

L to R: Steve Howell, Paul Purvis, President Dess Smith III

"Swainsboro Raceway Promoter/Owner speaks to Kiwanis"

"The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting Tuesday night, May 6, 2014 at Catered Creations at 7:00. With President Dess Smith III presiding we had one guest for the evening, Brenda Van Arsdale. Brenda was the first female President of the Swainsboro Kiwanis club during the year 1999-2000. Tim Goodman announced that the "Drop-in-the-Bucket" project for "The Eliminate Project" continues to be well-supported by the Club. The Eliminate Project is a World Wide project of Kiwanis International and UNICEF to eliminate maternal/neonatal tetanus. For every \$1.80, that protects one woman and her future babies. If you would like to contribute to this outstanding project, contact Dr. Tim Goodman at 478-494-4741. Tim also thanked everyone who helped with the Pine Tree Festival Knotty Pine 5K Race and Fun Run last Saturday morning. We had 24 Kiwanians who helped, a very good showing for Saturday morning at 6:30. The 5K winner was 11 year old Mason Smith from Collins, Georgia. We saw some preliminary slides from the run. More will be coming next week. A special award was given to Bobby Seamans, the winner of the 0.015K run. Since the award is perpetual, Bobby was challenged by some members of the Club for next year since Bobby was the only entry this year because the entry is based upon t-shirt size. A picture of the 0.015K winner was circulated to highlight the winning form. The Kiwanis Georgia District Convention is in Savannah on August 15-17. President Dess outlined our special programs for the next few weeks, including Alexia and Bill Leiber on May 13, John Holley on May 27, and Dewey Smith on June 10. May 13 is also a Spouse's Night, with the official dress being business casual. The program for the evening was hosted by Raymond Hendrix. Since Raymond could not be here, President Dess introduced Paul Purvis and Steve Howell from Swainsboro Raceway. For the last 50 years, Swainsboro Raceway has been the main-stay of dirt-track racing in this area. A few years ago they added mud bogging to the track events and that has become popular and has attracted

more fans. He noted mud-boggers were a different variety than dirt-track racers. This coming year they will be adding go-cart racing to attract a younger crowd. Paul talked about his dad and how much time both of them spent at the track. Like most of us, Paul remembers his first car and how important it was to him. Paul is trying to change to fit the times and attract more people to his racing family. He also talked about his Swainsboro family. He also noted that last Saturday night after the Pine Tree Festival they had the largest crowd ever to attend Swainsboro Raceway. Paul extended an invitation to the members of the Swainsboro Kiwanis club to visit anytime and maybe to meet out at the Raceway some evening." If you would like to join the Swainsboro Kiwanis Club please contact our membership chair Jane Durden at 478-237-2635 or e-mail her at hsdurden@bellsouth.net. If you would like to find out more information about our club, organized on May 31, 1922, and the many community service projects that we do each year, go to our website at www.swainsborokiwanis.org or to our Swainsboro Kiwanis Facebook page.

