



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

January 2024
Vol. 105 No. 12
'OUTREACH'

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President's Message Comfortable Recliner by Mike O'Brochta

Years ago, my wife gave me a big, overstuffed leather recliner. It quickly became my favorite chair. We kept it in the family room and eventually moved it into my home office. It didn't matter that the leather showed obvious signs of wear or that the recliner mechanism got a bit wonky, it was so very comfortable. I would sit in that chair and read, watch TV, and yes, take naps. When I was recovering from a surgery, and could not do the stairs up to the bedroom, I slept several nights in that recliner.

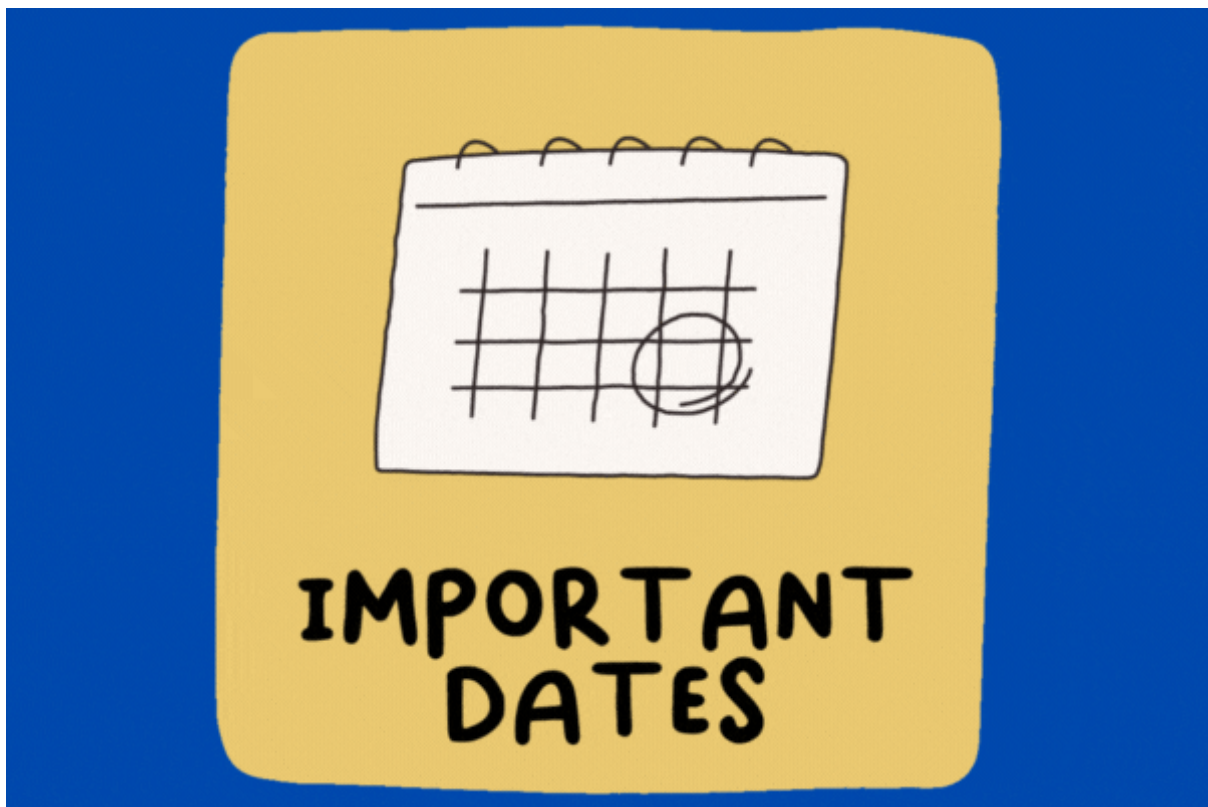
Recently, as part of our move, we donated that chair. You see, our move was a downsize; we simply do not have room anymore for that big chair. The move was a lifestyle decision. It is setting us up for the next phase in life, to which we are so looking forward. More travel, fewer house and yard duties; exciting time. Here's the thing, as much as I liked and miss that old comfortable recliner, keeping it would have gotten in the way of the future we wanted for

ourselves. Sometimes, leaving something behind is what it takes to move forward.

I wonder about our Kiwanis Club in a similar way. I wonder if the path to our Club's future can be enhanced by leaving a few, old comfortable items behind.

Let's act on our theme – Outreach!





January 10 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Scott Booth, Roanoke City Police Chief

January 15 - (10:00 am - noon) Clean Up Day

January 15 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Environment Committee Meeting

January 17 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Vice Mayor Joe Cobb, Gun Violence Prevention Commission

January 18 - (7:45 - 8:45 pm) Membership Committee Meeting at the Tanglewood Panera

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 10 - (9 am - noon) Strategic Planning Committee Meeting at Carvins Cove

May 4, 2024 - Kiwanis Pancake Day

Wednesday, January 10th - Club Meeting, Scott Booth, Roanoke City Police Chief

Chief Booth started his law enforcement career with the Richmond, Virginia, Police Department in 1996, where he served for nearly twenty years. During his tenure with the Richmond Police Department, he held positions as a patrol officer, undercover officer, detective in the Vice/Narcotics Units, SWAT team member, Honor Guard member, Firearm/drug enforcement unit sergeant, sergeant at the training academy, detective supervisor in the Narcotics Unit, Sector Commander, Watch Commander, Precinct Commander, Special Investigations Division Commander, Operations Major and Major in charge of the Office of Professional Responsibility/Internal Affairs. While serving with the Richmond Police Department, Chief Booth focused on the reduction of violent crime, community engagement, and working proactively with neighborhoods to effectively recognize and respond to problems.



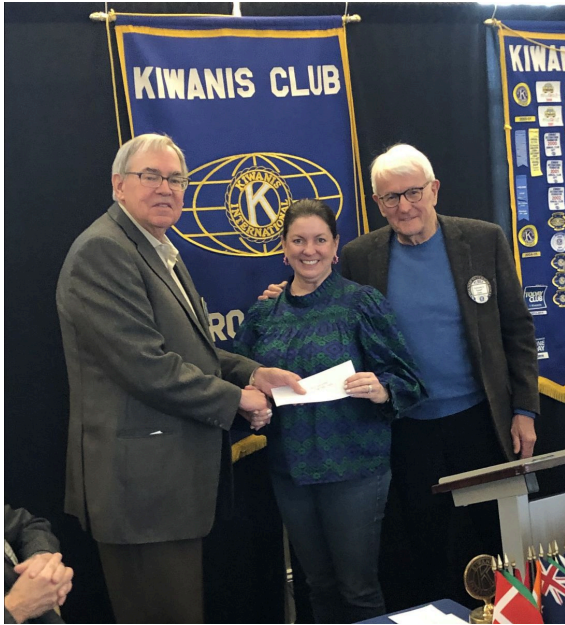
Wednesday, January 17th - Club Meeting, Vice Mayor Joe Cobb, Gun Violence Prevention Commission

Rev. Joe Cobb believes that our greatest calling as human beings is to love one another by honoring and celebrating what makes us unique and by discovering what we can create together. This calling both inspires and informs his devotion to public service in the Roanoke city, region and around the world.

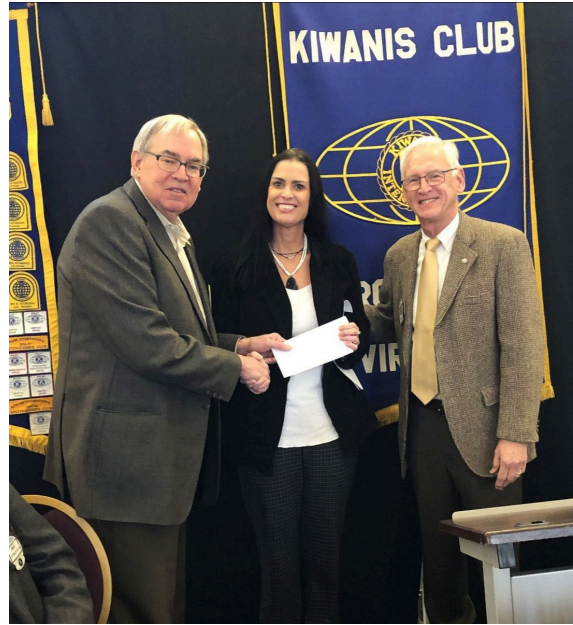
Joe is the Vice Mayor and a member of the Roanoke City Council (elected 2018 and re-elected in 2022) He served as Vice Mayor from 2018 - 2020. He also works as Chaplain at Hermitage Roanoke, a senior living community in Northwest Roanoke.



Highlights from our last meeting



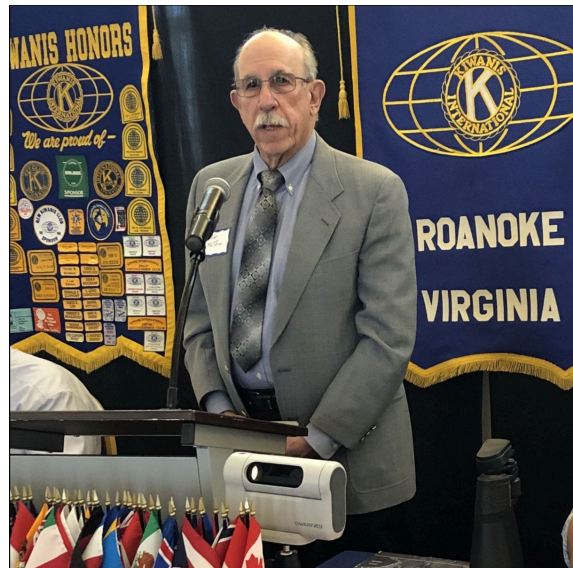
Grant check delivered to Ginger Poole for Mill Mountain Theater



Mill Mountain Zoo director Niki Voudren receives grant check

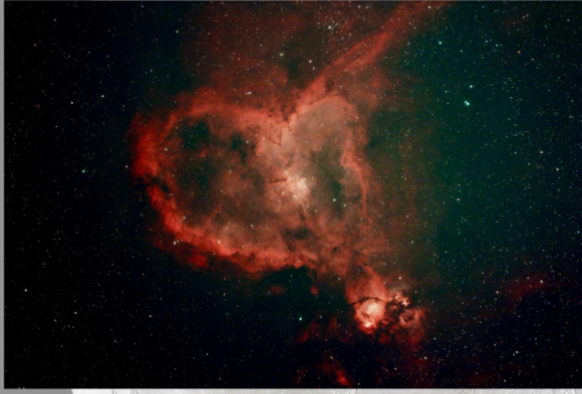


Capt. Matt Trantham congratulates Kiwanis for bringing in over \$2,000 for their bell ringing



Speaker, Mark Hulkin introduces Astronomy Society to the club

DEEP SKY - NEBULA



Heart Nebula
Ed Dixon



Andromeda
Harry Kessler

Photos shared by our speaker, Mark Hulkin from the Astronomy Society



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

Happenings

Meeting Recordings

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

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

Horton's Branch Watershed Clean Up

Details are finalized: the next Horton's Branch Watershed Clean Up event will be held in partnership with the Envision Center (Roanoke Redevelopment Housing Authority) at Lansdown's ENVISION CENTER facility (2607 Salem Turnpike, Roanoke) and with Shiloh Baptist Church, SERV, Clean Valley Council, our district's Key Clubs, Aktion Club - all who can join us! Start time is 10:00 am - we will finish cleaning up by 12 noon. Join us for light refreshments, camaraderie and TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Sign up sheets and flyers will soon be found on your luncheon table -- OR email Cheri Hartman to RSVP: chartman2423@gmail.com.

Dress warm and appropriately - Clean Valley Council will have grabbers, bags and vests for us. Who will use this Nature Park the most and our adjacent playground? Answer: this very neighborhood we are joining for the Clean Up - on MLK Jr Day - a day ON, not a day OFF as they say for this holiday!

Hope to see you then!

~ Cheri W. Hartman, Kiwanis Nature Park Co-chair with Don Witt and Rupert Cutler

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)

Capital District Kiwanis Committee
on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion,
Belonging, & Accessibility presents:

**The Importance of Educating
Members of the Kiwanis Family
About DEIBA**

Presenter: Eric Lamb
Governor, Capital District Kiwanis
Kiwanis Club of Charlottesville

 **Kiwanis**
CAPITAL DISTRICT

January 31, 7:30pm EST

A Celebration of the Life and Impact of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Fellow Kiwanians.....Please see this flyer for the MLK observance scheduled for next Sunday afternoon at Hill Street Baptist Church.

This event has Kiwanis roots, as it is organized by:

- Kiwanian Preston Tyler, Pastor of Hill Street Baptist.
- Kiwanian Kathy Cohen, Rabbi of Temple Emanuel.
- Pastor David Jones of Williams Memorial. Rev. Jones has participated in several of our National Day of Prayer Breakfasts.

Many Kiwanians attended last year at Temple Emanuel. Please consider joining us next Sunday.

Ken Briggs



*A Celebration of the Life
and Impact of*
**MARTIN LUTHER
KING, JR.**

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 14
4PM**

Hill Street Baptist Church
111 Madison Ave., NW
Roanoke, VA 24016

**Williams Memorial Baptist
Church**

**Hill Street Baptist Church
Temple Emanuel**

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE:
CHAOS OR COMMUNITY?

A Note From Emily Baily

I wanted to let you know that I received the card signed by all the Kiwanians, and WOW – it brought on some tears. Week after week it's not uncommon for us to sign cards to those who need to know we love them, are thinking of them, praying for them... I always say a little prayer of comfort when I sign my name to those cards, and I genuinely believe I'm not the only one after receiving the card from my fellow Kiwanians. Something that seems so simple and easy can have such a big impact on someone's day – I know it did for me!

I had my 3rd ENT appointment on Friday and have been diagnosed with Migraine Associated Vertigo and Dr. Gross (who is amazing) is referring me to a neurologist to see about the nystagmus, which at it's worst happens every 45 minutes I am awake. Needless to say, driving has not been in the cards. I am scheduled for an MRI on Wednesday and look forward to the call from the

neurologist to schedule an appointment. My boss has been wonderful and is very understanding about what's going on which is a huge stress relief to know I have job security and that they are willing to work around all my appointments. As many know, I typically travel 3-5 days out of the week and haven't been able to do that since November.

My Mom has been doing well – in great spirits and we had a wonderful Christmas! She is scheduled for a CT scan on January 22nd and will have her bloodwork done and visit with the doctor to review results on the 29th.

I hope that I will see the smiling faces of my Kiwanis family soon and again, I can't tell you how wonderful it was to open that card. It's like love in an envelope.

Please feel free to share my email with fellow Kiwanians. And as always, Mom and I are ready to receive all prayers, good vibes and positive energy as we both prepare for healing.

Peace & love!
EB

A Note About Reggie

*Dearest friends,
Reggie's coming home made a wonderful Christmas for our family!
Your friendship and support has given us the strength and courage
to bring him home.
Reggie and I both have enjoyed your visits over the last 17 months
and look forward to greeting you in our home. Reggie will be
beginning Occupational and Physical Therapy for 4 days a week in
the new year, so we suggest that you call (540-204-6429) before
coming so that we both can have time to enjoy your company.
Thank you again for your friendship and we look forward to seeing
you in 2024.
Here's to a Healthy, Happy New Year!
Blessings,
Ann Marie and Reggie*

Rose Bowl Parade

Earlier this week it was my pleasure to be in Pasadena for all the festivities. Here is a photo of me "checking out up close" our Kiwanis float that was a part of the Rose Bowl Parade. It won an award for use of flowers in a float

less than 35 feet. The award was well deserved, I might add. Other photos include one of the featured dog and another of the award announcement.

Enjoy this day - Reif Kessler



Outreach Awards (initiative and follow through):

- Greg Lionberger
- Cheri Hartman

- Bart Wilner (Pictured below receiving his ribbon)



The Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke

The vision of the Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke is to build an endowment that will support the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke in effecting meaningful and lasting changes in our community and our world. The Foundation contributes heavily towards the Club's support to the children of our community and the world, serving the needs of older adults in our community, and improving the environment of Virginia's Blue Ridge. Through donations, planned giving, and strong financial stewardship, assets exceed \$1M.

Everyone can help from a little to a lot by making donations, making annual tax-free contributions, contributing stock shares that have large gains, or listing the Foundation in your will or obituary. This year's Foundation contribution of \$50,000 helped 1,000+ local citizens.

The Foundation Board serves at the pleasure of the Club Board without compensation but with expertise. The Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke is a Section 501(c)(3) organization. Our financial statement was prepared by Cole & Associates CPAs, LLC. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent

allowed by law.

Donate Today!

Board Meeting Highlights from January 8th, 2024

Two new members, Fred Jeter and Matt Trantham, attended to fulfill one of the requirements for their permanent member badges. The Board approved the membership application from Eric Sichau, President of the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, bringing us to 149 members – No. 1 in the Capital District. Treasurer, Membership Committee, Communications Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and Foundation gave updates. Greg Lionberger and Kevin Reeder reviewed information regarding Kiwanis Corporate Membership, including input from several clubs that have that option. Joyce Montgomery is working on an update to our Club history for the 104th Club Anniversary Observance on Jan 31. Bob Habermann reported that the Club has participated in an application for a grant to study urban heat islands, and VT received a \$1,000,000 grant; more opportunities to assist in this effort are forthcoming.

The Capital District Midyear Convention will be held in Glade Spring, WV, on March 8-10; Jeanne Bollendorf, Joyce Montgomery, and David Hartman will be our Club's delegates.

Vice President Joyce Montgomery needs a program coordinator for the month of August.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Feb 12, 12:15 p.m. in the Western Virginia Water Authority Board Room and by Zoom; the Mar 4 (one week early) meeting will be held at the LOA offices to enhance our connection with one of our grant recipients.

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

Please consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

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



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:

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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