Massapequa Honors Officers

The Kiwanis Club of MASSAPEQUA, Long Island South Central Division – recently hosted the 57th Annual Installation of Officers and Board of Directors at the Stuart Thomas Manor. The dinner honored Massapequa Outgoing Officers and Board of Directors.

The new Massapequa team was welcomed and highlights of the past years accomplishments were celebrated.

Special recognition awards and presentations were made to Joe Ruggiero, Kiwanian of the Year, for going above and beyond in assisting the president during his term; to Rocco Dionisio and Dom DiFranco, Legion of Honor Certificate and Pin recipients, for over 25 years of Kiwanis service including positions as president, treasurer, secretary, and board member terms. Peter Schmitt, a Nassau County Legislator, was presented with a Legion of Honor Certificate for over 25 years of Kiwanis service, which included President and Board Member terms.

Patchogue Honors Supervisor Foley

Kiwanis Club of PATCHOGUE, Suffolk East Division – recently honored Brookhaven Town Supervisor Brian Foley for his support to a young Crohn’s Disease Patient. Chris Picini, Chairman of the Patchogue Kiwanis Golf Classic awarded Brian Foley with a plaque of appreciation for his supportive actions for a child afflicted with Crohn’s Disease.

The successful outing was held at Willow Creek Golf Club and the proceeds went to help the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation.

Hoosick Celebrates Haviland 100 Birthday

The Kiwanis Club of HOOSICK FALLS, Van Rensselaer Division – celebrated the 100th Birthday of its oldest member, Lou Haviland, on July 16, 2006 at the Hoosick Falls Health Center.

On hand were numerous friends and members of the Hoosick Falls Kiwanis Club, which is 78 years young this year.

Lou Haviland began his Kiwanis career in New Jersey and after marrying a local Hoosick Falls girl, moved to the village and joined the local Kiwanis club. He has been a Kiwanian for 62 years and has been very active in the club helping with its Chicken BBQs and as editor of its newsletter for many decades.

Lou is the second member of the Hoosick Falls Club to have celebrated their 100th birthday – needless to say, Kiwanis helps keep us young!

Kiwanis Treasurers

I’ve written before about the late George H. Prout of the Troy Kiwanis Club, editor of our Empire State Kiwanian from 1931 until 1973 (yes that’s 43 years!). George was named an Honorary PG of our NYD in 1963 and in my book he was a giant among giants during what many would regard as the golden age of Kiwanis in our district and you would look in vain for a more dedicated Kiwanian or a more gentle gentleman. I’m so grateful for having known him.

I have in my possession a photo album/ring binder which George Prout assembled and presented to our district “in appreciation of the privilege, it has been of knowing each of (the dedicated Kiwanians pictured) with the exception of (the first four district governors, who served from 1918 to 1922).” The album includes the official photographs of every one of the Kiwanians who served as NYDG, from the first Claren A. Nelson in 1918, through Richard J. Leavy, Esq, in 1973, the year of George’s retirement as ESK Editor, as well as our district secretaries and treasurers from those years. The album is one of the most prized Kiwanis treasures, not only for its own sake but because of the story behind my having it.

When George presented me with the wonderful photo album in October, 1973, soon after my term as 1971-72 district governor ended, I wrote to him thanking him profusely for producing the album and presenting it to the District and especially for “including me among the few people to receive one.” George responded with a hand-written postcard, which is also among my treasures, not only for its own sake but because of the story behind my having it.

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