



**Kiwanis**  
CLUB OF ROANOKE

February 2024  
Vol. 105 No. 16  
'OUTREACH'

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## **President's Message**

### **Brain Trust**

**by Mike O'Brochta**

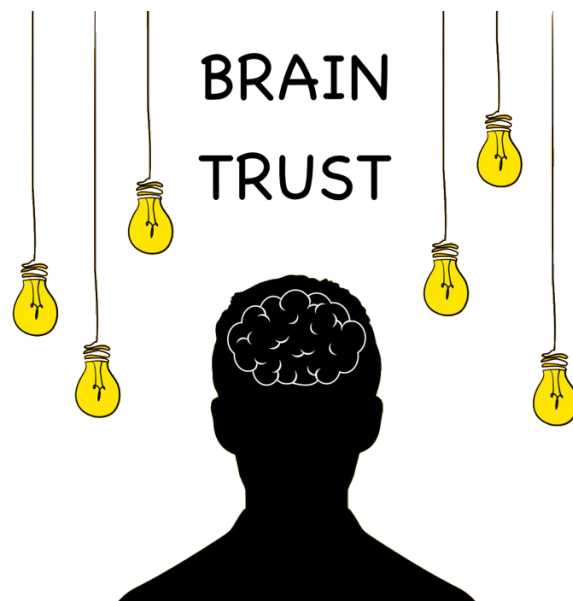
Call it what you will. Brain Trust. Wise Elders. Experienced Experts. Think Tank. They are a group of people concerned especially with planning and strategy. The term "brain trust" was popularized when FDR assembled a group of experts to assist him during his presidency.

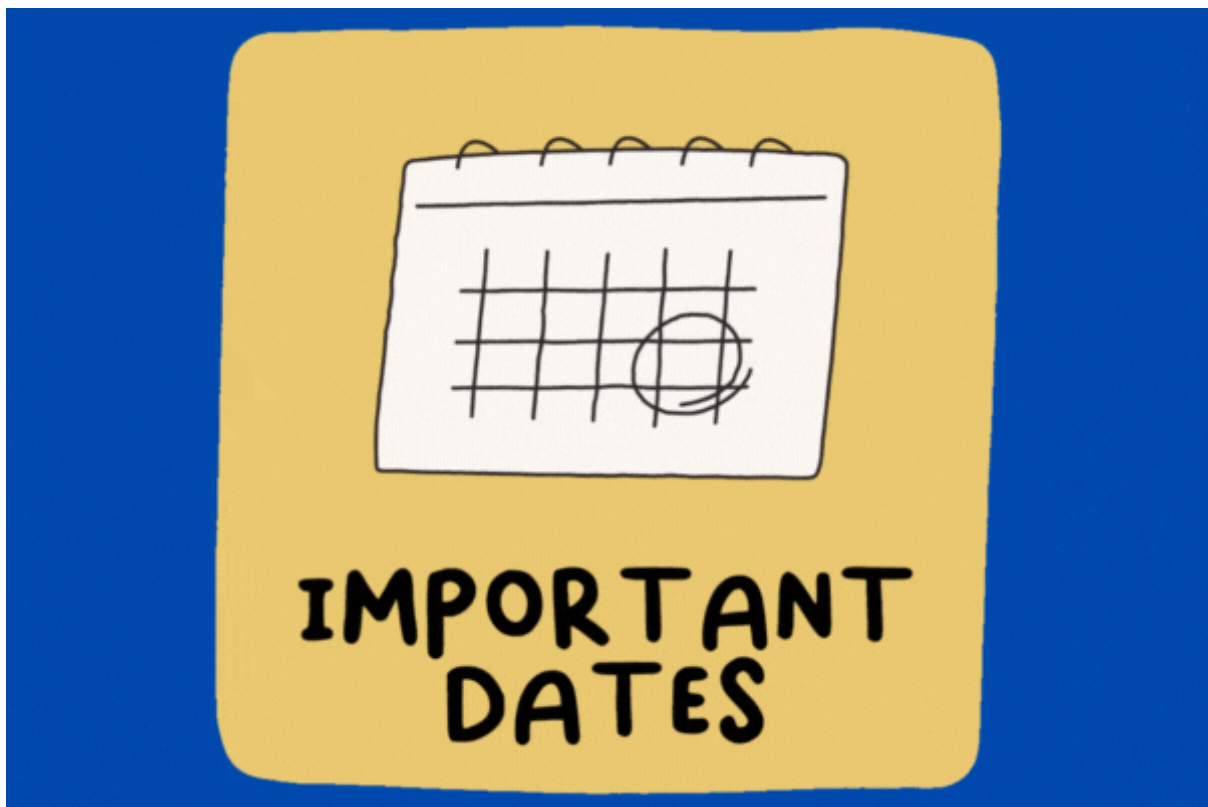
Our Kiwanis Club is quite fortunate to have just this kind of a group. They are functioning as my Presidential Advisors Committee. The membership of this committee is comprised of twenty-two Past Presidents of this Club. Each accepted an invitation to actively serve on this committee. "Active" is the key word here. Since prior to my term as President began, and continuing to this day, these advisors have been in dialogue offering advice, feedback, suggestions, and the like. Terrific. There is no way someone like me could possibly have the background and experience, dare I say wisdom, as this presidential advisors committee collectively has. I can not adequately

describe just how appreciative I am for this.

Just this past week, most of the members of this committee met in person to further explore the subject of Outreach. They were generous in their support of the importance of this goal. And importantly, they were seriously focused on ways to advance our Club in that direction. Drawing on their wisdom and experience, they brainstormed a list of specific actions that could be taken to move us further down the Outreach path. At the next Presidential Advisors meeting, scheduled for the end of this month, they will meet to select from the brainstormed list to identify a couple of the most promising ideas for action. Stay tuned. And, please feel free to share your thoughts with any of them, the committee member names are listed in the Directory, or share with me.

**Let's act on our theme – Outreach!**





**February 14** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, J.C. Taylor, Moments in Black History

**February 14** - (1:45 - 2:45 pm) Foundation Board Meeting

**February 19** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Environment Committee Meeting

**February 21** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Preston Tyler, Helping Someone Along the Way

**February 23** - (7:45 - 8:45 am) KPAD Operations Meeting

**February 28** - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Stephanie Moon Reynolds

**February 28** - (1:45 - 2:45 pm) Presidential Advisors Committee Meeting

**February 29** - (5:30 - 7:30 pm) KPAD Ticket Team Draft

**March 1** - (8 am) Interfaith National Day of Prayer Breakfast Planning Meeting, Zoom

**March 7** - (5:30 pm) Not Your Mother or Father's Book Club - South County Library

**March 14** - (6 pm) Kiwanis Social at Mill Mountain Theater - Margaritaville

**March 25** - (7:45 - 8:45 am) Membership Committee Meeting at Panera

**April 20** - Blue Ridge Marathon

**May 2** - (6:45 - 8:30 am) Kiwanis Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

**May 4** - Kiwanis Pancake Day

**May 18** - Tentative Fishing Day

**June 1** - Spring Fun Day

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## **Wednesday, February 14th - Club Meeting, J.C. Taylor, Moments in Black History**

Next week's speaker, J. C. Taylor, will present "Moments in Black History," a message focusing on individuals who have made a difference over the years. A Franklin County native, J.C. has been a local realtor for more than 45 years, following stints in the military and working for the government. He has volunteered his free time for a number of cherished causes, including Shiloh Baptist Church.

J.C. has been a Roanoke Kiwanian since 2002. He served as club president in 2013-14. His presidential theme was "What More Can I Do?"



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## **Wednesday, February 21st - Club Meeting, Preston Tyler, Helping Someone Along the Way**

Preston Tyler, the pastor of Hill Street Baptist Church, will talk about “Helping Someone Along the Way,” his personal life journey. He has been a clergyman for the past 16 years and was a lay preacher before that. He also worked as a meatcutter with Kroger for 25 years and served as a union representative. Preston joined the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke in 2022 and coordinates our weekly introspections. He also doubled as Santa at our West End Center Christmas Party last December.

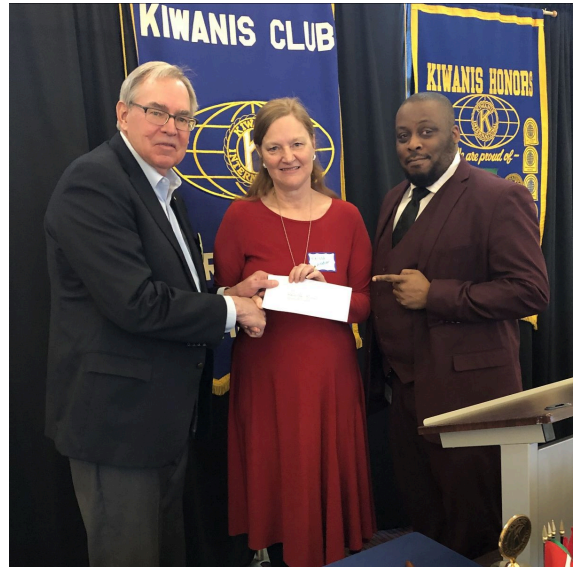


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**Highlights from our last meeting**



Joe Gaither receives grant for  
Straight Street



Grant is presented to Roanoke Area  
Ministries



Speaker Milton Hardy presents  
uplifting message



Presidential adviser team confers  
with President Mike



Foundation Prize Winners



Foundation Prize Winners



**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**

The date for the next Kiwanis Club of Roanoke Book Club meeting convened by David Hartman will be on March 7th (Thursday) at 5:30 at the South County Library on Merriman Road-held IN PERSON ONLY.

Remember - this is not your mom's book club! We share a favorite book we've read - author, genre, key elements - what we enjoyed about the book and why we recommend it. You leave with great ideas about what to read next! Hope you can join us on March 7th.

### **Save the Date - Spring FunDay at our Kiwanis Centennial**

#### **Playground IS June 1ST!**

Another date for our calendars - June 1st at the Kiwanis Centennial Playground, we will gather with Shiloh Baptist Church who cooks us hot dogs (the best you ever tasted!) and hamburgers. The Building Bridges collaborative of various churches serves us ice cream! There are activities for the children, usually live music, gardening day activities, the fire department and police department,, talent on display by the youth (cheerleaders, for ex.). It is a grand day to celebrate commUNITY.

### **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, March 1st, 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

### **Notes from John**

#### ***Babies Galore!***

Congratulations to two of our members who have expanded their families in recent days:

- Brooke Tolley and Derick Stackpole welcomed a new son at the end of January.
  - Ryan and Emily LaFountain have a new daughter as of February 4.
- Cards from the club will be passed at this Wednesday's meeting.

#### ***Farewell and Good Luck to Kevin Berry***

The board of directors at Monday's meeting was sad to receive the resignation of Kiwanian Kevin Berry, director of communications and marketing for the Rescue Mission of Roanoke. Kevin's duties at work and home have recently increased, including the addition to his family of a newborn last month.

Kevin, who was recently named one of The Roanoker's "40 Under 40," joined the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke in 2020, sponsored by Lee Osborne. Kevin has been a frequent spokesman at Kiwanis meetings when receiving grants for his organization and he also serves on the Roanoke Planning Commission.

#### ***Foundation Appeal Drawings***

The Foundation's year-end appeal generated almost \$12,000 from 50 donors, an impressive response from our membership. Our Foundation

now has assets of \$1.4 million. This year's club service budget benefited from an all-time high of \$57,000 via the Foundation, representing more than 40 percent of the club's total service budget of \$135,000 for 2023-24. (KPAD profits and Sponsorships are the other components of the three-legged stool that determine our annual service budget.)

In conjunction with the observance of our club's 104th anniversary, Foundation President Lee Osborne conducted prize drawings at last week's club meeting. Contributors to the appeal of at least \$104 were entered into the drawing, with higher levels of giving resulting in additional tickets. The 17 winning tickets drawn and the respective prizes handed out were as follows:

**\$10 Gift Certificates to Shakers:**

- Vern Danielsen
- Rhonda Perdue
- Will Dibling
- Bruce Swanson
- Donna Lynch

**\$25 Gift Certificates to Wheeler's Fast Service Laundry & Cleaning:**

- Judy Clark
- Mike O'Brochta
- Young Bankers #1
- Young Bankers #2

**\$50 Gift Cards to Lucky:**

- Fred Jeter
- Lee Osborne

**\$50 Gift Cards and Smokers from Brady's Distillery:**

- John Montgomery
- Calvin Witt

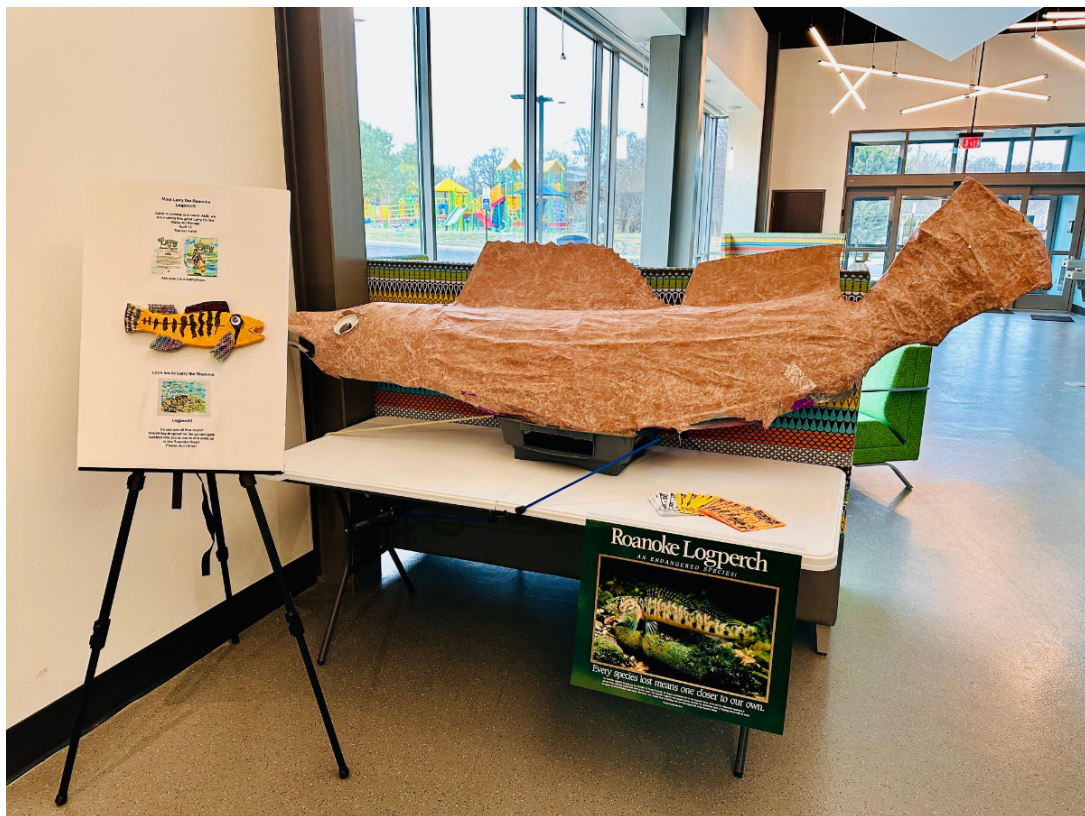
Hotel Roanoke Sunday Brunch in the Regency Room for 2:

- Rupert Cutler
- Mike McEvoy

Mill Mountain Theatre Season Tickets for 2:

- Mike Bell
- John Pendleton

**Larry the Logperch!**



**Outreach Awards (initiative and follow through):**

- Greg Lionberger
- Cheri Hartman
- Bart Wilner
- Harry Zulauf
- Bill Bestpitch (pictured below)



### **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

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### Share The K

*For more information you can find us online at  
[www.RoanokeKiwanisClub.org](http://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 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 recap for February 12th:**

The meeting began with some personal recognitions of members which included Steve McGraw's 38 years of perfect attendance, and the addition of new babies to the families of Brooke Tolley, and Ryan LaFountain. Calendar events were noted including that our Club will have a float in this year's Daisy Art Parade, and volunteers will be needed for the Blue Ridge Marathon. The Nominating and Scholarship Committees provided updates on criteria and their recommendations for review by the Board. The Business Outreach Committee received approval on its motion to create a Corporate Membership option pending review in accordance with Club bylaws. An update on KPAD operations was provided by Mike McEvoy with it being noted that kickoff is on March 6th for a May 4th KPAD date. Bob Habermann received Board support to explore a proposal for a Kiwanis sponsored open forum to bring attention to the Virginia Tech Urban Heat Island study funded by a National Science Foundation grant. Lastly, Bill Bestpitch gave an update on the creation of a new Club strategic plan in which the committee continues to seek member input and "buy-in".

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

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

 **Forward**

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**Kiwanian Birthdays**

February 6 -- Barry Akers  
February 11 -- Keith Hartman  
February 14 -- Clark Goodman  
February 14 -- Mike Quinn  
February 18 -- Kathy Cohen  
February 24 -- Tara Marciniak  
February 28 -- Betsy Head



**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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