

Kiwanis

NEWSLETTER

The Gateway Gazette News

Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands

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Editor: Viki Luster

“Hunger makes a thief of any man.” Pearl S. Buck

Upcoming Dates

June 9	Girl Scouts of America Community Development – Megan Fasig
June 9	San Carlos Park Inter-Club 6pm – Holiday Inn-Alico Rd & Ben Hill Griffin Pkwy
June 15	Noon Inter-Club Kiwanis Hall – Downtown Fort Myers
June 16	TBA
June 21	Happy Fathers Day
June 21	Taste of the Beach – Service - Volunteer Opportunity
June 23	TBA
June 25-28	International Convention – Nashville Tennessee
July 4	Happy Birthday America
July 6	Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30, all members are welcome

“Delicious Dining Discounts”

We have about \$5200 from our sales of the Dinning Books. This does not mean you should quit trying to sell them. We sold 3 at the Iona McGregor Interclub last Thursday and one of their members who has an insurance agency took 10 to sell for us. Think out of the box to boost sales, the need is great and the book sales will enable us to help.

Community Cooperative Ministries Inc, The New Hungry

With permission, I copied Pastor David Stauffer's message to the congregation of Faith United Methodist Church. Viki Luster

Today at my Kiwanis Club meeting, we had as our speaker Sarah Owen the CEO of Community Cooperative Ministries Inc. It's no secret that times are tough in our community right now. And I'm sure we all know someone who is hurting. Sarah opened our eyes to just how widespread the problem is and that there is a new group of people being cared for in our community. Sarah tells us that there has been a 162% increase in calls for service to CCMI this year. And the new group calling for service is what she calls the new hungry. The new hungry are persons who until recently came from two income levels: middle income and upper middle income. These are families that had good houses, good jobs, have been well fed all their lives, and were living comfortably. Now for the first time in their lives they are experiencing poverty, hunger, and in some instances homelessness. She shared with us that one family who is now living in their van have managed to keep secret from friends, school, and family that they are now homeless. They are dependent upon organizations like CCMI for help. She tells us that all around us are proud people who have never ever had to ask for assistance and frankly don't know where to start. And when they do, they are embarrassed to ask. We can help CCMI by giving generously to this ministry. And soon we may be able to help in more tangible ways as well. I would invite all who read this to consider either making a donation to Faith Church and mark it CCMI (these will be forwarded immediately to CCMI) or by contacting CCMI directly to volunteer or to give donations. CCMI's number is 239-332-7687. We can be proud that we have many volunteers from Faith Church that work with CCMI and that we already contribute financially to this organization. And we can be proud that CCMI refers many to our Clothes Closet. In such times as these anyone, and I mean everyone, could find themselves in a similar situation. All of us are feeling the pinch. But it is also times like these that give the church as the followers of Jesus Christ the opportunity to give with love to those in need. Blessings, David

Board Meeting Update

We have donated \$500 to the Boys & Girls Club for their summer programs that will service five youth for 10 weeks. They will be fed 2 meals a day and kept busy 5 days a week. The youth are from the 33908 zip code area. Kelly Sonnanstine and Matt Ponzio will be our delegates to the International Convention. Kelly Sonnanstine, Matt Ponzio, and Danielle Emery will be our delegates to the Florida District Convention. Builders Club advisor Steve Wagner was approved as a member, with induction set for June 16th, his first opportunity to attend a meeting after school is out. We will explore the idea of helping the Metro Club with the Every Child a Swimmer program and spend a few \$\$ on hats to complete the Hugs and Hats program. Next meeting July 6th.

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
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