



# Kiwanis Club of Seneca Falls-Waterloo

Kiwanis is dedicated to community service, especially service to children. The continuing Kiwanis project is titled Young Children: Priority One. Many club activities, fund raising events and projects are designed to further those aims.

Kiwanians around the world joined together to raise \$75 million to rid the world of Iodine Deficiency Disorder, the first Worldwide Service project ever undertaken by Kiwanis. A second such project is now in the planning stages.

We also hope to have some fun along the way, both in our weekly meetings and while carrying out other projects.

## MEETINGS:

Meetings are at noon on Thursdays. They include informative programs, fun, and an opportunity to plan other club events. We try to finish by 1 p.m.

## CLUB MANAGEMENT:

The club's Board of Directors plans the club's program and allocates funds raised by club projects. The board consists of the club's officers and six at-large members. All club members are always welcome at board meetings.

It is a tradition in the Seneca Falls club that the third vice president becomes the second vice-president the following year, and then first vice-president/president-elect before becoming president. Elections are held in May.

## SERVICE PROJECTS:

Our annual service projects include an activity day for handicapped children at Seneca Lake State Park and an Easter egg hunt for Seneca Falls pre-schoolers. We also have other events through the year, with the schedule varying from year to year.

## FUND RAISING:

The club's fund-raising efforts allow it to support a variety of community programs. Money for club expenses has to be raised from members, not the public. Fines and the 50/50 drawing at weekly meetings provide most of that support. Nearly all of the dues paid by members is paid to Kiwanis International for dues, insurance and subscriptions.

## PARTICIPATION:

Members should try to attend as many meetings, fund raising events and service projects as they can. Perfect atten-

dance awards are earned by members who attend each meeting or make up missed meetings through participation in such things as work projects or fund-raising events.

Active members are expected to attend a total of 24 meetings and events during the year. Members who fail to meet that standard for two consecutive years can be dropped from club membership for lack of participation, although extenuating circumstances are considered.

## CLUB HISTORY

There were 33 men at the organizational meeting for the Kiwanis Club of Seneca Falls Monday, March 8, 1937, at the Gould Hotel. The club's first Thursday noon meeting took place that week, with a program presented by members of the Geneva Kiwanis Club, which sponsored the Seneca Falls Club's formation.

More than 150 Kiwanians from 13 cities attended the club's charter night, May 6, 1937. The club had 41 members. The club's gong and gavel — still in use each week — were presented by the Geneva Club. The Auburn Club presented a Kiwanis banner.

The club was just a week old when it announced its first community project, the annual Sunshine Special for children. On Aug. 4, 1937, 500 children saw a movie at the Strand Theater and then were taken by car to Cayuga Lake State Park for games and refreshments.

Over the years Kiwanians have been involved in many fund raising activities, including fly-in breakfasts, popcorn sales, dinners, auctions and roasts of local celebrities. All the profits are used to support community projects.

The Seneca Falls Kiwanis Club was the first in the area to induct a woman. On Aug. 6, 1987. Patricia Preece, who long had been a volunteer in club projects, joined the club within a month of the rule change which made her membership possible.

The club's name was changed to the Kiwanis Club of Seneca Falls-Waterloo in 2007, the club's 70th year.

Kiwanis Club of Seneca Falls-Waterloo  
PO Box 21  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148  
[www.senecafalls-waterloo-kiwanis.org](http://www.senecafalls-waterloo-kiwanis.org)