

July 24, 2018
CHAIR: R. Moll

KIWASSEE

SMOKE SIGNALS
INVOCATION: B. Goodwill

KIWANIS

www.kiwassee.org
Editor: Cronenberger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brian Goodwill: Can always use a few more folks to sign up for invocations.

Human & Spiritual Values Committee 1:00 pm next Tuesday, July 31

Jim Heffel: Latest scorecard report: Ladies have paid 31% of month's dues; gents 46%. We all win when 100% have paid.

Betsy Sullivan: Good turnout at golf tournament yesterday, 24 teams. Next week will be auction of items remaining from the silent auction and other donations. Bring your money!

PROGRAM NEXT WEEK: Mike Sharrow, Midland Public Schools superintendent.

MEMBERSHIP

- Both Allison Maloney and Aaron Oberlin have resigned for personal reasons
- Max Bottomley had tumor removed from face, recovering nicely

PROGRAM: TWO MEMBERS

Brian Goodwill of Human & Spiritual Values introduced long time member Walt Rupprecht. Walt first became interested in community service as a youngster in Hi-Y. He later joined Jaycees and has been a member of both the Midland and Kiwassee Kiwanis clubs to continue to try to give back. He is known for his collection of some 4500 model fire engines. They are made of maybe 16 different materials and are many different sizes and designs. They are from many countries, collected as he and his wife traveled throughout the world. He still has the first one he received as a child. The oldest is a cast iron one from the late 1920s. Visitors are welcome to visit the Rupprecht home to view the collection.

Brian then introduced a newer member, Bill Kuehne. He is a Dow Corning retiree invited by Fred Honerkamp. A number of years ago, Bill and his family decided to start an apple orchard from scratch. So they bought 20 acres of land in Bay County and planted apple trees. While they were waiting for them to mature into fruit-bearing state, they rented the old Dow apple orchard of some 600 trees at the "ag" property on Ashman. They cleaned it up and harvested and sold fruit from there until their own trees were ready 8 or 9 years later in 2007.

They have 20 different varieties of apples. They sell apples, of course, but also cider, carmel apples, carmel corn, and donuts. They start making cider in late September, and it reaches peak flavor in October when the apples are sweeter. One particular challenge to growing apples is frost in the spring. If there is frost when there are blossoms on the trees the entire crop can be lost. If frost does appear, the farmer has to keep spraying the trees with water to prevent it from freezing the blossoms. You can find the Apple Blossom Orchard out Ashman Street about a mile past the land fill.