

Kiwanis

NEWSLETTER

The Gateway Gazette News

Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands

Volume 1, Issue 19

Week of – January 13, 2009 – January 20, 2009

Upcoming Dates

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| January 20 | Habitat for Humanity – Trish Goins |
| January 22 | Inter-Club at San Carlos Park-Estero – Talk of the Town, 7:15 a.m. |
| January 24 | Calusa 5K Bug Chase |
| January 27 | Southwest Florida Marine Institute – Windye McNeal, Executive Director |
| January 31 | Florida Kiwanis Zone Conference - see page 2 – This will give all new comers insight to Kiwanis. It is well worth attending, you will not go away disappointed. Kelly suggests carpooling or going the night before and making it a fun time. Let her know |
| February 2 | Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30, all members are welcome |
| February 3 | ECHO – Mike Sullivan |
| February 9 | Children’s Hospital Tour. Tour will be conducted by hospital staff, Dr. Iacuone will be in attendance. Tour will begin at 2pm, Danielle is asking that teens be able to attend. Please call, email or ask her at the next meeting for more info. |
| February 10 | Harlem Heights Improvement Association – Angela Jackson, Resident Coord. |
| February 17 | Brightest Horizons Child Development Center – Tina Parsons, Exec Director |
| February 21 | 9am – Harry Chapin Food bank tour – bring your family help sort food items |
| February 24 | Lee County Alliance for the Arts – Lydia Black |
| March 3 | Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Florida – Michele Guptill |

Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers-Metro “Calusa 5K Bug Chase” Is Being Supported by the Fort Myers Track Club

The **Fort Myers Track Club** was founded in 1978 to promote health and fitness through running. Membership is open to all ages and abilities. Our 400 ± members range from speedy racers to recreational joggers and walkers. Group runs are scheduled throughout the week year around. Typically there’s a good mix of gender, pace and distance from the beginner to marathon training.

Become a member of the **FMTC**, you will be part of a organization that conducts approximately 20 races a year of various sizes and distances from road races to trail running including the nationally recognized **Edison Festival of Light**. We provide a professional event from start to finish including our own chip timing. Club members enjoy discounts on merchandise from a variety of stores around the area and at selected events. Each member receives our quarterly newsletter and race flyers as well as membership into the national organization Road Runners Club of America.

The **FMTC** is a non-profit 501 c (3) organization and supports many other local charitable organizations with the technical support in producing high quality races. We work closely with Team in Training, Leukemia Lymphoma Society, Rotary Affiliates, Lee County YMCA and the national leader in finding a cure for breast cancer Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Like many other non-profit organizations, our success depends on the active participation from many of our members. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to provide sponsorship to an event, please contact us! The Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers-Metro has now been added to the list of charitable organizations that have been supported by **FMTC**.

Organizer of the event, Hannah Pelle from the Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers-Metro told us more about the first ever, running event at the Calusa Nature Center. Let’s support one of our sponsor clubs by volunteering to help them out on January 24th. We have at least two club members planning to participate in the event.

Club & Board Meeting Happenings

For those of you unable to attend the meeting immediately after the January 5th Board meeting, highlights and summary follows. A fund of \$100 was approved for Danielle Emery’s project “Team in Training for Leukemia Lymphoma Society.” Other Community Service projects that have been adopted include, the Governor’s Hats & Hugs project, Read Around the World project to be conducted at Heights Elementary School, Every Child A Swimmer, and “Kiwanis One Day” on April 4th.

As funds in the club’s service account are somewhat limited, fundraising ideas discussed included requesting a grant for the Read Around the World project, selling Kiwanis peanuts, car wash, and working at an Everblades concession booth. If any member has any other ideas, please share them with any officer or board member.

An Inter-Club was completed at the Kiwanis Club of Riverdale-Lee County Medieval-Faire with 8 Gateway members volunteering to work a few hours at their event on January 11th.

Our room location at Crown Colony has moved because of low attendance numbers, now that the holidays are over, please plan to attend the next meeting! We need members to participate and make us a stronger, successful club. PS. Networking has occurred several times with members.

Kelly Sonnanstine – President
Matt Ponzio – President-Elect
Danielle Emery – Vice President
Valerie Petracco – Treasurer
Terry Luster – Secretary

George Eddy – Director
Chris Heidrick – Director
Mike Huisman – Director
Jack Liptak – Director
Viki Luster – Director