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Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

March 2025

Vol. 107 No. 21

"Year of Inspired Action"

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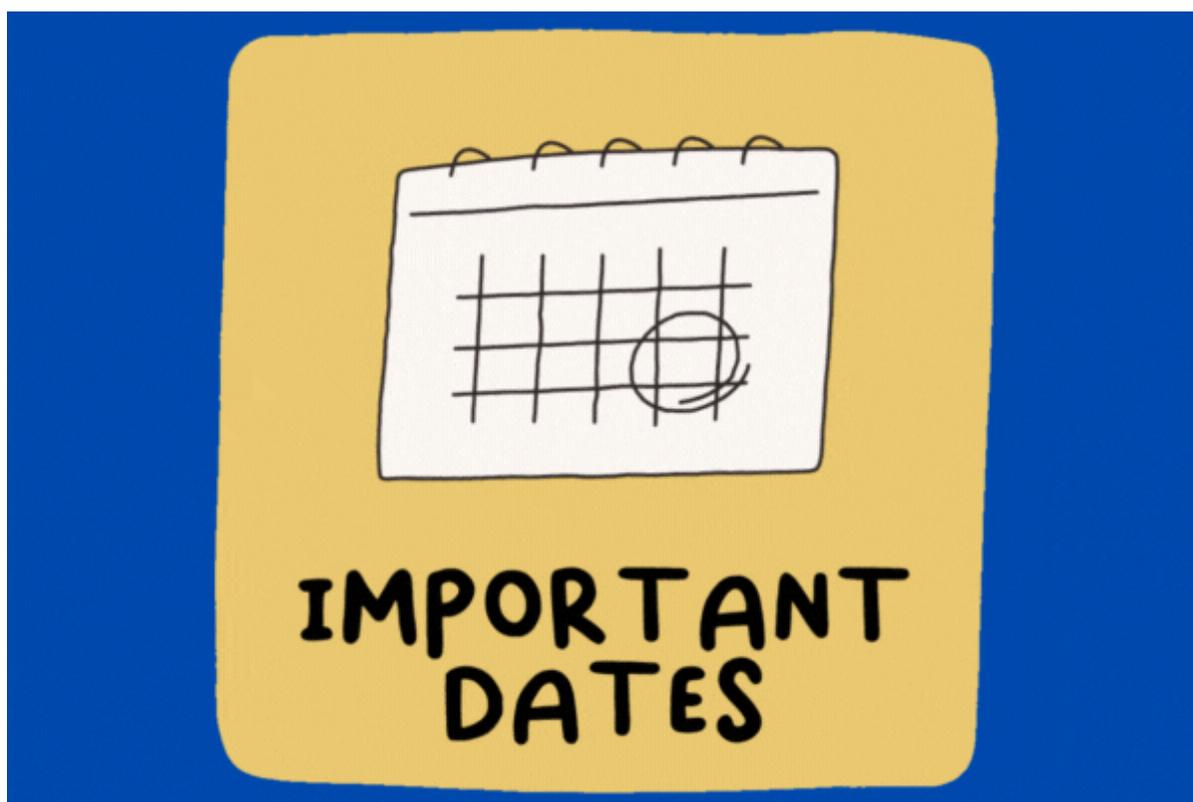
Important Dates

Speakers' Info

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Kiwanis Happenings

Kiwanian Birthdays



March 4 (12:30 -1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Preston Tyler, Roanoke Justice Ministries

March 5 - Mill Mountain Theatre Social - 9 to 5 Musical

March 9- (12:15 - 1:30 pm) Board Meeting

March 11- (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Dr. Laura Hartman, Roanoke College

March 18 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Michael Kraemer, Stone River Contracting

March 25 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Candace Dowell, Edward Jones

April 18 - Blue Ridge Marathon

April 25 - KPAD

May 7 - Prayer Breakfast

May 30 - Spring Fun Day

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

March 4 - Club Meeting, Preston Tyler - Roanoke Justice Ministries

Join us Wednesday for our weekly meeting in Charter Hall on the third floor of the City Market Building; networking and lunch begin at 12:00PM. We will listen to Rev. Preston Tyler, Pastor at Hill Street Baptist Church, and a driving force in the establishment and growth of Roanoke Justice Ministries (formerly Faith Works). He will talk about the call-to-action that led to the formation of RJM and how the interdenominational and interfaith organization is working to provide a unified voice addressing urgent needs of underserved communities in the Valley.

Preston is a lifelong Virginian born in Charlottesville who has lived in Roanoke since 2020. He studied at Liberty University and the Richmond Virginia Seminary. He previously held positions at several churches in the Alleghany region. He was recognized as the “Pastor of the Year” by the Virginia Baptist Convention in 2019-20 and has served in a variety of leadership roles within that organization.



Highlights From Our Last Meeting

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



Jim Graves explains why he joined Kiwanis



Eddie Barnes won a bottle of fine bourbon from a Foundation drawing





Wendy Baldwin describes Dolly Parton's Imagination Library



Steve McGraw meets Dolly Parton



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

Happenings

Kiwanis Corporate Membership

A corporate membership in our Kiwanis Club is a win-win. Our Club wins from not only having the participation of their primary corporate member, but also from the participation the secondary members who take the opportunity to periodically join us. The organization with the corporate membership wins as well. Rita Joyce is the primary corporate member in our Club from the Bank of Botetourt, she works there as Assistant Vice President – Community Development Officer. She writes:

“Being part of Kiwanis has been a meaningful extension of Bank of Botetourt’s commitment to our community. For us, a corporate membership is not just a name on a roster — it is about showing up, building relationships,

and being actively involved. One of the greatest values comes from the opportunity for our people to engage. When employees are encouraged to participate in organizations like Kiwanis, it strengthens both the community and the Bank. The relationships formed through shared service create an irreplaceable sense of trust, understanding, and collaboration. I have been grateful to serve on the Fun Day Committee, the Kiwanis Nature Park Committee, and the Prayer Committee. Each has provided a meaningful way to contribute to initiatives that improve our region while representing the Bank in a way that reflects who we are and what we stand for.

Kiwanis brings together individuals who genuinely care about making a difference. Being part of that effort — and having the Bank support that involvement — is something I deeply value.”

Now, thanks to our strong partnership with the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, we are offering a one-year corporate membership discount for organizations that belong to the Chamber. Another win-win.



Fun Social Dinner

A good time was had at the Sweetheart Dinner this past Wednesday at Frank's!



Book Club

The next book club will be March 11th with time to socialize from 5:30 - 5:45 followed by a book discussion from 5:45 to 6:45 pm. We will be meeting at Crystal Spring Grocery, 2205 Crystal Spring Ave in South Roanoke. Dave and I will push a couple of tables together and we can enjoy the store's goodies! They have a water station there in the front.

See you then! Enjoy reading!

Cheri and Dave

Blue Ridge Marathon

April in Roanoke means spring flowers and the Blue Ridge Marathon! For the third year in a row, the Club will run the Aid Station midway up Roanoke Mountain supporting the race. This location has the best views on the course and is a favorite of the runners. The station is located at the Roanoke Mountain Overlook, on Roanoke Mountain Road, 24014 (click the link to see the location on Google Maps (<https://goo.gl/maps/gajAaWG8zaa1wbZF8>)). We will hand out drinks and enthusiastically encourage the runners. The shift starts at 6:45 and ends around 10:45 AM. You can drive up to the Aid Station by taking the Roanoke Mountain Parkway (on the right off the Blue Ridge Parkway just north of the intersection with Mill Mountain Parkway).

Note: Volunteers must be in place BEFORE the Blue Ridge Parkway closes at 7:00 AM!

If 6:45 AM is too early for you, we also need at least three (3) Kiwanians to be course marshals. The Club is committed to fifteen (15) volunteers overall.

[Click this link](#) to volunteer Foot Levelers Blue Ridge Marathon Volunteer Registration. After it loads, scroll down to BRP Roanoke Mountain Middle hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke. Check the box and click the Volunteer button. This will take you to the registration page. The Task Password is kiwanis, all lower case. If you would like to sign up for a different task, scroll up to see other opportunities (no Task Password needed for those). When you register, make sure to select that you are with the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke. This is one of the choices to the question “Are you registering with an incentive group?” If you are already a registered user from past years, there is an option to pull up your information and avoid some typing! Remember to enter your tee shirt size!

Contact Fred Jeter if you have questions at (540)798-5267 or fred.jeter@icloud.com



National Day of Prayer Breakfast, May 7, 2026

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke will again host this annual breakfast on the

first Thursday in May. Our objective is to bring together the various Roanoke Valley faith traditions for a time of fellowship, understanding, and prayer.

If you would like to be a part of planning this Prayer Breakfast, please contact Rita Joyce (540-915-1470) or Ken Briggs (540-314-9616).

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
MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Coming next week



Kiwaniis® 2025-26

CLUB OF ROANOKE

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President

David Hartman, President-
Elect

Reif Kessler, Vice President

John Montgomery,
Secretary-Treasurer

Jeanne Bollendorf, Past
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Directors:

Lee Osborne, President
Kiwaniis Foundation of
Roanoke

Bill Bestpitch, 2026

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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