

August 22, 2018

It takes a lot of moxie to pass a rare gold coin around a room full of shady looking characters, but that's exactly what our guest speaker did on Wednesday. Jim Davis was there to talk about treasure hunting in that layer of topsoil all around us that we all take for granted. He had a box full of treasures (eye of the beholder) that seemed to offer just enough silver & gold to support him during a resent heart surgery. And yes, the gold coin, an 1852 one dollar piece, did come back to him intact, even if Tom did try to switch it out with a Canadian penny. He didn't give away civil war bullets like Larry did, but then I guess there wasn't a lot of Civil War battles in the Detroit Area..

Congratulations to Don Killion who was the 168th place winner in the Irish Sweepstakes and immediately used the winnings to fulfill his lifelong dream of some vacation property on the big Hawaiian Island of Hawai'i. Don was surprised how cheap the land was. "You'd of thought there was a volcano eruption or something." Anyhow, Don plans on loading the roof rack on top of the old Nash Rambler and heading for the land of grass skirts and Mai Tais as soon as the peanut sale is over. Good luck Don.

Talking about the peanut sale, it's just around the corner. We will be on the streets of Dearborn & Dearborn Heights from the 6th to the 9th of September and we need to fill up that street sale sheet. Patricia will have it at next weeks meeting and also at the cookout on the 5th at Al Holmes place. Traditionally we try to pay for the peanuts with the street sale and bring in the big money with the corporate sale, but it's always nice to do more than just pay for the peanuts with the street sale. Patricia has peanut letters for those corporate sponsors and they are on our website (easy to print). We will also have peanut flyers that tell all about us and our donations available at the peanut cook-out. While selling on the street you often get ask who we are and where the money goes and handing the person one of these flyers makes answering those questions easy. Thank you to Adrienne for inventing, writing and printing the flyers.

Apparently there are some members that still have questions about why the Board recently raised the annual dues, dinner fee and not eating fee. The Board has talked off and on about doing this for over a year and it finally came to a head when O'Kelly's raised the price they charge us in June. O'Kelly's has been talking about charging us more for 3 years, but we always seemed to be able to keep it from happening. This time they did charge us a 7% raise in prices. This is the first time they have raised prices since 2005 when we started coming here. It is also the first time we have raised the cost to the members. O'Kelly's raise made it impossible for the club to cover costs on a weekly basis. The Club operating account would soon be gone if action wasn't taken.

The Operating Account is separate from the Foundation Account. The Operating Account runs the club functions on a weekly basis and has been bleeding for years. The Foundation Account is where the peanut money goes and can be used only to make donations to chartable organizations. None of that money, by federal law, can be used to operate the weekly functions of the Club.

I have an explanation sheet that outlines O'Kelly's charges to us, the costs, attendance, dinners eaten, dinners not eaten and averages for the last year on a weekly basis. I would be pleased to explain it and answer any questions for any of our membership, just see me.

As far as the dues raise goes, even though our delegates at the State & International Kiwanis Conventions always voted no, over the last 15 years the International Kiwanis & State Kiwanis have pushed through raises in the dues & fees they charge us per member by 51%. It got to a point where we needed to raise our dues by \$15 a year per member to stay solvent. Any one that has questions, please come talk to me or President Renea and we will try to explain it to you.

Up coming Events:

August 29th - Vice President Norm has been in negotiations and thinks he can arrange to get Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump look a-likes to give a mud wrestling exhibition while the O.L. Smith Jazz Band plays the Star Spangled Banner. I know this program was scheduled earlier in the year and had to be canceled because of a Justice Department court order. But the Justice department seems to be in a bit of a tizzy with the White House and Norm feels he can get it scheduled without the Attorney General noticing. Wear old clothes and come root, root, root for your favorite muddy politician. Please no cheese hats or foam fingers, we're trying to keep this a classy act. Board of Directors meeting to follow the regular meeting.

September 5th – Annual Peanut Cook-Out at Nancy & Al Holmes house, 410 Nightingale Street, Dearborn. Beans, burgers, booze and nuts, just like a West Virginal hoedown with the “good old boys”. Please, no banjos, chewing tobacco or sawed off shotguns. Pick up your peanuts for the street sale that starts the next day. We also have the honey roasted and gourmet nuts available. We still have street locations available so get your name on the Street Sale List.

September 12th – 259th anniversary of the British capture of Quebec. We will celebrate this event by dividing into a British group and a French group on opposite sides of the room. Then spend 20 minutes hurling insults at each other. Awards will be given for originality, historical accuracy, spontaneity and passionate arm waving.

September 19th – New date for the annual Installation party. New Officers and Board will be sworn in and the Old officers and Board will be thanked for their service. This will be held in the O'Kelly's large Banquet room with a plated dinner. We ask all members to please invite your spouse or significant other and dress up for the event (no shirt, no shoes, no service).

Calling someone stupid doesn't make you any smarter.

Love & Kisses
Babydoll