



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

October 2024
Vol. 106 No. 2
"WHAT IS YOUR
SUPERPOWER"

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President's Message

Jeanne Bollendorf

Preparing for the presidency has been an amazing two years of hard work, laughs, and friendship with Ben Spiker, Joyce and John Montgomery, and Mike O'Brochta – their support for me has been invaluable, as has their work on behalf of everyone in our Club. I'm excited to continue to work closely with this group of fine individuals for another year and looking forward to adding Dave Hartman and Teddy to the group! I'm even more excited to welcome our three new board members Bert, Keith, and Preston, who I know will add great ideas and energy to our leadership team.

I am especially appreciative for Mike O'Brochta, who has been an energetic and strong leader for our club this past year. Mike is almost superhuman when it comes to his ability to engage with our membership, and the larger community. So much so, you might even think his theme was OUTREACH! Mike has been a wonderful example to me of impactful leadership and I am DEELIGHTED to be following in his footsteps.

Standing here today, I am reflecting on Andree' Brooks and David Lemon's

program from two weeks ago about the history of our club. We are now in our 105th year and women have only been admitted as members for 40 years. And I am the 7th female president of this club – it is an incredible honor to be among the elite group known as past presidents, and even more so to be the 7th in a group of amazing women. As I lead our club for the next year, I will be mindful that I am standing on the shoulders of superheroes.

We ask our new members to tell us why they join Kiwanis and today I'll share some of my backstory. I moved to Roanoke in 2008 and had been asked to give programs to this very club. Back then, we were still meeting at what was Schaal's Catering. I was asked if I would be interested in joining and I was hesitant – there were 6 women in the club and only one other member was younger than me. I thought “gee, are these really my people?” Then Rupert Cutler invited me to a membership orientation event at the Roanoke Chamber and that's where I really got the hard sell. And what I learned is that you are my people!

Honestly, when I joined Kiwanis 14 years ago, I never planned to pursue leadership within the club. Right from the start, Lloyd Enoch asked me to help with the weekly newsletter, which was a word document that he emailed and mailed to the membership. I agreed, not realizing that job would last about a decade! Taking on that project though, was really smart because I learned so much about the club activities and the people doing those activities. Next, Lloyd asked me to take on the website! I agreed and decided our website could really use a refresh, that was FOUR different websites ago! After re-designing newsletters and websites, it occurred to me that our club really didn't have a social media presence, and that's how our Facebook page began! It's gratifying for me, to have the help of a full communications committee managing all of these tasks and more.

Not long after joining the club, I was asked to be on the board of directors and I served two 3-year terms, another great decision. Serving on the board really increased my engagement with the club and our membership. As you might imagine, after serving on the board, various club members began asking me to become an officer! I declined gracefully many times before finally accepting my fate!

So here is where I make my public service announcement to all you – volunteer for the committee or project, chair the committee, join the board, become an officer – these are all the ways you can not only engage with our Kiwanis Club and community, they are also how you will make friends, create a connection to neighbors and residents, and feel really great about yourself!

My theme for the next year is not only a call to action, but also an acknowledgement of the amazing work of Kiwanians in our community

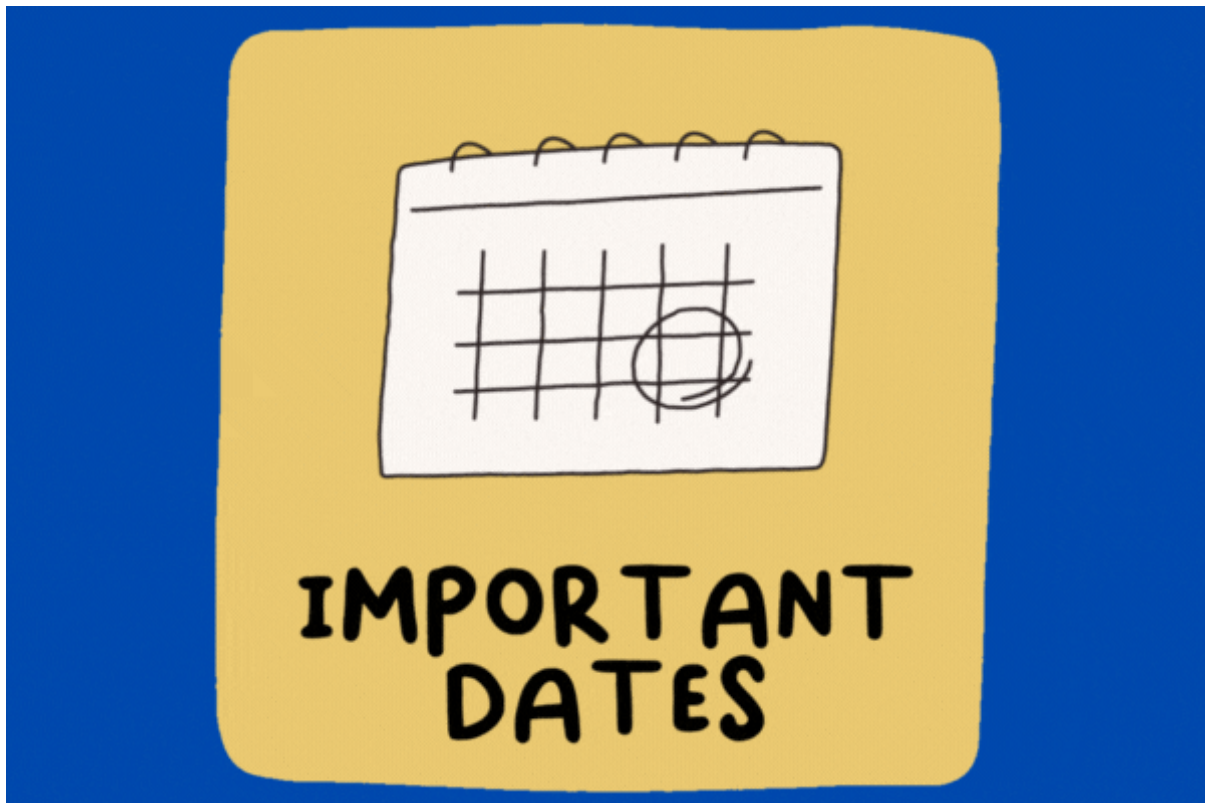
WHAT IS YOUR SUPERPOWER?

Now more than ever, the power of the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke is so critical to help our children and teens navigate the world; help our older adults access a good quality of life; and help steward the natural environment for the health and benefit of all of Roanoke's citizens.

Today, I am challenging each and every one of you to think about your Superpower and how you can use your special power for the good of our club and our community. I'm serious, I want you to email/call/text me about your personal superpower so that I can appreciate you. And each week, I want to hear at least one brag from one person in our club about another person in our club, I want to hear something positive and kind about every single one of us.

Will you do that for me?

All of us in this room are Superheroes and the people of our community need us – so let's all don our capes and get ready for a powerful year!



October 9 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, John Hagy, RAMP

October 14 - (12:15 - 1:30 pm) Board Meeting

October 14 - (4 - 5 pm) Nature Park Project Meeting

October 16 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Spencer Marsh, The Tiny Cargo Company, & Jess Gilbertie, Qentoros

October 21 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Environment Committee Meeting

October 23 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Mike Abbott, RAMP

Instructor

October 26 - (9 am - noon) Nature Park Garden Planting

October 30 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Spencer Leamy, Corvus Labs

You can always stay up-to-date by checking out the calendar on our [website here](#).

October 9th - Club Meeting, John Hagy, RAMP

Join us Wednesday for our weekly meeting at 12:30 PM to listen to John Hagy, Director of the Regional Accelerator and Mentoring Program (RAMP). John will review RAMP's mission, role, programs and companies. RAMP connects entrepreneurs who are building technology-based business with high-growth potential with regional resources.

John's past experience includes venture capital, startups, strategy consulting, and intelligence operations.

This presentation is part of a full month of speakers focused on innovation, technology, and business start-ups.



Highlights From Our Last Meeting



President Jeanne opens her first Kiwanis meeting



New members Courtney Plasters, Shelia Bower, and Jason Poff are installed into the club



Bart Wilner announces the October speaker schedule based on economic development



Speaker Erin Burcham discusses the Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovative Alliance





President Jeanne reveals her super-hero cape

Anyone with more photos from the installation is encouraged to share with Jeanne at jeannekiwanis@gmail.com



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

Happenings

Support for Flood Victims

Kiwanis Capital District Division 15 (comprised of our neighboring clubs) challenged our club to contribute \$1,000 for hurricane relief to our neighbors in NC. Our officers voted to contribute \$500 from the service budget and then send out a general request to our membership to match that with another \$500. *In three short hours, our club has exceeded its goal of collecting \$1,000 total* and donating it to the Division 15 effort to support Hurricane Helene relief in North Carolina, a challenge issued to us by our Lt. Governor, Tulane Patterson from Lynchburg.

Any additional money donated or pledged beyond this point will be forwarded accordingly, of course. Please share any donations with John Montgomery.

Calendars are Needed

2025 Calendars are needed for residents at the Salem VA. Please save all those free calendars you receive in the mail and bring them to our meeting.

Deposit them in the box on the table near check in. Thank you for helping our veterans! Andree

Kiwanis Youth Protection Week

It's Kiwanis Youth Protection Week! Kiwanis International is hosting live webinars beginning TONIGHT, Wednesday and Thursday night!

Session details and registration below:

Monday, October 7, 8 p.m. ET

Kiwanis 2024 Youth Protection Week: Get Educated! Youth Protection policies in practice for clubs, led by Melissa McMann, Kiwanis SLP Training and Education administrator and a District Youth Protection manager.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/yxba32rb>

Wednesday, October 9, 7 p.m. ET

Get educated! Understanding Kiwanis youth protection guidelines, a session for SLP administrators, advisors and chaperones.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/yzy7atuu>

Thursday, October 10, 8 p.m. ET

Get Educated! How to involve your district in youth protection policies, led by District youth protection managers, Key Club and Circle K International administrators.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/mr2ssyk9>

For more information on Youth Protection Week, check out Kiwanis Internationals page: <https://www.kiwanis.org/.../youth.../youth-protection-week/>

Native Plants IN and Invasives OUT Event

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke will sponsor a Native Plants IN and Invasives OUT event on October 26th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am on site at the Kiwanis Nature Park – in the 2700 block of Melrose - adjacent to the new Melrose Plaza under construction and next to the Kiwanis Centennial Playground.

Registration will occur on site. There will be a big "Larry the Roanoke Logger" banner marking the spot – (that promotes Larry's message of Only

Rain Down the Drain). Volunteers will be awarded a copy of our children's book (in hot demand for how it delights youngsters and educates them about the plight of the threatened little darter fish that calls the Roanoke River its home).

Help us spread the word – more hands make less work and A GREATER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT! ~ Cheri Hartman

David Hartman

The Roanoke Times shared a nice article about Kiwanian David Hartman's journey in medicine and honoring his accomplishments. [It is well worth the read here!](#)

Mayoral Candidates Forum

Our Kiwanis Club, in partnership with the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, held a successful Mayoral Candidates Forum last Tuesday evening, photos below. We had lots of people, good media coverage, and plenty of candidate insights. WSL10 live-streamed the event and covered it on their 11:00pm news, [which can be seen here.](#) WDBJ7 covered it on their 11:00pm news ([see here](#)), WVTF covered it, [The Roanoke Times covered it](#), and the Roanoke Rambler covered it. Great example of Outreach.





Kiwanis Club of Roanoke's Foundation Donation

We wanted to give a big thank you to Rupert Cutler who, in celebrating his own birthday, donated \$910 to the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke's Foundation!

October 5th Cleanup

Thanks to everyone who went over the Lick Run greenway with a fine-toothed comb Saturday! Here are a few pictures of Kiwanians serving with a smile.

Thank you!
Dave Perry



Meeting Recordings

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

Club Meeting Zoom Info

Here is the [zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 817 8581 5453

Passcode: 102906

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

Please consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

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 (91!)
October 31 Angela Paplomatas



Kiwaniis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

2024-25

Officers:

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

Directors:

Lee Osborne, President, Kiwanis
Foundation of Roanoke
Bob Habermann, 2025
Sheila Umberger, 2025
Harry Zulauf, 2025
Bill Bestpitch, 2026
Greg Lionberger, 2026
Alex Barge, 2026
Preston Tyler, 2027
Bert Boyd, 2027
Keith Hartman, 2027



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