

# 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, August 4, 2014

Next Meeting: Monday, August 18, 2014

## Today's Meeting

In the absence of President Val, President-Elect Keri presided. Discussion centered on plans for the Cow Chip Bingo Festival, scheduled for Saturday, September 23. This year will see the **10<sup>th</sup>** annual production, the first one having been in the fall of 2005.

Actually this is a pretty BIG undertaking for what is now such a small Kiwanis Club. But staging it attests to the fact that we may be small but we're still mighty! And we're still making our mark in the community - - which, after all, is what Kiwanis is all about. Remember: our motto is "Serving the Children of the World."

On KI's web site, you'll find this paragraph:

### **"Kids count**

You'd be surprised to know how much kids can do to help others. Kiwanis is home to the largest youth service programs in the world. Our local clubs programs empower elementary school students, tweens and teens to make an impact through service and leadership."

Take a look at what they can do. Visit web site:

<http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanis/clubs-for-every-age/kids-count#.U-YPvaPDW6E>

Fact: There are more Key Clubs than Kiwanis Clubs; and more Key Clubbers in the world than Kiwanians.

Why not Learn more about Kiwanis? Visit these web sites:

Kiwanis International: <http://www.kiwanis.org>

Carolinas District: <http://www.carolinakiwanis.org>

You'll not only learn, but you'll enjoy!!

## Birthdays

You undoubtedly received the email Secretary Frank sent out pointing out that we when we met on August 4 we totally overlooked THE birthday: our Kiwanis Club! The day after our meeting (Tuesday, August 5) was our Club's 62<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of its "birth."

For many of those years, Mecklenburg Kiwanis was very active in the Charlotte community, both in RAISING funds AND in SPENDING them. Probably the most visible over the years has been Boys Town - now known as Elon Homes for Children, and located on the Johnson C. Smith University campus. Were it not for Mecklenburg Kiwanis, this facility might never have existed. It had its origins when Juvenile Court Clerk Fred Kennedy came and spoke to us at a regular meeting. He sparked such interest and enthusiasm that almost on-the-spot we pledged \$5,000 to study the feasibility of a local facility similar to the well-known Father Flanagan's Boys Town in Nebraska. The rest is history, starting with our additional pledge of \$75,000 to build the first cottage. (That's STILL a lot of money - but this was 1969, remember.)

We not only built the cottage, but granted additional \$000'S annually for several years to maintain it.

But I stray from the subject. Some Decembers must have "had something in the water," 'cause FOUR of our members were born in August: Brennan, Downey, Helt, and Swanson. That's almost one-third of our membership! WOW!!

## Blondes (Men, too!)

A blonde man sees a letter lying on his doorstep. It says on the envelope, "DO NOT BEND." He's still trying to figure out how to pick it up.

**Meets 12 Noon, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays** - Fairview Plaza Restaurant, 5950 Fairview Road, 28210

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