

Kiwanis Club of Vernonia Receives Charter

On Friday evening, November 20th, it became official: The Kiwanis Club of Vernonia received its Charter and became part of Kiwanis International.

Vernonia President Marilyn Nicks accepted the Charter from Kiwanis International President Paul Palazzolo, during a dinner and celebration held at the Vernonia Community Church. It was a special honor for the Vernonia Club to have Palazzolo, from Springfield, Illinois, in town to make the presentation. Also on hand for the celebration was Kiwanis International Trustee Randy DeLay from Houston, Texas; Area Director Jim Courtright of Phoenix, Arizona; and Pacific Northwest Governor Patrick Ewing, from Victoria, British Columbia; along with numerous

members of area clubs. Over 100 people were in attendance.

“As the Vernonia Kiwanis Club



Kiwanis Pacific Northwest Governor, Patrick Ewing, and Vernonia Club President, Marilyn Nicks, listen as International President, Paul Palazzolo, addresses the crowd at a dinner to celebrate the presentation of the club charter to Vernonia.

sets its path here in this community, and, as each Kiwanian in this room tonight can be proud of what its club has accomplished, we certainly cannot rest on our laurels,” said Palazzolo during the presentation of the Vernonia Charter. “Because there is always more work to be done.”

Vernonia City Administrator Bob Young is the new club’s Vice President. “It was an incredible honor to have Paul Palazzolo here in Vernonia to present our Charter,” said Young.

Kiwanis International was organized in 1925 and is a service organization dedicated to serving the children of the world. Kiwanis and its Service Leadership Programs has a membership of more than 600,000 men, women, and

Kids all the way through several youth and adult programs.

Each of the new Vernonia Club Officers, Board of Directors and its twenty-six Charter Members were introduced during the celebration.

“As I present this Charter to Marilyn, each of us in this room needs to know how we can make a difference right now,” said Palazzolo. “Because there is work to be done, there are children out there that need us, there are young people out there who need to know they can be part of the Kiwanis family. And we can do that right now.”

“This is a very exciting time for Vernonia,” said President Marilyn Nicks, upon receiving the Charter. “We have great hopes for this club. Every one of us is here because we want to make a difference in our communities and make it better for our children and for those that follow us. Kiwanis International has accomplished great things world-wide. Our desire is to be part of that greatness here in Vernonia, one event, one project and especially, one child at a time.”

and youth in nearly 16,000 clubs in more than 70 countries and geographic areas. It is the only service organization that builds leaders at every level—from the youngest Kiwanis

Wauna Supports Local Communities this Holiday Season

Each of the five Wauna Federal Credit Union (WFCU) branches will be hosting holiday fundraising activities for their local communities.

The Astoria and Warrenton branches are teaming together to host fundraising activities for Clatsop Community Action and a Wishing Tree in December.

The Vernonia branch sent Boxes of Love to members in the US Armed Forces in November. They will continue to sell t-shirts for the Vernonia Education Foundation and are a collection site for the Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters Toy and Joy program in November and December.

The Clatskanie branch has “Adopted a Family” with Turning Point and will host a Giving Tree for the holiday season in December.

The St Helens branch is hosting a blood drive on November 25th for the American Red Cross and the Help Truck on December 10th as a collection site for various Columbia County charities.

They are also hosting a fundraiser for the Columbia Humane Society and are a Toy and Joy collection site for Columbia River Fire and Rescue in November and December.

WFCU encourages employees, volunteers, members and non-members to participate in the fundraising activities to help local charitable organizations during the holiday season.



Angie Rhodes, Allison McLeod and Heidi Burch show the Boxes of Love they sent to US Armed Forces members.

Weedman Has Plans for Columbia County *continued from page 7*

consulting firms in Wilsonville and at Intel, where he worked in the class 1 fab, a humidity- and temperature-controlled station where circuit boards and wafers used in Intel products were manufactured. In this position, Weedman was responsible for a lot of confidential material, he said, including Intel trade secrets. He was also responsible for destroying outdated equipment and protecting Intel’s trade secrets in that process; inspecting tools prior to their shipment from San Jose to Intel in Hillsboro, and took a lot of day trips to San Jose to ensure that chemicals were completely removed from tools sent to the company.

Most recently, Weedman spent four years with the Port of Portland, working at Portland International, Troutdale and Hillsboro airports, where he was responsible for ensuring compliance for under- and above-ground storage tanks, recycling and other tasks related to waste, recycling and remediation, overseeing eight programs in total. In April,

Weedman became a victim of downsizing.

“Mine was one of 50 positions [to go],” he said. “It was easier to take a piece of each program and add it to someone else’s workload than to add my full workload onto someone else’s,” he continued.

So, the Jennings Lodge-area resident welcomed a daily 41-mile commute to and from Columbia County, and recently adopted a dog from the local shelter.

An avid sports fan, Weedman admits to rooting for the Oregon Ducks, watching both NFL and college football and frequent trips to bowl games. He said he travels to the Orange Bowl, the Fiesta Bowl or the Sugar Bowl every year, depending on his schedule. “I have gone from Miami to Phoenix a number of times to go to more than one game at a time,” Weedman said with a laugh.

He also enjoys golf, softball and bowling, although he said he plays softball less often these days. Before an injury to his right hand, Weed-

man said his average was 210, but until a surgery to repair the damage, he will bowl left-handed, even though his average score fell to 125 when he switched. He bowls with a group of friends on a team called “A Drinking Team with a Bowling Problem.”

“I’m used to having a lot of different projects to move forward,” he said. This, however, he says is “a little more focused.”

Weedman lives in the Jennings Lodge area with his girlfriend, Cynthia Bennett and her children, 17-year-old Marissa, 12-year-old Lauren and 10 year-old Hayden. He said there has been consideration of a move to Columbia County, but he’s starting to get used to the commute, so, only time will tell.

For more information on recycling in Columbia County, see <http://columbia-center.org/recycling>.

This article has been published at April’s web site, <http://www.examiner.com/x-19696-Columbia-County-Buzz-Examiner>.



Kiwanis International President, Paul Palazzolo, presents Vernonia President Marilyn Nicks with a gavel and bell.

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