



# Kiwaniis®

## Poudre Golden K

**July 27, 2021**

We meet every Tuesday of the month from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Fort Collins, CO Senior Center on Raintree Drive.

**Coffee & Donuts** at 8:30 a.m

**Our mission**

Kiwaniis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child, one community at a time.

Send newsletter info, stories, jokes, etc. to:

[goldenk.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:goldenk.newsletter@gmail.com)

DEADLINE is Wednesday for next week's issue.

**OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**  
Bill Tosch

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
Bill See

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Allen Green

**SECRETARY**  
Brent Reeves  
**TREASURER**  
Bob Main

**DIRECTORS:**  
(1st of 2 yr. term)  
Stu Hirai  
Stephen Andersen  
Mike Martin  
(2nd of 2 yr. term)  
Bill Woody  
Dennis Chapin

**COMMITTEES**  
**GROCERY CARDS**  
Bob Main

**FOOD BANK**  
Bill Robertson

**PROJECT SMILE**  
Kevin O'Connell  
Jeannie Craft

**REPORTING**  
**VOLUNTEER HRS:**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES TO:**  
Mike Martin  
[aviano76@aol.com](mailto:aviano76@aol.com)

**CHILDREN/YOUTH SERVICES TO:**  
Kevin O'Connell  
[kaydoconnell@yahoo.com](mailto:kaydoconnell@yahoo.com)

**PROGRAMS**

**Today: Hugh Price**—The Sequel

Future Programs

**Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>: Doug Stewart**—the Homeless in Loveland

**Aug 10<sup>th</sup>: Ronnie Wright**—Five generations on the railroad

**Aug 17<sup>th</sup>: Wayne Shepard**—Sylvanology - Dating trees to determine dates for historic events

**MEETING PRAYER**

**Today:** Will Stutheit

**Aug 3:** Ken Tharp

**Aug 8:** Bob Fromme

**BIRTHDAYS:**

None this week

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Aug 8: Brenda & Stephen Andersen

**COMMITTEES**

**HOUSE**

Perry Irons  
Don Edminster

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Mike Martin  
Stu Hirai

**FUND RAISING**

Bill See  
Mark Tobin

**SPIRITUAL AIMS &**

**WELFARE**

Dick Toledano  
Bob Fromme  
Harold Boyer

**MEMBERSHIP**

Dave Marvin

**PROGRAMS**

Fred Schreckinger

**SOCIAL**

Bill Woody

**CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Kevin O'Connell  
Jeannie Craft

**INTERNATIONAL**

Charles Locke

**INTERCLUBS**

Mark Tobin

**KEY CLUBS**

Bob Viscount

**CHARITABLE FUNDS**

**COMMITTEE**

Stephen Andersen  
Dave Marvin

**NEWSLETTER**

Bill Robertson

**WELFARE OF MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

An obituary for **BYRD C. CURTIS** is on page two below.

From Eyeopeners Kiwanis President Elect

Key Club/Kiwanis Advisor

Retired FCHS Teacher

[KristaLeeTaylor@outlook.com](mailto:KristaLeeTaylor@outlook.com)

**The volunteer sign-up link is now open for the Colorado Feeding Kids Food Packing Event on Saturday, September 18th.**

Available Shifts:

8:30-10:00 am Set Up

10:00 am-12:00 pm Food Packing 1st Shift

12:30-2:30 pm Food Packing 2nd Shift

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0849A4AF2DA3FA7-colorado>

It's the end of the month already. Time to submit your July volunteer hours.

Read or print our newsletters online: <http://www.poudregoldenk-newsletters.blogspot.com>

Printed courtesy of *PrintIt!*, 154 W. Mountain Ave, Fort Collins, (970) 221-5444

## **Byrd C. Curtis**

February 1926–January 2021



Byrd was born at home in a small farm house in Kiowa County, near Roosevelt Oklahoma on February 25, 1926 to the Late Floyd and Delta Curtis. He passed away January 5, 2021 from natural causes.

Byrd's primary education was at Con #8 rural school in Kiowa County Oklahoma, grades 1 through 12 in a small schoolhouse. He graduated high school in May 1944. Byrd and future wife Eloise, had always lived within five miles of each other but didn't meet until about January of 1942 at the Con #8 school as teenagers.

They dated until Byrd went to basic training in Amarillo Texas in September 1944. Byrd and Eloise were married June 28, 1945 while he was stationed at Sheppard Field near Wichita Falls Texas, and celebrated 75 years together. Byrd served our great country from 1944 to 1980 in the Army Air Corps and Army Reserves, earning a rank of Full Colonel.

Byrd graduated from Oklahoma State University with a bachelors degree in Agronomy in 1950, a Masters degree from Kansas State University in 1951, and a Doctorate Degree in 1959 from OSU. Between 1953 - 1962 he was employed by OSU as an Instructor - to assistant professor - to associate professor - to professor of Agronomy. In 1962, Dr. Curtis was invited by Dr. Robert Whitney (the head of the CSU Agronomy Department at that time) to apply to become a state wheat research and agronomy staff member at Colorado State University. In December 1962, the Curtis family arrived in Fort Collins. Not only did Dr. Curtis start CSU's wheat breeding program in 1963, he ensured that the varieties that were bred by his team reflected local and international needs for decades to come, such as the hard red winter wheat variety grown in Colorado, named after Dr. Curtis (Byrd) himself. Byrd and Eloise Curtis created a scholarship at CSU (Byrd / Eloise Curtis Graduate Student Scholarship) for graduate students in Wheat Breeding and Plant Sciences; many friends, graduate students, and employees came to depend on Byrd for career advice and assistance with professional resumes.

Work history: 1962 - 1967 CSU associate professor, then full professor of Agronomy. From 1967 - 1981 he worked for Cargill Hybrid Wheat Research that included extensive wheat breeding work in Mexico, France, Argentina, and the USA. In 1967, Dr. Curtis was tasked to develop the Cargill Wheat Research Station on East Drake Road. From 1981 - 1991 he worked for CIMMYT (Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maíz y Trigo) which is the 'International Improvement Center for Corn and Wheat.' During Dr. Curtis' employment with CIMMYT, he and wife Eloise visited 65 countries. While overseas, Dr. Curtis was also associated with ICARDA - The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas. Dr. Curtis was the Director of the Global Wheat Program throughout 1982-1988. The Global Wheat Program significantly improved the yield of wheat crops throughout the world, helping to feed the hungry in developing countries. While working for CIMMYT, Byrd and Eloise lived in Papalotla Mexico from 1981 to 1988, Ankara Turkey from 1988 to 1989, and Aleppo Syria from 1989 to 1991.

Upon retiring in 1991 Byrd was very active with groups such as Toastmasters, Kiwanis, and The City Park Niners Golf Club. He absolutely loved to garden and went to the gym seven days a week until a few months before his death. He was recognized as "The Mayor of Miramont" on his 90th birthday due to his propensity of "gabbing" while working out.

Byrd is survived by his wife of 75 years, Eloise, and six children: Doug, Becky, Ed, Mark, Keri, Chuck, 17 grandchildren, and 17 great grandchildren. Oldest of 10 children, Byrd is further survived by brothers and sisters: Ray, Eva, Melba, Jerry, and Charles Jr. He was preceded in death by his parents Floyd and Delta, sisters, Bobby, Dorothy, Charlotte, and brother Udell. Byrd will be interred at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver Colorado.

**A Memorial Service is scheduled in Fort Collins on Saturday, August 28th at 2 p.m.**

**Windsong Estate Event Center 2901 Saddler Boulevard  
Fort Collins, CO 80524  
(970) 686-9690**

## PGK Kiwanis Meeting – July 20, 2021 – Proceedings

**Pres. Elect Bill See**, at 9:00 AM, opened the PGK meeting at the Senior Center and led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Tom Trebon** led PGK members in a prayer. **See** welcomed 30 members and 2 guests present. Song leader **Tom Trebon** encouraged members in “Old McDonald Had a Farm”. **See** thanked door monitors and appointed **Bill Woody** and **Bob Fromme** for next week.

**See** inquired as to Welfare of Members. All appeared well, or at least no one had a negative report.

Secretary’s report – **Brent Reeves** noted Birthdays and Anniversaries: B’day **Jean Messinger**, 25 July and Anniv. **Jolynn and Stu Hirai**, July 22.

Treas. Report – **Bob Main** thanked members for birthday and anniversary checks and remarked that PGK finally is now receiving income from Coffee and Donuts, and he encouraged members to eat and drink more and increase income.

Committee Reports: **Bill Woody** requested that the Social Committee and volunteers for the Christmas party meet after the meeting to discuss plans.

Good News/Bad News: **Dick Toledano** reported that he was 95 years old – almost 100 – so he rounded his age up and officially presented a \$ 1 to our fund (plus a check)! **Trebon** reported that 5 signed up for interest in golf and that 4 are scheduled to play on Thursday at Collindale.

At about 9:12 **Fred Schrekinger** introduced **Mark Tobin**, Board President of LYG, who then introduced the speaker, **Jessica Morgan**, Executive Director of **Loveland Youth Gardeners (LYG)**. According to the LYG web site, the focus of LYG is to empower youth that are facing challenges to cultivate life/work skills, environmental stewardship and community service. LYG is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of youth by building healthy relationships with people, agriculture, and community. Since 1996 LYG has offered Youth Education Programs for ages 3-21 and sponsored Loveland Plant a Row for the Hungry which provides fresh produce for neighbors. **Morgan** presented an overview of the organization, its activities, its cooperative programs with schools and clubs, its budget, some of its challenges, and some of its successes (for example, over 206,000 pounds of food were produced, and some kids continue in the program for 5 years). The presentation ended at about 9:30, but questions and answers continued until almost 9:50.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM

Submitted by: **F Brent Reeves**, Secretary, PGK Kiwanis



## Top 3 scams attacking the elderly (that's us, folks)

### Scam #1: stimulus check scams

Cyber criminals have capitalized on the hardships of the last year to perpetuate one of their top scams: stimulus check scams. "What we're seeing is the same song, just different lyrics, updated to whatever the area of concern is at the moment," says cybersecurity expert Adam Levin, founder of [Cyberscout](#).

He explains that senior citizens are more vulnerable when it comes to anything COVID-related or stimulus check-related. That's why stimulus check scams, which have [cost Americans at least \\$3 million](#) and led to a scourge of identity theft stemming from phishing emails, have primarily impacted the elderly. [The Better Business Bureau \(BBB\) reports](#) that these malicious emails prompt users to click a link to, "request benefit payments," then trick them into spilling personal financial information on a bogus payment application or downloading malware onto their computer.

### Scam #2: Sweepstakes scams

Unfortunately, scams related to sweepstakes and lottery winnings are nothing new, especially for seniors. People ages 65 and over have accounted for more than half of the victims of sweepstakes fraud since 2018, [according to the BBB](#). This age group has lost about \$2.52 million to these scams.

Typically, scammers will trick victims into wiring money or buying gift cards to claim their prizes (the BBB warns that no legitimate lottery organization will ask winners to do such a thing). But this past year, criminals revised their strategy by telling targets that not only had they won a sweepstakes prize (they hadn't), but they'd have to pay extra fees in order to claim their prize. Otherwise, pandemic-related restrictions would delay delivery of their jackpot.

The BBB offers these top tips for sidestepping a sweepstakes scam:

1. Never engage with someone who's telling you that you won money in a contest you never entered
2. Never pay "fees" or "taxes" in advance of claiming a monetary prize
3. Contact the lottery or sweepstakes company yourself to see if you really won a prize. As Levin says, "to avoid remorse, go to the source."

### Scam #3: Romance scams

Using another evergreen tactic, some criminals tugged at heartstrings to scam more vulnerable elderly Americans than ever this past year, [says the Federal Trade Commission \(FTC\)](#). "In 2020, reported losses to romance scams reached a record \$304 million, up about 50% from 2019," the FTC's site reports. That means each lonely heart lost an average of \$2,500 — but people age 70 and older reported the highest average loss: \$9,475 per person scammed.

[The romance scam works like this](#): you 'meet' a love interest on a dating app and communicate online without ever meeting your paramour in person. Your scamming sweetheart gains your trust, then convinces you to wire money or send "much-needed" funds via gift card "because they can get cash quickly and remain anonymous" that way, says the FTC.

[Scammers upped their unscrupulous game in 2020](#) by exploiting increased vulnerability and the idea that meeting in person was off-limits for those in lockdown during the pandemic. No longer did scammers have to use stall tactics to avoid dates; they had a built-in excuse.

Only when it's too late does a victim of a romance scam realize they've in fact been fooled. By that point, the perpetrator is often untraceable.

1. The FTC warns that if you suspect the person you met online might be romance scamming you:
2. Cut off communication immediately
3. Do a reverse image search of the person's profile picture
4. Do a search for the type of job that person has and see if anyone has reported a familiar-sounding scam from that kind of worker.