the Kiwanis Club of Medina is extremely proud of its history, its past leaders and members, its sponsored youth groups, and its cumulative contributions to a grateful Medina community. It has been able to accomplish all of these things because of the tireless and selfless efforts of a visionary and altruistic group of dedicated citizens who firmly and collectively believe that each human being on this planet has a responsibility to "give to others", and to help to make their community, district and world...a better place.

For over a century, the Kiwanis Club of Medina has exemplified service, leadership, and compassion. Guided by the motto "Serving the Children of the World," the club continues to uphold its mission: *improving the world—one child, and one community at a time.*

## **3. Membership**

### **3.1. Membership Benefits**

- Build friendships with community leaders and neighbors who share your passion for service.

- Strengthen your leadership and teamwork skills through hands-on involvement in club projects.
- Make a visible difference in the lives of children and families in Medina County.
- Enjoy fellowship, fun, and purpose through weekly programs and community events.
- Be part of a global organization of volunteers improving the world one child and one community at a time.
- **Membership Types:**
  - **Active (Regular)** – Dues are currently \$41 per quarter. Members are charged for meals regardless of attendance at the Thursday meeting. The cost of meals are negotiated yearly with the meeting venue by the Board of Directors. Members are notified of the cost which is currently \$14.25
  - **Senior Membership** – Available to Kiwanians with at least 10 years of membership who have a valid reason, such as travel or health, to request Senior status. Dues are \$41 per quarter, and members only pay for the meals they consume.
  - **Active (Satellite)** – Dues are currently \$41 per quarter. Satellite members are charged for meals only if they attend the Thursday meeting. (More information about Satellite members can be found in the Weekly Meetings section.)
  - **Corporate** – Dues are currently \$41 per quarter. Any individual who is a member of the corporation, business or agency may attend club meetings and events. If more than one person attends any club meeting, the corporation, business or agency will be billed for extra meals accordingly. Membership continues in spite of changeover in corporate, business or agency personnel.
  - **Life Membership** – Bestowed by the club.
- **Membership Dues:**
  - Membership dues are charged for the upcoming quarter, while meals are charged in arrears. There are times when special events require an additional fee and may be included with the invoice. The invoice is itemized.
  - Invoices are sent via email unless a request is submitted to the Treasurer for a mailed copy.
  - For questions about your membership or invoice, contact our treasurer, Brian Harr, at [bkharr6@gmail.com](mailto:bkharr6@gmail.com).

### **3.2. Membership Requirements**

- Adults of good character and good community standing may be admitted to membership in this club by invitation or by transfer from another Kiwanis club upon no less than a majority vote of the board.
- Members in good standing are entitled to all rights and privileges of the club. To be in good standing, members are obligated to pay the dues and fees provided in club policy and comply with any other criteria provided in club policy.
- Members not in good standing may be suspended or removed by no less than a majority vote of the board. At least fourteen (14) days previous notice of such pending action must be provided to the member. The member will have the right to appear to present his/her case to the board on or before the meeting at which action will be determined.
- A member may resign by submitting written notice to the club. Any member who resigns or has been removed from club membership forfeits all interest in any club funds or property and all rights to use any Kiwanis marks.

### 3.3. New Member Process

The Immediate Past President, or their designee, will meet with the potential member(s) and provide them with an orientation and a Kiwanis International application. Upon completion of the application, the Immediate Past President will inform the President. The board approves membership, and a date is set for induction at a club meeting. At the next attended meeting, the nominated member and the President will induct the new member into the club.

Note: Guests can attend up to three meetings at no cost before deciding to join.

### 3.4. Medina Kiwanis Club Merchandise

Show your Kiwanis pride with apparel and accessories from USA Custom Apparel, a Medina-based, family-owned business that has served our community since 1984.

Every new member receives their first Kiwanis shirt free, paid for by the club. Our secretary, Nanette Waite ([nanettelinnwaite@gmail.com](mailto:nanettelinnwaite@gmail.com) or 330-421-8927), will provide your name to USA Custom Apparel so the club can be billed for your shirt. After that, you can visit or contact the vendor to select your preferred style, size, color, and logo. If you wish to purchase additional items such as hats, jackets, or other apparel, you can include them in the same order, and you will be billed directly for any additional items.

Below are the two official Kiwanis logos available for your apparel:



To order, visit [www.usacustomapparel.com](http://www.usacustomapparel.com) and note the Style Number, Size, Color, and Logo you want. Be sure to include your name and contact number when placing your order.

For questions or assistance with your order, contact:

- Shawn Wode, Owner – [usa@zoominternet.net](mailto:usa@zoominternet.net)
  - Narrah Gibbs, Sales Manager – [usa.narrah@gmail.com](mailto:usa.narrah@gmail.com)
  - Phone: 330-722-0818
- You can also visit their showroom at 229 Harding Street, Medina.

## 4. Meetings

### 4.1. Weekly Meetings

- Held weekly on Thursdays at 11:45 am at Williams On The Lake in Medina. Lunch is served and charged quarterly to your account. Members typically arrive as early as 11:30 am to socialize.
  - For the week of Thanksgiving, the weekly meeting will take place on the prior Wednesday, or at the Board's discretion.

- For any month that has a Fifth Thursday, the Medina Kiwanis has a group social open to all local Kiwanis members. There is no daytime meeting.
- For the week of the Medina County Fair, the club meets at the Medina County Home.
- The meeting provides club updates, guest speakers, fellowship and the ability of members to share personal news through Happy Dollars.
- A satellite group is available for members who cannot attend regular meetings but wish to participate in volunteer efforts. These meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 7pm at the AI Root Community Room. Barb Woodard, Chair, at [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com), 330-321-2408, or at a meeting; Hank Waite, [hankwaite@gmail.com](mailto:hankwaite@gmail.com), 330-421-8923; or Marty Gaska, [mgaska@ix.netcom.com](mailto:mgaska@ix.netcom.com), 614-306-0691.
- If Zoom is needed for the meeting, reach out to Nancy Abbott ([nlabbott@gmail.com](mailto:nlabbott@gmail.com)).

#### **4.1.1. Lyrics to Kiwanis Songs**

We may also sing the songs listed below and Happy Birthday as appropriate.

##### **4.1.1.1. Smile – Sing A Song**

Smile and the world smiles with you,  
 Sing a song.  
 Don't be weary,  
 Just be cheery all day long.  
 Whenever your trials,  
 Your troubles and your care  
 Seem to be more than you can really bear...  
 Smile and the world smiles with you,  
 Sing a song. Hey!

##### **4.1.1.2. How D'Ya Do**

This song is sung to greet the speaker of the day. Any name can be substituted for “fellow Kiwanian.”

How d'ya do fellow Kiwanian? How d'ya do,  
 How d'ya do fellow Kiwanian? How are you?  
 We're glad you're here today,  
 Look'n forward to what you say,  
 How d'ya do fellow Kiwanian?  
 How d'ya do, do, do.

##### **4.1.1.3. You're In Kiwanis Now**

This song is sung twice when someone becomes a formal member.

You're a Kiwanis now,  
 You're in Kiwanis now,  
 There's work to be done,  
 You're going to have fun,  
 You're in Kiwanis now!

## 4.2. Annual Meeting:

One meeting each year between January 1 and May 15 will be designated as the annual meeting for club elections. At least 30 days' notice of the annual meeting will be given.

## 4.3. Communication and Resources

Stay connected with club updates through:

- **The Brick:** Our club newsletter. To receive the newsletter, submit your email address added to the distribution list to Kerry Kelley ([kerrykelley@live.com](mailto:kerrykelley@live.com))
- **Website:** [medinakiwanis.org](http://medinakiwanis.org)
- **Social Media:**
  - Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/medinakiwanis\\_](https://www.facebook.com/medinakiwanis_) - Kiwanis Club of Medina
  - Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/medina\\_kiwanis/](https://www.instagram.com/medina_kiwanis/) - medina\_kiwanis
- **Medina Kiwanis Roster** – maintained by Nancy Abbott.
- **Weekly Email** – Nancy Abbott sends out a weekly email providing us with the topic for the weekly meeting, Zoom information (if applicable), and if the meeting room has changed. Nancy can be reached at [nlabott@gmail.com](mailto:nlabott@gmail.com).

## 5. Club Leadership

Board meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month; all members are welcome to attend. The meeting is held at noon at the Fraternal Order of Eagles (696 Lafayette Rd, Medina).

### 5.1. 2025 Officers:

- |                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| • <b>President:</b>                | Aaron Harrison  |
| • <b>President-Elect:</b>          | Krista Wasowski |
| • <b>Vice President:</b>           | Kerry Kelley    |
| • <b>Immediate Past President:</b> | Marty Gaska     |
| • <b>Secretary:</b>                | Nanette Waite   |
| • <b>Treasurer:</b>                | Brian Harr      |

### 5.2. Board of Directors:

- 2025 – 2027: Joan Samkow, Tracy Knappins, Russ Fanello.
- 2026 – 2028: Kimberly Gaska, Chery Short, Ed Zackery

### 5.3. Other Positions

- Assistant Secretary – Kip Crain

## 6. Medina Kiwanis Overview

The Medina Kiwanis hosts numerous fundraisers throughout the year, with all proceeds supporting a wide range of children-focused initiatives, community programs, and impactful service projects.

The Club has hosted an impressive variety of speakers and topics, covering community engagement, professional insights, and personal experiences. Key highlights include:

- **Community and Local Issues:** Updates from city officials, local law enforcement, and organizations like the Medina County Historical Society, Children's Center, and Veterans Service.
- **Education and Inspiration:** Presentations by motivational speakers, educators, and authors, alongside discussions on health, history, and environmental initiatives.
- **Service and Volunteering:** Regular updates on Kiwanis service projects, including support for children's programs, county home visits, and creating care packages.
- **Unique Experiences:** Stories of travel adventures, cultural explorations, and personal milestones, such as a 50th-anniversary celebration and veterans' remembrances.
- **Annual Traditions:** Recurring events like the Fifth Thursday Kiwanis Social, Arbor Day celebrations, and officer installations.

Our committees manage various aspects of our club's operations and community service efforts. They are arranged within 5 overarching categories. A Board member is designated as a contact for each chairperson to assure that committees have the necessary support and resources from the club to operate.

- **Programs:** Organizes weekly meetings and events.
- **Administration:** Oversees financial and organizational matters.
- **Membership:** Focuses on recruitment, retention, and recognition.
- **Service Projects:** Plans and executes community programs.
- **Fundraising:** Develops and runs fundraising initiatives.

The Kiwanis Club of Medina was formerly part of Division 16. A restructure, in 2025/6, now places our club in the Western Reserve District along with all Kiwanis Clubs within Medina County, which include Medina Breakfast, Wadsworth, Brunswick, Cloverleaf, and NextGen Leaders.

### Club Projects & How to Get Involved

The Kiwanis Club of Medina supports a wide range of projects that serve children, families, and our community. Each project has its own personality and rhythm. Some happen once a year, while others occur monthly or seasonally. You can participate in as many as you wish.

#### How to Get Involved

1. **Join a Committee.** Every project has a chair or co-chair who coordinates activities.
2. **Sign Up at Meetings.** Volunteer sheets circulate regularly for upcoming projects.
3. **Ask Questions.** Contact any committee chair directly to learn more.
4. **Start Small.** You can volunteer for one event to see where you fit best.
5. **Share Ideas.** If you see a need in the community, bring it to the board or a committee chair.

Below are brief descriptions of our projects, including when they occur, what they do, and how you can get involved with Service Projects. We have five overarching categories:

## **6.1. Program Committee**

Managed by the Vice President. The purpose is to ensure weekly club meetings are conducted in good order and contain uplifting programs appropriate to the purposes of Kiwanis.

### **6.1.1. Special Events**

#### **6.1.1.1. Club Picnic**

This committee will organize the club picnic each year. Seek the location and make meal arrangements. Promote the event to the members.

*NOTE: The method described is how we have held the Club Picnic in the past, the process may change in the coming year.*

#### **6.1.1.2. Club Christmas Party**

This committee will organize the annual Christmas party. In cooperation with the Program Chair select a date in December. Obtain a venue. Arrange for the food. Organize a program. Take care of all components of putting on a spectacular party for the members and guests.

*NOTE: The method described is how we have held the Christmas party in the past, the process may change in the coming year.*

#### **6.1.1.3. Heartfelt Thanks Luncheon**

Traditionally held in mid- February, this special meeting honors nonmembers who have helped Kiwanis projects succeed. Guests may include sponsors, donors, and community partners. Member volunteers help gather names, prepare invitations, and purchase small thank-you gifts. It typically takes one to two hours in the weeks before the program during January and February. The committee has considered making this a thank-you that is delivered to the individual or company rather than a meeting to honor them. *Contact: Linda Hoffmann – 330-603-9690*

*NOTE: The method described is how we have done Heartfelt Thanks in the past, the process may change in the coming year.*

### **6.1.2. Human and Spiritual Values**

#### **6.1.2.1. Good Friday Prayer Breakfast**

A long-standing Medina County tradition that brings together service clubs for a shared morning of reflection, prayer, and fellowship. The host club rotates annually, with Kiwanis leading approximately once every seven years. Three to five volunteers are needed when we host the event. *Contact: Barb Woodard – [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com) - 330-321-2408*

#### **6.1.2.2. Sunshine**

This committee assists members of the Club during times of need and/or difficulty. This committee concerns itself specifically with keeping our members apprised of health issues, or deaths of current and former club members and /or their family members. When such stressful or tragic events take place, this committee sees to it that appropriate information is shared with our membership, as well as sending

appropriate cards, signed by club members to the Kiwanian or family members who would welcome such thoughtfulness. This also, includes sending charitable donations to the appropriate agency, causes, or family member's funeral home. Whenever possible, this committee should announce "good news" of interest and pride as well.

### **6.1.3. Internal Fundraising**

#### **6.1.3.1. Ham Sale**

Around Easter, members sell and distribute hams to raise funds for Kiwanis projects.

Contact: Brian Harr – 330-805-0588

#### **6.1.3.1. White Elephant Auction**

A fun internal fundraiser is held during a regular meeting each May. Members bring in quirky, useful, or homemade items to auction. The more odd the donation, the more fun members have in bidding.

Proceeds support club operations and service projects. Know an auctioneer willing to donate time for this event? We have a few we have used but are always on the lookout for others in case of

illness/schedule conflict. Contact: Linda Hoffmann – 330-603-9690 |

[lhoffmannjoseph@zoominternet.net](mailto:lhoffmannjoseph@zoominternet.net)

*NOTE: The method described is how we have done the White Elephant Auction in the past, this may change in the coming year.*

#### **6.1.3.2. Happy Dollars**

In the name of fun and fellowship and to raise money for the Club this committee seeks those persons who contribute money in exchange for an announcement about their reason for being happy. Excuses for being happy may include one's own or someone else's birthday, or anything that rates a contribution to the club. Innovative announcements are welcome. The club Secretary collects the money and either the person giving the money or the Secretary announces the reason for the Happy Dollar(s).

## **6.2. Administration Committee**

Managed by the club President-Elect. The purpose is to assure the effective organization of the club's leadership selection process, financial affairs, safety and risk management concerns, by-law/club policy review, and historical preservation of records.

## **6.3. Membership Committee**

Managed by the Immediate Past President. The purpose is to assure healthy club membership growth, retention, education, and recognition.

## **6.4. Service Projects Committee**

Managed by a member of the Board of Directors. The purpose is to determine, with approval of the Board of Directors, the needs in our community, especially of children and youth, and to develop, implement and maintain projects which help meet those needs.

## 6.4.1. Service Project Committees

### 6.4.1.1. Boys and Girls State

The club sponsors one male and one female student each year to attend this immersive leadership program that teaches students about state government. It is operated by the American Legion and held each summer at college campuses in Ohio.

Contact: Keith Dirham - [dirham\\_1@yahoo.com](mailto:dirham_1@yahoo.com)

### 6.4.1.2. Christmas Shopping

Each December, Kiwanians take Medina students (K-12) shopping for new winter clothing at Kohl's and Walmart. Students are paired with members for a morning of shopping. The club covers a set amount for each student, and members may personally contribute additional funds if they wish. It is a Christmas gift for students who might not otherwise be able to receive new items during the holidays. Shopping takes place over two mornings, roughly 8:30 – 11:30 am in early December and a three-hour requirement is required. Starting in November, volunteer sign-up lists are circulated at weekly meetings. Sign up for the first time, and we will pair you up with a member who has experience volunteering for this project. If you enjoy spending time with children, have the Christmas spirit, and enjoy shopping, then this is a great project for you! Planning begins in late October, and all are welcome to help with planning, recruiting volunteers, contacting the stores, and assigning volunteers to a student. The best part of the project - seeing a student smile when they get to try on and then get to take home new clothes! Heartwarming when they ask if they could buy something for their family members! This project gets you into the holiday spirit.

Contact: Tim Nelson – 216-406-7243 [tpnwebmail@gmail.com](mailto:tpnwebmail@gmail.com)

### 6.4.1.3. Camp Manatoc

This committee was created to help the Boy Scouts of America. Cleaning and repair of a cottage and any needed maintenance work is performed in the spring at the Boy Scout Camp near Peninsula, Ohio. Each year this committee coordinates our club's participation with the Division in the Camp Manatoc Work Day. The work day is in June and we try to get as many club members as possible to head over to Camp Manatoc to do repairs/maintenance and cleaning on the cabin that we maintain.

Contact: Keith Dirham

### 6.4.1.4. Scholarships

Kiwanis provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors pursuing college or technical training. Scholarship values typically range from \$500 to \$1,500. The committee promotes the program to Key Club members, reviews applications, and hosts a recognition luncheon for recipients. The club also has a dedicated scholarship with the County Forward Fund to support a student entering directly into a career post high school.

Contact: Dale Weygandt – [dweygandt4091x@gmail.com](mailto:dweygandt4091x@gmail.com) | 330-391-1778

### 6.4.1.5. Student of the Month

This committee encourages and promotes outstanding citizenship and scholarship at all eight of Medina County's Sr. High Schools on a monthly basis by providing a county-wide coordinator and selection process by which two students are selected as "Student-of-the-Month" and are honored in several local newspapers and at each school. Each month, starting in October of each school year, each of Medina County's eight high schools appointed students "selection committees" nominate and then select their two students.

Contact: Joan Samkow

#### **6.4.1.6. Young Children Priority One – Youth Services**

Young Children: Priority One (YCPO) is an ongoing service program of Kiwanis International, addressing the needs of young children ages 0-5. Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to carry out at least two YCPO projects per calendar year helping children, families, and communities with critical issues affecting youth. YCPO projects are divided into four categories: General, Maternal & Infant Health, Child Care and Development, Parent Education & Support and Safety & Pediatric Trauma. Our club has joined Youth Services with YCPO to make one committee with several subcommittees.

Contact: Nancy Abbott

##### **6.4.1.6.1. Macy Hallock 6th Grade Essay Contest**

Named after Mr. Macy Hallock, who was a 65-year member of this club, a lifelong learner and a generous community member. Sixth-grade students at Medina’s middle schools write essays highlighting local nonprofits that make a difference in our community. Kiwanians read and score the essays, and winners are invited to present their work at a club meeting. The selected nonprofits receive a donation from the club, and the student receives a gift card for \$25. The purpose is to encourage literacy, to give the students an opportunity to use the grammar they have learned, and to practice writing an essay. Students also learn about and research local organizations. This project requires up to 2 hours of reading the packet of essays and choosing the four or five best. It could also include two short meetings: One to determine the rules/regulations of the contest and the other to help determine the final winners. To get involved, sometime in January or February, approach the chairperson and say you would like to help with the reading of the essays. We are currently looking for a co-chair to assist with this project.

Contact: Barb Woodard – [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com) | 330-321-2408

##### **6.4.1.6.2. Bicycle Rodeo**

A newer event promoting bike safety and fitness among children. In partnership with Medina City Schools and Eddy’s Bike Shop, Kiwanis provides free helmets, and the Medina Police provides free safety demonstrations. This event is held in May at the Ray Mellert Park.

Contact: Barb Woodard – [barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com](mailto:barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com) | 330-321-2408

##### **6.4.1.6.3. Teen Mental Health**

The club sponsors peer-to-peer suicide prevention programming (Hope Squads) at Medina High School and Buckeye Middle School. In addition, we annually give mental health program funding in the name of Todd Brumbaugh, a Medina High School Key Club member who died in 1983 and whose parents established a fund in his name.

Contact: Krista Wasowski

##### **6.4.1.6.4. Family Basic Needs Support**

Our club makes yearly donations of either infant supplies and/or financial support to three groups who work with young families in need. These are: Birthcare of Medina County, Oasis of Hope, and Oaks Family Care Center.

Contact: Nancy Abbott

#### **6.4.2. Service Leadership Programs (SLPs)**

These youth leadership programs help students learn community service, teamwork, and responsibility.

- **K-Kids:** Blake, Canavan, Fenn, Northrup, and Waite Elementary Schools

- **Builders Club:** Middle Schools (on pause for 2025-2026 school year)
- **Key Clubs:** Medina, Highland, and Buckeye High Schools  
Kiwanis members serve as advisors and mentors for each group.  
*Contact: Krista Wasowski - [commish35.52@gmail.com](mailto:commish35.52@gmail.com) 419-571-6343*

### 6.4.3. 50th Golden Anniversary Luncheon

Each July, the club celebrates Medina County couples marking their 50th wedding anniversary with a special luncheon held just before the County Fair. During the month of June, members help collect names that celebrate from July 1, of current year to June 30 of following year. This is because the event is in July, the Thursday before the Medina County Fair. Members also mail invitations.

*Contact: Joan Rundle – 330-388-4751 | [makeoveru@zoominternet.net](mailto:makeoveru@zoominternet.net)*

### 6.4.4. Community Services

This committee receives funding requests for projects that support the community good, but which do not fall within the mission of other Kiwanis committees. *Contact: Greg Huber*

#### 6.4.4.1. Project MUNCH

Held at the Salvation Army, Kiwanians help prepare and serve more than 100 free meals to Medina families, seniors, and individuals in need. Shifts are two hours, either 2:00–4:00 p.m. for prep or 4:00–6:00 p.m. for serving. Kiwanis Volunteer Day is the Wednesday of the last full week of each month. Sign up via SignUpGenius or the signup sheet distributed at the meetings. Kitchen skills are helpful, but not necessary. A positive, upbeat attitude is a must. Project MUNCH is as much a social event as it is a free meal. Medina's less fortunate are able to socialize during their meal with others sharing similar challenges in life - they find community. They also find compassion from the Kiwanians who serve them. *Contact: Tim Nelson – [tpnwebmail@gmail.com](mailto:tpnwebmail@gmail.com)*

#### 6.4.4.2. Highway Cleanup

Volunteers meet four times each summer to pick up litter along Route 18 from Medina Hospital to Nettleton Road. It can take from one to three hours per occasion. Safety gear is provided. You need to have the ability to walk a mile on a rough surface. *Contact: Owen Blakslee – 216-387-0377 | Brian Harr – 330-805-0588*

#### 6.4.4.3. Community Requests

In anticipation of unplanned requests this committee will budget for the unexpected. The committee shall maintain a set of criteria for the purpose to evaluate the request against the philosophies of Kiwanis. When a responsible request for money exceeds the committee's budget, they may take the request to the Board of Directors.

#### 6.4.4.1. MHS 50+ Year Graduates Reunion

In partnership with the Medina Breakfast Kiwanis, this annual luncheon reconnects Medina High School alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. Volunteers assist with sending invitations to about 2000 alumni, record responses and reservations, registration, programs, attendee lists, hospitality, and set-up. The time commitment is one or two hours at the reunion include registration, usher, welcoming. Preference is for MHS alumni to volunteer. *Contact: Owen Blakslee – 216-387-0377*

#### **6.4.5. Arbor Day**

Every April, our members volunteer to pot and distribute tree seedlings to give away to all third graders in Medina City, St. Francis, and Medina Christian Academy schools. This project promotes conservation and environmental awareness among young students. The Arbor Day program is a highlight for many of us as we get to hear reports from the top third-grade students. *Contact: Dale Weygandt – [dweygandt4091x@gmail.com](mailto:dweygandt4091x@gmail.com) | 330-391-1778*

#### **6.4.6. Kiwanis International Current Project**

This committee promotes the International project by educating the membership and develops a money making plan to carry out the desires of the Board of Directors. DESCRIPTION: Acting on the requests and information from Kiwanis International this committee usually promotes the Major Emphasis Project from the Kiwanis Foundation. A budget request is presented to the Board for approval in September each year. When approved this committee determines ways to raise the money for the Project.

### **6.5. Fundraising Committee**

Managed by a member of the Board of Directors. The purpose is to assure sufficient funds are raised annually to meet the budgets proposed expenditures for all service projects by developing, implementing and maintaining appropriate fundraising activities.

#### **6.5.1. Fundraising & Events**

##### **6.5.1.1. Christmas Caroling**

A lively evening of caroling through Medina restaurants alongside our Key Club students. Participants wear provided Santa or elf costumes and collect donations to fund the Christmas Shopping project for about 100 Medina area students K-12. Nearly \$150 is spent per student, and the profits of this event only cover a portion of the full cost to keep our students warm. Planning starts in September and the Christmas Caroling occurs in December. Quite a bit of work goes into putting this together and volunteers are always welcome to assist with preparations, marketing, find financial supporters, sing, or be present to start the donations at any of the restaurants we will be caroling at. It's a fun night out with fellow Kiwanians and our Key Club youth that leaves everyone in a great mood and gets the Christmas holiday off to a great start. Sometimes Mother Nature even cooperates to give us just a few snowflakes to add to the holiday cheer. Knowing that the funds raised help kids most in need get warm winter clothing makes it all worthwhile. *Contact: Linda Hoffmann – 330-603-9690 | [lhoffmannjoseph@zoominternet.net](mailto:lhoffmannjoseph@zoominternet.net)*

##### **6.5.1.2. Kiwanis Cookout (Art in the Park)**

During Medina's Art in the Park festival, the club traditionally sold chicken, burgers, and sausages. In recent years, we have partnered and worked in a licensed food truck splitting proceeds. All funds benefit children and community projects. *Contact: Jim Haymond and Marty Gaska*

##### **6.5.1.3. Mother's Day Flower Sale**

Held the Friday and Saturday prior to Mother's Day for more than 40 years, members sell hanging baskets, ferns and 5-inch pots from Blooming Acres in Wadsworth. to the public. Funds support scholarships and youth programs.

*Contact: Krista Wasowski and Jim Haymond*

#### 6.5.1.4. *Parade of Flags*

Kiwanis teams place U.S. flags at homes and businesses throughout Medina six times a year: Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Patriot Day, and Veterans Day. Funds support local youth and community programs. Estimate 2 hours for each placement and pickup. There are plenty of teams that can use assistance. Join a team as a lead (large vehicle is necessary) a helper or fill-in. *Contact: Mike Short – mjshort12@gmail.com | 440-915-7862*

## 7. Appendix

### 7.1. Kiwanis New Member Checklist

#### **New Member Checklist**

- ✓ Attend orientation.
- ✓ Order a Medina Kiwanis shirt (your first one is paid for by Kiwanis)
- ✓ Join a committee.
- ✓ Participate in a service project.
- ✓ Attend weekly meetings and events.
- ✓ Receive and review the bylaws.

#### **Kiwanis Member Checklist**

- ✓ Provide the new member’s email address to The Brick editor (Kerry Kelley) and Nancy Abbott for the weekly email and the roster.
- ✓ Provide contact info and headshot for the roster – Nancy Abbott
- ✓ Provide a copy of the by-laws.

### 7.2. Calendar of Events

*Special Note:*

- *For any month with a fifth Thursday, a social event is held in place of the regular meeting.*
- *The Thanksgiving meeting is moved to the Wednesday immediately prior.*
- *Project MUNCH is the 4th Wednesday of every month, except November it’s the 3rd Wednesday.*

<b>Medina Kiwanis Calendar of Events</b>	
January	Blankets (Service Project) Replay4Kids (Service Project) Visit to the MCCC Center Café – Chef Tony
February	Valentines for County Home (Service Project) Heartfelt Thanks (Program) Ham Sale (Fundraising)
March	Medina Home & Garden Show (Member recruitment) Children’s Center Pinwheels (Service Project) Macy Hallock Essay Contest (Service Project)

<b>Medina Kiwanis Calendar of Events</b>	
April	Arbor Day Project (Education project) Good Friday Breakfast Easter Bunny Drop-Offs (Service Project)
May	Annual Meeting Replay4Kids (Service Project) Mother's Day Flower Sale (Fundraising) White Elephant Auction (Internal Fundraising) Camp Mantoc work day
June	Service Leadership Program (SLP) Students of the Year and Scholarships Boys/Girls State (Youth Service)
July	Replay4Kids (Service Project) Care Packages for Ronald McDonald House (Service Project) Art in the Park (Fundraising) 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebrations (Thursday before Fair)
August	Medina County Home (the week of the Medina County Fair) Club Picnic
September	Kiwanis Hall of Fame Replay4Kids (Service Project)
October	Installation of Officers Replay4Kids (Service Project)
November	Native Americans (Wednesday before Thanksgiving)
December	Christmas Caroling (Fundraising) Christmas Shopping / Winter Shopping with kids (Youth Service) Christmas Party Blankets (Service Project) County Home Cards (Service Project)

### **7.3. Kiwanis International Structure and Leadership**

Kiwanis International is a global organization structured to facilitate service and leadership at various levels, ensuring effective community impact worldwide. Here's an overview of its structure and leadership, with a focus on where the Medina Kiwanis Club fits in (for more information visit: <https://www.kiwanis.org/who-we-are/structure-and-leadership/>) :

#### **1. Club Level:**

- **Local Clubs:** The foundation of Kiwanis International, where members engage in community service projects. Each club operates autonomously, addressing local needs.
- **Medina Kiwanis Club:** As a local club, it serves the Medina community through various initiatives and projects.

## 2. Division Level:

- **Divisions:** Groups of clubs within a specific geographic area form a division. Each division is led by a Lieutenant Governor who supports and coordinates the clubs.
- **Medina's Division:** The Medina Kiwanis Club is part of a division that includes other nearby clubs, fostering collaboration and shared service projects.

## 3. District Level:

- **Districts:** Comprising multiple divisions, districts provide resources, training, and support to clubs. Each district is led by a Governor.
- **Ohio District:** Medina Kiwanis is part of the Ohio District, which encompasses all Kiwanis clubs in the state. The Ohio District offers guidance and organizes events like conventions and leadership training.

## 4. International Level:

- **Kiwanis International:** The overarching body that connects all districts and clubs globally. It is governed by the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees, including a President, President-Elect, Vice President, Immediate Past President, and 15 Trustees elected from various regions.

This hierarchical structure ensures that while clubs like Medina Kiwanis focus on local community service, they are supported by a network that provides resources, leadership development, and opportunities for broader impact.

To learn more, visit: <https://www.kiwanis.org/who-we-are/structure-and-leadership/>

## 7.4. Elections Overview

For detailed information, please refer to the by-laws. The administrative and fiscal year of the club is the same as Kiwanis International, which is October 1-September 30. Each position has a term of one year, except for the directors, their term is two years.

### 1. Eligibility for Office:

All officers and directors must be members in good standing with the club.

### 2. Nomination Process:

1. The Nominating Committee chooses and recommends the officers. Members can be nominated either in advance or from the floor during the annual meeting.
2. Nominees must consent to their nomination to be eligible.

### 3. Election Timing:

1. Elections are held at the **annual meeting**, which occurs between January 1 and May 15.
2. Members receive at least 30 days' notice before the annual meeting.

### 4. Offices Elected:

Positions include:

1. President
2. President-Elect
3. Vice President(s) (if applicable)
4. Secretary (if elected)
5. Treasurer

6. Board of Directors
5. **Voting Process:**
  1. Elections are conducted by majority vote of the members present.
  2. If no candidate achieves a majority, a new vote is taken with the nominee receiving the fewest votes removed from the ballot.
6. **Term of Office:**
  1. Most positions, including President and Treasurer, serve one-year terms beginning in October
  2. Directors may serve longer terms, typically up to three years, with staggered elections for continuity.
7. **Vacancies:**
  1. In the event of a vacancy, the President-Elect or Immediate Past President may assume the role of President.
  2. Other vacancies are filled through new elections or appointments as specified in the bylaws.

## **7.5. Responsibilities and Committees**

### **1. President**

Purpose: To provide overall leadership and direction for the club, ensuring its success in serving the community. The President presides over meetings, represents the club in official capacities, supports committees, and ensures that the club operates in accordance with Kiwanis International guidelines and its bylaws.

- A. Preside over club and board meetings
- B. Provide vision and leadership for the club's goals and strategic initiatives
- C. Serve as the primary liaison between the club, Kiwanis International, and the district leadership
- D. Support and guide committees to ensure their effectiveness
- E. Oversee member engagement and club growth initiatives
- F. Represent the club at official events, conferences, and community gatherings

### **2. President - Elect, Chair - Administration**

Purpose: To assure the effective organization and operation of the club's leadership selection process, financial affairs, safety and risk management concerns, bylaw/club policy review, and historical preservation of records.

- A. Budget
- B. Financial review
- C. Nominating
- D. Risk management
- E. Archives
- F. By-laws / Policy review.

### **3. Vice-President, Chair - Program**

Purpose: To assure that weekly club meetings are conducted in good order and contain uplifting programs appropriate to the purposes of Kiwanis.

- A. Programs
- B. House Set-up
- C. Music
- D. Special Events

E. Human / Spiritual Values

F. Internal Fundraising

**4. Immediate Past President, Chair - Membership**

Purpose: To assure healthy club membership growth, retention, education and recognition.

A. Membership Growth and Education

B. Interclub Activities

C. Public Relations

D. Membership Directory

E. Member Recognition

**5. Board Member, Chair - Service Project**

Purpose: To determine, with the approval of the Board of Directors, the needs in our community, especially of children and youth, and to develop, implement and maintain projects which help meet those needs.

A. Young Children

B. Youth Services

C. Service Leadership

D. Scholarships

E. Community Services

F. Agriculture / Conservation

G. KI Current

**6. Board Member, Chair - Fundraising**

Purpose: To assure that sufficient funds are raised annually to meet the budget's proposed expenditures for all service projects by developing, implementing and maintaining appropriate fundraising activities.

A. Flags

B. Christmas Caroling

C. Mother's Day Flower Sale

D. Kiwanis Cookout