PRESIDENT’S CORNER
John Hess

Wow! Six months went by fast but the last six weeks feels like months. Your officers and board are trying to keep up with everything and with all our members. We are having board meetings every two weeks.

As I hope everyone is aware, we held our elections week with about 67% of membership voting. The board decided, because of limited funds, to set aside money to cover (Continued on page 6)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday To Our Members!

Lynnette Embree
Les Veach
Jon Eye
Bud Good
Jerry Chapman
Kari Dorsey
Jeff Kenney
Lenny Millholland
Jenn McDonald
Jerry Kerr
Mark Dunford
Debbie Knotts

(for birthday errors & omissions, please email editor@kcow.org)

CALENDAR

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May 7, 2020 : Board Meeting on ZOOM at 6pm

May 21, 2020 : Board Meeting on ZOOM at 6pm

Contact Lynnette Embree for details on how to participate

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SAVE THE DATE!
INSTALLATION BANQUET
SEPTEMBER 25, 2020, 6-9PM
GEORGE WASHINGTON HOTEL
Life from the Quarantine Zone

Adventures In Shopping
Quarantine, day 1,859.5 (more or less). To ease the grind of working from home in isolation (actually, I do it all the time, but it makes for a better ‘woe is me’ tale), I went on a little adventure the other day. An adventure in food shopping. What was I thinking? I entered Martins skipping happily like a first grader on furlough. Okay, I wasn’t skipping. Dancing down the aisle. . .no, I don’t dance, either. No whistling. No tipping my hat. No Texas Two-Step through the win aisle, either. Just strolling happily. Yes, let’s go with strolling.
My first encounter nearly sent me back to the bunker. It made me question the future of the human race and I considered only sixty-year old K-Rations from a little green can using my John Wayne key.
In the center of the fruit aisle, a young millennial wearing jeans below his butt cheeks—and yes, the fronts were sliced to shreds in the new fashion I call “Chicago Mugging”—with a grungy shirt that wreaked of a shower-strike. (Did anyone explain that lockdown doesn’t preclude a bath?) To complete this young man’s ensemble was a hand-made face mask. Clearly, he was neither tinker, tailor, soldier, nor spy, because the facemask was made from what looked like a woman’s brassiere cup (I saw that on Facebook, too). Noticeably, the young woman who donated it was undoubtedly still in a training bra. Kid Genius had the facemask dangling over his mouth and chin. It dangled in place below his nose, which was obviously intentional so he could repeatedly drag his sleeve across his dripping proboscis.
So, what does an international security consultant do in this case? Why, I offered my worldly consultation to this mis-guided young man, of course.
Me: “Sir, nice facemask. Did you make it yourself?”
Kid Genius: “Yep, from Facebook. I used my girlfriend’s bra.”
Me (ignoring the previous training-bra assessment): “You know what it’s for, right?”
Kid Genius: “Sh..t yeah. It’s to keep me safe from the germs and crap and filth around here.”
Have I mentioned that in addition to his fragrant attire, Kid Genius’ hands were caked in grease and something suggesting he molested a Hersey bar?
Me: “Sure. But it’s also for protecting others from, well, you.”
Kid Genius: “I’m good. I take precautions.”
Why yes, I did get his name for the upcoming Frederick County Mensa nominations.

My last stop was the pet aisle. It was half-bare like the meat counter and toilet paper aisle. Even the plastic dog bones my Labs love so dearly were gone. Not a single one. The section was bare. Bare I tell you. Bare!
The nearby clerk kindly informed me that the store was having trouble keeping them in stock. They were being horded like everything else in the store. She couldn’t keep them in stock.
Really? Plastic dog bones are prepper food? Why? Were the local dog packs selling them on the street corners like cocaine and weed? Was there a secret recipe for plastic-dog bone stew I hadn’t heard of? Were things that bad that folks were boiling them with green onion and wild carrots?
As soon as I got home, I researched Emeril Lagasse’s web site.
Nope. Dog Bone Bouillabaisse wasn’t there.
The struggle continues.
May’s Co-Featured Kiwanian: ALLEN KNOTTS

Birthplace: Allen was born in Oakland, MD but lived in Terra Alta, WV. At that time Oakland was the closest hospital.

Family: Allen is the youngest of six children, three girls and three boys, and the only one born in a hospital. When Allen was 8 years old, his father had a change of careers and moved the family to run a farm in Gore. He has been married to Debbie, the love of his life, for 42 years. Together they have four children, six grandchildren and one awesome great-grandson. Family is extremely important to Allen and they do everything together.

Favorite Book: Allen highly recommends The Bible as these are the basic instructions before leaving Earth.

Favorite Movie: all five movies in the Bourne series

Best Advice: If you want it, work for it. It means more that way.

Favorite Quote: If you’re not moving forward, you’re backing up.

Career: Allen has owned four businesses with Debbie over the years. His first job and business was in the restaurant equipment industry. However, his favorite and most fun entrepreneurial venture was when they owned Checkered Flag Racing Apparel, a NASCAR store, from 1988-1990, where he spent more money than he made! Next year, they will be selling Winchester Restaurant Equipment to long time employee, Aaron Spaid. Allen looks forward to relaxing a little more and playing more Pickleball.

Most interesting places visited: In August 2012, Debbie treated Allen to one of his “bucket list” items for his birthday. They went on an absolutely awesome fishing trip to Alaska. A hint for Debbie, Allen has put it back on his list for a return trip. Allen's sense of adventure and fun was exhibited when he went zip lining in Labadee, Haiti, for 2,630 feet at 50-60 mph, dropping some 500 feet above the beach.

Kiwanis: His membership began in 1991 when Kiwanian Pete Crosby invited Allen to join. Allen had been attending Pancake Days over the years and had always wondered how he could be a part of this event. Pete told Allen the only way he could miss a Pancake Day was if he was dead. And Pete was serious! Allen loves the friends he has made in Kiwanis and is glad to be a part of helping the youth in our area. Kiwanis is especially blessed to have generous and hard-working Allen as part of our family.

Kiwanis Club of Winchester is successful because of its many volunteer members who give so freely of their time and effort.

THANKS FOR BEING A MEMBER OFKIWANIS CLUB, ALLEN!
May’s Co-Featured Kiwanian: DEBBIE KNOTTS

Birthplace: Baltimore, MD
Favorite book: The Bible
Favorite movie: Pretty Woman
Best advice: Accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior, sooner than later.

Family: Debbie is the oldest of three, having a brother and a sister. All family members have that entrepreneurial spirit. Her sister, Sandra, is a phenomenal masseuse and owner of “The Caring Touch.” Her brother Glenn and his wife Michelle owned “Mason’s Creations” in the mall and a sign making trailer that he took to flea markets and fairs. Debbie and Allen are both on their “second and forever marriage.” Debbie is blessed with one daughter and Allen with three sons. Together they have six grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Favorite Quote: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Career: Debbie’s father worked with Lockheed Martin necessitating multiple moves during her early years. They lived in Littleton, Colorado; Elmira, New York, and Blue Ridge Summit, Pennsylvania before moving to Winchester when Debbie was in the eighth grade.
Her parents, Bill and Ann Mason, opened Mason’s Seafood on Millwood Avenue years ago, only a few years before her mom moved to her eternal home. This precipitated Debbie going into the food industry with her father. Her father and his friend Harold Learned bought and renamed Harwill Foodservice Equipment Company and hired Allen as the manager. A fun fact is the name Harwill is derived from HARold and WILLiam). It is amazing how life can change with one incident. Debbie left the restaurant and went to work with Allen in the restaurant equipment business. Not being content with one business, the Knotts thought about what they could do with the land not being used at the Harwill’s warehouse site. They put the property to good use by building storage units in 1996 and Stonewall Mini Storage was born. They sold Harwill’s in 2008; unfortunately the new owners were not successful. Since Debbie and Allen own the building, they reopened the business as Winchester Restaurant Equipment in 2011. Forward thinking, the plan is to sell Winchester Restaurant Equipment to their current general manager Aaron Spaid next year, but keep ownership of the less stressful Stonewall Mini Storage.

Most interesting places visited: Debbie went on a special trip called the "Journeys of Paul" with Dr. Charles Stanley where they visited several locations that the Apostle Paul had spoken of in the Bible. She was especially fascinated with the island of Patmos (Greek Isles) and Ephesus (ancient city on Turkish coast) on this trip. Halibut fishing in Homer, Alaska for his birthday also has a special place in her heart.

Favorite pastimes: Debbie’s hard-working, entrepreneurial spirit is evident. However, she balances work and life beautifully. Debbie gets a lot of enjoyment getting together with family and also making her yard beautiful by planting, pruning and mulching. She enjoys fishing, playing pickleball, going to Nascar races, and traveling with her soulmate Allen. A relaxing vacation might include going to the river in Urbanna, VA.
or hanging out at the beach in Ocean City or Fort Myers, FL.

**Kiwanis:** Debbie joined Kiwanis after attending Pancake Days over the years. She would see all these local businessmen (all men at the time) cooking and all the kids from Key Clubs and Builder’s Clubs running around helping and she thought how great it would be to be a part of this organization. She feels honored to be a Kiwanian and loves being an active part of Pancake Day. The friendships Debbie has made over the years have made Kiwanis a family rather than a club.

*Kiwanis Club of Winchester is successful because of its many volunteer members who give so freely of their time and effort.*

**THANKS FOR BEING A MEMBER OF KIWANIS CLUB, DEBBIE!**
(Continued from page 1)

scholarships, Camp Fantastic and the annual Christmas party. In the past month we have given $500.00 to the following groups: The Salvation Army, Bright Futures, Highland Food Pantry, and The Laurel Center. By the time this goes to print we will have provided 100 lunches for distribution by The Salvation Army. I don't have all the details, but we received a $400.00 check from a patron who knows what Pancake Day is all about. I would like to recognize this family as soon as we can re-convene our weekly meetings. Please let us know if you are aware of any group that we might be able to help during this crisis. Most of us are staying home as requested so don't forget to stay in touch with those who may be alone at this time. Now, let's do what we can to help family, friends and community.

—John

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