

COUNTRYSIDE, CLEARWATER KIWANIS CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2006-2007

PRESIDENT

SARAH D. BYARS
2481 Coachwhip Terrace
Clearwater, FL 33765 (H) 669-7786

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2 - Year DEBBIE HARKINS
JAN HORN
FRANK WARD

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

TOM DULANEY
1950 Chris Drive
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689-6843 (H) 945-0848

1 - Year SAL GENTILE
DICK LUCE
ELMER LUOMA

VICE PRESIDENT

JOHN NELSON
2818 Meadow Hill Drive
Clearwater, FL 33761 (H) 796-5016

TREASURER / NEWSLETTER EDITOR

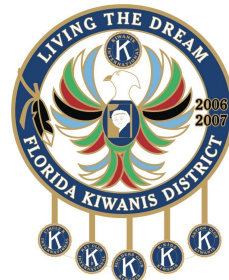
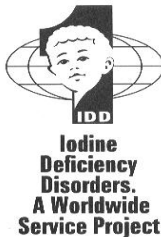
DAN PALMISANO
2043 Denmark Street, # 11,
Clearwater, FL 33763 H 723-0775

SECRETARY

BILL GREER
769 Rustic Oaks
Clearwater, FL 34684 (H) 772-7737

**KIWANIS CLUB OF COUNTRYSIDE, CLEARWATER meets every Tuesday at 7:30 am for Breakfast
EVE'S FAMILY RESTAURANT, 3150 TAMPA RD (WOODLANDS SQUARE) OLDSMAR**

Kiwanis Club of Countryside, Clearwater Newsletter
The View from Countryside
Post Office Box 1855
Oldsmar, FL 34677-1855



IT'S HERE! ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT! ARE YOU PREPARED?

Our club Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 7, at the Countryside Country Club in Clearwater beginning at 6:00pm. **Remember** our "Yankee Swap" for members only. Please bring a **wrapped** gift of a value \$8 to \$12, (or more, or less, if you are inclined) for the exchange. We need to know **NOW** you are coming!



Kiwanis Club of Countryside, Clearwater

The View from Countryside

The Florida District



Division 12

Issue 9, Volume 12

www.kiwanis.org/club/countryside

November 28, 2006

Calendar

UPCOMING KIWANIS EVENTS
SEE PAGE 2

Tuesday, November 28



Business Meeting
Committee Meetings
Magazine & Canned Food Collection

Tuesday, December 5



Regular Meeting
GREG SUAREZ
Magician

Thursday, December 7



Countryside Kiwanis Christmas Party
Countryside Country Club, Clearwater
Cash Bar, 6:00pm, Dinner, 6:45pm

Tuesday, December 12

Regular Meeting
Program will be presented by
ELMER LUOMA

Tuesday, December 19



Christmas Program
Dr. ANDY STRACHAN
Inspirational Message



JAMIE GEER

For a person who never looked forward to being in the fire service while growing up in Charleston, South Carolina, Clearwater Fire Chief **JAMIE GEER** revealed an illustrious career in fire fighting when he spoke at our breakfast meeting last Tuesday, November 21. It all began when at age 19, Chief **GEER** was invited to join the Charleston Fire Dept after rescuing 3 people in two separate drowning incidents.

Chief **GEER** then went on to Atlanta seeking experience with a larger Fire Department where he remained for 20 years. After Atlanta, he retired briefly to Franklin, Tennessee, where as a Kiwanis member he was a big supporter of Special Olympics being a father of a special needs child. Over time, Chief **GEER** obtained a degree in fire science as well as a business management degree and a master's degree in business administration.

Three years ago, Chief **GEER** was brought to the City of Clearwater to transform and rebuild the Fire Dept. A disastrous fire in 2003 had really rocked the department bringing up a number of issues, including personnel, that were pretty significant. Chief **GEER** started with a reorganization of the department structure which occasioned a 100% turnover in staff of 25 members. Next, Chief **GEER** brought in some 17 fire chiefs from around the country with a combined experience of over 400 years.



Every department procedure was broken down and a rebuilding process (continued on page 2)



SARAH BYARS

THE MEETING LAST WEEK: 11/14 - Attendance, members 15, guests 1. Immediate Past President **TOM DULANEY** chaired the meeting. Club raffle winner: 11/21 - **TOM DULANEY**, 11/14 - **WIL BLANCHETTE**. Cash collections: 11/21 - Happy Dollar - \$10.00, Raffle—\$7.00.

Prayer Breakfast

Some 51 Kiwanians and their guests attended the annual Prayer Breakfast held on Wednesday, November 22, at the Sunset Grill in Clearwater. Seated l. to r. in the photo at right are **MARK KEATON**, Greater Clearwater Kiwanis President-Elect who opened the meeting, **WALTER CAMPBELL**, Pastor/ Evangelist, Bayview Baptist Church, Clearwater, Dr. **NAOMI WILLIAMS**, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church member and **NADINE NICKESON**, Kiwanis 12th Division Lt. Governor. Pastor **CAMPBELL** gave the main message. Also speaking were Dr. **WILLIAMS**, Lt. Gov. **NADINE** and Countryside Kiwanis Pres. **SARAH BYARS**. Attending from Countryside Kiwanis were **WIL** and **GRACE BLANCHETTE**, **SARAH BYARS**, **BILL GREER**, **GEORGE HARDIN**, **DAN PALMISANO**, **GLENN RUEDIGER** and **FRANK WARD**.



Street Cleaning Chair **ELMER LUOMA** reports on trash pickup of Enterprise Road on Saturday, 11/25/2006:



"On board were **BILL GREER**, **GEORGE HARDIN**, **STU HARRIS** (with Molly), **JOE UHRINEK**, **FRANK WARD** and myself: The day was a little chilly and windy, but it was ideal for picking up trash. Enterprise was messy from one end to the other, bottles, cans, plastic bags, divider marker reflectors, catsup containers from Chick-fil-A, etc., you name it, we found it- We were well protected with **STU**'s four legged pet, **Molly**. She enjoyed her romp, very well behaved. We collected four heavy

bags, plus; **STU** having dumped his along the way. Coffee and tea were provided by Chick-fil-A and goodies by yours truly. Discussions were on birds, **FRANK** being the expert, **NORMA**, citrus rat disposal and street cleanups- **JOE** was early since he had to work. **DEBBIE** went to see the birth of her daughter's baby- Cleanup took a little over an hour."

Fire Chief JAMIE GEER, continued

starting from scratch. But a lot of attention was focused on training. The training center is in the process of rebuilding with a 3-year training initiative focused primarily on officer development and high rise fire fighting. In addition just about every fire truck has been replaced and three new aerial apparatus were added, each costing some \$800,000. These are colored red not the orange as had been the trend.

Unfortunately, relations between Chief **GEER** and the union are strained. However, Chief **GEER** did secure a 3-year contract with the union within 4 months of his arrival where previously there had been no contract for 32 months. There has been significant turnover in personnel in the range of 22%. There are 221 personnel in the department at this time. Twenty four hour shifts are maintained on a one day on, one day off, one day on, one day off, one day on, four days off.

Not only does the department fight fires but they also do advanced life support EMS. The Pinellas County EMS system is the most expensive in the country as well as being one of the highest rated fire fighting systems in the country.

UPCOMING KIWANIS EVENTS

- Countryside Kiwanis Christmas Party**
Countryside Country Club
Thursday, December 7, 2006
- Florida Kiwanis Governor Visit**
Friday, December 8, 2006
- Head Start Christmas Party**
Wednesday, December 13, 2006
- Countryside Christmas Breakfast Meeting**, Tuesday, December 19, 2006
- Kiwanis Division 12 School**
Saturday, January 20, 2007
- Kid's/Zoo Day**
Saturday, March 17, 2007

FLORIDA DISTRICT OF KIWANIS OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007

- GOVERNOR** Phil Yorston, West Palm Beach
- GOVERNOR- ELECT** Mark Taylor, Brooksville
- IMMEDIATE PAST GOV.** Donna M. Batelaan, Boynton Beach / PalmSprings
- TREASURER** David Liddell, North Fort Myers
- DISTRICT SECRETARY** George F. Langguth, Sanford
- SECRETARY'S OFFICE:** 5545 Benchmark Lane, Sanford, 32773-8116
407-324-9800 FAX 407-324-9900
- LT. GOVERNOR, DIVISION 12** Nadine S. Nickeson, 280 Tucker Street, Safety Harbor
727-725-0660
- TRUSTEE, FLORIDA KIWANIS FOUNDATION, 12th DIV** Wil Blanchette, 948 Rosewood Lane, Palm Harbor, 34684
727-789-0140

DIVISION 12 KIWANIS CLUBS

- GREATER CLEARWATER** Golden Coin Restaurant, 1844 N. Highland Ave., Clearwater TH 7:30 A
- COUNTRYSIDE, CLRWTR** Eve's Family Rest, 3150 Tampa Rd, (Woodlands Sq), Oldsmar TU 7:30 A
- DUNEDIN** Mease Dunedin Hospital, 601 Main Street, Dunedin WE 7:30 A
- HOLIDAY** The Broken Yolk, 3350 Grand Blvd, Holiday TU 7:15 A
- LARGO/MID PINELLAS** Royal Palms of Largo, Lake Ave. & East Bay Drive, Largo FR 7:30 A
- PALM HARBOR** Tiffany's Restaurant, 35000 US 19 No. , Palm Harbor TU 7:30 A
- SAFETY HARBOR** Paradise Restaurant, 443 Main Street, Safety Harbor WE 7:30A
- SPRINGTIME CITY** Oriental Super Buffet, 2456 Gulf-to-Bay Blvd, Clearwater TH 6:00 P
- TARPON SPRINGS** Molly Goodheads Raw Bar & Seafood Rest., 400 Orange Ave, Ozona TH 6:15 P,1st&3rd
- WEST PASCO** Golden Corral Restaurant, 8928 Hwy 19, Port Richey TH 6:30 P

COUNTRYSIDE, CLEARWATER KIWANIS CLUB COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS 2006-2007

- CLUB ADMINISTRATION** BILL GREER, ELMER LUOMA, DAN PALMISANO
- COMMUNITY SERVICE** ELMER LUOMA, Chairperson, DICK LUCE, ED BUNCH
- CLEARWATER FREE CLINIC** STEVE BOUTON, ELMER LUOMA, DICK LUCE, JOHN NELSON
- STREET CLEANUP** ELMER LUOMA and Others
- PAUL B. STEPHENS KID'S DAY** GLENN RUEDIGER, CHARLIE HILLEBOE
- SENIOR OLYMPICS** ELMER LUOMA
- OTHER SERVICE** GRACE BLANCHETTE, STU JOLLY, TOM GABLE, NORMA PRIEST, JOE UHRINEK
- FUNDRAISING** GEORGE HARDIN, Chairperson, ED BUNCH, SHIRLEY SUMNER, BILL GREER, DORIS PERKINS
- MIDNIGHT RUN** BILL GREER, Chairperson, FRANK WARD, DICK LUCE, SHIRLEY SUMNER
- PEANUT DAY** FRANK WARD, Chairperson
- HUMAN & SPIRITUAL VALUES** EVERYBODY
- BEREAVEMENT, BUDDY SYSTEM** FRANK WARD, Coordinator, WENDY HOY, TOM DULANEY
- CLUB PROGRAMS** BILL GREER, Chairperson, SHIRLEY SUMNER
- INTERCLUB** TOM DULANEY, Chairperson, DAN PALMISANO
- PUBLIC RELATIONS** DICK LUCE, Chairperson, BILL GREER, WENDY HOY, TOM DULANEY, MIKE VANHORENBECK
- MEMBERSHIP, EDUCATION & RETENTION**
- SPONSORED YOUTH** STUART HARRIS, Chairperson
- TARPON SPGS HS KEY CLUB** TOM DULANEY
- COUNTRYSIDE HS KEY CLUB**
- EAST LAKE HS KEY CLUB** FRANK WARD, JOHN NELSON, BILL GREER
- SCHOLARSHIPS**
- YOUNG CHILDREN- PRIORITY ONE** DIXIE HARDIN, MARION SPENGLER, Co-Chairpersons
GEORGE HARDIN, JAN HORN, DICK LUCE, ELMER LUOMA, DICK LUCE