

# TECUMSEH KIWANIS DISPATCH

October 2025  
Volume 66 Number 1  
Chartered April 12, 1961  
Meeting Second Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Tecumseh United Methodist Church

Diana Halstead, President 785-633-0286  
Larry McCammon, Secretary 785-554-2558  
Cindy Cooper, Treasurer 785-224-1711



**KIWANIS** is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.  
[www.tecumsehkiwanis.com](http://www.tecumsehkiwanis.com)

## October Meeting

What if you held a membership drive and no one came? That was what happened at our October 8 membership meeting. We had sent invitation letters to all employees of both Tecumseh North and Tecumseh South Elementary schools. It was a bit disheartening but on the positive side, we had a very interesting speaker and got to enjoy a lot of good desserts. Jo Schwartz, who is a Kiwanis International Trustee from Abilene, was our featured speaker. Jo is a very outgoing person and has had many interesting experiences while being a Kiwanis member, mainly because she is willing to step up and become involved. She has been a Lt. Governor and was the Kansas Kiwanis Governor for 2019-2020. She has brought over 100 members to Kiwanis. In her role as Trustee, Jo helped start virtual clubs in the Congo and she enjoys traveling as a Trustee, including her trip to Africa.

Additionally, Jo is a pyrographer, meaning one who creates images using heat. She specializes in using a soldering iron with special tips to produce portraits on wood and has become well recognized for her craft. Jo has written a book on portrait pyrography which was published in China and she was invited there to demonstrate her skills. She is self-taught and started learning the craft in 2004. Her works of art can be seen by searching Google for Jo Schwartz Pyrography.

## Upcoming Programs

November 12	- Regina
Dessert	- Larry
December 10	- Denise
Dessert	- Diana
January 14	- Cindy
Dessert	- Debbie

## New Officers

Since the Kiwanis fiscal year starts on October 1, we now have some new officers along with some hold-overs. Diana is our new club president and Regina is our new president elect. Cindy has agreed to return as treasurer and Larry will continue to be secretary.

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

We have some opportunities to volunteer in the upcoming months starting on Thursday, October 30 when we will again participate in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Trunk or Treat event. We are also scheduled to work the first shift from 6 until 7:30 PM on the gate at Winter Wonderland on Sunday, December 7. Southwest Kiwanis will be handling the first shift. We have yet to decide on a schedule for ringing bells for the Salvation Army but that is normally part of our activities. We have also agreed that we would like to be involved in the Cuddle Blanket project again this year. Of course, all of this is in addition to our normal Meals on Wheels, reading, Boy Scouts, Rescue Mission, mowing work that we do.

## Volunteer Hours

Kiwanis volunteer hours for the month of September were 62 which gives us a total of 1292 hours for the 2024 - 2025 Kiwanis year. That compares with 1176 hours for 2023 - 2024, 1141 hours for 2022 - 2023, 1269 hours for 2021 - 2022, and 646 hours for 2020 - 2021 (the COVID years). Since 2010, our highest year had us volunteering 1936 hours in 2015 - 2016.

**Kiwanis, serving the children of the world.**