



# Hoof Beats

## Kiwanis Club of the Horse Heaven Hills

PO Box 6798, Kennewick, WA 99336

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

**May 4, 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 May 4 meeting to order. Larry Hansmeier led our songs. Kathy Loney gave our invocation, and Terry Loney was Wrangler. Jim Hyde won our weekly raffle drawing—again.

This week's guests were Glynn Wheeler from the Kennewick club, Kirk Williamson from TCI. Wayne and Donna Underwood brought Anna Tarkanian, who visiting from California. Shawn Cirignono also attended our meeting.

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

Phil Slusser and Kirt Williamson both took the opportunity to praise Mothers' Day. Dale noted that his Mother is moving to Kennewick to become a more active grandmother.

Wayne Underwood apologized for missing the Pasco School District Awards banquet. He also further introduced guest, Anna Tarkanian a friend of Donna's for 50 years. Lauren thanked Wayne for an excellent suit.

Larry Hansmeier honored his grandson's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. He also enjoyed a trip to Idaho where he and Jonna met up with their daughter and grandchild from Reno. Jo Harrington honored several family birthdays and her grandson's role in a drum line that has won a fourth consecutive award.

Sarah also celebrated Mother's day, wishing congratulations to her daughter. She also thanked Jo for taking on her new active role with the ATP parent-teachers at Virgie Robinson. She said she will also miss next Monday's meeting.

Doug Brown's wife, Elana's birthday will make her a year older than he, for a little while. He also congratulated the work of the J&S volunteers who packed wheel bearings for two of the cars: Dick Nordness, Jim Hyde, John Lawson, and Phil Slusser (p.s. Doug helped too).

## **Announcements and Coming Events**

### **Meetings**

The Administrative committee will meet this Thursday (5/7) at noon in the Crow's Nest. The Board of Directors will meet the following Thursday (5/14) at 11:45 in one of the smaller conference rooms at Clover Island Inn.

Don Barnes announced that the Membership committee will meet this Friday (5/8) at noon at the Bamboo Garden.

### **KHHH Yardsale News**

*On-our-own fundraising yard sale!!*

**Saturday, May 30**

**8 am to noon**



**1224 WEST KENNEWICK AVE**

*(Kennewick and Mayfield)*

Thank you, volunteers:

Cashier: 8–noon, Belva Whitlock

Sales: 7:30–10:00, John Lawson  
10:00–12:30, ??? (*this could be you!*)

Please deliver items in boxes or bags to Sarah's home by May 25th, Memorial Day, she needs the following week to organize items. Please deliver large items Friday evening, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Questions: contact [Sarah Longan](#) (582-5856), and be sure to watch for more updates.

### **S.O.S.**

Don't forget the S.O.S.

(Save Old Spectacles) box at our meetings. The

program collects used but still usable eye glasses for redistribution in third world countries. Donna Underwood is our club representative. *Can you find somewhere else to set up an S.O.S. collection box?*



### **Membership**

Don Barnes won't pass up a chance to remind us that we all need to encourage and invite potential new members to join our club.

### **Interclubs**

*Nearly 50% of our members turned out last week to hear our Kiwanis International Vice President Sylvester Neal. Three cheers for our club!!!*

#### **May Interclub Calendar:**

TriCity Industrial Club

**Friday, May 8th at noon**

Clarion Inn – Richland

(Join Wayne, Lauren and Lorraine at TCI. After this, we will have just a visit to Dayton to complete our "Round Robin" to all clubs in Division 54 )

Div #54 Council Meeting

**Wednesday, May 13th at 6 pm**

Camp Kiwanis, Columbia Park

Pasco is hosting supper, business meeting at 6:30 (Join Jo, Doug and Lauren at Camp Kiwanis)

### **Awards and Letter**

Jo Harrington explained the importance of our PEAK 2008-2009 Partnership with Virgie

Robinson Elementary and showed the plaque and document that gives thanks for our participation. The awards were presented at last week's banquet organized by the Pasco School District.

Jo also had thanks for our participation in the Crystal Apple Awards project, from Washington State Department of Transportation for our Road Cleanup Project and from Wayne Bell for turning out 13 members to the Kennewick Club's Sylvester Neal luncheon.

Jo also noted an upcoming carnival at Virgie Robinson and promised to bring in more information on how we can participate.

### **Road Cleanup Project**

Wayne Underwood will be our coordinator to organize the road cleanup project. *Be prepared to volunteer to help out.*

### **J&S**

Marilyn Hyde reported that the train did not run Saturday, but that the Friday event for disabled fishers was a success and although it was free, we raised more than \$70 in donations. Sunday was a busy day for the train.

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

**BMC Toby Vanwormer  
U.S. Coast Guard**

#### **Coming Soon!**

There will be no club meeting on Memorial Day, May 25<sup>th</sup>. However, Wayne Underwood has planned a great pre-Memorial Day program on **May 18th, "Honoring Our Military and Their Families"**.

**This Week's Program:**

**Jo Ferguson  
Advocating Health Care (and other)  
Reforms**



*Jo Ferguson*

Jo Ferguson has been a Tri-Cities resident since 1996. After starting her own consulting business, she has become *very* active in the community. Jo has invested a good deal of her own time advocating for the improvements in health care reforms that she believes are most important. She used examples of the expertise she has developed to show how we can apply effective techniques to advocate for the causes that we choose to be important to us.

She used the example of having our prescription data made available to pharmaceutical companies. They have been able to use this personal data to develop targeted marketing to individuals. Although the State Legislature didn't move to protect us, the latest Federal HEPA act will close this important loophole.

Every day there is something new to learn about Health Care Issues. Jo got involved through association with an AARP advocacy program, the *Divided We Fall* campaign.

We each, she argues, as individuals have the responsibility to advocate for what is important to each of us. We can contact our own representatives and bring about real change.

On one of her issues, that all Americans should have access to affordable quality health care, she gave us her perspective on bad news / good news on the topic.

The bad news from Olympia was major cuts in health care funding: The Basic Health Plan for low income people; Adult Day & Home Care programs; and lower provider reimbursement rates. The good news: Keeping Medicare Part B co-pay (and getting federal matching funds); The Washington Health Partnership Plan; and increased regulation of so-called payday lenders.

How can you learn to be an effective advocate yourself? Jo offered some ideas she had learned. Many were drawn from a book by Christopher Kush, [The One Hour Activist](#). It offers a menu of 15 powerful actions to take and how to accomplish them.

Don't just talk about it...do something! Learn how grassroots advocacy works. Pick your issues and your angle...develop your own real-life story.

You should identify your representatives at the State and Local level. Join an interest group with others who share your position. Create a legislative agenda (learn which bills relate to your issues. Analyze the relevant bills (do your homework). Don't forget to conduct opposition research.

Communicate with your representatives. Tell them: "I'm in your district. I'm a voter. My problem is..." (tell them your own story that explains why and how the issue is important to you). You can:

- write a polite, professional sounding letter
- avoid a confrontational approach
- thank them for considering your viewpoint
- perhaps ask "How can I help you with this?"
- Write a powerful (but carefully worded) e-mail.
- Place a compelling phone call, but be prepared to speak with staff. Use this to your advantage. Convince them to bring your story forward.

You can communicate with media. Start a press clipping file on your topics. You can and should write letters to the editor. Take advantage of the internet or utilize special interest groups (like AARP) to help you research your topics.

The most powerful activities may take a greater investment of your time:

- face to face contact
- testify at hearings
- participate in a protest
- become active in a political campaign

The bottom line is to take a systematic, careful and through approach to presenting your point of view. Get active. Get involved.

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**PLEASE JOIN US!**  
Tuesday - Friday 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Saturday - 4:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
Sunday - 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
CLOSED MONDAYS

Teams & Groups Welcome



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