



Hoof Beats

Kiwanis Club of the Horse Heaven Hills

PO Box 6798, Kennewick, WA 99336

www.HorseHeavenKiwanis.org

June 28, 2010

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

President Doug Brown opened the meeting.
Jonna Hansmeier gave our invocation.

Our guest this week was prospective member
Chris Sivula.

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Brags

Mark Blotz was wrangler.

Birthdays: Dick Nordness' grandson Luka, Don Barnes mom, Sarah Longan's grandson, Doug Brown's 59th.

Anniversaries: John & Carolyn Lawson's 25th, Larry and Jonna Hansmeier's 45th, and Andy and Melissa Perdue's 15th.

Mark Blotz congratulated speaker Art King for knowing the words to *O Canada*. Mark also expects to be very busy with "hands on" construction of a new family home. Andy Perdue attended a Walla Walla conference with about 300 wine bloggers. That was followed by an event at Red Mountain with some music reminiscent of Italy. Doug Brown returned from some excellent vacation time jet boating Hell's Canyon, whitewater rafting the Deschutes, and kicking back on the Oregon coast.



Don Barnes won this week's raffle. He donated the proceeds to our administrative fund.

Announcements and Coming Events

Special Things We Did for the past 2 Weeks

Our club has agreed to operate the J&S Dreamland

Express as a parking shuttle during the Water Follies 3-day weekend. We will also be operating our normal schedule next Sunday on July 4th.

Committee Meetings

The Youth Services Committee met following the regular meeting.

The Recruitment Team is scheduled to meet after next week's meeting/BBQ.

[click here to R.S.V.P.](#)

KHHH "5th of July" Plans

Our [5th of July meeting](#) will be at a special location. We will convene in Andy & Melissa Perdue's backyard ([375 Palm Drive, Richland](#)). Click the [RSVP box](#) above, or call Andy & Melissa at 627-3305 and let them know if you plan to come and if you would like to bring anything potluck style (salads, etc.).



We are not charging for the meal, but there will be a donation basket to benefit our Admin account.

Eastgate K-Kids Volunteer Advisor needed!

Doug Brown reminded us all again that he is withdrawing from the K-Kids program at Eastgate Elementary next year to work with a new Southgate High School Key Club. ***We need a new volunteer to serve as Kiwanis K-Kids advisor if we are to keep this program going.*** Coordinate with Doug if you will consider transitioning into this role beginning this fall.

Proposed Interclubs

Wed., June 30, Richland - Retired Judge Fred Staples will tell us about his favorite cause, moving the county seat from Prosser to Kennewick.

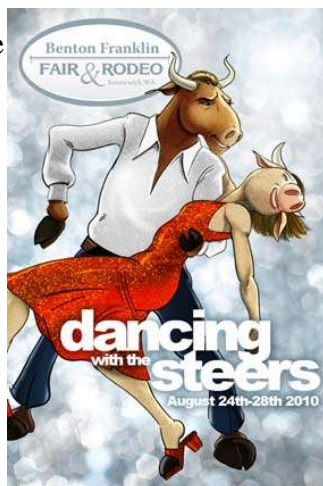
Also of note, both Richland and the TCI clubs are moving their regular meetings from the Clarion. So check [our website](#) for the latest information. Richland has chosen the Sunset Event Center, and TCI has chosen the Hanford House Hotel.

Volunteers needed for the J&S

Marilyn Hyde always has plenty of opportunities for volunteering on the J&S weekend schedules. Sign up on her board at a meeting or check the [website](#) and sign up to help.

Information Booth project

We will be working the Information Booth for the Benton Franklin Fair and Rodeo. This will work just like last year. It involves a lot of volunteer hours, but they are spread out throughout the fair so that only 2 members are needed at any one time. The fair will be August 24-28. This is one of our club's major annual fundraising events.



KI's ELIMINATE project

Kiwanis International has announced it's new Worldwide Service Project. The ELIMINATE Project is in conjunction with UNICEF. It's aim is to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus throughout the world. We will be hearing more about this in coming months.

More Dates to Save

Don't forget to check the [end of the newsletter](#) for some other important dates coming up.

Next Week:

Andy Perdue
iPad, Apple's latest innovation in tablet computing

NOTICE: We will be meeting for a BBQ at Andy and Melissa Perdue's home at 375 Palm Drive, in Richland

This Week's Program:

Art King
The High School Dropout Rate



Art King

Art King was welcomed as a fellow Kiwanian from the Kennewick Club. He has worked many years in a varied set of community service roles. Today he spoke on a topic that has kept his interest for a long time.

Young people need role models. They need expectations and boundaries.

Art used his work in High School truancy programs as the basis for his talk. Although he remembers pushing the boundaries during his own youth, today's truants have evolved some different problems. "Things really have changed," Art

observed, "and not for the better." He cited a few examples, he has come across:

- a 12 year-old, 8 months pregnant
- a 14 year-old with problems from an abortion
- a 17 year-old boy whose mother abandoned him for her boyfriend

He is seeing kids who have virtually no social skills, they are disconnected from the real world, they are unmotivated. Most young people today are not qualified for the armed services, even though that level of discipline and structure and teamwork, may be what they most need. They spend their time isolated with TVs and gaming systems in their rooms. They don't read. They don't interact with adults. There is a growing gap between the lifestyles, attitudes, and potential of successful kids and those who are failing.

Our educational system does a good job for the high achievers and for those with special needs, but we often ignore those in the middle, and let them fend for themselves.

One common thread for those who are falling furthest behind are those who are being brought up by a single parent, who is unable to cope with the demands for parenting while working to provide

for some level of economic survival. Schools still reward both the best and worst teachers much the same. We need to get more bang for our educational buck. Perhaps he suggested the US suffers from too much administration and too little education in our schools.

Art is a long-time member of the [Benton/Franklin Truancy Board](#). He noted that local high school valedictorians and salutatorians have with rare exception two parents at home, while the large majority of the young people he encounters on the Truancy Board live in one-parent households. Art recommended a book, *The Big Picture* by Dr. Ben Carson as an inspiring discussion of many of the issues that concern him.

So what can be done? How do we avoid looking at this as somebody else's problem. It's all of ours, Art says. And the Tri-Cities is better equipped than many to meet the challenge. We have a rich resource of successful retirees who can find time to work one-on-one to mentor kids and families. Having role models who care, are a big part of an answer. Join Art in the "Geezer Brigade". Find a way to serve that interests you and pursue it. When best methods are used, nearly all kids can and do succeed.

Belva Whitlock
KeyCenter Manager
Kennewick KeyCenter
Belva_Whitlock@keybank.com
Tel: 509-586-5207
Toll Free: 800-KEY-2YOU
Fax: 509-586-8972

KeyBank
Mailcode: WA-31-99-0218
23 W. Kennewick Ave
Kennewick, WA 99336



Mark Blotz
General Manager

Phone: 509-586-0541
cloverisland.inn@verizon.net
Fax: 509-586-6956

Reservations: 1-866-586-0542
www.cloverislandinn.com
435 Clover Island Drive • Kennewick, WA 99336



Dale E. Green, P.E., LEED AP
Project Manager

E: degreen@meierinc.com

8697 Gage Boulevard
Kennewick, WA 99336

P: 509.735.1589
F: 509.783.5075

www.meierinc.com



Carolyn Lawson, REALTOR®
QSC, Premier Service® Certified
(509) 947-5447
6601 W. Deschutes Avenue, Suite C
Kennewick, WA 99336



carolyn@cypressgmac.com
www.cypressgmac.com/carolyn
www.lawson-us.com



Terry Loney
REALTOR®

Cell 509-531-4209
Business 509-946-1188
E-mail terryloney@windermere.com



Kathy Loney
Assistant
Cell 509-430-7968



Windermere Real Estate/Tri Cities
490 Bradley Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99352



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Special Thanks for our 2010 J&S Dreamland Express Sponsors:



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Save the Date(s)



June 24 through 27

2010 Kiwanis International Convention at Las Vegas.

Monday, July 5

Club meeting to be held in Andy & Milissa Perdue's backyard .

July 17 through 18

J&S proceeds to benefit Kennewick Food Bank.

July 23 through 25

2010 Water Follies. We will be operating the J&S as a parking shuttle.

August 24 through 28

2010 Benton Franklin Fair & Rodeo. Our club is responsible for the Information Booth

again. This is an important fundraising opportunity for the club.

August 26 through 29

2010 Kiwanis PNW Convention at Spokane. This overlaps with our club's participation in staffing the information booth at the fairgrounds. We might not have a member delegate to send to Spokane.

Monday, September 6

Labor Day, no weekly meeting.

Monday, October 4

Our new officers begin the next Kiwanis year.

Saturday, November 6

Kickin' It Up for Kids dinner dance at Clover Island.