

Minutes of the General Meeting, May 2nd, 2025

Bill Wilson, President, called the meeting to order. There were 25 members and one guest speaker present.

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

Gwynn Rucker led the members in prayer.

Bill Wilson led the group in singing "This is My Father's World."

Greg Laffey introduced Carol Maguire as the newest member. He shared information about Carol's journey to get to Robson Ranch and her activities here. Welcome, Carol.

Bill Wilson presented Jim Galbraith with the Dr. Wil Blechman Fellowship, which recognizes individuals for whom the club has contributed \$2,500 or more in their name to the Kiwanis Children's Fund. Established in 2022, the fellowship commemorates the legacy of the 1990-91 Kiwanis International president who passed away in 2021. Jim and Susan are long-term supporters of the Children's Fund.

Program

Bill Wilson introduced Mary King, the Executive Director of Metroport Meals on Wheels. Mary discussed the work of Metroport Meals on Wheels (MMOW) and its various programs. Established in 1980, MMOW serves as a grassroots volunteer advocate for the elderly and those in need through home-delivered meals, senior center luncheons, and other support services. MMOW has developed a people-centered program based on community support, rather than relying on state and federal programs. Participants do not have to meet age or financial criteria. To qualify, MMOW participants only need to reside in the geographical area and either be unable to consistently cook and shop for themselves or feel isolated and alone for extended periods due to physical limitations.

Mary explained how the Meals on Wheels program operates. The program depends on numerous volunteers to deliver meals daily, five days a week. MMOW has partnered with various food services to prepare the meals. For example, the Snooty Pig prepares the meals for the Argyle route, while the Lonesome Spur and Chicken Express handle the Justin route. Several other organizations also provide meals within the area served by MMOW. The meal delivery routes are well-organized, and MMOW delivers approximately 275,000 to 280,000 meals each year.

The impact of delivering meals goes beyond merely providing food. The interaction with recipients often serves as their primary social contact, offering a vital check on their well-being. MMOW depends on delivery volunteers to report if a recipient is not answering the door or if there are any medical concerns, allowing MMOW staff to address potential issues.



MMOW also hosts active weekly luncheons for seniors at various locations in the area. The centers offer wholesome, balanced menus and provide a welcoming social environment that is essential for senior citizens.

MMOW also offers programs to provide pet food, staples, and even holiday items to clients. MMOW organizes several major fundraisers throughout the year and depends on financial support from businesses and individuals in the community. For more information about MMOW, please visit their website at https://www.metroportmow.org/

Barbara Leuring, Roy Meyer, and Ed Ahrens are volunteer drivers and will be happy to provide more information to members interested in becoming a volunteer for MMOW.

Club Business Items

- Ed Ahrens reported that May's Our Daily Bread volunteer days will be Monday, May 5th, Wednesday, May 7th, and Friday, May 9th.
- Comfort Dolls will meet on May 28th at the CATC.
- Barbara Leurig reported that the Trivia Night on Thursday night went well again. She thanked
 all the members who worked to support the event, which will allow for a donation to be made to
 our club. The highlighted organization to receive a donation was the Children's Advocacy
 Center of North Texas. Information about the Children's Advocacy Center is attached.

Announcements and Reminders

- Bill Wright reported on the upcoming work at the New Hope Therapy Riding Center. The
 preparation work was completed on Tuesday, and May 9th is scheduled for pressure washing
 the platform. The work session on May 10th at 1:00 will focus on staining the platform to
 preserve the wood.
- Bill Wilson reported on the upcoming donations for May
 - Interfaith Ministries \$1,500
 - Hearts for Homes \$1,000
 - Cumberland Youth and Family Center \$1,000
- Bill Wilson announced the upcoming May election of officers and board members. He asked all members to consider these opportunities to serve and let him know.

Club Member Updates

- Birthdays for May Charles Wobbeking, 4th
- Kiwanis Cares forms were provided.

Happy Dollars followed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Submitted - Ed Ahrens



Welcome, Carol



Mary King – Metroport Meals on Wheels



Jim Galbraith - Dr. Wil Blechman Fellowship