

Kiwanis

CLUB OF ROANOKE

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"DEFY GRAVITY"

In this Issue

Outgoing President Clark's Review of Year's Highlights

Incoming President Ben's Vision

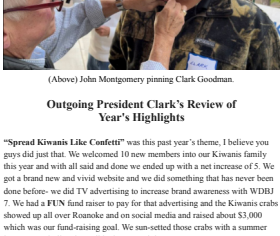
Important Dates

Kiwanis Nature Park Update

October Speakers' Info

Kiwanis One Day

Feature Photos



(Above) John Montgomery pinning Clark Goodman.

Outgoing President Clark's Review of Year's Highlights

"**Spread Kiwanis Like Confetti**" was this past year's theme. I believe you guys did just that. We welcomed 10 new members into our Kiwanis family this year and with all said and done we ended up with a net increase of 5. We got a brand new and vivid website and we did something that has never been done before- we did TV advertising to increase brand awareness with WDBJ 7. We had a **FUN** fund raiser to pay for that advertising and the Kiwanis crabs showed up all over Roanoke and on social media and raised about \$3,000 which was our fund-raising goal. We sun-setted those crabs with a summer low country boil and we all had a great night.

It was so gratifying to see our club transition back to being in person again. Watching our Zoom numbers of attendance switch back to filling Charter Hall. I also had the pleasure of finishing our past president Don Witt's 5 year plan and helping to shape the next 5 years is so rewarding. I will say watching Ben Spiker and his KPAD team make the most profitable KPAD this club has ever had was a huge highlight for me this past year. We brought Bocce Ball back this year and had one of the best tournaments we ever had. Thanks to Valley AFC Soccer Association and our bartenders who made the best Bloody Mary's in Roanoke!

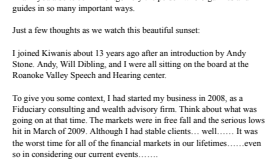
John says I am the master of starting the meetings on time and ending on time. So, I guess I have about 20 more seconds to wrap this up. LOL. By the way I could not have done this without John Montgomery.

On a more personal note, making new and lasting friendships with Officers and Board members has been one of the best parts.

With closing I would like to say **Thank You** to this club for this wonderful opportunity. Remember you guys powered the boat with your efforts and ideas. I just held the rudder to keep us moving forward. Now I look forward to sking behind the boat and having fun with the cool kids again.

Thanks for your support!

Clark Goodman
President of Roanoke Kiwanis Club 2021-2022



(Pictured above is incoming president, Ben Spiker, being pinned)

Incoming President Ben's Vision

Greetings and thank you all for coming..... I promise to be brief.

I want to say a special thanks to Clark. To thank him for his leadership, his friendship, his calming state of mind and for showing his vision leading to another great Kiwanis year.

Thank you, Don Witt and all of the preceding Presidents, I am honored to be among your company.

Thank you also to John Montgomery the person who organizes and guides in so many important ways.

Just a few thoughts as we watch this beautiful sunset:

I joined Kiwanis about 13 years ago after an introduction by Andy Stone. Andy, Will Dibling, and I were all sitting on the board at the Roanoke Valley Speech and Hearing center.

To give you some context, I had started my business in 2008, as a Fiduciary consulting and wealth advisory firm. Think about what was going on at that time. The markets were in free fall and the serious lows hit in March of 2009. Although I had stable clients... well..... It was the worst time for all of the financial markets in our lifetimes..... even so in considering our current events.....

So Andy invited me to a club meeting..... "To just get my head out of it".... It was in a real funk..... It really was a crappy time to start out on my own after almost 30 years in trust banking working mostly as a corporate fiduciary.

Needless to say but I'll say it anywaymy outlook as well as my prospects were pretty low.

Kiwanis was meeting at Jim Schaal's place on Jefferson Street then. The room was full, buzzing with conversation, fellowship, laughter..... something I had not heard much of for close to a year and a half. The meeting began and we did all those things that we do.....pledge, sing, welcome guest but mostly focused on the service project of the day... it was signage on the greenway that day, with the trash pick-up along the Wasena section going out in both directions..... I met some folks that I had known..... Will Dibling among them and met some new folks as well. But all in all, I was lifted up and left the meeting with just a little lighter step.

That's why I am here..... That day I was introduced to a group of up-beat accomplished people looking to do.....not looking at what can't be done.....but just going about the doing..... whatever needed doing. I found that I wanted to be a part of the just doing.....From picking up trash to supporting local charities with grants and sweat equity jobs to signs on the greenway to a Christmas Party for little kids that may not have much Christmas in their life, to reading programs, to getting warm meals to shut ins, to getting kids ready for schools with new back packs..... Eventually on to building playgrounds in areas where there is no place to play, then, on to stream revitalizations and nature parks.....on and on, never ending but just doing..... we all know the doing, the what we do.....All of these things we do are lifting up....

At Meetings we lift up each other regardless of what is going on in the news or the markets.....we lift each other in deference to our individual politics or spiritual foundations, our backgrounds, our skin color..... I believe that all here are gathered for the doing.....the lifting up..... Friends..... we are in the business of lifting up.....Of each other..... of our community..... And I am here to tell you..... business is good.... Very good indeed. It's good because of each of you... your work, your effort.... your willingness to put others in the front of your minds as you go about the business of everyday life.

This brings me to my theme for the year..... the balloons.... The balloon pins.....are all representing just like you.... all lifting up.....all defying gravity!

As we progress through the year there are a few things I hope to focus on..... In 2017 we announced our 5 year plan. It is amazing how much has been accomplished in the past 5 years so it is time revisit our planning and incorporate thinking for the next five years and beyond.

As part of that the board will be considering ways to advance the profile of the club. My personal belief is rooted in my experience with charities and non-profits as a fund raiser / board member / general dogs body..... I learned early on that money follows mission.....As it relates to Kiwanis.... Membership follows mission. Membership is our currency.....

In the movie about Mr. Rogers.....Tom Hanks starred as Fred Rogers. In this scene, he was speaking to the journalist that was assigned to do a story on Mr. Rogers. Sitting in a diner over coffee Mr. Rogers ,in response to the simple question.....related his why.... Why he does what he does..... his response has stuck with me..... he did this as advise to the journalist.....what he sought to teach children.... and I think all of us was..... to find the helpers.....those that are willing to help.....to serve I hope that we can build on what is a very strong foundation to find the helpers.....to serve.... to lift up.....to defy gravity.

So this is my challenge to each of us. Find your why.... Why you are here.... not just here.... here.....looking at the sunset but in Kiwanis.....to know your why. Then be willing use your why as an answer to the question, we all know the what we do..... but be ready to talk about the why..... As a way to find the helpers.....

We all are aware of what we do as the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke.... Dig for your why.....Share your why with others..... numbers will grow..... doing will get done..... our community and each of us will be lifted up..... And every one of us will continue to defy gravity.....

Ben Spiker, President

(Below) Pictures from the officers' installation.



(Above) Passing of the Gavel from all past presidents to the new president.

(Above) A good group of people in attendance at the officers' installation.



Oct 5 - Nature Park Committee (See below for more info)

Oct 12 - WDBJ7 & Digital Branding - Matt Pumo VP&GM, introduced by Jill Slans (See below)

Oct 19 - Joe Gaither Memoir & Book Signing - Ted Edlich/Steve Bowers/Coach Joe

Oct 22 - Kiwanis One Day (See below)

Oct 26 - Latest News from WRABA (Greater Williamson Road Area Business Assoc) - Valerie Brown, Exec Dir, introduced by Jeanne Bollendorff (See below)

October 5th Club Meeting - Nature Park Update

Join us Wednesday for our weekly meeting at 12:30 PM to listen to a presentation of the design schematic for our signature project, the Kiwanis Nature Park. Project leaders Cheri Hartman, Don Witt, and Rupert Cutler will present the design and solicit feedback, review the status of this year old project, and describe the plans for the next four years that will move the project to completion and into the hands of the City.

The scope of this Kiwanis Nature Park project includes Horton's Branch stream bank stabilization, wildlife habitat restoration, pathway and amphitheater development, and creation of an education garden. Stakeholder engagement and communication, including with the local community, is a key ingredient in the project's success.



October 12th Club Meeting - Matt Pumo

Matt Pumo, Regional VP & GM of [Gray Television/WDBJ7](#), will be giving us an inside look at the history of local broadcast television, the history of WDBJ, a peek inside how things work, and a look ahead.

Matt began his career as an on-air sports anchor/report. Later he moved over into sales in Roanoke and Greensboro including becoming sales management. After 11 moves in his career, he has landed as the General Manager and Regional Vice President for Gray Television.



October 22nd - Kiwanis One Day

Please **SAVE THE DATE** for October 22nd. We are again partnering with Clean Valley Council to do a Horton's Branch Watershed Clean Up AND a Save Our Streams training. We will certainly look at our environment with great intention on that date to not only remove litter but to study the quality of water through invertebrate observations and monitoring. The creek we will clean is adjacent to the Goodwill Youth HQ. Come and learn to see with a new kind of purpose! We will then track the changes over time as we follow the impact of our project from now through 2025 (and perhaps beyond!)

OCTOBER 22nd: Kiwanis One Day - for our Kiwanis Club, Key Clubs, Aktion Club, Kiwanis Club partners, Area Churches/faith-based organizations, our Nature Park partners, all who care about our environment & make a difference!

Where? Meet up at the Goodwill Picnic Shelter at 2502 Melrose Avenue

8:30 to 9:00 Gather - Sign In, get your gloves and grabbers and bags
9:00 to 10:30 Clean up the Watershed either right in the creek (wearing boots) or Melrose Avenue or Lafayette Blvd
11:00 to 12:30 Save Our Streams activity: learning how to monitor the water quality by looking for the invertebrates

Spread the word! Hope to see you there!
RSVP if you possible can to [Caren Hartman](#), bring your friends! Please indicate CLEAN UP and/or Save Our Streams activity when you reply.

October 26th Club Meeting - Valerie Brown

Valerie Brown of The [Greater Williamson Road Business Association](#) will be presenting at our October 26th meeting at 12:30 pm. She will be discussing Williamson Road's beginnings and growth along with the Williamson Road Area Business Association's story and where the two are headed ...for the betterment of Roanoke.

Valerie has a background as a professional fundraiser having worked for non-profits for over twenty years. During her career she has raised over \$50 million dollars for various non-profits. Valerie has currently been serving as the Executive Director for WRABA for nearly five years.

Feature Photos

(Above) Haley Toyota and Serv Pro accept plaques for their support of KPAD.

Kiwanian Birthdays

October 2 Jenny Lee
October 6 John Edwards
October 8 Patrick Patterson
October 8 Brooke Tolley
October 10 Eddie Smith
October 11 Frank Longaker
October 12 Sherry Dillon
October 16 Roger Talmadge
October 18 Ben Barks
October 19 Lee Osborne
October 21 Don Witt
October 23 Kenny Brooks
October 25 Kevin Reeder
October 28 Rupert Cutler (88!)
October 31 Angela Paplomatas

Kiwanis

CLUB OF ROANOKE

2022-23

Officers

Ben Spiker, President

Mike O'Brochta, President-Elect

Jeanne Bollendorff, Vice President

John Montgomery, Secretary-Treasurer

Clark Goodman, Past President

Directors

Don Wilson, President, Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke - Term Ends 2023

Jamie Bailey, 2023

Luke Young, 2023

Lee Ann Linkenhoker, 2023

Stephanie Mason Reynolds, 2024

Bob Habermann, 2025

Doug Swensen, 2025

Sheila Umberger, 2025

Harry Zulauf, 2025