



## **Westfield Kiwanis Club** **Club Profile and Information for Prospective Members**

### **What are the qualifications for membership?**

Membership is available to men and women of good character who live and/or work in Greater Westfield/Southwick and who desire an opportunity to help children in our community and elsewhere.

### **When was the Westfield Kiwanis Club founded?**

The Club was chartered December 18, 1922.

### **Where and when do we meet?**

The Club meets every Thursday evening at Tucker's Restaurant, 625 College Highway (US 202), Southwick, MA.

5:30 – 6:05 PM -- Social hour  
6:05 – 7:00 -- Guest introductions, announcements, dinner  
7:00 – 7:30 -- Speaker

Meetings open with the ringing of the Kiwanis bell. We stand for the singing of "God Bless America", the pledge of allegiance and a short prayer or invocation. The meetings are social, informative and educational in nature.

### **Who manages or "runs" the club?**

The business of the club is managed by the Board of Directors, made up of the seven club officers and six elected directors. The Board meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month (with rare and brief special meetings on Thursday after the regular Club meeting as necessary). Board meetings are open to all members, and they are encouraged to attend and participate in discussions, although only board members may vote.

### **How much will it cost you?**

There is a one-time fee of \$56.00 with the application. Annual dues are currently set at \$120.00 and are billed on October 1 of each year. The dues include all Kiwanis International, New England District and local fees as well as International, District and local publications. Tucker's currently charges \$17.00 per member for our weekly dinner.

Members are encouraged to participate in local, district and international fundraising projects.

### **How do I join Kiwanis?**

You are invited to attend two or three meetings as a guest. You will have the opportunity to meet several members and ask questions about our purpose and objectives. Lastly, you are given an opportunity to see the kind of men and women that make up the membership of Kiwanis. You may then complete an application for membership, which your sponsor will present to the board of directors for approval.

### **How would I be inducted?**

Your sponsor will introduce you and will tell the Club something about your background, family and business affiliation. A fellow Kiwanian will conduct your induction in a simple dignified ceremony and will present you with your membership lapel pin. There are no rituals and you do not need to give any acceptance speech. When your induction is complete, you will be welcomed by all of the members.

### **What would we expect of you as a member?**

We assume you will attend club meetings regularly and to work on club fund raising and service projects. You will be appointed to one of our working committees and are encouraged to serve as an active committee member. You may be asked once or twice each year to provide a speaker for a Club meeting. The Westfield Kiwanis Club requires 60% attendance, which can be met by attending regular meetings and committee meetings or by participating in service projects.

### **What Counts as an attendance credit?**

- Regular dinner meeting
- Attendance at meetings of other Kiwanis family groups (either individually or as a member of an interclub)
- Committee meetings
- Board of directors meetings
- Participation in service projects and fundraisers

### **What will we promise you?**

An opportunity for you to share your experience, your knowledge, and your time in serving our community.  
An opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle of your business or profession once a week - - to relax, converse with friends, and listen to an interesting speaker.  
An opportunity to get "expert advice" from fellow members, who represent a wide spectrum of businesses and professions.  
The pride and prestige of Kiwanis membership.

### **How does the club raise funds?**

Our important charitable fundraisers are the annual Kiwanis Cable TV Auction (first Sunday in March), the "Kiwanis Lights for Liberty" Independence Day fireworks, and the annual Kiwanis Kids Day peanut sale in September. Funds for internal club use are raised from member dues, from a weekly 50/50 raffle, and from "happy and sad dollars" donated by members at regular meetings. Charity and club fundraising is strictly segregated, and all the money we raise from the public goes to charitable causes.

### **Where Does the Club Spend the Funds?**

Westfield Boys and Girls Club (founded by Kiwanis); Little League (founded by Kiwanis) and Babe Ruth baseball and girls softball programs; St. Mary High School Key Club; Westfield State College Circle K Club; Builders Clubs at Westfield North and South Middle Schools; K-Kids at Franklin Avenue, Paper Mill, Southampton Road, and Munger Hill Elementary Schools and at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Westfield; reading programs at the Westfield Athenaeum; contributions to many other local charity and youth service programs.

### **What Service Projects Do We Do?**

4th of July Fireworks     Circle K, Key Club, Builders Club and K-Kids programs

Holiday party for underprivileged children

### **What Publications Will I Receive?**

Kiwanis International Magazine – Yankiwanian, N.E. District on-line magazine – Westfield Kiwanis Club Kiwanigram, also available on-line at [www.westfieldkiwanis.org](http://www.westfieldkiwanis.org).