

## **Kiwanis Club of Tiffin's 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Kiwanis Club of Tiffin celebrated its 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the November 9, at Kiwanis Manor. Club members celebrated with a special 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake. Roy Zinn and John Millar served as the speakers. Roy began by speaking of what life was like in 1928, the year that the Kiwanis Club of Tiffin received its Charter from Kiwanis International.

At the time, Calvin Coolidge was President with Herbert Hoover having just been elected the next president on November 6. During the 1920s, the American economy grew by 42 percent and was the beginning of the modern economy as we know it today. Tiffin was a blue-collar town with many highly skilled manufacturing businesses and foundries producing higher end products. Glass manufacturing was at the forefront because of the availability of cheap local natural gas.

John Millar then took the podium and provided highlights of the Kiwanis Club of Tiffin over the years. John said that the Tiffin Kiwanis Club was organized at a meeting of 36 men at The Shawhan Hotel (now the location of Elmwood at The Shawhan) on October 4, 1928. The Club received its charter from Kiwanis International on November 15 of that year in a meeting at The Masonic Temple. The Fostoria Kiwanis Club was the Tiffin Club's sponsor.

In the 1940s and 1950s, the Tiffin Club was actively involved with the YMCA, specifically Camp Pittenger, which is still operating. The Club helped develop Hedges-Boyer Park with a donation of \$500 for grass seed and the trees around the center of the park. Tiffin Kiwanis supported the Betty Jane Center, and little league baseball, ponytail softball, soccer, and more children's activities over the years.

The Tiffin Kiwanis Club was the first to accept women into the club with current member Shirley Smith being among the first. In 1966, the Tiffin Kiwanis Club made the decision to build an affordable apartment complex and senior community. Kiwanis Manor was opened in 1972 and thrives today along the Sandusky River.

Other projects supported through the years include a shelter at Highland Park, the Tiffin Teen Center (now The H.U.B.), Patchworks House, the Mercy Health – Tiffin Hospital children's play area, The Tiffin Club participated in Kiwanis International fundraising to eliminate iodine deficiency and maternal and neonatal tetanus. Today the Kiwanis Club of Tiffin supports Family Fest and the annual Grade A Celebration, is involved in harness racing program sales at the Seneca County Fair and organizes the Kiwanis Christmas Parade.

The Club is proud to partner with the local K-Kids, Kiwanis Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K, and Aktion Club. Local high school seniors are awarded Ralph Hyatt Scholarships through the Club.