



# 50 years of community service ...and a whole lot of fun!



A chronicle of community service projects  
of the Kiwanis Club of Grand Haven, Michigan

Chartered March 1941

KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN

FIFTY YEARS  
OF  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE...

AND GOING  
FOR 100!

*THIS IS TRULY AMAZING!*

As we went through 50 years of Grand Haven Kiwanis Bulletins, Board of Director's minutes, news articles, photos, and other artifacts relating to the Grand Haven Club and the Kiwani - Queens, item after item came to light that demonstrated a long and strong commitment to community service. And the community, in our case, was defined in it's broadest terms - local, state, national and international!

"Contributions" as listed in this publication, go well beyond merely "sending a check". In the true sense of community service, Grand Haven Kiwanians and their "Queens" have contributed thousands upon thousands of person-hours for the betterment of the community and in assistance to needy individuals.

Many of the contributions, both in dollars and in "people time", have gone unnoted and, perhaps, unremembered except by a grateful recipient. So we cannot claim this to be a complete record. Each member over the years, we suspect, has had a small but meaningful "personal project" that Kiwanis has inspired. Perhaps it was bringing in a new Kiwanian; perhaps, after hearing a program, some have been lead to personally support a worthy cause; it may be that several have had "life-changing" experiences and callings due to some subtle inspiration from a Kiwanis meeting or a Kiwanis colleague.

What is recorded here, we are sure, is but a small part of the contribution that we have made to our local and broader community.

We have made a difference! And at the end of the next fifty years of service, in the year 2041, we will meet to celebrate one hundred years of community service. What a difference we will have made then!

W.B.C.

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This booklet has been researched and written by  
Bill Cansfield, Russ Lawrence, and Lloyd McLaughlin.  
February, 1991.



**KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN**

**MICHIGAN  
DISTRICT,  
DIVISION 15,  
AND GRAND  
HAVEN  
OFFICERS AND  
BOARD  
1990 - 1991**

**MICHIGAN DISTRICT OFFICERS**

Governor	Clifford Clack
Secretary - Treasurer	Doug Alexander
Lt. Governor, District 15	Don McCoy

**KIWANIS CLUB OF GRAND HAVEN  
1990 - 1991 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

President	Jim Bonner
President - Elect	Nick DeHaan
Immediate Past President	Ed Post
Secretary	Don Poole
Treasurer	Mike Miller
Sgt. At Arms	Phil Trumpfheller
Directors	Guy Terrill 1993 Pat Shears 1993 Neil Brohm 1993 Phil Trumpfheller 1993 Bob Brinkert 1991 Gary Race 1991 Gordon VanBeek 1991

The Kiwanis Club of Grand Haven meets every Tuesday,  
12.05 P.M. at the United Methodist Church of the Dunes,  
717 Sheldon Road at Colfax, Grand Haven, Michigan.



**KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN**

**PAST  
PRESIDENTS**

**LIEUTENANT  
GOVERNORS**

**GRAND HAVEN KIWANIS CLUB  
PAST PRESIDENTS  
AND  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS**

Arthur Giesecking 1941	James Van Zylén 1942	Louis Van Schelven 1943
Stephen Mead* 1944	Martin Van Schelven 1945	Paul Babcock 1946
Herman Schaafsma 1947	Harvey Scholten 1948	Lloyd McLaughlin* 1949
John Van Schelven 1950	Maurice Overholt 1951	Marshall Johnston 1952
Douglas Baker 1953	Virgil Quebbeman 1954	Marvin Patterson 1955
James Jacobs 1956	Ray Wernock 1957	Otto Larsen 1958
Oscar Anderson 1959	George Johnson 1960	Ralph Cook 1961
Walter Draeger 1962	Maurice Wilson* 1963	Wilbur Husted 1964
Otto Vanden Bosch 1965	Keith Clymer 1966	Mitchell Godsmán 1967
R. Neal Stanton 1968	Ronald Ruscett 1969	Walter Bright 1969-70
James Gray 1970-71	William Beach 1971-72	John Kistler 1972-73
Donald Sheffield 1973-74	Gordon Osbeck 1974-75	Marion C. Travis 1975-76
David J. Klaasen 1976-77	Gordon Van Beek 1977-78	Harold Schmidt 1978-79
Robert Plattner 1979-80	Kenneth Terpstra 1980-81	William Cansfield* 1981-82
David Bazany 1982-83	Thomas Sobel 1983-84	Gary R. Race 1984-85
Norm Woods 1985-86	Guy P. Terrill 1986-87	Robert L. Brinkert 1987-88
Donald Hieftje 1988-89	Edward Post 1989-90	James Bonner 1990-91

\*Past Lieutenant Governor



KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN

COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS  
1941 - 1950

March 5, 1941

*Special meeting of the Board of Directors called to order by President Art Giesecking at the Ferry Hotel \**

*Charter Night, Tuesday, May 17, 1941, Spring Lake Country Club. 144 guests, 37 members present. Meal cost: \$1.50.*

Two road signs purchased "to be put up at the entrance to the city together with the plates showing the place and time of the meeting."

Became a member of the Grand Haven Chamber of Commerce.

*Raised the price of meals to 80 cents.*

Organized a Career Day.

Conducted a "White Elephant Sale".

Kiwanis Queens get 25% of White Elephant Sale proceeds.

Pledged to raise at least \$400.00 for the Community Chest.

Purchased \$500.00 worth of "E" Bonds for the underprivileged children's fund.

Agreed to sponsor a hard ball league.

Contributed to Goodfellows and Michigan Tuberculosis Society.

*"Motion by Babcock supported by Ginter we limit the membership ... to 70 members." - December 13, 1943.*

Sponsored March of Dimes.

Donated to the American Red Cross.

Sponsored a Sea Scout Ship.

Purchased postcards to send to servicemen overseas.

Sponsored Big Brother movement in conjunction with Rotary and Juvenile Court.

Took on a project to take charge of the Preinduction Program for inductees.

Supported the Community League Lecture Series.

Sent \$25.00 to the Ann Arbor Hospital Fund.

(more)

\* Items in italics are not necessarily Community Service Projects, but may be of interest as events in the life of the Grand Haven Kiwanis Club.



KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN

COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS

1941 - 1950 (continued)

*Voted to "increase the membership from 75 to 80." - November 12, 1945.*

*"Emergency meeting, 8:00 p.m. [January 15, 1946]. For the purpose of selecting a meeting place while fire damage is being repaired at the Methodist Church."*

Bought eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Authorized funds to support High School band at Michigan State College.

Held a paper drive.

Donated to the Percy Jones Hospital Christmas Gift Fund.

*"Increase membership to 85." - January 3, 1947.*

Sent two boys to Boy's State.

A "Kiwaniis - Kane", a lighted cane for the blind, was given to a local blind person.

*"John Van Schelven made a motion to raise the membership ceiling from 85 to 90." - March 29, 1948.*

Approved a Horse Show to be held July 9, 1949.

Bought two memberships for "deserving youngsters" to the Highland Park Tennis Club.

OUR FIRST DECADE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!



KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN

COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS  
1951 - 1960

Manned the Polio Plank for the March of Dimes every January, both in Grand Haven and Spring Lake.

Served dinner to the football team after each home game.

Sponsored two boys to Wolverine Boy's State.

*"A dinner party was held at the Spring Lake Country Club with spouses. The dinner was a steak that melted in your mouth." - March 1955.*

Sent one or two children to a speech clinic for several years.

Planted evergreen trees on club owned land for soil conservation and animal habitat. Many work bees for planting and pruning were held by the club.

Undertook the project of building a housing unit at the Boy Scout facility at Camp Kirk. Building completed and presented to the Grand Valley Council in October, 1958.

*The entire club and spouses took a trip on the Coast Guard Cutter Woodbine to White Lake for "buoy tending." A fine meal was served aboard the ship and everyone had a fine time. - June 1959.*

Contributed annually to the Fournay Clement Foundation.

**OUR SECOND DECADE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!**



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CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN**

**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS  
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**OUR SECOND DECADE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!**





KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
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HAVEN

COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS

1961 - 1970 (continued)

Sponsored students to Wolverine Boy's State.

Assisted in sending Junior High Students to Blue Lake Music Camp.

Collected items to be sent to troops in Viet Nam.

*"Travel and Adventure profits to:*

*Viet Nam Project*

*Christian Haven Home (tickets)*

*Feeding football teams*

*Little League*

*Visitor's Guide (church page)*

*Forney Clement Foundation*

*Boy's State*

*Teen Radio Program*

*Student Service Clubs*

*Christmas Gifts for Needy"*

*- from the Bulletin, September 19, 1967*

Sponsored Junior High Flag Football.

Donated to Salvation Army for Camp fees.

Proceeds from a music appreciation program go to the boy's and girl's assistance fund.

Profits from refreshments at Little League games returned to Little League.

Gave financial support to Ski Bowl.

Sent five Eagle Scouts to dinner in Grand Rapids.

Contributed to the High School Choir Robe fund.

Gave to local United Fund.

Paid student tuition for summer remedial program.

Supported purchase of equipment for Tri-Cities YMCA.

Sponsored a Kiwanis float in the Coast Guard Parade.

Gave an appreciation dinner for the High School Band.

Provided dental services to a needy school youngster.

Pledged financial support of North Ottawa Hospital Authority.

Financially supported "Washington Classroom" project for Grand Haven High School Students.

Supported the Glenn Haven project.

Involved in the "Trees for Coho Drive" project.

OUR THIRD DECADE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!



KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN

COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS  
1971 - 1980

*"A Kiwanis sponsored travelogue Thursday night raised enough money to buy two more band uniforms," G. Walter Wolff, project chairman for Kiwanis announced today.* Grand Haven Tribune.

Hofma Park bike trails were planned and marked by a committee of the Kiwanis Club.

Supported World Vision.

*"The Grand Haven Kiwanis Club has voted to send an extra \$100.00 to the Forney W. Clement Memorial Foundation. This amount is in addition to \$350.00 sent earlier ..."* Grand Haven Tribune

Donated to the Tri-Cities Cooperative Christian Ministries Counseling Service.

Contributed to the Grand Valley Boy Scouts of America.

Donated to Young Life camper scholarships.

*After 34 years of Tuesday night meetings, Kiwanis tried a noon luncheon switch. Nearly 50 Kiwanians attended.*

Sponsored two boys to Wolverine Boy's State.

Supported a "Coffee House" program which combats drug abuse.

Assisted in the "Jobs for Teens" program.

*"I've become a committee of one," said Lloyd McLaughlin, "to maintain the Hofma Park bike trails."*

Helped pay for Explorer Post 2005 to attend a President's Congress in Washington D.C.

Became a Sustaining Member of Grand Valley Council, B.S.A.

Sponsored boys to Outward Bound experience in Colorado.

Supported two "needy membership" fees for the "Y".

Provided a booklet, "Later Years Can Be Greater Years" to area nursing homes.

Contributed to the YMCA building project.

OUR FOURTH DECADE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!



**KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN**

**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS  
1981 - 1990**

Contributed to a student involved in Blue Lake International Choir Tour.

Sponsored "Attic Treasures and Collector's Day", a Sesquicentennial Event.

Bought a new movie screen for Grand Haven Senior High School.

Contributed toward the 4th of July fireworks.

Built rabbit hutches and bleachers for the Ottawa Area Center.

Kiwanis Scholarships given to Grand Haven High School and Spring Lake High School students.

Assisted a refugee family in the area.

SOS! Save Old Spectacles! Collected more than 700.

Contributed to SCAN - Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect.

Contributed to Tri-Cities Ministers Counseling Service Challenge Grant.

Assisted the Muskegon Regional Center in its annual Christmas Project.

Rang Bells for the Salvation Army.

Sponsored radio safety ads prior to Halloween.

Participated in Project Concern International.

Donated to the Bangladesh Hunger Project.

Contributed to the Salvation Army to alleviate local hunger.

Sponsored students to Criminal Justice Career Camp.

Contributed to a local heart transplant recipient.

Donated to the Grand Haven tree planting project.

Gave support to RIF - "Reading Is Fun" Project.

Distributed Hospice information to area churches.

Gave a gift to the Grand Haven Chamber Choir.

Purchased 64 gifts for handicapped children.

Approved a gift to the Tri-Cities Historical Society in memory of John Van Schelven.

Fingerprinted thousands of local children in the Identi-Child Program.

(more)



**KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN**

**COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
PROJECTS**

**1981 - 1990 (continued)**

Provided brochures on alcohol and drugs to Driver Education students.

Contributed to YMCA's sustaining membership drive.

Sponsored a 24-hour Relay - raised \$12,000.00 for the Michigan Association of Retarded Citizens.

Provided Kiwanis Coloring Books for hospitalized children.

Contributed to Young Life.

Supported Lifeline emergency equipment to needy patients.

*"The membership at its March 29 meeting voted 21 -2 to drop gender as a membership requirement for Grand Haven Kiwanis Club."* - 1988

Sent students to Boy's and Girl's State.

Purchased Dial-A-Ride tickets for the elderly.

Pledged and contributed \$7,500.00 to Big Brother/ Big Sister. Supported by Travelogues and other projects.

*"Phil Trumpfheller apologized for the electrical outage that occurred exactly at 1:00 during last week's meeting. As a peace offering, Phil distributed night lights..."*

- Bulletin, February 3, 1988

Contributed \$250.00 for "healthful snacks" for migrant children.

Contributed \$150.00 to the Lighthouse Connector Park.

Donated to the Catwalk light project.

Provided handicapped seating for the Coast Guard Parade.

**OUR FIFTH DECADE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE!**



**KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN**

**OUR  
KIWANI -  
QUEENS  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
1941 - 1961**

*"On Tuesday, October 21, 1941 the wives of 19 members of the Kiwanis Club met at the home of Mrs. Marian Sherwood to form a Kiwani - Queens Club... The motion was made and seconded that the dues be set at (\$.25) twenty five cents per month."*

Provided funds for glasses for needy children.

Formed a committee to work on the Rotary - Kiwanis picnic to be held July 15.

Paid transportation for two children so they could attend Grand Haven High School.

Sponsored a nursery school for children of mothers working on the war effort.

Contributed to the Girl Scouts.

Contributed to the Red Cross.

Contributed to the March of Dimes.

Gave \$200.00 toward the purchase of an oxygen tent for Grand Haven Municipal Hospital.

Donated \$50.00 to the polio fund.

Contributed to an area dental hygiene project.

Supported the Community Chest.

Purchased shoes and glasses for needy children.

Distributed literature for the cancer drive.

Gave \$100.00 to the eye testing program.

Assisted with the hearing clinic.

*"A motion was made...we investigate the needs of the Grand Haven triplets."  
- Minutes, October 28, 1948.*

Derived \$528.94 from the White Elephant Sale.

Contributed to the Childrens' Ward of the hospital.

Continued support of the flourine program.

Sponsored a dinner for children at the Presbyterian church.



KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
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HAVEN

OUR  
KIWANI -  
QUEENS  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
1941 - 1961

1950 - 1960

The Annual Secretary's Report:

Derived \$468.26 from the White Elephant Sale.

Projects included - continued support of flourine treatment shoes for families recommended by the Red Cross  
specific donations:  
\$100.00 - polio fund  
50.00 - Red Cross  
25.00 - CARE for children's books  
150.00 - Girl Scout camping fund  
50.00 - Forney Clement Fund

Bought a cello for \$85.00 for the grade school orchestra.

Donated \$150.00 to the Community Chest.

Contributed \$100.00 to the Haven School for handicapped children.

Gave to the Tri-cities Boy Scouts towards Jamboree expenses.

Assisted in the purchase of a hospital resuscitator.

Bought two resting cots for the Haven School. Also blankets.

Paid dental bills for a needy person.

Sent a junior high student to U. of M. special camp.

Purchased glasses for a "deserving woman."

Gave a financial gift to the Muskegon Area Child Guidance Clinic.

Assisted with an adult hearing survey.

*Kiwani - Queens 1/2 share of procedes from the White Elephant Sale \$348.62.*

Red Cross Hurricane relief - \$25.00.

Assisted the Tri-cities Visiting Nurse Association.

Gift of a bassinette to the Ottawa County pre-natal class.

*"It was decided by the Kiwanians to dispense with the [White Elephant] Sale and instead stage a peanut sale during the annual Coast Guard Parade."  
- Minutes, April 28, 1959.*

Purchased glasses for a 14 year-old girl.



KIWANIS  
CLUB OF  
GRAND  
HAVEN

OUR  
KIWANI -  
QUEENS  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
1941 - 1961

*"Mrs. Walter Draeger was installed as new president of the Kiwani - Queens  
and Mrs. Michael Koteles was presented a bouquet as retiring president."  
- Grand Haven Tribune, January 1961.*

There appear to be no Kiwani - Queen records after this date.





INTERNATIONAL

**CHARTER**  
KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT

**The Kiwanis Club**  
of Grand Haven, Michigan

*has complied with all of the rules and regulations prescribed by*  
**KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL**

*and has been accepted as an affiliated club and is hereby vested with all  
of the rights, privileges and authority of an affiliated Kiwanis Club and  
by the acceptance of this charter has assumed all of the obligations.*

*In Testimony Whereof, Kiwanis International, a corporation  
organized and existing under the laws of Illinois has hereunto set its  
name and caused its corporate seal to be affixed hereto by its  
President and Secretary.*

**KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL**

*Mark Smith*

*March 4, 1941*

