



Kiwanis®
CLUB OF ROANOKE

November 2025

Vol. 107 No. 5

"Year of Inspired Action"

In this Issue

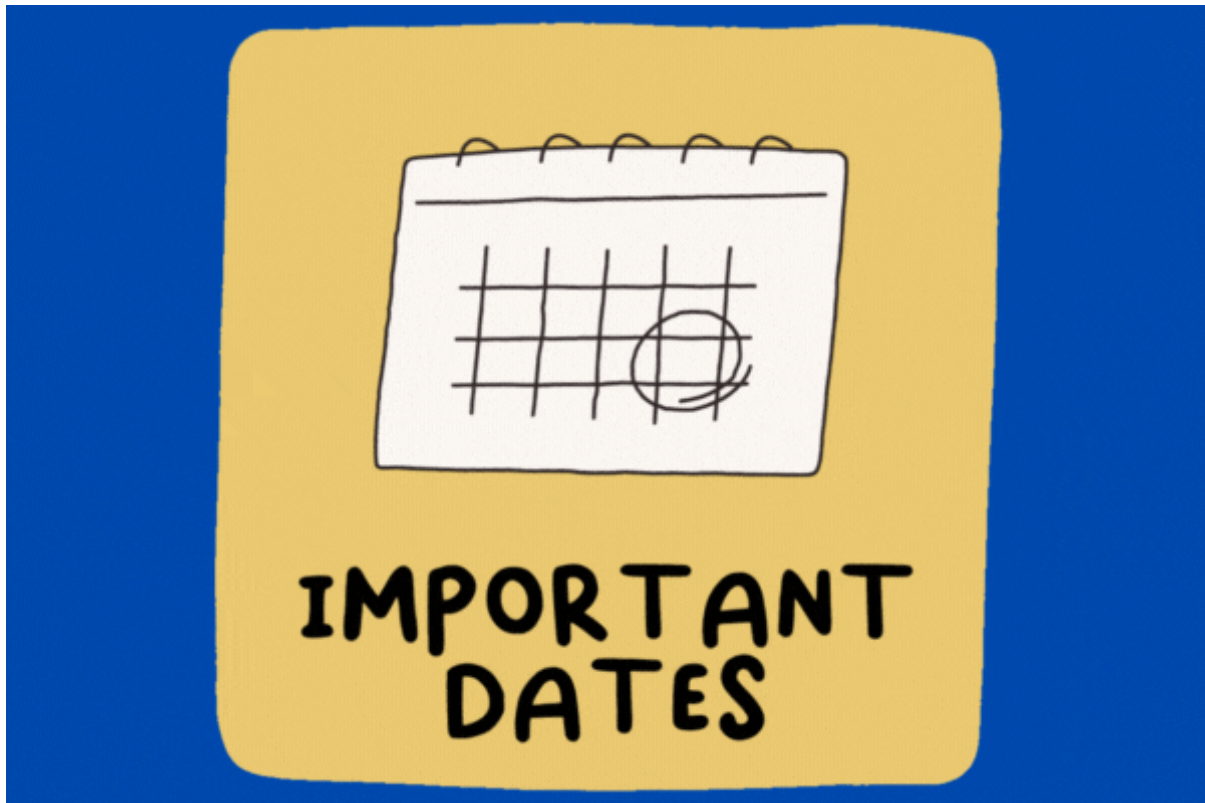
Important Dates

Speakers' Info

Feature Photos

Kiwanis Happenings

Kiwanian Birthdays



November 5 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Montana Kimrey, Ronald

McDonald House

November 5 - (1:30 pm) SLP Meeting

November 6 - (6 - 8 pm) Fun Social Mexican Dinner

November 8 - (10 am - noon) Clean Up Day at Kiwanis Nature Park

November 12 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Dwayne D'Ardenne,
Envision Williamson Road

November 19 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting - Janine Underwood,
Bradley Free Clinic

November 21 - (11:30 - 1:30 pm) Adult Care Center Thanksgiving

November 26 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) NO MEETING

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

November 5th - Club Meeting, Montana Kimrey with The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Virginia

Join us Wednesday for our weekly meeting at 12:30 PM in Charter Hall on the third floor of the City Market Building to listen to Montana Kimrey, Donor and Community Relations Coordinator at The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Virginia. Kimrey will talk about the mission and impact of RMHC-SWVA and tell stories of how her organization supports families with critically ill children.

Originally from Concord, North Carolina, Montana Kimrey is a dedicated nonprofit professional and proud graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Since moving to Roanoke in 2021, she has found joy and purpose in serving families through RMHC-SWVA. She is a 2025 Leadership Roanoke Valley graduate and 40 Under 40 honoree. Montana is passionate about building community, sharing stories, and giving back to the place she now calls home.



Highlights From Our Last Meeting

Most photos are taken by our resident photographer extraordinaire, Don Witt, who also adds the captions.



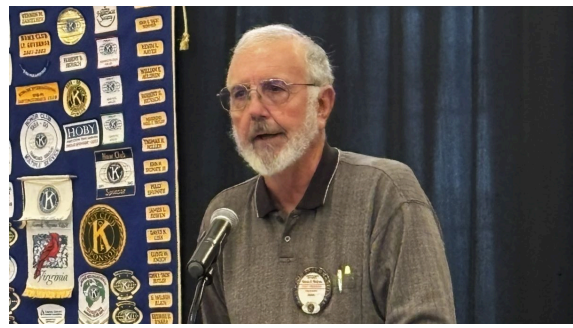
Jackie Bledsoe is recognized for her longevity in the Club



Geoffrey White serenades the Club with his fiddle.



Cheri Hartman acknowledges volunteers for the nature park



Steve McGraw encourages Kiwanians to invite, invite, invite



Guy Byrd of Adult Care Center receives the first grant check



Natalie Handy presents CareForward: Building a Community of Care



Kiwanis
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Happenings

Membership Update

Roanoke Kiwanis Club past president Dr. Harry C. Nickens and I were serving together on the Roanoke County Board of Supervisors when he invited me to attend a meeting of this Club in early December, 1985. If I wasn't already hooked, I next attended our annual Christmas party for the

West End Center kids later that month and that sealed the deal, so I joined this Club in January, 1986.

Now approaching 40 years of perfect attendance, including terms of office on our board and on various committees, and having served as Club president 30 years ago in 1995, I know that my decision to join this Club was truly a life changing one.

Over those decades, I have recruited dozens of new members, several of whom are still active in this Club. When you recruit new members, you hope that they will be actively involved in our Club for life, and many of my recruits have done so...

For example, when I recruited our Club's first woman member, Linda Price, in 1987, she was very active, soon recruiting Jackie Bledsoe, who became our Club's first woman president. Who knew?! Later, I recruited Manly Aylor and J. C. Taylor, both past presidents of this Club. Who knew?!

When I recruited old motorcycle riding friend Kenny Brooks, one of our consistently loyal pancake flippers over many years, he recruited his sister, Andree', who became our Club's third woman president. Who knew?!

Over the next few months, our Club's Membership Committee will feature testimonials about their experiences by some of our members, primarily emphasizing new member recruitment and retention, so please stay tuned...

Who knows what we'll learn about old and new members and ourselves? Of one thing I am certain; it will be fun and positive and, hopefully, inspirational... thanks!

Steve McGraw

Calendars are Needed

2026 Calendars are needed for residents at the Salem V A. 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'

FUN SOCIAL – Pop Up Mexican Dinner

November 6 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Fun Committee event. Socialize at the El Rodeo on Electric Road on November 6 from 6-8pm. No cost is involved beyond what you order and pay for individually. This will be a good time to enjoy each other's company. Brings your kids and family members. This will also be a good time to invite a non-Kiwanian so they can see the fun side of our Club.

Annual Lobster Sale

The Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg holds an annual lobster sale, trucking live lobsters from Maine for a pre-order fundraiser. This year the Roanoke Club will join Lynchburg's Club in this fundraising event. We will have sign-up sheets on the table and the cost will be \$25 for a live lobster, \$26 for cooked. They will be delivered on November 8. The deadline for the orders will be November 4th. This is a fundraiser for our Club in that we get about \$10 for each lobster and that will go to our administration budget. Please write a check to Kiwanis Club of Roanoke or pay \$25 cash to Michael Franzese or Joyce Montgomery.

CLEAN UP DAY

November 8 @ 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Meet at 10:00 on November 8th at the Goodwill Pavilion located at 2502 Melrose Avenue (next to the Kiwanis Nature Park and the Horton's Branch watershed). We will use provided grabbers, trash bags, and vests to clean up the Park and neighborhood; will finish by noon.

Book Club

Thanks to everyone who joined us on October 8th for the monthly Book Club. Thanks again to Mike Bell for hosting our group. Our next meeting will be on November 12th at 5:30 - Mike Bell has graciously agreed to host us again. All are welcome to join and share about a book you recently read. Please contact Dave and Cheri Hartman for more information.

A Message From Rupe

I am overwhelmed with love for and gratitude to all, including the 50 or so members who signed the Club card, and I can't thank everyone enough. Also, when John and Joyce Montgomery dropped by after Kiwanis, they not only

brought the cards from the meeting but a cake with the numbers 92 on it.

My accident at home on the 27th that resulted in a torn (and stitched up) ear--attacked by a BOOKCASE, of all things!--and a bum knee kept me from attending the meeting Wednesday. I wish I had been there. The old legs aren't the cross-country runners and AT hikers they used to be.

Tons of thanks to all my fellow Kiwanians!

Rupe Cutler





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 Kiwanian happenings by 7 pm on Monday to Alex at abargell@gmail.com.

Please consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

Kiwanian Birthdays

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 1 Joyce Waugh
November 3 Will Dibling
November 4 Tom Miller
November 8 Manly Aylor
November 10 Sheyonn Baker
November 10 David Daniels
November 14 Tom Bamford (new member)
November 15 Larry Kufel
November 20 Jay Gauldin
November 28 Kevin Holt
November 28 J.C. Taylor



Kiwaniis® 2025-26

CLUB OF ROANOKE

Officers:

Joyce Montgomery,
President

David Hartman, President-
Elect

Reif Kessler, Vice President

John Montgomery,
Secretary-Treasurer

Jeanne Bollendorf, Past
President

Directors:

Lee Osborne, President
Kiwaniis Foundation of
Roanoke

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Greg Lionberger, 2026

Alex Barge, 2026

Preston Tyler, 2027

Bert Boyd, 2027

Chris Rouse, 2027

Jeff Vick, 2028

Steve English, 2028

Fred Jeter, 2028



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