



Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

February and March 2021

I think we can finally see a rainbow at the end of this pandemic tunnel. We thought we could begin normal operations in the closing months of 2020 but it didn't quite work out that way. We ended up cancelling our February meeting as well as our fund raiser. Several plans for special acknowledgment events were also put on hold too.

With vaccine shots well under way it looks like we can get going again, so we are planning to go ahead with our March meeting. **Put Thursday, March 11th at 12:30 on your calendar.** We will meet in our normal room at the Bacall Recreation Center on Canal Street. CDC guidelines will be followed. We plan on having a special guest and also an interesting speaker as well. Joyce Gillette, President of Dollars for Scholars, will tell us about their activities and Anne Sheehan from our Dayton affiliate will also be joining us to share some of her experiences.

Fund raiser

Our plans for a fund raiser in January had to be postponed because of concerns about the state of the pandemic. We now have a new date for this, Wednesday,

May 5th at 6:30 pm. We have approval but don't have the specific venue as yet. You will receive a flier as soon as we have all the information. The event is "An Evening of Song with Suzie Casta". If you have never seen Suzie perform, you are in for a real treat. She has one of the most beautiful voices and her performances are infectious. You will leave feeling good all over – guaranteed!



Proceeds from this will give us the opportunity to carry out all the programs we are planning. Please support us if you can and **pass it on to friends**. Tickets are just \$10 pp and it is a BYOB and snacks event for Villages residents (or guests with passes) only. If you purchased tickets for the January event you are good to go.

All CDC guidelines will be followed including social distanced seating.

Kindness Cards and Certificates

Many of us have shied away from handing out our **Kindness Cards** during the pandemic. If you are comfortable it may be a good time to get back to this. And, if you do, please share your experiences with us at the meeting. We will have plenty of cards available at our meeting if you need them.

Our Certificates of Kindness are another very easy way we use to acknowledge acts of kindness. If you have someone you know that has shown exceptional kindness you can use this to show your appreciation. **Attached is a copy of the**

certificate that you can use. Print your own or, if you would prefer, we can provide you with a framed version and work with you to make a presentation.



Website and Facebook Sites

We have a terrific website (AAOKCub.org) and our Website Advisor, Tweet Coleman, is doing a wonderful job keeping this up to date. Visit this often to see the latest events and news. Our blog is a way of sharing interesting articles on kindness, and we invite you all to contribute to this. The latest blogs include articles from two of our members and a story of kindness that will bring tears to your eyes. If you have something you would like to share sent it to aaokclub@gmail.com and we will make sure it is added (with your name of course). While you are on the site check out the latest blogs and enjoy.

We also have a Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/AcknowledgingActsOfKindness>

and a Facebook group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2392926004127163>

Check them out, give a big like, post some good stuff, and share it with as many as you can! You will find a lot of interesting examples of kindness on these sites.

Our Dayton, Ohio Club

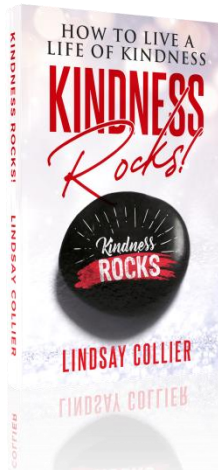
The Springfield (Ohio) News-Sun posted an article by Anne Sheehan of our Dayton, Ohio affiliate. Anne has received a number of inquiries for cards based on this article from as far away as Idaho and California. Anne and her husband, Terry, will be renting in the Village of Tall Trees for the month of March and hopefully will be able to share her story at our March meeting.

To see her article, click on '[Random Acts of Kindness; 25 Ways to Make Someone's day](#)'.

Upcoming Events

Our Candidate Selection and Event Coordination Focus Group has three acknowledgement events in the planning stage. The state of the pandemic has put a temporary halt on these but we hope to soon get started again. We have 3 amazing candidates in line with more to follow. As usual, you are invited to recommend any candidates you feel are worthy of special recognition. So, if you know of someone who has shown exceptional kindness, please let us know via our "Candidate Nomination Form" (on our website).

A brand new course, '**How to Live a Life of Kindness**' will be taught on Wednesday, March 10 from 2-4 pm at the Lake Miona Recreation Center. This course is based on my new book, '[Kindness Rocks! How to Live a Life of Kindness](#)'. You can see this course on page 34 of the [Enrichment Academy catalogue](#).



In 2019 we had a “**Himalayan Golf**” event that was very successful, and we are looking to have another in 2021. This is a real blast, and you don’t need to be a golfer to play. As a matter of fact, the only hole- in- one last time was someone who had never played golf! We are thinking of late April or May as a good time for this. **We need someone to volunteer to orchestrate this event.** This involves making the arrangements with Palmer’s Legends and reservations for lunch (at Sonny’s BBQ).

Do you have any ideas for other opportunities for future events? If so, let us know.

Sonny’s BBQ

As many of you know, we have struck a nice relationship with Sonny’s BBQ because of their focus on kindness which includes having a Chief Kindness Officer, Kennon Adkinson. We have our board meetings at Sonny’s, they have contributed prizes for our fund raiser, and they may even be a part of some of our future acknowledgments.

Check out some of the kind things they are doing at [this site](#).

Club Merchandise

Custom Apparel in the Publix Plaza on 466 now has a catalog of products with our club logo. This includes men's and women's Tee and polo shirts, full zipper fleeces, nametags, masks, totes, and hats. And the prices are very reasonable. Our catalogue can be seen at [aaokclub merchandise](#) and you can order on line if desired.

I will leave you with a poem that is full of meaning to us all. **See you at the March 11th meeting?**

Lindsay Collier, President

The Dash Poem

THE DASH

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning... to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth and now only those who loved them know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the house... the cash. What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that still can be rearranged.

To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our
lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile... remembering
that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash, would you
be proud of the things they say about how you lived your dash?

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*We invite you to share the poem. Please include this credit line: **By Linda Ellis, Copyright © 2020
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