

Bob Shaw keynotes as Kiwanis celebrates 40 years

The Sisters Kiwanis Club installed a new president and slate of officers at a 40th anniversary party held at the Sisters Rodeo Grounds. Liam Hughes assumed the president's role for the next year.

"I am honored to be given this opportunity to serve the Kiwanis Club of Sisters," Hughes said. "I just hope I can live up to all the great work that has been done for the Sisters community by all the great Kiwanis presidents before me."

Kerry Bott was honored as Kiwanian of the Year for his indefatigable work at the Sisters Food Bank. He led the project to fund and install a walk-in freezer/refrigerator that allows the food bank to store much more frozen food and fresh produce.

The President Award was given to Suzy Ramsey for her tireless leadership of the Hoodoo Challenge race, membership committee and everything else she is asked the help with.

Roger Johnson was honored with the Project of the Year award for his leadership on record-setting events as chairman of the fundraising committee.

Gary Kutz earned the Spirit Award for his continuing work in maintaining/upgrading the Kiwanis Food Bank and clubhouse buildings.

Many Kiwanis non-member spouses volunteer their time and energy

to fundraisers. Leart Jett received the Spouse of the Year award for her leadership on the jewelry part of the annual Kiwanis Antique Sale.

Pam Woodson earned Rookie of the Year for the energy and effort on the Antique Sale.

Kiwanis always enters the Rodeo parade; this year the entry (second place) was especially fun and appealing and earned Spark Plugs of the Year award for Pat Wollard, Lydia Kulus, and Berni Huggett.

Several special guests attended. Brant Kucera, Sisters city manager, attended the celebration to learn about Kiwanis, its food bank, and the long list of contributions to the community. The Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce was represented as well.

Sisters Kiwanis was chartered in 1977 and is proud to have served the Sisters community for those 40 years. KTVZ's Bob Shaw gave the celebration's keynote speech, noting that KTVZ also started in 1977. Bob gave a history of how he became the chief meteorologist at KTVZ and how the station is the training ground for many reporters. Shaw also told Kiwanis members how the "Cares for Kids" program came about and how it ties into the work of Kiwanis.

Kiwanis officers for the coming year include Hughes, Pat Wollard, Roxanne Lenahan, Jack McGilvary and

Doug Wills. Newly installed board members are Tom Hesper, Kathleen Blesius, Matt Kirchoff and Suzy Ramsey. Continuing board members include Connor Bates, Dave Cos, Roger Johnson and Dan Stearns.

Members of Sisters Kiwanis contribute to the Sisters community in many ways. In the past year:

- Kiwanis operated the Sisters Food Bank that distributed food to over 100 families each month; the food bank, as always, operates with no paid staff.

- At Christmas, the food bank gave food vouchers to more than 75 families, which allowed these families to have a traditional Christmas dinner.

- Kiwanis donated funds to Sisters organizations including Sisters Park & Recreation District, Family Access Network, Outlaw Sports, Little League, and many others

- In June, Kiwanis awarded scholarships to seven Sisters High School seniors.

- Kiwanis awarded scholarships to three adults to support their career change. This scholarship, known as the Career Opportunity Fund, is continuously available to local adults seeking to make a career change.

- Kiwanis provided many volunteers who donated hundreds of hours to work at city parks, Ronald McDonald House, the Rodeo grounds, Highway 20 clean-up, blood



PHOTO BY JEFF OMODT

Doug Wills turned over the gavel to incoming Kiwanis President Liam Hughes last weekend.

donor drives and many more.

To fund these contributions to the Sisters community, Kiwanis operates fundraisers: the Rodeo Buckaroo Breakfast, the Hoodoo Challenge Race, the Christmas See's Candy Sale and the Memorial Day Antique Sale.

If a group or organization

is seeking a speaker, Kiwanis can present a 20-30 minute talk on its Food Bank operation and other community projects.

For more information about Sisters Kiwanis, visit www.sisterskiwanis.org, email info@sisterskiwanis.org or call Jack McGilvary at 541-410-2870.

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