



# GREEN RIVER KIWANIS

Green River Kiwanis meets Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. at Milestones  
Child Development Center, 621 S. Cullen Ave., Evansville, IN  
Greenriverkiwanis.org

April 14, 2010

Today was our special guest day. Visitors in attendance were Matt Bertram, Byron Cooper, John Endress, Mark Faris, George Flowers, David Hawkins, Mike Jacobs, Jay Keller, Mary Kessler, Cheryl Musgrave, Andrew Reising, Jeff Seaton, Elaine Shoup, Latoya Smith, Marcia Stearns, Dirk Sullivan, Helen Templeton, Sarah Thomas, Gene VanStone, Don Weddle, David Westfall, Adam White, Andrej Wright, Todd Yoder, and Terry Yunker. A warm GRK welcome goes to all.

Just recently they've been able to add tutoring to their services. It teaches kids in the economically depressed Jacobsville neighborhood to give back to the community and how to become responsible citizens. There's a Food Bank once a month. A backpack program provides food for the weekend. There are a huge Thanksgiving meal and 3 Christmas parties for the neighborhood, with an upcoming Mother's Day banquet. GRK serves a meal to high schoolers once a month.

Our first speaker to tell our guests about GRK's projects was Bill Scruggs, director of services at the Dream Center. The Dream Center started 12 years ago when a young neighborhood boy was taken out to eat and clothes shopping. The next week his brother wanted to go along, and it just mushroomed from there. At first it was housed in a broken down building at Tennessee and Main, also using donated spaces at churches, Bosse Field, and Garvin Park. Bill likened this stage to the Israelites wandering in the wilderness. Through much generosity and lots of fundraising, a new facility was built at 16 W. Morgan, and when it opened in 2007, it was debt free! It's the only Dream Center in the country to serve only kids. In addition to a large gym, there are computers and classrooms upstairs, so kids have a time to play and a time for schoolwork.



**Kim Johnson**, principal at Lincoln, told our guests about Kiwanis' BUG program. BUG stands for Bringing Up Grades, and recognizes kids who raise any grade by at least one letter. Many of these kids will never make the honor roll, but this way their hard work is still rewarded. GRKiwanians attend these programs, congratulating the students and teaching them how to shake someone's hand and look him/her in the eye. **Kim** has visited homes where the only thing on the wall was a BUG certificate. GRK supports BUG programs at 7 schools.



## GRK Officers / Staff

President	Chuck Young
President-Elect	Rocky Sheneman
Vice President	John Worthington
Treasurer	Tiffany Wynn
Secretary	Fran Black
Newsletter Editor	Mona Meyer
Newsletter Publisher	Bob Naas

**Tom Slade** talked about GRK's annual sports awards. The All Sports Trophy goes to the Evansville high school which has the best overall athletic achievement in both boys and girls sports. Memorial High School has won this award for quite some years running. GRK also presents the Ki-



wanis Mental Attitude Award to baseball/softball players from each city school and the 2 universities. This award is unique because it actually awards qualities like leadership, inspiration, self sacrifice, etc. more highly than mere athleticism.

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Newish GRKiwanian (she joined after last year's Guest Day) **Darla Lindauer** spoke of her reasons for joining GRK. While touting the ability to be truly "stylin'" with the GRK polos and the favorable male to female membership ratio, **Darla** says that joining GRK gave her a good opportunity to be part of a broad based community service organization, citing the integrity of the Kiwanis name and GRK's own heart and soul.

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GRKiwanian for 22 years, member of Kiwanis International Foundation, past Indiana district governor, and all around Kiwanis booster

**Steve Page** gave our guests a feel for the larger organization. Kiwanis started in 1915 in Detroit and is now in 94 countries. Kiwanians sponsor clubs for students at all grade levels; GRK specifically sponsors Key Clubs at Harrison, Memorial, and North High Schools and Circle K at UE. These clubs teach a sense of responsibility at an early age. Kiwanis further supports education through giving scholarships. Indiana Kiwanians have a special relationship with Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, donating much time and money over the years. Locally, our Riley Walkathon (May 1 this year) raises some \$20,000; this area (known as the Southwind Division in Kiwanis-speak) raises more money for Riley than any other in the

state. A number of GRKiwianians have gone on to be lieutenant governors (division level) and governors (district/state). **Steve** noted that there are only 2 requirements to become a Kiwanian: be at least 18 years of age, and have a caring heart. You get out of GRK what you put in!

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Congratulations to **Larry Twycross**, a new GRKiwanian who has earned what we jokingly call his "Big Boy" badge. For our guests, this means that he has participated in a project, attended a board meeting, served as a greeter, been part of an interclub (visiting another local Kiwanis club), and attended an orientation.

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Here's a photo of the billboard honoring our Firefighter of the Year award winner.



Thought of the week, courtesy of **Mona Meyer**:

People have a way of becoming what you encourage them to be—not what you nag them to be.

