

# The Mecklenburg Missile

Comin' Atcha

*Kiwanis Club of Mecklenburg, Charlotte, Inc.*

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

Organized August 5, 1952

**Missile Launcher: Bob Swanson**

**Meeting Monday, April 1, 2013**

**Next Meeting: Monday, April 15, 2013**

## Today's Program

Sometimes we really do enjoy just having lunch with friends. But that's only a PART of what Kiwanis is all about - albeit a very important part. Kiwanis meetings are designed to offer programs of major interest to its members. And, indeed, Mecklenburg Kiwanis has a long history of doing just that. But our attendance numbers have shrunk to where it's just plain embarrassing to bring in a prominent speaker. I guess it's a prime example of what "Catch-22" is: you need members and attendance to justify good programs; but you need good programs to attract members and attendance.

So whadowedonow????

## Club Potpourri

News articles and reports recently have been numerous about the "Citizens Review Board" at CMPD.

When this panel was formed - back in the 90's - one of the first appointees to it was one of our long-time members, and Past President, Al Hicklin. Al served until health forced him to curtail his activities.

Al died soon thereafter, of prostate cancer.

Speaking of CMPD, where have all "our" cops gone? We once had several in the Club: Commander Bruce Treadaway, Interim Chief Bob Schurmeier, Deputy Chief (before being elected Sheriff) Jim Pendergraph. Capt. Chris Vail. Charlotte Club had two or three, too.

Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue!

Always make your words soft and sweet. You might have to eat them!

## About US (a continuing saga)!

1925. Sacramento, California. The Kiwanis Club sponsors a club for "key boys" in the local high school. It took more than a decade for the idea to catch on, but catch on it did - at first in California and then into other states. Thus was born **KEY CLUB**. Though it grew slowly at first, it was destined to become a thriving organization and win much recognition for Kiwanis. Today it is a vital member of our "Kiwanis Family," and sports more members, believe it or not, than Kiwanis itself.

By 1926 Kiwanis membership reached 100,000, and attracted 5,248 members to the annual International Convention, this year in Montreal. They came from 1,546 Kiwanis Clubs. Over the years we have had conventions with somewhat north of 20,000 attendees. For whatever reasons, recent convention attendance has been in the 5,000 to 7,000 neighborhood.

1927 was a G-O-O-D year. I was born! Aside from that momentous event, Kiwanis began emphasizing rural-urban cooperation, and US Kiwanians joined with Canadian members to celebrate the Dominion of Canada's Diamond Jubilee.

In the next year - 1928 - Kiwanis introduced a leadership training system. District Governors would be trained by Kiwanis International, Lieutenant Governors by the District Governors, and Club Presidents by the Lieutenant Governors. This is the procedure still observed today.

1929 is most notable for the stock market collapse in October, which triggered the "Great Depression." But a survey of Kiwanis Clubs revealed that 95 percent of them were sponsoring projects to benefit underprivileged children in some manner. So, you see, the concept of Kiwanis "Serving the Children of the World" goes back at least 84 years.

---- To Be Continued

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

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