



Kiwaniis®

Kiwaniis Club of Madison West – Kiwanogram

Guests: **Emily Feng**, Golden K Scholar, **Joe Feng**, **Anna Wwina**, and **Evelyn Feng**, guests of **Ron Schuler**.

Program: “Genealogy Research Tools” - Joseph Tevaarwerk

July 24, 2026

Presiding: Dwight Gribble
Greeter: Karl Lettner
Checkpoint: Paul Aspinwall
Opening Word: Joseph Tevaarwerk
Setup: Tom McCrill



Joseph Tevaarwerk

Madison West Kiwanian Joseph Tevaarwerk presented the online tools he has used to research his family’s genealogy.

These tools are mostly free but do require a user registration to fully use the database tools. Many

contain links to other sites such as graves registries and church records of births, deaths, confirmations, marriages, etc.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) maintains a free website at “familysearch.org”. The data can be crowd sourced, so it lacks oversight and contains many duplicates and spelling and date errors. But it is still a great starting place and contains much good data for North America and Europe.

Being a native of the Netherlands, Joseph also uses a site for Dutch records that links the provincial sites together. It contains many family trees and a Department of Justice database (criminal records).

Another site in both Dutch and English is “Who Was Who” – “wiewaswie.nl”. This site is accurate and complete, but due to privacy laws, only records older than 80 years are available.

There are similar sites for other countries. Joseph showed an interesting site from Germany with graphics depicting name locations. There is also a site of baptism, marriage, and death records from churches in many European countries.

Many of these databases contain images of old documents. Interpreting old hand-written information can be a challenge. Joseph displayed a chart of the alphabet interpreting old German cursive writing to modern Latin script. The differences between some letters are minute, depending on the skill of the writer. Unusual abbreviations are also common.

Joseph showed results from his family search and pointed out the difficulty of picking the correct ancestor from a list of those with similar names and dates.

We briefly discussed databases that exist for the eastern hemisphere.

This research can be fun but also time consuming!

Date	Event
Aug 7	MWK Board of Directors, 10:00 am
Aug 7	Foundation Trustees, 1:00 pm

Up Coming Programs

Date	Program	Greeter	Check In	Opening Word
July 31	NO MEETING	NA	NA	NA
Aug 7	Weekly Meeting - TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Aug 14	NO MEETING	NA	NA	NA
Aug 21	Thailand - Ron Schuler	TBD	TBD	TBD

Meeting Time and Location

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

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



Emily Feng, Golden K Scholar, and Family



Emily Feng from Madison Memorial received the 2026 **Golden K Scholarship**. Her sister Evelyn, pictured next to her, received one of our 2026 Middle School Awards.

George Shook reports **Case Dorresteijs, Jim Martin, Tom McCrill, Chris Shubak, George Skupniewicz, and Joseph Tevaarwerk** volunteered at **Habitat ReStore July 16th**. Our next volunteer date is **August 20th**.

Jim Danner reports our next volunteer date at **Second Harvest** is **July 30th**. Contact him if you would like to sign up.

Meeting Schedule Reminder

We are meeting every other week for a few weeks in July and August. We may have another outing to a brewery for a tour and interclub meeting with the Monroe club. Stay tuned for details.

WI-UM Kiwanis District Raffle 2026

Daily winners will be chosen from July 17th through August 15th. Enter online at:
<https://k30.site.kiwanis.org/district-raffle/>

WISCONSIN UPPER MICHIGAN KIWANIS

2026 DISTRICT RAFFLE

30 DAYS. 30 CHANCES. ONE POWERFUL IMPACT.

We're excited to bring back our District Raffle - your chance to win big while supporting District operations! Each ticket is just \$10 and gives you one entry every day for a chance to win a special daily prize. The more tickets you purchase, the more chances you have to win! Winners will be drawn daily throughout the raffle period. Prizes may be picked up at the District Convention, August 14-16 in Brookfield. Any prizes not claimed at the convention will be delivered or shipped to the winners.

WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DAILY WINNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

HERE ARE JUST SOME OF LAST YEAR'S PRIZES:

DCON 2026 MEAL PACKAGE

VISA Gift Card

Kwik Trip

MIDYEAR 2026 REGISTRATION COMP X2

WOLLERSHEIM WINERY

amazon

DCON 2026 HOTEL COMP

JULY 17 - AUG 15, 2026 DAILY WINNERS

ANYONE, ANYWHERE CAN WIN