

# The Mecklenburg Missile

Comin' Atcha

Kiwanis Club of Mecklenburg, Charlotte, Inc.

Organized August 5, 1952

P. O. Box 33573, Charlotte, NC 28233-3573

Missile Launcher: Bob Swanson

Meeting: Monday, September 10, 2012 Attendance: 7 members, 6 guests **Next Meeting: Monday, September 17**

## Today's Program

Attendance was disappointing, to say the least.

Lt. Gov. Evelyn Hagood joined us, and talked to us briefly about Kiwanis International's World-Wide project, **ELIMINATE**.

It certainly is worth-while, but in our view does not really fulfill one of the major criteria used in its selection: that of being needed just as much in the US as in the rest of the world. Its major benefit seems to be in Africa.

But no one can argue about its cost-effectiveness: just three injections at 60 cents each (in other words, \$1.80) can save the life of an infant.

Thanks, Evelyn. And please join us at our meetings whenever you can.

## The Coming Kiwanis Year (2012/2013)

October 1 is only a about 3 weeks away, and that means that Kiwanis, at all levels, embarks on many new programs, with all new leaders. Our International President will be **Tom DeJulio**, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Fordham, Bronx, New York. Our District Governor will be **Tom Currier**, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greenville Eastside (that's South Carolina, by the way). Governor-Elect, and presumably District Governor for 2013/2014, will be **Bill Clingenpeel**, of the Gate City Club in Greensboro, NC. Lieutenant Governor for Division 6 (to which we belong) will continue to be **Evelyn Hagood**. And President of the Kiwanis Club of Mecklenburg (Charlotte) - that's US! - will be **Candi Knudsen**.

Folks, we're in good hands!

## An Editorial (fact, not opinion)

In the last Missile I wrote about declining numbers in Kiwanis. Since then I have learned that my college Fraternity, Delta Tau Delta, has for the 2012/2013 academic year an all-time record number of members (more than 8,000) among its undergraduate chapters. This is several hundred more than the previous record. Back in the '90's most fraternities/sororities suffered the same declines that civic and religious organizations did. In fact, fraternities/sororities were, if anything, even worse off. At least part of their decline had to do with unfavorable public perception. Delta Tau Delta, for example, was sometimes facetiously referred to as the "Down Town Drunks." Interesting that the Delts' international headquarters is in Fishers, only a few short miles from Kiwanis' HQ.

Is this a trend? Or is it an aberration? Is there something Delta Tau Delta is doing that the rest of us could emulate?

Fraternities/sororities several years ago began eliminating hazing and emphasizing public service. Undoubtedly that has contributed immeasurably to the improvement in perception. But from our point of view, that puts them in direct competition with Circle K. Back in the early '70's I was called upon to serve Delta Tau Delta as a Southern Division Vice President, responsible for chapters, both existing and potentially new, in North Carolina and South Carolina. I suggested that one activity through which members could do public service was Circle K. To say my words fell on deaf ears is a gross misstatement; they just plain fell!!!

## COW CHIP DAY!

Don't forget: our annual "Cow Chip Bingo Festival" takes place on Saturday, September 22, at 5210 Carmel Road - which is at the corner of Carmel and Quail View Roads. Enter from the Quail View gate. And bring all the kids you can find, as there will be games, a petting zoo, a "bouncy house" - and other attractions especially for kids (and the young-at-heart. Also, maybe some NFL players, a silent auction, and hot dogs and hamburgers for lunch. **Come one, Come all!**

**Meets 12:00 Noon, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays: Villa Antonio Ristorante, 4707 South Boulevard**

Web Site: <http://www.mecklenburgkiwanis.org>