



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

November 2022
Vol. 104 No. 8
"DEFY GRAVITY"

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**Please note there will be no meeting November 23rd.
We hope you have a wonderful thanksgiving!**

Adult Care Center Thanksgiving

Our club's Assistance to Aging Committee served the Thanksgiving meal at the Adult Care Center on Friday, November 18. Please see photos below. According to Kiwanian Guy Byrd, director of philanthropy at the ACC, the Kiwanis team of servers included 28 volunteers, including six representatives from our Aktion Club. Watch for more photographs in our next newsletter and on our club's Facebook page. Kiwanian Don Chichester once again led our club's involvement and delivered a moving invocation. Our club was instrumental in the founding of the Adult Care Center nearly 40 years ago.



A note from Jill Sluss about Grand Angel Project

Our club has a long history of supporting [Family Service of Roanoke Valley](#); through grant funding as well as the Grand Angel Project. The project consists of providing holiday gifts for selected guardianship clients of FSRV who otherwise would receive nothing. Typically our member representative from FSRV (currently Jill Sluss), has solicited donations from members to take care of these “angels” which has been approximately \$500 for the last few years. This year, with so much being asked of our members lately, the Kiwanis Club Board of Directors has instead made the decision to simply make a donation of \$500 from the club’s contingency funds to FSRV!

Jill Sluss will be accepting this donation at the Wednesday, November 30th meeting.

Dear Kiwanis Club of Roanoke members,

It is our honor to serve on the Capital District DEI Committee - as diversity, equity and inclusion is seen by us as lying at the core of who we are in our club. We want to share with you the following statement adopted by the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees:

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

As a volunteer organization serving children around the world through members in more than 70 countries, Kiwanis International has had a longstanding commitment to opportunity and dignity for all people. In June 2022, the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees adopted the latest expression of that principle: a detailed statement of our continuing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL'S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

At Kiwanis, our mission — to serve the children of the world, one child and one community at a time — is reflected in our continuing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. We understand that the children of the world represent a variety of races, ethnicities, religions, abilities, socioeconomic statuses, gender identities and sexual orientations. Our vision is to be a positive influence in societies worldwide, so that one day, regardless of

background, all children wake up in communities that believe in them, nurture them and provide the support they need to survive.

To ensure our vision comes to life, it is imperative that our Kiwanis family welcomes, includes and serves individuals with diverse backgrounds, talents and perspectives. With Kiwanis' worldwide presence, it is critical that we work with and engage members and organizations representing diverse communities throughout all levels of our organization.

Diversity: We commit to increasing diversity and celebrating the range of human differences. Kiwanis clubs shall not discriminate based upon race, color, creed, national origin, age or sex, including sexual orientation and gender identity, when considering membership or during any of their activities or operations.

Equity: We commit to a policy of opportunity that promotes fairness, impartiality and nondiscriminatory actions for all persons — no matter the criteria.

Inclusion: We commit to pursuing efforts to ensure the dignity of all people is recognized, respected, valued and empowered.

Questions or comments about diversity, equity and inclusion can be emailed to diversity@kiwanis.org.

An exciting program is offered by our Capital District DEI Committee on November 30th at 7 pm - hope you can join us. Powerful renowned speakers on this topic will be featured! See attached flyer. Register here!

Cheri and David Hartman
Kiwanis Club of Roanoke

**Capital District Kiwanis
Family Committee on
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**

WHY DEI?



Presenters:
AJ and Adrienne Young
The LIFEworks Project



Kiwanis
CAPITAL DISTRICT

November 30, 7pm EST

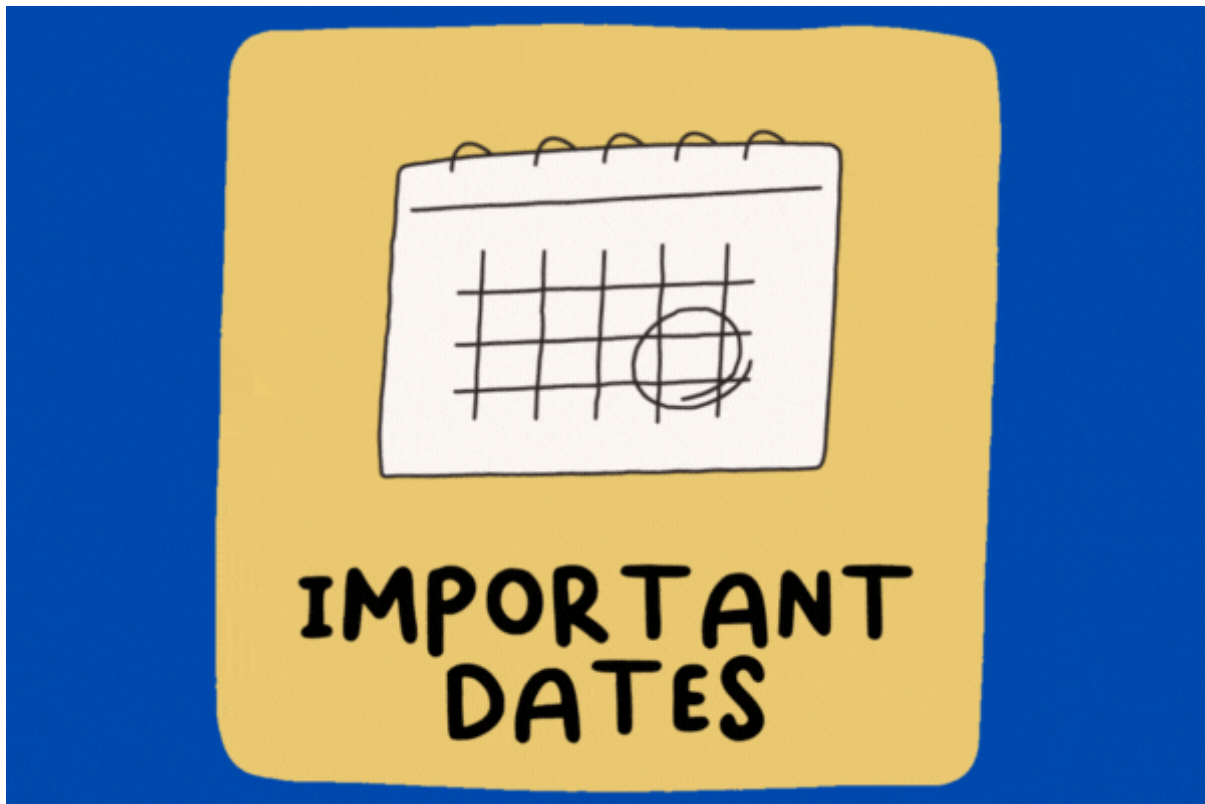
Salvation Army Bell Ringing during the three evenings of Dickens of a Christmas

Our Kiwanis Club will again be “Ringing the Bells” for the Salvation Army on the evenings of December 2, December 9, and December 16. Our location will be outside the Market Square Entrance to Center in the Square.

Since 2008, the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke has collected more than \$17,000.00 in donations for the Salvation Army. This money came from “ringing” at the Dickens of a Christmas Kettle and from our “Virtual Red Kettle” that was established during the pandemic of 2020.

This year’s “Virtual Red Kettle” will be launched around December 1. “Sign-up sheets” for ringing volunteers will be “on the tables” at our luncheon meetings on November 16 and November 30.

For more information, contact Co-Chairs Betsy Bohannon, John Ewart, or Ken Briggs.



Nov 23 - No meeting, Happy Thanksgiving week!
Nov 30 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) USA Pickleball Association - Nick Perez
Nov 30 - (7 - 8 pm) Capital District DEI Committee program
Dec 1 - (6 - 9 pm) Kiwanis Social Night at Mill Mountain Theater to see Holiday Inn and Reception
Dec 2, 9, & 16 - (5 - 9 pm) Salvation Army Bell Ringing
Dec 7 - Building Beloved Communities - Bonnie Chavez & Shannon Dominguez
Dec 10 - (7:30 - 9 am) West End Holiday Shopping
Dec 13 - (5:30 - 7:30 pm) West End Holiday Wrapping
May 6 - (7 am - 1 pm) Kiwanis Pancake and Auction Day!

November 30th Club Meeting - Nick Perez, [USA](#)

[Pickleball Association](#)

Nick was born in Indianapolis, IN. His family moved to Columbus, OH shortly afterwards, and then to Salem in 1954. He graduated from Glenvar High School having concentrated on fun rather than academics.

Towards the end of the Vietnam conflict, Nick served 3 years in the Army Security Agency, (a military intelligence branch, linked to the NSA.) His entire non-training duty was served in the Republic of Panama. He and his first wife had a son while they were living in Panama.

After returning home, he attended Radford University, obtaining a B.S. in Biology, a teaching certification, and a minor in Psychology. He worked for a short while with children and teens having psychological and emotional difficulties before being hired as a flight attendant by Piedmont Airlines where he met his future wife Martha. They have been together over 42 years and have a daughter born in 1989. Between the two children there are now 3 grandchildren who light up their lives. Piedmont and USAir merged and was later bought by American Airlines.

Retiring from American Airlines after 36 years of domestic and international travel, Nick, and his wife, together with their best friends opened a large consignment store dealing in quality home furnishings. They owned that business for over 10 years, then sold it and found pickleball.

Nick and Martha spent many hours hunting for antiques over the years and have a very eclectic mix of antique and mid-century modern furnishings in their home here in the beautiful Roanoke Valley. Though Nick and Martha have traveled a good bit for jobs and pleasure, they have found nowhere as appealing as the Roanoke area.

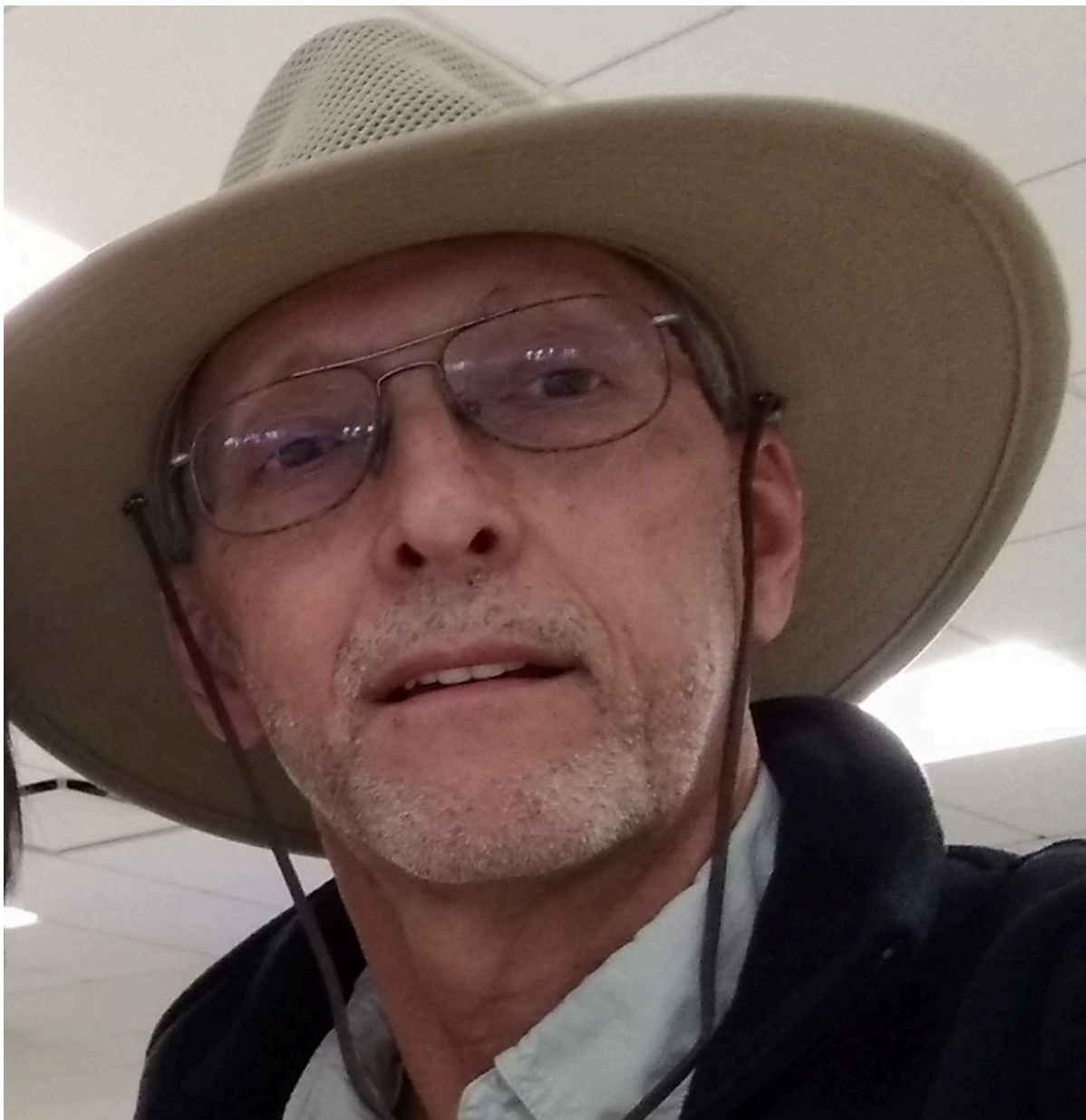
In 2019 Nick became an Ambassador for USAPA, the USA Pickleball Association (The official name changed 2 years ago to USA Pickleball). Nick is the moderator for the national USAP Ambassador's Forum. In 2021 he took on the role of the USAP Mid- Atlantic Regional Director. This region of the USAP includes DC, MD, VA, NC, SC, KY, and TN and is represented by about 200 local Ambassadors. Ambassadors are volunteers who pledge to promote pickleball and help grow the sport.

Nick organizes many pickleball socials, became the local rules “guru”, organized and gathered volunteers to teach pickleball in a local school several times, and started a Google Groups email for local player communication prior to the introduction of a much better player communication tool called Play Time Scheduler.

Nick earned a coaching certification from the Professional Pickleball Registry, an organization that is internationally recognized for its pickleball teaching certification program. He routinely runs free lessons and clinics, gaining as much enjoyment from sharing his passion for the sport as playing it.

Several years ago, someone said Nick was like a preacher spreading the gospel of pickleball, so he started calling himself Brother Nick of the Monks of Pickleball™ as a joke. He worried about someone taking the Monks of Pickleball name and monetizing it, so he started adding the trademark symbol to create a “Common law trademark”.

One of Nick’s goals is to play singles in a tournament at age 90!



December 7th Club Meeting - Bonnie Chavez & Shannon Dominguez with [Building Beloved Communities](#)

Bonnie's driving force is to help all organizations overcome business barriers with a lens focusing on smart solutions that benefit the community. Bonnie is a proud lesbian, Latina woman who values her family, roots, heritage, and culture. Shannon is eager to distinguish her life by helping to increase the success of others through the development of their business. She is the primary business consultant for Virginia.



Feature Photos

(Photos by Mike O'Brochta)



(Above) Mmm, food.



(Above) Members enjoying the meeting.



(Above) District 15 Lt. Governor April Farmer addressing members.



(Above) Melissa Woodson of RAM House with Kiwanian and RAM House Board of Director President, Milton Hardy.



(Above) Melissa Woodson, Executive Director of RAM House, sharing her story and the story of RAM House.



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

Happenings

In remembrance: Our sympathies go to the Bowen family for the passing of Anne Bowen, widow of Kiwanis Club Past President Jim Bowen. You can find her obituary [here](#).

In the news: A tip of the hat to new Kiwanis Club of Roanoke member Milton Hardy, who along with Roanoke Area Ministries Executive Director Melissa Woodson, was prominently featured in the lead story on

A-1 of Sunday's Roanoke Times. Milton is the organization's board president. The story addressed the pressing needs RAM faces this holiday season. Melissa was our speaker last Wednesday, November 16, and RAM also was our club's grant recipient. It appears to have been a timely message and gift. You can find the story [here!](#)

Danville Kiwanis Club makes the news with it's second all-women board. Read more [here!](#)

New Section

This column is for short items about new members, departing members, member deaths, member accomplishments (as just happened to Sam Darby being recognized as one of the top lawyers in the country)... *The success of this new column will depend on receiving a steady stream of relevant information from Club members! You can do so by emailing Alex at abarge11@gmail.com.*

Kiwanian Birthdays

November 1	Joyce Waugh
November 3	Will Dibling
November 3	Jay Massey
November 4	Tom Miller
November 8	Manly Aylor
November 10	David Daniels
November 10	Sheyonn Baker
November 13	Kevin Berry
November 15	Larry Kufel
November 28	J C Taylor



Kiwaniis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

2022-23

Officers:

Ben Spiker, President

Mike O'Brochta, President-Elect

Jeanne Bollendorf, 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

LeeAnn Linkenhoker, 2023

Kevin Reeder, 2024

Stephanie Moon Reynolds, 2024

Bob Habermann, 2025

Bruce Swanson, 2025

Sheila Umberger, 2025

Harry Zulauf, 2025



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