

# ***THE SWAINSBORO KIWANIAN***

## ***December 7, 2021***

With President Dianna Wedincamp presiding, Deana Patrick led the Pledge of Allegiance and Tammy Allen gave the blessing. We had 19 members present. Our guest for the evening was Mayor-Elect Greg Bennett.

Gary Couse gave the national sports report. In NCAA football Alabama beat UGA 41 to 24 to win the SEC Championship. The CFP rankings have Alabama as #1, followed by Michigan, Georgia, and Cincinnati. The Playoffs begin on December 31 with Georgia playing Michigan and Alabama playing Cincinnati. The NFL Falcons are 5-7 after losing to the Buccaneers 30 to 17. The NBA Hawks are 13-12 in 10<sup>th</sup> place in the Eastern Conference.

Petite Garrett gave the local sports report. All the local varsity football teams lost in the state playoffs, with both ECI and DEA losing in the quarter finals and SHS losing in the semi-finals. The high school basketball season is in full swing. The ECI cheer team won the region and finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the state and the SHS cheer team won the region and finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the state. High school wrestling is also beginning. The endangered species of the day is the Cross River Gorilla.

Judge Jim Daughtry fined Bobbie Daughtry for being late to the meeting. He fined Cheryl Goodman and Wanda Ellis for their pictures in the newspaper with the Seedling Garden Club and Deana Patrick for her husband's picture in the newspaper.

John Bailey gave us an update on the status of the shotgun drawing, reminding us we have only two more weeks to SELL, SELL, SELL. Jane Durden updated us on the Christmas Bike-Giveway to take place on December 15. We have 41 bikes to give to selected Pre-K students and their siblings. Mary Ellen Smith thanked everyone who helped with our presence in the Christmas Parade, especially Pepper Fields who got the truck.

Pepper Fields gave a Good News \$1 for changes in the Medicaid program. Mary Ellen Smith gave a \$1 for her brother Richard and his recovery. Petite Garrett gave a \$1 for a successful return from the Dominican Republic and Tammy Allen gave a \$1 for left over grant money to buy more books.

Our program for the evening was hosted by John David Bailey. He introduced newly-elected Swainsboro Mayor, Greg Bennett. Mr. Bennett talked about all the changes he planned to implement to

make Swainsboro grow and prosper in his time as Mayor. He spoke of 20 items that will be considered on a retreat by the City Council. He talked of plans to build 80 apartments in Swainsboro and the development of a new subdivision north of town. He talked of the possibility for Chic-fil-A and Arby's coming to Swainsboro. Greg talked about an adjustment of the role of the city in the Recreation Department and a shift of control of the city parks to the city. A grant will be submitted to redo Harmon Park. With the high millage rate in Swainsboro, there is a need to reduce the rate to lower the tax burden on property owners. A tax reduction for senior citizen property owners will be proposed. Something needs to be done to increase the salaries of some city workers, especially police and firefighters, and to adjust the insurance stipend. There will be a plan to replace police cars annually as older vehicles are phased out. This will lead to a more standardized look for city police vehicles. It is hoped the City Council can work together to get these things done.



The Raspberry Cheesecake, donated by Cayla Scarboro, brought \$53 and was won by John Bailey. Cheryl Goodman won the Domino's pizza. Wanda Ellis won the birdhouse presented by President Dianna.

### **KIWANIS REMINDERS**

December 16	Board Meeting	Hosts: Dianna Wedincamp and Tammy Allen
December 21	Regular Meeting	Host: Jeffrey Brewer Cake: Mary Ellen Smith
January 4	Regular Meeting	Host: Gary Couse Cake: Tim Goodman
January 15	Governor's Rally 12:00 Noon - Brooklet	
January 18	Regular Meeting	Host: Bobbie Daughtry Cake: Windy Ward
January 18	Board Meeting	Host: Cayla Scarboro

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