



Ossian Rotary Weekly Update

Recap of Meeting: September 15, 2022

Attendance

Carol Baker
Carol Keplar

Jeff Keplar
Matthew Gullion

Mike Springer
Paris Fetters

Greeter:

Carol Keplar

Prayer, Inspirational Moment:

Jeff Keplar

Member / Rotary Minute:

Mike Stringer, our newest member, share some fun facts he would share with his students while he was a science teacher for six years at Wawasee.

Apples float in water.

Bees are almost everywhere, except in Antarctica.

Kangaroos cannot walk backwards.

Everyone has unique tongue prints, as well as fingerprints.

There are three trillion scents a nose can recognize.

Tigers skin is striped just like their skin.

A human cannot talk and breathe at the same time.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 9/15: For Ossian Days we will not have a table this year but made a donation to help sponsor the event. Ossian Rotary will be listed on the banners as a sponsor. We will also help Ossian Revitalization by serving at their Pork Chop Dinner today at Ossian Days. Spots still available.
- 9/27 Ossian Health has Golden Girls Night Out and Fashion Show.
- 9/29 Ossian Communities (Assisted Living Side) Art Show
- October is "Bring a Guest" month. Those who bring a guest enter a drawing for a gift card at the end of the month. More details to come.
- 10/1 YMCA Fall Festival
- 10/3 Music at the Plaza in Bluffton.
- 10/8 1-4pm at First Baptist, Ossian, is their Fall Festival with chili, hotdogs, and fun.
- 10/8 is the Chili Walk and a concert in Bluffton.
- 10/22 Adopt-a-Highway fall cleanup, 9:00 a.m.
- 10/22 Ossian Communities Helicopter Candy Drop, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- 11/4 Rotary International World Affairs Conference – Hammond, Ind., Topic is Gun Violence
- 11/12 Ossian Rotary "Christmas" Party
- Donations still needed for Kentucky flood victims – Matthew has more info

OUR SPEAKER THIS WEEK

Rhonda O'Reilly, Karing for Kids

Rhonda said Karing for Kids first started for Christmas, 2003. They decided their family would donate \$50 to grow the kingdom of God and started Karing for Kids. They helped 8 kids giving 10 gifts each.

She made angels with the names, age and gift. Their intent was to do this all year long, but in August 2004, their daughter was killed in a car accident. Just two weeks prior, they finished a discipleship and knew what they had to do. Karing for Kids began a full-time ministry. They went from eight kids to 80 to 150 and it keeps growing.

In 2007 their needed help to get everything done and they formed a committee.

In 2009, they formed a 501C so they could apply for grants.

In 2011 they started Jennifer's Closet. They collect infant thru adult clothing. Jennifer's Closet is in the back of Markle Church of Christ. They are open the first and third Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00.

To participate in the Karing for Kids Christmas program, the students and families must have a referral thru the school counselor. People select an angle with a name from a Christmas tree, purchase the gift and drop it off at Markle Church of Christ. Rhonda gets volunteers to sort the gifts and place the unwrapped gifts in a bag. The parents then pick up the gifts in a drive thru. They can see the gifts and wrap the gifts themselves.

The most name they have had was 905 kids in one year. Now they limit it to 750, but they prefer to keep it at 600. Last year, 2021, they gave out 500. The registration is from September 1 -28 and currently they have more than 200 kids signed up. Each child receives 10 gifts, clothing and two toys. Last year they had 72 places to host trees. November 8 is the set-up date for the trees. The gifts are sorted and picked up by the families on December 6-8. They serve in Wells and Huntington Counties.

COVID became a blessing as it made them simplify the process, dropping off and picking up of the gifts.

Karing for Kids has one fundraiser a year, a golf outing.

Now they have some former recipients that come and help.

Ways to help – money donations are always good. Volunteer to help sort gifts (December 8 & 9) or hand out gifts (December 10th)

Wrap-up:

Paris Fetters

Upcoming Speakers

- September 22 – Dillon Traynor, Matt Matters
- September 29 – Donald Steininger, Craigville Depot
- October 6 – Jody Heaston, Ouabache State Park
- October 13 – Belinda Zinko, Elzey-Patterson-Rodak Funeral Home
- October 20 – District Governor Tim Gibson Visit (and board meeting after)

Executives & Directors

President	Jeff Keplar	Director	Kathy Boles
President Elect	Jeremy Penrod	Director	Matthew Gullion
Treasurer	Carol Keplar	Rotary Foundation	Jeremy Penrod
Secretary	Paris Fetters	Membership	Carol Keplar
Assist. Secretary	Beth McConn		

Thursday's Weekly Meeting Assignments

Greeter: Jeremy

Prayer / Inspirational Moment: Casey

Member / Rotary Minute: Paris

Wrap-up: Kathy

Club Information

Meetings Thursdays at 7:30 am

First Baptist Church of Ossian, 1001 Dehner Dr., Ossian, IN 46777