



# Hoof Beats

## Kiwanis Club of the Horse Heaven Hills

PO Box 6798, Kennewick, WA 99336

[www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org](http://www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org)

**March 9, 2009**

Edited by: [John Lawson](#), [Donna Underwood](#), [Doug Brown](#)

If you have an announcement, advertisement, or article you'd like included, contact one of our editors.

Remember, there is always more information about our club on our website at [www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org](http://www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org)

President Joanna Harrington called the March 9 meeting to order. Larry Hansmeier gave our invocation and served as song leader. Dick Nordness was Wrangler.

Our guests this week were: Judy Small, a guest of Larry Hansmeier. We also hosted an Interclub from Pasco: Bob Greenwell, Bill Leggett, Darin Oman and Crane Bergman

Darin Oman won this week's raffle.

### **Birthdays, Anniversaries & Brags**

Mark Blotz pledged his IOU so that he could brag about his daughter's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. Don Barnes, is still recovering from the time change, but his Aunt was still operating on the old schedule when she called Sunday night. Donna and Wayne Underwood promised not to think about us at all while they enjoy 2 weeks in Hawaii. Sarah Longan apologized for providing her Interclubs report late this month. Lorraine Cooper said that two local Kennewick teachers had been awarded the Crystal Apple this year. She also explained a little about how meaningful the award is. You'll have to go to the ceremony to find out who the winners actually are though. Bob Greenwell also had good things to say about the Crystal Apple. Judy Small thanked Larry Hansmeier for inviting her today. She said her grandson's basketball team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in league play.

### **Announcements and Coming Events**

#### **Committee Meetings**

The Board of Directors will meet Thursday, February 12 at 11:45 in either the Quarterdeck or

Riverside Room. The J&S meeting was rescheduled—see the next entry for details.

#### **J&S**

Dick Nordness has asked us to put two dates on the calendar:



**March 23, 1pm (Monday)** – We will hold the J&S meeting for March on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday rather than the 3<sup>rd</sup> week this month. It is held immediately following the regular club meeting.

**April 18<sup>th</sup>, 10am (Saturday)** – **J&S work party.** We have a few maintenance tasks to take care of before the train begins operation just 2 weeks later. Come prepared to get a little dirty (we'll be doing a bit of lubrication and replacing a few tires), and maybe a little wet (we'll be giving the train a bath too). Join us and help make the work go fast. *Meet at the Edison St. garage in Columbia Park.*

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> KHHH Spring Potluck** **6:30 SATURDAY**

Don't miss out on the potluck organized by Youth Services for Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. It's being held at Kennewick First Christian Church located at the corner of 19<sup>th</sup> and Olympia. It's a potluck, so bring along any dish you'd like to share with the rest of us. There's no cost to attend, but (tax deductible) donations to the KHHH Foundation are hoped for. It promises to be an entertaining evening and there will be an auction to benefit the club. Contact [Doug Brown](#) if you have questions.



## Camp Kiwanis Workday



Don't forget to help out on the Division 54 workday scheduled April 4<sup>th</sup> to maintain our Camp Kiwanis facility. **Volunteers needed! Let's all do our part to support this valuable resource.**

Wayne Underwood took a hand count of our likely volunteers at today's meeting.

## Interclubs

Sarah Longan thanked Terry & Katherine Loney, Lauren Hedeem, Jo Harrington and Alex Burden for attending the Interclub with Walla Walla March 3rd.

Also...an Interclub opportunity.

### **March Interclub Calendar:**

**Wednesday, March 25** – Richland Club, noon at the Clarion Hotel. *2 volunteers are still needed.*

## More Coming Events

Jo Harrington circulated a volunteers signup to support the PTO Bookfair at Virgie Robinson March 9-15. Contact [Jo](#) for more details.

We are all invited to attend the Crystal Apple Award program (one of Youth Services sponsored events) March 29 at 4:40. Contact [Jo](#) for details.

The Kiwanis Zone conference will be April 18 in Pendleton, Oregon. Contact [Jo](#) for details.

## Tri-City Herald Parking Lot Sale

Don't forget our club's Spring Yardsale fundraiser **April 25<sup>th</sup>**. Find some items to gather together for our project. If you have large items let Sarah Longan know as soon as possible. Wayne has volunteered his barn for storage before the sale. Contact [Sarah](#) for details.

## Club History

Carolyn Lawson brought in the History Scrapbook she has been working on.

## Come to the Fur Ball

Donna Underwood noted a non-Kiwanis, but worthy event—the Fur Ball fundraiser for pet population control. It will be held at the Tri-City Convention Center at 6pm Friday, April 10.

## Membership

Don Barnes introduced Dick Nordness to talk about how he had come to be a Kiwanis member and what it has meant to him. Dick said that he first became interested in Kiwanis when he lived in Oregon, but he didn't have time then. He was reintroduced to Kiwanis at the Pasco club five or six years later, but joined the Kennewick club. When Horse Heaven Hills formed, he moved to this club. He also talked about how he finally began volunteering his time when he realized how much satisfaction other members gained.

### **Our Program Next Week :**

**Maxine Whattam  
City of Kennewick  
Recreation and Community Services**

### **This Week's Program:**

**Christy Watts & Darlene Pinney  
Ben-Franklin Transit**



*Darlene Pinney & Christy Watts*

This week we enjoyed an information-filled presentation by Christy Watts and Darlene Pinney from the Ben-Franklin Transit System. Both

ladies brought with them a wealth of knowledge about the transit system's issues and programs. Due to technical problems, we couldn't watch the audio-visual part of their presentation. But they more than made up for that with their shared presentation.

Ben Franklin Transit is a municipal corporation serving a 600 square mile service area. They operate 26 fixed route buses providing rides to 1400 people per day, 200 van pools, 80 dial-a-rides. They also partner with local taxi services to expand their service area to locations that don't require full-time service.

The transit service has a 9 member board of city and county representatives. They are funded in large part through local sales tax revenue. Fares are only a fraction of the actual costs, typically about 10%. Many buses are over 20 years old and have been driven more than 1 million miles. Some are not yet wheelchair equipped.

Van pools can do an effective job of delivering employees with similar commutes to their work sites. The vans operate on a full cost recovery basis and can travel as much as 170 miles per day.

Annual ridership has been growing, especially when fuel costs hit \$4 last year. This past year had 5.6 million transit boardings. Many local Tri-Citians are familiar with Shuttle Services such as those provided for the county fair and the boat races.

Dial-a-ride service is purposefully constrained to those with demonstrated need. This service has an average cost of \$22 per ride, even though the fare is only \$1.

Seniors (60 and above) and young children (under 5) ride free on the fixed routes.

When you have a connection through the taxi feeder service, there is no additional cost to the rider. The service is paid by the transit system. If a service need can be established for an area, it might initially be met by the taxi feeders until enough traffic developed to justify fixed route service. A new fixed bus route can cost \$250,000/year. Taxi feeders can also be used in areas where the roads are not suitable for large buses.

Travel Training is another service designed to help everyone who wants to learn to use the transit service. It is available to anyone, but is especially targeted to helping disabled riders cope with what can initially seem too complex for some to try. Darlene reported some success stories and some examples where the system wasn't able to be the answer as well. Effective Travel Training is one way to move riders from the costly Dial-a-Ride to use of the more efficient fixed route system.

The Travel Training program is based on three concepts:

**Approach** – getting a buy-in by the rider and their caregivers.

**Follow-through** – adjust, adjust, adjust to meet changed or evolving needs focusing on what the individual wants.

**Outcome** – Getting the freedom to travel within the system.

Darlene and Christy distributed information including route maps, and free passes to tryout the transit service.

Rider information is available at 735-5100 and on the [BFT.org](http://BFT.org) website.

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Saturday - 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Sunday - 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
CLOSED MONDAYS

Teams & Groups Welcome

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