



Kiwaniis®

Kiwaniis Club of Madison West – Kiwanogram

Guests: 2026 Dixon Scholars **Kelly Herness** and **Natalee Krauss**, guests of **George Shook**; **Zeke Sebastian**, guest of **Leroy Baker**

Program: "The Cold War and NORAD" presented by Ron Schuler.



Longtime Madison West Kiwanian Ron Schuler discussed his service with NORAD during the early stages of the Cold War.

Ron joined the ROTC in 1958 while in college. He served from

1958-63. He mentioned that during the last two years in the ROTC he was paid \$ 0.90 per day, which was not an insignificant amount at the time.

The period covered in Ron's talk was from about 1958 to 1970. It was a time when airplanes were used to deliver nuclear weapons. The US established NORAD ((North American Aerospace Defense Command) and the famous DEW Line (Distant Early Warning) in northern Canada. The idea was that with sufficient warning any incoming bombers could be shot down prior to payload delivery.

After graduation in 1963, Ron went on active duty and trained as an Air Defense Artillery Officer at Fort Bliss, Texas. He was then assigned to the SAGE (Semi Automatic Ground Environment) at NORAD in Battle Creek, Michigan. From there he trained to become an ADAD (Air Defense Artillery

January 16, 2026

Presiding:	Dwight Gribble
Greeter:	
Checkpoint:	Joseph Tevaarwerk
Opening Word:	George Skupniewicz
Setup:	Tom McCrill

Director) at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi

During training they were allowed to practice with two live Nike Ajax missiles. He told us that the first missile was supposed to destroy a target in Texas somewhere. Instead, it veered off course into Mexico and had to be destroyed in flight. The second one broke up in flight. Not a very confidence boosting experience.

Ron showed a map where even in Wisconsin there were several sites where Nike Ajax missiles were stationed ready to be used in case of need. Today, the main function of the early detection and warning system is to serve as means to monitor intruding aircraft.

The **2025-26 Club Meeting Programs** scheduling continues to be done by committee. July and August still need volunteers to arrange programs. Contact Dwight Gribble if you would like to take one of these months.

Date	Event
Feb 6	MWK Board of Directors Covenant, 10:00 am
Feb 20	Foundation Trustees Covenant, 1:00 pm

Up Coming Programs

Date	Program	Greeter	Check In	Opening Word
Jan 23	TBD	TBD	Aspinwall	TBD
Jan 30	No Meeting	NA	NA	NA
Feb 2	Interclub with Downtown	NA	NA	NA

Meeting Time and Location

Every Friday, 11:45 am
Covenant Presbyterian Church
326 Segoe Road, Madison, WI 53705
Web site: www.madisonwestkiwanis.info
Email: lebaker@chorus.net
Facebook: facebook.com/madisonwestkiwanis

Next All-Madison Meeting

The next quarterly meeting of all the Madison clubs will be **February 2nd**, at the **Downtown Madison Club** meeting location. The program will be on Infectious Diseases presented by Dr. Michael Dieterle, UW Hospitals.

This means we will not meet at Covenant on Friday January 30. We are circulating a sign-up sheet at our next meeting to get a head count for the caterer. Carpooling is encouraged.

Dwight Gribble reports the next Midvale School **Lunch Buddies** dates are proposed for January 22nd and February 12th. We are awaiting confirmation from the school.

Habitat ReStore volunteers on January 15th were **Richard Donkle, Case Dorresteijn, Jim Martin, Tom McCrill, George Shook, George Skupniewicz, and Joseph Tevaarwerk**. **George Shook** reports our next work date at **Habitat ReStore** February 19th, 9:00 am to Noon.

Jim Danner reports next date for volunteering at **Second Harvest** is January 29th.

Ken Saville is set to host **new member orientation** sessions. New or prospective members interested in attending should contact Ken at kensaville.1951@gmail.com to arrange a date.

Club Officers (2025-26)

President:	Dwight Gribble
President-Elect:	Cody Kramschuster
Secretary:	Leroy Baker
Assistant Sec:	Thomas DuVal
Treasurer:	Randy Grobe
Past President:	Ken Saville
Board of Directors:	
John Busby	Harley Skjervem
Jim Danner	Joseph Tevaarwerk
Ed Reisch	

2026 Dixon Scholars

George Shook introduced the 2026 Dixon Scholars Kelly Herness and Natalee Krauss.



Kelly (right in photo) grew up on a farm in Trempeleau County, Wisconsin. She is a senior at UW majoring in both Life Sciences Communication and Agricultural & Applied Economics with a certificate in Public Policy. She is active in the Collegiate Farm Bureau and Association of Women in Agriculture. She completed an internship in the Madison office of Senator Tammy Baldwin. Last year, she experienced a Study Abroad semester in Norway, the home of her ancestors. After graduating in May 2026, she plans a career that combines communicating to farmers, the general public, and policy makers about agricultural issues.

Natalee (center in photo) is a sophomore in Dietetics (human nutrition) from the Fond du Lac area. She is working part time in infant dietetics in the Children's Hospitals at both UW Health and Meriter - Unity Point in Madison. She originally thought she would work in the realm of sports dietetics; through her experiences at the children's hospitals, she has discovered a deep passion for pediatric dietetics and will pursue a career in that area. Natalee is active in the undergraduate Dietetics club at UW.