

Kiwanian of the Day - July 10, 2008

In doing the research for today, the overriding characteristic for our Kiwanian was "A Hard Worker", a result of that Midwestern farm ethic.

Our Kiwanian of the day grew up on a farm and attended a one-room country school for the elementary years. This person rode a horse named Nancy to the country school, but when the weather was warm, Nancy liked to go in the pond to cool off, which sometimes created an unusual situation with the rider. Following the school day, our Kiwanian would use the same horse to get the cows for milking. This person grew up milking cows and doing the usual farm chores. One thing about our Kiwanian-they always enjoyed roaming the farm barefoot. One day this habit got our Kiwanian into trouble, as this person was helping bring in silage and this person stepped on a pitchfork running it through their foot. Our Kiwanian was born and raised in Nuckolls country, attended high school in Nelson and for a time worked at the Smith cafe in Nelson while in school.

Upon high school graduation, our Kiwanian moved to the big town of Hastings for employment. Their first job was at the Ben Sherman clothing store, and later employed at Kerr plastics. Meanwhile, romance was blooming in the air. One day while at the old Blackstone Cafe, a mutual friend introduced her to a young man . The next time this young man saw her was when she was walking down the street, and he offered her a ride. As he states, I literally picked her up off the street. Sparks began to fly, and after meeting in March of 1966, they were married in October of 1966. As her husband states, "we didn't fool around, we got right to it! At this time, our Kiwanian was working at Dutton-Lainson and continued until their first child Matt arrived. At this time, a joint decision was made that our Kiwanian would be a stay at home mom, and later a second child arrived, a daughter named Michele. After staying home for some time, our Kiwanian saw an ad for a part time job at the Hastings Federal Credit Union. Eventually, part time led to full time employment. Later, the manager retired, and our Kiwanian was asked to become the manager. At first she refused, feeling that she was not qualified for the job. She decided to study and self-taught herself the qualifications for the job. Later, she was asked again, she accepted, and obviously has done very well. In addition to her job, she has served as President of the South Central Credit Union chapter for two terms.

Our Kiwanian is very active in her church, serving on the Board of Trustees, the Scholarship Committee, and the Memorial Committee. Her favorite foods are seafood and fruit and she is very health conscious. She enjoys basking in the sun on a beach with a good book, spending time with her three grandchildren, and watching game shows on TV. She has one sister in Hastings, one brother in Plano, Texas, and another sister in Quinlan, Texas.

Meet our hard working Kiwanian past president, Linda Stark.

