

## January 2024 Vol. 105 No. 14

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## President's Message Make Things Happen by Mike O'Brochta

Here is an interesting question. What does it take to be a "good Kiwanian – a good Kiwanian in our Club?" Pay your dues – check. But, what else is essential? Come to meetings – not bad. Earn your Permanent Badge – now we are getting somewhere. If you consider the research on this subject, as I have done, or if you just spend a few moments thinking about the attributes of a good Kiwanian, then you will understand that good Kiwanians Make Things Happen. They, or should I say we, are a good Kiwanians when we make things happen, when we make things happen to support the future of this Club. Sounds kind of obvious when you think about it.

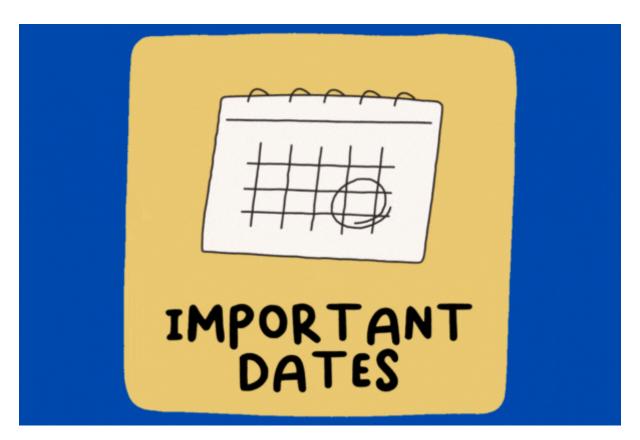
When I came as a guest to my first few Club meetings, I randomly asked individuals present the same question. "What do you do in the Club besides come to lunch?" Impressively, most had an answer. They were making things happen. That convinced me to join as a member. Shortly thereafter our Club

President showed me a spreadsheet that documented just how many Club members were active in some important way beyond paying dues and showing up at weekly Club meetings; the rate was in the 90 percent range. They were making things happen. Impressive then, and I believe it is just as impressive now. Long term success in our Club is dependent on continued high member activity levels – making things happen. This is who we are. Thank goodness for that.

For the past couple of weeks, we have had a large number of meeting guests. Inviting meeting guests definitely qualifies as making things happen. Terrific. Let's now build on that momentum. Just think about how much could happen if each person in this room takes a lunch invitation card home from this meeting and uses it to invite one person to lunch during the next couple of weeks. You can stop up front at the podium after the meeting to pick up some invitation cards. Just invite one person. You can make things happen. Please do that.

Let's act on our theme – Outreach!





**January 24 -** (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Molly Hunter, Roanoke Neighborhood Services

**January 31 -** (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Katie Slusher, Roanoke City Parks and Recreation

**January 31 -** (5:30 - 6:30 pm) Book Club meeting at the South County Library

**January 31 -** (7:30 - 8:30 pm) DEIBA Webinar

**February 7 -** (1:45 - 2:45 pm) Presidential Advisors Meeting at Charter Hall **February 9 -** (8 am) Interfaith Prayer Breakfast Planning Meeting via Zoom **February 10 -** (9 am - noon) Strategic Planning Committee Meeting at Carvins Cove

March 4 - (6 pm) Kiwanis Social at Mill Mountain Theater - Margaritaville

May 2, 2024 - (6:45 - 8:30 am) Kiwanis Interfaith Prayer Breakfast May 4, 2024 - Kiwanis Pancake Day

# Wednesday, January 24th - Club Meeting, Molly Hunter, Roanoke Neighborhood Services

Born and raised in Iowa, Molly Hunter graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelors degree in journalism. Shortly before graduating in May 2020, she landed a job at a newspaper in Columbus, Nebraska and met her current partner, Zack. After living in Nebraska for almost two years, she took a job at The Roanoke Times and she, Zack, and their cat Buffy moved to Virginia to be closer to Zack's brother, who lives in Norfolk, and Molly's brother and parents, who relocated to her dad's home state of Maine a few years ago. Upon joining The Roanoke Times, Molly accepted a leadership role with the Timesland News Guild. She remains proud of the work the union has done to preserve local journalism jobs in the Roanoke Valley, but after a year-and-a-half decided that it was time for a career change. In August, she applied for an accepted her current position as the City of Roanoke's Neighborhood Services Coordinator. Since starting the new job in September, she has been able to continue the kind of public service work that made her fall in love with journalism, but has been thrilled to take on a more active role in making connections and building community.



# Wednesday, January 31st - Club Meeting, Katie Slusher, City of Roanoke Parks and Rec

The City of Roanoke's Park and Recreation department has an historic amount of funding to support a number of transformational projects. With five capital construction projects, three master planning efforts and a number of smaller improvements underway, this is an exciting period of development for both the department and the City. Updates will be shared on all the projects on the boards and under construction in our parks and on our greenways.

Speaker's Background: Katie Slusher grew up in the Roanoke Valley and returned after 15 years away to work as the Planning and Development Coordinator for the City of Roanoke Parks and Recreation department. She holds a degree in Environmental Design from the University of Colorado and a Masters of Architecture from the University of Texas, and has worked in architecture, environmental graphics, urban design and planning before coming to work for the City.



## Highlights from our last meeting



Kendrick Gholston accepts grant for Sooul Fondation



Candice Hess receives grant for Kid's Soar



Joe Cobb presents program on Roanoke City gun violence



Joe Cobb receives honorarium



# Happenings

### **Meeting Recordings**

Note that club meeting recordings can be found on our YouTube channel <u>here.</u>

### **Notes from John**

- This week's grant will go to Meals on Wheels. A stipend of \$9,000 will be awarded to the parent organization, Local Office on Aging. This is the largest grant currently awarded by the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke and is reflective of the club's longstanding annual tradition of supporting commensurately a club project that involves a large contingent of our members, some of whom deliver meals several times each month.
- For the next two weeks, Dan and Diane Chitwood will be stationed in the lobby of Charter Hall prior to our meeting taking orders for customized Valentines in return for a contribution to help our club's administrative budget. The Chitwoods have offered these personalized

cards for several years previously and they have been a hit with our members. Thank you to the Chitwoods for helping our club financially in a creative and fun way!.

### **Kiwanis Club of Roanoke Book Club**

Next meeting - IN PERSON this time! At the South Branch of the Roanoke County Library - 6303 Merriman Road starting at 5:30 pm on January 31st. Come tell us about a favorite recent book - at this club meeting we share what we have chosen to read, NOT requiring that everyone read the same book. THIS IS NOT YOUR MOTHER'S OR FATHER'S USUAL BOOK CLUB!!! Let us know the book, its genre, the author -- a bit about the author; basic plot without necessarily giving away the ending; what you especially enjoyed about the book, what is noteworthy about the author's writing talent, and why you recommend it to others. Who would be most likely to like your book? Anything else you could mention within 5 minutes! A few munchies will be shared too - and of course camaraderie, best of all! Bring a friend! (Remember our President's theme -- outreach!)

~ Cheri and Dave Hartman

#### **Calendars**

Thanks to all Kiwanians who brought calendars for the Veterans at the Salem VA. We delivered 214 calendars, plus another 100 from a former member. If you have a few more that come late bring them to the meeting and I will deliver. This is a simple and fun project, and the Veterans appreciate it very much. Thanks for your participation, Andreé Brooks

## **Kiwanis Club of Roanoke INTERFAITH National Day of Prayer Breakfast**

All are welcome to help us plan the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke INTERFAITH National Day of Prayer breakfast event. The importance of interfaith understanding seems greater than ever - again this year!

Casting light on all faiths elevates us all! Help us organize an inspiring prayer breakfast. The event is held traditionally on the National Day of Prayer - this year that day is May 2nd, 2024, Thursday as always.

PLAN with us -- by joining our Zoom meeting Friday morning, February 9th, at 8 am. Dave and Cheri co-chair the event - let us know if you wish to get the Zoom link for this planning meeting. a brief, efficient meeting will get us started on our planning. AND SAVE THE DATE - May 2nd, 2024!

Thanks!

Cheri and Dave Hartman

Co-chairs of the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke Prayer Breakfast

### January 31st Capital District Kiwanis Family DEI webinar

Improve your DEIBA IQ -- a great New Year's Resolution! A Webinar by our Governor Eric Lamb (Gov. of the Kiwanis Capital District) YOU are INVITED!

Topic: Educating Members of the Kiwanis Family About Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging & Accessibility (DEIBA) -- WHY is this vital for you and for your Kiwanis Clubs, Key Clubs, Aktion Clubs?

IMPORTANT FOR ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS WHO WISH TO ACHIEVE DISTINGUISHED CLUB STATUS. PUT JANUARY 31ST ON YOUR CALENDARS AND ON YOUR CLUB'S WEBSITE.

All clubs surely want to be inclusive -- welcoming -- to celebrate diversity, to be equitable and to provide access regardless of ability. What does this mean?

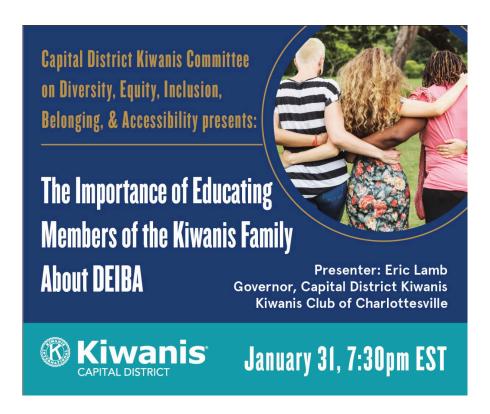
Governor Eric Lamb is elevating this value by making the achievement of a Distinguished Club status hinge on providing DEIBA educational experiences for its members. January 31st you can hear from our Governor of the Capital District -- Eric Lamb -- about WHY, WHAT, HOW...

Did you know there is a new requirement for clubs to complete an annual training for all members on diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and accessibility in order to be acclaimed as a distinguished club? Learn more about this new club expectation, why it is important, and how your club can fulfill this requirement in a meaningful way that moves Kiwanis forward while earning the honor of being named a Distinguished Club. Many ideas will be shared that can be used by Key Clubs, CKI clubs, and Aktion Clubs as well! Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to achieve Distinguished Club status each year. The criteria set forth by the Capital District this year through Governor Eric's leadership create a road map for clubs to use when setting goals for the year. Join us on January 31st to learn more. Register today!

January 31, 2024 7:30 PM (EST)

### **REGISTER HERE**

Message brought to you by the Capital District DEIBA Co-chairs: Cheri and Dave Hartman (Kiwanis Club of Roanoke members)



Kiwanis' Own Judy Clark in Concert

# South Roanoke United Methodist Church's 100th Anniversary Concert

Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.







Kevin Matheson, violin ~ Julia Goudimova, cello Judy Clark, piano

Dvorak Piano Trio, Op. 26 Faure Piano Trio, Op. 120 Newly composed trio by Aidan Deighan

for South Roanoke Methodist Church's Anniversary



Aidan Deighan, composer

Admission is free, donations accepted to support future concerts 2330 Jefferson St. SE, Roanoke, VA 24014

## Outreach Awards (initiative and follow through):

- Greg Lionberger
- Cheri Hartman
- Bart Wilner
- Harry Zulauf



**Bart Wilner** 

**Greg Lionberger** 

Harry Zulauf Cheri Hartman

#### **Lunch Invitation Cards**

Every Club member is being asked to take lunch invitation cards and use them during the next few weeks to invite guests to our lunch meetings. The invitation cards will be available at each meeting. We want to build on the momentum of the past couple of weeks where we enjoyed large numbers of meeting guests.

## You Are Invited To Lunch





## **Kiwanis Club of Roanoke**

## Share The K

For more information you can find us online at www.RoanokeKiwanisClub.org

From:

Date:

Every Wednesday

Time:

Lunch at 12 / Program at 12:30

Location: Charter Hall, 3rd floor of the Roanoke Market Building

#### The Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke will celebrate its 104rd birthday on January 28, 2024, and for nearly two-thirds of that time the Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke has been around to support the Club's work in our community with its financial support. It has been the steady contributions from members of our club and members of our community that have allowed our Club and this Foundation to make a lasting impact on the Roanoke Valley by assisting our youth and the elderly and improving the environment. The Kiwanis Centennial Playground is a recent example of how we have been able to improve our community, and our latest project, the Kiwanis Nature Park, is well underway!

With this long history and the ability to make a significant impact in mind, we are asking our club members to make a "birthday contribution" to the Kiwanis Foundation. Please take a minute to write a check to the Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke, which is a 501(c) (3) charitable organization, and mail it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope or hand deliver it to our Secretary, John Montgomery.

Your contribution to the Foundation is a gift that will mean so much to so many in our community, and our collective gifts will support the work of our Kiwanis Club of Roanoke in perpetuity. All contributions made between the beginning of the Foundation year (November 1, 2023) and the 1041h anniversary of our Club (January 28, 2024) will count toward the drawing.

As an incentive to encourage you to donate, we will have a random drawing after our anniversary next year among the eligible donors for all of the door prizes that are donated from businesses in our community. Thanks to these businesses that believe in what we do for their generosity. These are some of the donated prizes we have received so far:

- a gift certificate for the Sunday Buffet at The Hotel Roanoke Regency Room;
- a \$50 gift certificate to Shakers Restaurant;
- gift cards for Wheeler's Fast Service Laundry
- gift cards for Lucky Restaurant; and
- two mainstage season tickets to Mill Mountain Theatre.

Every person who contributes at least \$104 will be eligible for a chance in the drawing. All donations totaling \$250 or more will receive a second chance at the drawing and will be recognized on our website (unless you indicate with your gift that you wish for it to be anonymous). All donations totaling \$400 or

more will receive a Kiwanis Christmas Tree Ornament, recognition on the website as above, and a third chance at the drawing.

Many thanks for your consideration and support of the Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke.

J. Lee E. Osborne, President Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke

**Donate Today!** 

Please email any potential happenings to Alex at abarge11@gmail.com.

### Please consider sharing this email with a friend!



## **Kiwanian Birthdays**

January 5 -- Jeanne Bollendorf January 6 -- Dirk Kuyk

January 6 -- Stephanie Moon Reynolds

January 7 -- John Bradshaw

January 8 -- Bob Rutherford

January 11 – Steve English

January 13 -- Chris Head

January 15 -- Tom Blake

January 21 – Rhonda Perdue

January 23 -- Terry Vandelinde

January 28 -- Pegram Johnson

January 28 -- John Montgomery

January 28 -- Andy Stone

January 29 – Don Evans

January 31 -- Frank Rogan



## 2023-24

### Officers:

Mike O'Brochta, President Jeanne Bollendorf, President-Elect Joyce Montgomery, Vice President

John Montgomery, Secretary-Treasurer

Ben Spiker, Past President

### Directors:

Lee Osborne, President, Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke 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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