



Kiwanis

Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch

www.kcrobsonranch.org

Minutes of the General Meeting November 1st, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Bill Wilson, President. There were 21 members and a guest speaker present.

Bill Wilson led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roy Meyer led the members in prayer.

Bill Wilson led the group in singing "America."

Program: Bill Wilson introduced Samantha Sims, Chief Development Director at Giving Grace Denton. Samantha enlightened the members about Giving Grace and the programs and activities it provides in Denton County. Samantha shared experiences she witnessed of the work of Giving Grace as they work in the Denton neighborhoods to seek out the homeless and provide a whole array of support and services to assist the individuals and families. The club made a donation to Giving Grace and the Trivia Club will highlight Giving Grace at the November event.

Giving Grace is a 501(c)3 organization that serves individuals and families with children in Denton County who are currently homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless. By offering continuum of care, they empower individuals and families with the consistent support and community they need. Giving Grace typically supports over 400 individuals and families each month.

In 2016, Giving Hope collaborated with Denton's Police Department about connecting with Giving Hope's Street Outreach team and broadening the area of accessibility. The team travels into encampments, abandoned buildings, under bridges, parking lots, and streets regularly to build relationships with clients living in these areas. They work to break the cycle of homelessness addressing barriers and connect clients to the resources needed. Therefore, the clients do not have to come to Giving Hope, but they have a way to reach them and consistently work on building the relationship that is needed to transition from homelessness to housing, one life at a time. Samantha reported on how the case workers follow-up frequently with the people they are supporting to help with needed daily items and care.

The signature housing program was developed to assist families experiencing homelessness with at least one member living with a disability to obtain safe, stable, and affordable housing. This program offers: Housing Stability, Support Services, Life Skills Classes, and Intensive Case Management

Giving Grace also assists in stabilizing housing for individuals in jeopardy due to COVID-19, Job Loss, Medical Emergency, or Family Conflict.

When a family in one of the assistance programs relocates, Giving Grace often covers their first month's rent to help get them settled, and always provides furniture and move-in items to ensure a smooth transition. Giving Grace also partners with Second Chance Landlords to help individuals qualify for housing.



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Each family in the Rise with Grace Program is provided with not only a case manager, but also a volunteer family coach, to provide community, support, and companionship, throughout their journey. There are six case managers in the field and one shelter case manager at their emergency shelter location.

Love First is a grand vision for a life-changing community campus that will include housing, paired with supportive services, for up to 75 families. It will provide a place of transition and growth for families in Denton County seeking to break the cycle of homelessness and housing instability and transform their life!

For more information about Giving Grace, see their website at <https://www.givinggrace.org/>

Club Business Items

- Barbara Leurig presented Chris Laffey with the Hixson Award recognizing her service to the club and her participation in so many club activities.
- Randy Blackburn updated the members on the status of Wreaths Across America and had members sign up to staff the table to sell wreaths at the clubhouse during November.
- Randy Blackburn provided sign-up sheets for members to volunteer to ring the Salvation Army Bells during the first two weeks of December. Please let Randy know which days you can volunteer.
- Ed Ahrens updated on Our Daily Bread volunteering for November 6-7-8th and covered the new volunteer portal that Our Daily Bread has begun using.
- Linda Munz is organizing a toy drive for the Rainbow Room. See the flyer about the toy drive for November. Linda will appreciate members help with this program.
- Comfort Dolls will meet on November 27th at the CATC. Comfort Dolls recently delivered Dolls to Friends of Families which brings the total to 139 Dolls delivered so far this year. Marion Napurano showed some of the new Doll designs.
- Roy Meyer reported on the very successful Robson Ranch Garage Sale where the club had revenue of \$911 with only \$30 in expense. He thanks everyone for contributing to the Garage Sale.

Announcements and Reminders

- Trivia Night ticket sales were held on Wednesday morning and all 300 tickets were sold in 35 minutes. Barbara thanked the members who were such a great help again. Barbara will need some help again at Trivia Night and will look for volunteers.



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- Dave Riddle reported on the Coat Drive and will continue to accept coat donations. He mentioned that there is usually a shortage of coats in larger sizes. The club is a major contributor to the coat drive from Robson Ranch.
- The Club Holiday Social is scheduled for December 18th at the Grill from 5 to 8 pm. More details will follow as arrangements are finalized.
- The November 15th meeting speaker will be Shelby Gould from TWU for their scholarship program.
- The members were reminded of the Celebration of Life service for Gene Heathcoat on Monday, November 4th at 1:00 pm at the Rockpointe Church, 4503 Cross Timbers Road.
- Members were reminded of the Memorial Service for Elma Walker on Saturday, November 2nd at 11:00 am at the Argyle Methodist Church.

Club Member Updates

- Birthdays – Gwynn Rucker, Kimo Sutton, and Vicki Rawles

Happy Dollars followed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Submitted – Ed Ahrens



Chris Laffey – Hixson Award



Samantha Sims – Giving Grace



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Toy Drive




The toys collected will be donated to the Rainbow Rooms who are affiliated with the Child Protective Services of Denton County. The Rainbow Rooms help with abused, abandoned, and neglected children who are removed from his/her home and placed in foster care. We will be collecting toys through the month of November.

Toys can be dropped off at the Kiwanis meeting Nov 15th from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. or dropped off anytime at Timothy & Linda Munz's house 12500 Copper Ore Way. Your support is greatly appreciated.


Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



★ **December 14, 2024** ★


National Wreaths Across America Day




Help Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Dallas Fort Worth National Cemetery.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/TX1457P





WREATHS
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