

# The Swainsboro Kiwanian

January 15, 2008

It was good to have President Bob Losser back with us tonight. Sincere sympathy is extended to Bob and Vivian in the recent death of her mother in New York.

The meeting convened as always at 7:00 at Catered Creations, with President Bob in charge. Raymond Hendrix led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Jim Hendrickson led the invocation. Other than our speaker, who will be introduced later, there were no guests.

## Sports

The football season is winding down. According to sports reporter Tobe Karrh, the East-West Shrine game will be played this weekend in Mobile, and that will about do it for college football. He reminded us that the AFC playoffs are coming up with the New England Patriots facing the San Diego Chargers. (How's that for a cross-country rivalry?) The NFC playoffs pit the New York Giants against the Green Bay Packers. The big one, the Super Bowl, will be played on February 4.

## Court

Judge Charles Brewer could not find much amiss tonight, and he issued no fines. He did, however, remind the December birthday people that they need to feed the kitty. January birthdays were published in last week's bulletin, and they probably need to see the judge too.

## Announcements

President Bob read a letter from Pam Carr at the Pre-K Center thanking the Kiwanis Club for sponsoring the Christmas party and giving bicycles to the children. Our next event at Pre-K will be the Fun Day, later in the spring.

The Board of directors will be meeting this week at the home of Jim Daughtry. David Bartram says that the February Board meeting will be postponed until February 21, so be sure and put that on your calendar.

Charles Brewer announced that due to plunging temperatures predicted for this weekend, the grape trimming scheduled for this Saturday will be postponed a week.

President Bob reminded us that Valentines spouses' night will be on February 12.

## Program



Dwight Watt was our program chair tonight, and he invited Larry Calhoun, President of Swainsboro Technical College as our speaker. Since Dwight was unable to be present, Ed Bolton introduced Larry to the club.

Larry addressed the need for students to remain in high school until they graduate. He said out that it is after the ninth grade that most of the dropouts leave school, since they have reached the age that they are no longer required to attend. It is at this point that we need to direct efforts to retain the students in school. He also mentioned that of 100 eighth grade students, only 54 graduate from high school. In Georgia, 16% of the population has no high school diploma or GED.

Those without a high school diploma have the opportunity to earn a GED at Swainsboro Tech while simultaneously learning a skill that can lead to a good job.

He also pointed out that most students are going to need some education beyond high school to get good jobs and succeed. Some will need a four-year degree from a university, but many will need the job skills that can be obtained at an institution such as Swainsboro Technical College.

He mentioned a looming shortage of automobile mechanics, and airplane mechanics. Having come to Swainsboro Tech from Georgia Aviation College in Eastman, he is very familiar with the need for airplane mechanics. He sees the prospect of our airplanes being maintained in other countries as a somewhat frightening prospect. There will be good jobs out there for people who want to train for them.

Thanks to Dwight for arranging this program, and thanks to Larry for taking the time to be with us.

## Door Prizes

We had a mystery cake tonight, which was won by Tobe Karrh. Perhaps when he gets it, he will let us know what it was. Adi Galloway won the Domino's Pizza provided by Chris Cann. The take out meals were won by Tobe Karrh and Jim Dekle.

### *Kiwanis Kalendar*

	Program	Cake
January 22	Tobe Karrh	Paul Cerpovicz
January 29	Chris Cann	Bobby Seamans
February 5	Bill Rountree	Bill Rountree
February 12	Bob Losser	No Cake
	<i>Spouses' Night</i>	
February 19	Raymond Hendrix	Danny Tapley
February 26	Paul Cerpovicz	Club

## Don't Quit

When things go wrong as they sometimes will;  
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill;  
When the funds are low and the debts are high;  
And you want to smile but have to sigh;  
When care is pressing you down a bit,  
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.  
Life is queer with its twists and turns,  
As every one of us sometimes learns,  
And many a failure turns about,  
When he might have won had he stuck it out;  
Don't give up though the pace seems slow.  
You may succeed with another blow.  
Success is failure turned inside out;  
The silver tint of clouds of doubt,  
And you never can tell just how close you are,  
It may be near when it seems so far;  
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit-  
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit!

(This was passed to me by Edwin Canady. Good thoughts at the outset of a new year, or for any time.)