

## ***THE SWAINSBORO KIWANIAN*** ***January 2, 2024***

With President Cheryl Goodman presiding, Jim Clapham led the Pledge of Allegiance and Travis Garrett gave the blessing. We had 20 in attendance including guests, including Lt. Governor Trish Tootle, Joelle Romanchik-Cerpovicz, Richard Smith, and Matthew O'Conner. We honor and remember our recently deceased Kiwanian, James (Jim) Ebb Daughtry. He will be missed.

We received two thank-you letters in the mail, one from Franklin Memorial Library for the "Lunch with Santa" and a second letter from the "Wreaths Across America" project.

Judge Mary Ellen Smith fined Paul Cerpovicz, Dess Smith, and herself for no name tag. The January birthdays are Mary Ellen Smith (January 20) and Dwight Watt (January 25).

A Good News \$1 was given by Tim Goodman for a successful Resolution Run.

Dess Smith updated us on the shotgun fund raiser. We sold 1,068 tickets. Twenty-three club members sold tickets, with thirteen selling all their tickets to win a free month of Club dues. We sold over \$5,000 in tickets which will be added to the \$450 donated to the project in Frank Patrick's name and by Rusty Lane. We gave away 32 bikes at the Pre-K Christmas Bike Give-A-Way on December 12.

Tim Goodman thanked the eight Kiwanians and the four Kiwanis family members and friends who helped with the Resolution Run 5K on January 1 at EGSC.



President Cheryl noted the Division 17 Governor's Rally is January 19, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the Statesboro Kiwanis Fairgrounds. The cost of the meal is covered by the club.

Lt. Governor Trish Tootle gave more details about the Rally and presented a 2022-2023 Outstanding Kiwanian Award to Cheryl

Goodman. The award requires bringing in a new member, at least 6 months perfect attendance, and completing two interclubs.

The program for the evening was hosted by President Cheryl, who introduced Matthew O'Conner, Management Forester for the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC). Matthew grew up on a tree farm and he currently covers Emanuel, Treutlen, and Johnson Counties to assist landowners as they manage their property and forestland. In Emanuel County last year GFC handled 164 cases (top 2 or 3 in the state), covered 36 wildfires, assisted with 34 prescribed burns, plowed over 390 miles of firebreaks, and did 25 Community Outreach Programs. Forest management services provided by Matthew include advice and planning for timber land, timber sales and harvest advice, timber security, stewardship planning, state nursery and seedling production, prescribed burning, and cost-sharing options. He also assists GFC with forest protection, with burn permits, fire weather reporting, installation of fire breaks, prescribed burning, emergency response, and wildfire prevention.



The Italian Crème Cake, donated by Gary Couse and baked by Petite Garrett, was won by Dess Smith. David Gribbin won the Dominos pizza. David Gribbin and Paul Cerpovicz won "Git-R-Done" mugs and Will Barber won the gift basket.

### **KIWANIS REMINDERS**

- January 16 - Regular Meeting – Program – Jeff Brewer,  
Cake – Cayla Scarboro
- January 16 - Board Meeting
- January 19 - Division 17 Governor's Rally – 6:00 pm at Statesboro  
Kiwanis Fair Grounds
- February 6 - Regular Meeting – Program – Cassie McIntyre,  
Cake – Cindy Ware
- February 20 - Regular Meeting – Program – Paul Cerpovicz,  
Cake – Edwin Canady