

Kiwanis-August 21, 2008

Do You Know this Kiwanian?

Here are a few facts about our featured Kiwanian!

Raised on a farm in South Central Nebraska

Is of German background, is bi-lingual and speaks fluent German

Was raised on goat's milk, as could not tolerate cows milk

Was a film star at an early age

Was known to celebrate his wedding anniversary by trick or treating on Halloween

Once known as a galloping gourmet

Has never met a restaurant he didn't like

Has been known as the fog driver

One of his hobbies is growing Gladiola and Azaleas

Has had a quadruple by-pass heart operation

Have I whetted your appetite? There's more!

Our featured Kiwanian was raised on a farm east of Hastings of German descent and still speaks fluent German today, and yes he could not tolerate cows milk, so he was given goat's milk.

I found out that our Kiwanian was not always angelic! When younger, his older brother enjoyed making windmills out of three pound tin cans, but our Kiwanian would throw dirt clods at them as his brother finished his project.

He also was a film star at an early age. He auditioned for his first film by singing, "Hail, Hail, the gangs all here" for a child's film.

He also took piano lessons at an early age on Monday nights for fifty cents per lesson. One of his first jobs was at the 4-H county fair cleaning up Holstein cattle and he would use talcum powder to do the job.

Our Kiwanian also became a hero at an early age. One day he was out in the pasture checking the cattle, and noticed that one of the milk cows was severely bloated. Something had to be done immediately or the cow would die. Our valiant, quick thinking, Kiwanian ran to the house, grabbed the butcher knife, back out to the pasture, stabbed the cow in the stomach, releasing the pressure. Later, the veterinarian remarked that our Kiwanian had saved the cow's life.

He once missed his own birthday party, because his mother forgot to invite him.

Following H.S. graduation, our Kiwanian went to college and received a bachelor's degree in Psychology and English. The military draft was in operation at that time and he was told he would have one year before being drafted. He then taught in a small school in northeastern Nebraska for that one year. Following induction into the service, he was on maneuvers one day, when an Army colonel came up to him and asked: Soldier, can you play the organ? Our Kiwanian said yes and he was told to report immediately to the 7th Army headquarters to be assistant to the Chaplain. This later led to our Kiwanian being named director of the 7th Army Men's Glee Club.

During one of his leaves, he married his lovely wife, Nancy on Halloween, and several times during their early married life, they would trick or treat for their wedding anniversary. Having enjoyed his stint as a musical director in the army, he returned to U.N.L. and received a Master's & Doctor's degree in Music.

Many of you know the rest of the story; our own Dr. Don Goodrich moved to Hastings to teach in Hastings High school, then on to Hastings College; he is well-known as a Barber-shopper, and has remained here ever since. The reference to the fog driver relates to his experience with the Gallopers, a small dinner group and Don always seemed to draw the driving chores on foggy nights. Don is also a long time member of the quartet "The Four Dads".

He is father of three children and the grandparent of three. So much more could be said, but now you know some of the unknowns about our fearless song leader.

A round of applause for our own Don Goodrich.

