

2020 Hero in Service Award Recipients
Presented at 2020 PA Kiwanis District Virtual Convention



Dr. William “Doc” McDowell
Division 2 - Kiwanis Club of Hermitage

Dr. William “Doc” McDowell is truly the heart of the Kiwanis club of Hermitage. Not only does his service and compassion inspire all his fellow members to serve more, the whole Hermitage community knows and respects him. He is currently the only remaining charter member of our club, and his diligence and devotion to service are unparalleled.

Doc participates in every single project and event that the club organizes - particularly any event that involves interacting with the children in the community. The Reading is Fundamental program is close to his heart. Every Wednesday, he arrives at the elementary school eager to read stories to the kindergarten and first grade classes. He is also the first to volunteer for reading is fundamental days, when the Kiwanis club is invited to watch all the elementary students choose a book from the large collection that is donated by Kiwanis and the PTO. He cannot stop smiling as each student shares with him what they chose, and he helps them sign their names inside the book covers.

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Reverend Wayne Meyer
Division 5 - Kiwanis Club of Sheraden

Reverend Wayne Meyer has been integral member of the Kiwanis club of Sheraden since his induction on June 4, 2015. Reverend Wayne's humility, humor, and spiritual side were a welcome addition to the club. He was present at almost all club events and activities, participating and engaging both members and attendees of our events. Wayne has faithfully served on the club's board of directors for three years, prior to volunteering to serve as President-Elect. Utilizing his involvement with SUMC and the SUMC kidz club, Wayne has provided guidance with selecting disadvantaged families to be recipients of the club's special Christmas shopping. In both December 2018 and 2019, Wayne helped to facilitate the delivery of food, family gifts, and Christmas trimmings to these families.

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Margaret Self
Division 6 - Kiwanis Club of Wilkinsburg

Margaret has been a member of Kiwanis for around six and a half years. Margaret is dedicated to helping her club and community succeed. When their club lost several members a few years ago to death, moving away, etc. They could have easily surrendered their charter like many clubs have. Margaret urged her little club to persevere because the community, and the kids in the community, need Kiwanis to be present. Margaret is always looking for more ways to get her club involved in projects. In fact, she is planning an interclub project with McKeesport-White Oaks around book/food distribution due to Covid-19.

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Charles “Charlie” Kaylor
Division 8 - Kiwanis Club of Greensburg

Charlie has been a member of Kiwanis for around 38 years and is in the Kiwanis Club of Greensburg. Charlie has seen this club through many highs and many lows, sometimes during one of his many terms as president. Along with serving as president he has also served as the club's- and the Division's - rose sale chairman, making sure everyone gets their beautiful roses to deliver. Charlie has a strong but caring leadership style which helps newer members or potential members feel at ease. Charlie also likes to think outside the box. Instead of always doing something because that's the way it's been done, he's brave enough to rock the boat and knows that the majority of the members will get behind the idea or will at least discuss it.

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Phyllis Palm
Division 11E - Kiwanis Club of Lewistown

Phyllis Palm is an amazing Kiwanis member and friend to everyone. She has held many offices in the Lewistown Kiwanis club. She was also Lieutenant Governor for 11 East and served as District Trustee for Region 3. Phyllis fulfilled all these positions well. She gives 100% of herself to everything that she does. Phyllis never says she is too busy. She is always there to join and/or start a club project, conduct Kiwanis training, or give her vast knowledge to an advisor board to help a community business or non-profit.

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Sally Young
Division 12N - Kiwanis Club of Bald Eagle and Nittany Valleys

Sally has the passion for the mission of Kiwanis International. She has the compassion needed to help the children and adults in the community. She is involved in every service project and fundraiser of her club. Sally has served as the club Eliminate chair, leading the club to reach its model club goal of \$27, 500 for the Eliminate project. She is a grant writer for the “BENV Kiwanis Raises Readers” program, which allows the club to donate books at every project as well as little libraries throughout the community. In addition, Sally previously served two terms as Club Treasurer, keeping the club in secure financial status, and was recently elected to a third two-year term after a brief hiatus. Always willing to fill a void, she has been membership chair for the club, leading the club in the proper direction for satisfying the structure of our 3-2-1 status and providing positive growth during her tenure. She mentors’ members by holding structured meetings and making everyone feel like a part of the club and feeling appreciated. Just this past year, she was in the role of Assistant Secretary, and stepped into the role of Secretary when the current Secretary could no longer serve.

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Debra Crisman
Division 6 - Kiwanis Club of Montrose

Debbie has not only been the Montrose Club Secretary for years, but she promotes leadership throughout the community. Debbie never misses a meeting, sends all our club's correspondence, reports, paperwork, and never misses a chance to send out thank you and birthday cards. She almost single handedly takes care of our Key clubs, Builders club, and K-Kids, and acts as a liaison between our club and all the individual leaders of the youth clubs. Debbie also makes sure that the student of the month in each of the schools gets Subway gift cards. She can be counted on to be at every club project. She truly is what Kiwanis is meant to be.

On September 11, 2001 our country was attacked by terrorists. Debbie's only child, her son Daniel, died in the twin towers in New York City. She went on to honor not only her son but all that died that day. She built the Daniel Crisman Memorial Park in South Montrose. This a beautiful first-class memorial, with large granite stones in a half circle, engraved with the names of all those who died. There are also monuments to firemen, all the armed services, flags forever flying, local blue stone pavers, landscaped, stone benches, and a pagoda and over four acres that she still mows on her own.

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Lee Shaffer
Division 16 - Kiwanis Club of New Holland

Lee has been a very active member since joining the Kiwanis Club of New Holland in 1987. He leads the members in song as the club's "chorister" before each meeting, and enthusiastically collects "fines" from them in the month of their birthday and anniversary. Lee is one of the drivers from the New Holland club to transport children and their families to doctor/ dental appointments in cooperation with social service/ cross net ministries. He is the master of ceremonies and sound technician for the travel and adventure series project provided for the Eastern Lancaster County community. Lee has been involved with the District rose sale since its inception. He is the club chair and the Division 16 coordinator. Under his guidance, the New Holland club has been a leader in District rose sales. During a normal year (pre-covid-19), Lee spends late winter/early Spring as part of the golf planning committee preparing for the annual golf outing, accounting for a majority of the club funds to support the various project for the year.

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Melissa Warner
Division 16 - Kiwanis Club of Lititz

Melissa's first role in Kiwanis was as a teacher and Key club advisor. She was loved, admired, and respected by her students and club members. Students she had 30 years ago still show her that same respect. Melissa has held most offices in the Lititz club including President, Director and Secretary. And she has provided more service and service hours than anyone in the Lititz club. She serves on the chocolate walk committee where she co-chairs volunteers and organizes gifts for chocolatiers. She chaired the free fun day in the park and co-chaired pretzel fest. She also established a program at Lafayette elementary school, in which Kiwanis members read and give away books every week to the pre-school class. Melissa developed other ways to give away thousands of books each year to local children - any chance and venue she can find. During the Covid-19 crisis, she contacted both Lafayette teachers the club supports and organized distribution of books to their students and others at Lafayette. She is a driving force in all the Lititz club's programs.

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Jeff Rose
Division 17/18 –
Kiwanis Club of Allentown Northeast

Jeff joined Kiwanis in 1992 while living in New Jersey. He has served as an officer or on the board of all the clubs he has belonged to. All his terms as Lt. Governor have been in Division 18 and twice, he was a Distinguished Lt. Governor. He has committed himself to the Key Leader program and has served on the staff since the inception of the program and did both programs when two were offered each year. He has been the Kiwanis advisor to the key club at Roberto Clemente charter school since its inception 5 years ago. Jeff was elected to the PA Kiwanis foundation board and has been active with them at meetings and in all the fundraising activities they hold at conventions, etc. This year he is serving as President of the Foundation. He is also the PA district chair for the Kiwanis International Children's fund. In 2004-2007, Jeff played an important role as a new club opener in Region 6 as 5 clubs were opened during that time. He has also served as President of the Past Lieutenant Governor's association of the District.

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William “Bill” Walters
Division 17/18 - Kiwanis Club of Easton

Bill has been one of the most active and energetic members of the Kiwanis club of Easton. He has served as a Lt. Governor for two terms, has been our club secretary for over 10 years, and served as Club President during 2017-18

During his term as President, in which the club celebrated our 100-year anniversary, Bill was instrumental in motivating the club to raise \$300,000 to build a playground and develop a neighborhood garden in the area of the Easton boys and girls club. Many of the other clubs in Division 17 have called upon bill for advice on how to deal with various matters. Bill has been active with all club fund raisers and puts out the weekly club newsletter and has kept the club active through Zoom during Covid-19. His life seems to revolve around Kiwanis.