



**Kiwanis**  
CLUB OF ROANOKE

October 2023  
Vol. 105 No. 2  
'OUTREACH'

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## **President's Message, Mike O'Brochta**

When I step back and look at the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, I see a grand old mansion with many doors. The huge building I see is a beautiful 104-year-old Victorian structure located just off the highway in a charming Southern town. People from all walks of life have been entering this mansion through its many doors for many years. There is a door for people interested in helping children, one for those interested in helping older adults, and another door for those environmentally interested. There are doors for businesses, non-profits, government, networking, fellowship, and more. The doors all lead to opportunities for civic engagement. What a wonderful old mansion it is.

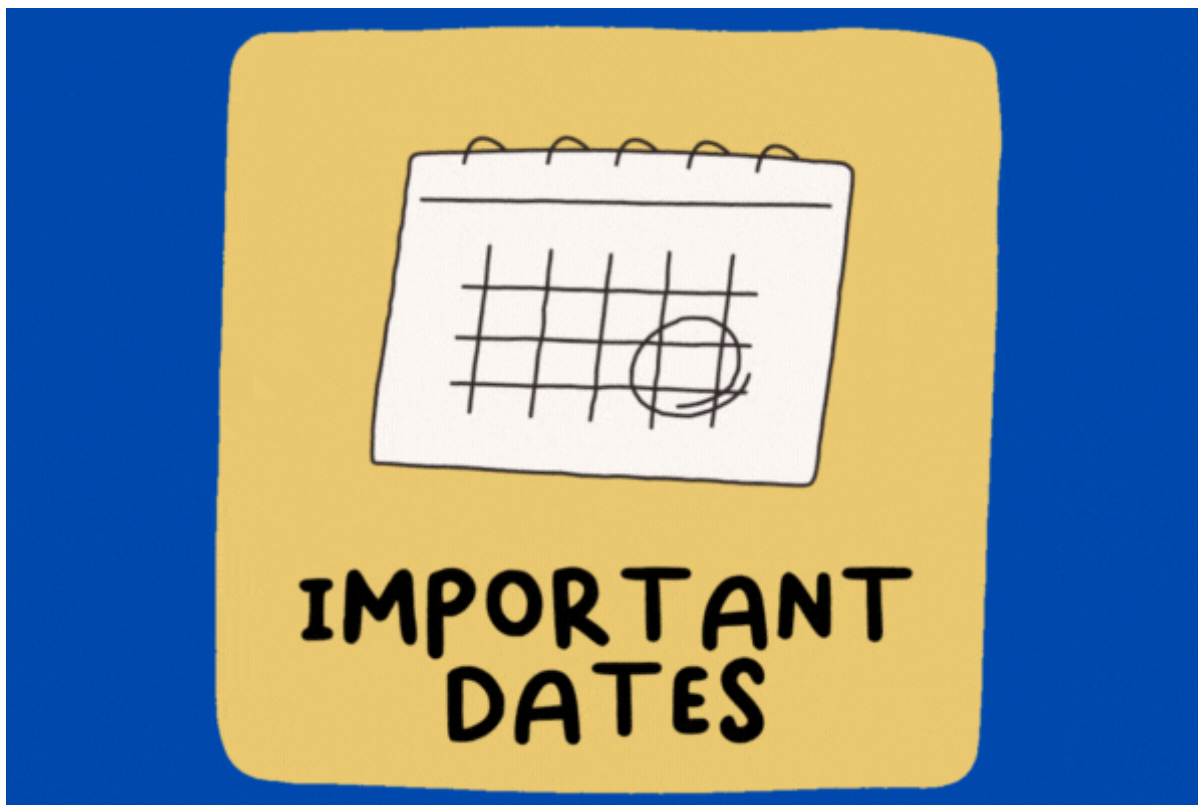
However, as is the case in many small Southern towns, things have changed. The new highway that was built bypassing town means that fewer people come to the mansion. The welcome signs for the mansion don't get noticed as much as they used to. And, the people in the town seem so much busier than they used to be; fewer have the time or interest in stopping by. Consequently, visits to the mansion have declined from a peak of over 250 people to only

about 150 people today. In a survey I conducted not long ago, only 4% of Roanoke residents could tell me anything about our Kiwanis Club; we are a surprisingly well-kept secret. I wonder what the future of the mansion will be if it continues as is. I wonder if the same things that contributed to the long past of success for the mansion are the same things needed for a successful future. I wonder if the fate of this wonderful old mansion will be that of other mansions: gradual decline. I sure hope not.

Since hope is not a strategy I want to rely on as the President of this Kiwanis Club, I am announcing my official presidential theme. This theme has been at the center of much of what I have been doing for our Club the past couple of years. This theme was center stage at our most recent KPAD. This theme is centered on ending the lack of membership growth we have experienced for the past decade. This theme is centered on getting our grand old mansion noticed more, noticed to the point of putting us on a path to continued future membership growth. This theme is something I will be looking to have each club officer, Board member, committee chair, and Club member help with on a continual basis. My theme is “Outreach.” Let’s reach out to the community in every way possible, get noticed more, and grow our membership.

Let’s act on our theme – Outreach!





**October 11** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Dr. Mary Dana Hinton,  
President of Hollins University

**October 16** - (4:30 pm) Nature Park Meeting (more info below)

**October 18** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Cleopatra Kitt, PhD, Vice  
President of Leadership Development

**October 21** - Bocce Ball Tournament

**October 25** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Dr. Calandra M. Quarles,  
Carilion Clinic

**November 10-12** Kiwanis table at Stocked Market

**December 1-3** - Kiwanis table at Holiday Craft Show

**May 4, 2024** - Kiwanis Pancake Day

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## **Wednesday, October 11th, Club Meeting - Dr. Mary Dana Hinton, President of Hollins University**

Dr. Mary Dana Hinton will be speaking on developing outstanding leadership from unexpected places. She will discuss how the leadership qualities we

need at this moment are often cultivated in people and communities who have historically been denied access to leadership roles.

Dr. Mary Dana Hinton is the 13th president of Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, and President Emerita of the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, Minnesota. An active and respected proponent of the liberal arts and inclusion, her leadership reflects a deep and abiding commitment to educational equity and the education of women. Hinton is a member of the board of directors for the American Association of Colleges and Universities, InterFaith America, Mount Saint Mary's University (CA), The Teagle Foundation and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, where she is the vice chair. She is a Commissioner on the AGB Council on Higher Education as a Strategic Asset and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Hinton's scholarship focuses on higher education leadership, strategic planning, the role of education in peace building, African American religious history, and inclusion in higher education. She is the author of *The Commercial Church: Black Churches and the New Religious Marketplace in America* and a frequent op-ed contributor across higher education publications. Hinton's new book *Leading from the Margins*, based on her TedX Talk of the same name, will be published by Johns Hopkins University Press in 2024.



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**Wednesday, October 18th, Club Meeting - Cleopatra Kitt, PhD, Vice President of Leadership Development**

Ivies Incorporated of the Roanoke Valley has a focused strategic growth plan for collaboration, cadence, and a community centric focus. They are focused

on creating signature programs to impact the lives of our community.

Dr. Kitt has worked for the Fralin and Waldron families in Roanoke for twenty-six years. She has worked as the CEO of LifeWorks Advantage, Director of Special Projects-Operations, Vice President of Operations, licensed Nursing Home Administrator and Nursing Home. She has a PhD in Healthcare Administration from the Virginia University of Lynchburg and a MPH from the University of South Carolina.



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## **Wednesday, October 25th - Club Meeting - Dr. Calandra M. Quarles, Carilion Clinic**

Dr. Quarles will be speaking on the result of the 2021 Needs Assessment.

Dr. Calandra M. Quarles (Miller) is an internist in Roanoke, Virginia and is affiliated with Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. She received her medical degree from Lincoln Memorial University Debusk College of Osteopathic Medicine.

## Specialties, Internal Medicine

General internal medicine doctors, or internists, are primary-care physicians - PCPs - who perform physical exams and treat a wide spectrum of common illnesses in adult men and women. One of every four physicians in the U.S. is an internist, many of whom are also certified in one of 19 subspecialties, including cardiology, infectious disease and medical oncology.



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**Highlights from our last meeting**



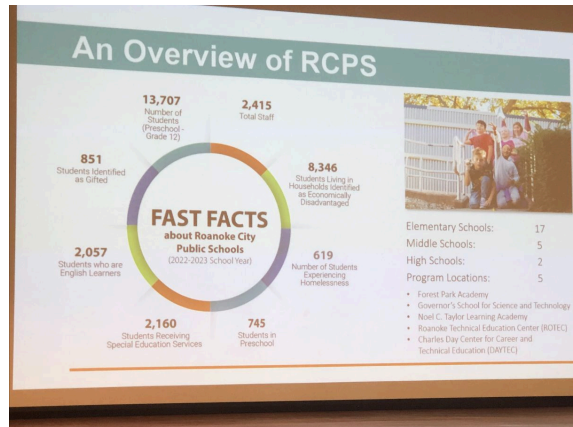
Bruce Swanson gives call for introspection



Sheyonn Butler introduces the speaker



Dr. Verletta White presents the state of Roanoke City Schools



Roanoke City Schools overview



**Kiwanis**  
CLUB OF ROANOKE

Happenings

**Volunteers Needed - Meals on Wheels**

Meals on Wheels, a program of the Local Office on Aging. They are in



dire need of volunteers to run routes from the Vinton location. Don Wilson, our Kiwanis Meals on Wheels chairperson, will run the route with any volunteers during their first time to "show them the ropes."

Please reach out to Don if you are interested or have any questions 540.520.3208 or email at [dwils4230@gmail.com](mailto:dwils4230@gmail.com)

**Next Kiwanis Nature Park Meeting Postponed to October 16th at 4:30 pm - A One Off Change**

- at Melrose Library and via Zoom! This committee will still meet regularly on 2nd Mondays at 4 pm at the Melrose Library (hybrid with Zoom) - just this once a change was needed to 3rd Monday, Oct 16th at 4:30 due to Hartmans' travel plans. Sorry for any inconvenience -- hope you can join us. All are welcome - official committee members AND invitees too! Come learn about our club's signature project!

Cheri W. Hartman with co-chairs Rupert Cutler and Don Witt

**Notes from John**

- We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of longtime Kiwanian and past club president Jim Arend, who succumbed to complications from cancer last Wednesday evening at the age of 86.

A member of the club since the late 1980s, Jim served as president of the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke in 2011-12. Many of you probably have some refrigerator magnets at work right now proclaiming his theme, "Kiwanians for Kids," magnets that were awarded by President Jim to members who performed acts of service within our community.

Jim retired about 20 years ago as the chief Roanoke officer for Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company. At one time several of his employees were members of our club as well. Jim's Roanoke volunteer work was extensive and he served as board chair for a number of prominent local

organizations, including the Regional Chamber of Commerce. He also was a leader in the rapid development of Virginia Western Community College. His obituary listed 11 local organizations whose respective boards he chaired during his Roanoke tenure.

Jim's Kiwanis work included assisting in raising funds for the Centennial Playground, championing support of the Adult Care Center, and serving on the board of directors of the Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke. He led by example. Past President Ben Spiker credits Jim for teaching him "everything he knows" about cooking sausage at KPAD.

Jim is survived by his longtime companion, Joan Petrus, and several children and grandchildren. Jim and Joan were Kiwanis Club of Roanoke bocce champions just a couple of years ago. In typical fashion, Jim gave complete credit for his team's bocce tournament victory to Joan.

Jim's memorial service was Tuesday, October 10.

- We're printing our new directory this month. Please submit any contact information changes to Secretary John Montgomery by this Friday, October 13, at [jmonty@cox.net](mailto:jmonty@cox.net)
- Don Chichester is soliciting volunteers to assist with serving Thanksgiving Dinner at the Adult Care Center on Friday, November 17, the week prior to the holiday. Please email him at [dnjchi@aol.com](mailto:dnjchi@aol.com)

### **Save Larry the Logperch -- CLEAN UP -- SAVE THE DATE**

We (our Kiwanis Club -- ALL club members) are invited to join Clean Valley Council and "SERV" and others for our next MELROSE -- Save Larry the Logperch -- CLEAN UP -- SAVE THE DATE: November 4th. Meet at the Goodwill picnic shelter at 2502 Melrose - morning start time (TBD). Suggestions for how to reward ourselves at the end? Maybe go

to Chris' Coffee and Custard Restaurant At: 1824 9th St SE, Roanoke, VA 24013 -- remember the young man (differently abled) who gave a presentation to our club about his new business? Let Cheri Hartman know if you too can Save Larry - by cleaning up our watershed area -- and then -- warm up with Chris' coffee at the end.

### **DEIB Capital District monthly meeting**

Tomorrow night (Oct 11th) the DEIB Capital District monthly meeting is being held at 7 pm via Zoom - led by Dave and Cheri Hartman. Your chance to expand your horizons to the Kiwanis Capital District regional level - you can be added to the list of DEIB committee members. Want to help us all diversify -- become more inclusive -- promote equity for all and enhance folks' sense of belonging? Let one of the Hartmans know of your interest.

### **Meeting Recordings**

Note that club meeting recordings can be found on our YouTube channel [here](#).

*Please email any potential happenings to Alex at [abarge11@gmail.com](mailto:abarge11@gmail.com).*

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## **Kiwanian Birthdays**

October 2 Jenny Lee  
October 6 John Edwards  
October 8 Patrick Patterson  
October 8 Brooke Tolley  
October 10 Valerie Brown  
October 11 Frank Longaker  
October 12 Sherry Dillon  
October 18 Ben Burks  
October 19 Lee Osborne  
October 21 Don Witt  
October 23 Kenny Brooks

October 25 Kevin Reeder  
October 28 Rupert Cutler (90!)  
October 31 Angela Paplomatas



**Kiwanis**  
CLUB OF ROANOKE

2023-24

Officers:

Mike O'Brochta, President  
Jeanne Bollendorf, President-Elect  
Joyce Montgomery, Vice President  
John Montgomery, Secretary-  
Treasurer  
Ben Spiker, Past President

Directors:

Don Wilson, President, Kiwanis  
Foundation of Roanoke -Term Ends  
2023  
Kevin Reeder, 2024  
Stephanie Moon Reynolds, 2024  
David Hartman, 2024  
Bob Habermann, 2025  
Sheila Umberger, 2025  
Harry Zulauf, 2025  
Bill Bestpitch, 2026  
Greg Lionberger, 2026  
Alex Barge, 2026



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