

L to R: President Jane Durden, Becky Palmer, Chip Durden.

Air Evac Team Member Speaks to Kiwanis

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting, Tuesday night, April 19, 2016 at Catered Creations at 7:00. With President Jane Durden presiding, we had 25 members in attendance with no guests.

The program was hosted by Chip Durden, who introduced Becky Palmer. Becky is in charge of the membership program for the helicopter medical transport Air Evac Life Team stationed in Vidalia. Becky is a 10-year member of the Vidalia Kiwanis Club. Becky has been working for the AirMedCare Network for six years after escaping the Atlanta traffic to return to her home town of Vidalia. She was drawn to the Network because their goal is to react to a trauma emergency within the first hour after the injury. This "Golden Hour" to get to a trauma center results in a 50% better chance of recovery. Vidalia is one of six Air Evac based in rural South Georgia with the nationwide Network having over 200 bases with 2 million members. The Air Evac team on the helicopter consists of a pilot, a registered nurse, and a paramedic, making the helicopter like a flying emergency room. The helicopter will transport any patient to a level-one trauma center like Augusta, Savannah, or Macon, but will work with members and their insurance companies and Medicare to reduce the cost so that the evacuation is cost free for members. She encouraged everyone to become members to protect ourselves and our families.

Chair Jim Clapham reminded everyone about Pre-K Fun Day this Thursday, April 21, starting at 9:15 am, with cotton candy preparation on April 20, at 1:00. Chair Tim passed out t-shirts to those working the Knotty Pine and Pine Tree Breeze on April 30. We are also timing the Autism Awareness 5K in Soperton on May 14, the Washpot 5K in Garfield on May 21, and the Walk GA and Mutt Strut on June 4 in Sandersville. The Board meeting is this Thursday, April 21, at 7:00 pm at Peking China. The Smithsonian Exhibit is still open at East Georgia State College until April 30.

If you would like to become a member of the Swainsboro Kiwanis Club, contact our membership Chair Linda Lamb at 478-237-5188 or e-mail her at hsdurden@bellsouth.net. Also, if you would like more information about our Club and the many community service projects that we do each year, go to our website at: <http://www.swainsborokiwanis.org/> or to our Swainsboro Kiwanis Facebook page

