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Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

April 2026

Vol. 107 No. 28

"Year of Inspired Action"

In this Issue

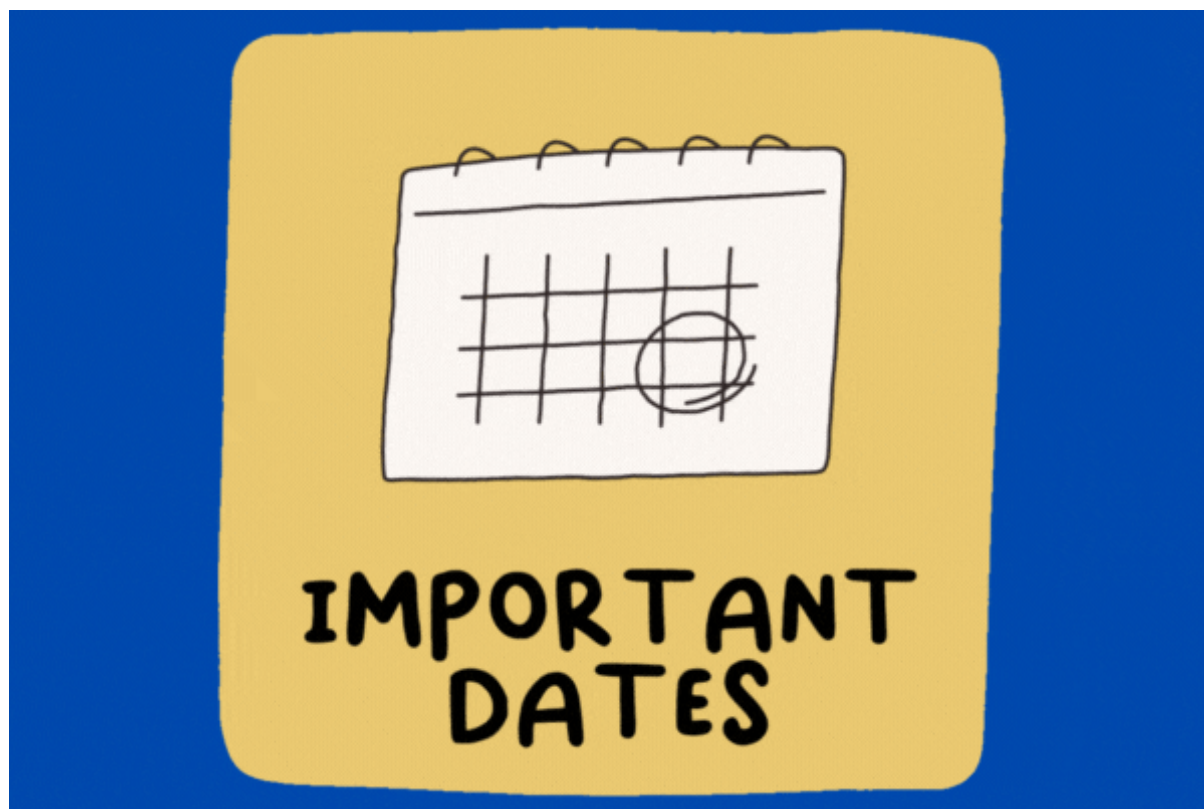
Important Dates

Speakers' Info

Feature Photos

Kiwanis Happenings

Kiwanian Birthdays



April 22 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Davey Stewards, Star City Compost

April 25 - (7 am - 12:30 pm) Kiwanis Pancake and Auction Day (KPAD)

April 29 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Maureen McGonagle, Roanoke

Foodshed Network

April 30 - (5:30 - 7:30pm) Social at Twisted Track

May 6 - (5:30 pm) Book Club

May 7 - (7 - 8:30 am) Prayer Breakfast

May 7 - (5:30 pm) Social at RidgeYaks

May 16 - (9 am - noon) Kids' Fishing Day

May 30 - Spring Fun Day

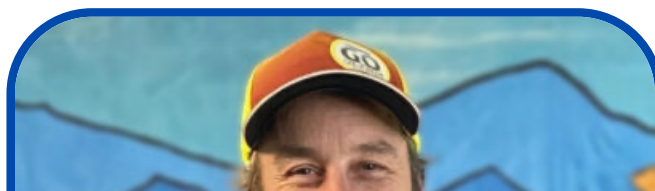
You can always stay up-to-date by checking out the calendar on our [website here](#).

April 22nd - Club Meeting, Davey Stewards with Star City Compost

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 Davey Stewards, Founder/Owner of Star City Compost and Facility Manager at The Harvest Collective.

Davey will highlight the challenges and reasons why community scale composting is important for a resilient community. He will also share some of the efforts being taken to create community farming programs that organizations growing food and herbs in an equitable/abundant way.

Davey is a devoted earth worker, ecological educator, father, husband, and musician. He led the nation's only coast-to-coast roadside litter pick-up; it cleared more than 100 tons of liter across 3,762 miles. He has a B.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of Maryland and has been named ABC World News Person of the Week.





Highlights From Our Last Meeting

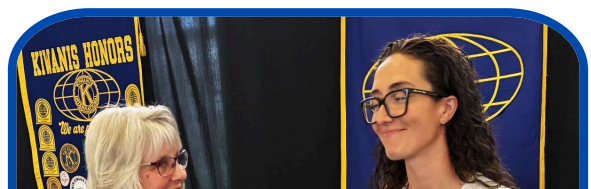
Most photos are taken by our resident photographer extraordinaire, Don Witt, who also adds the captions.

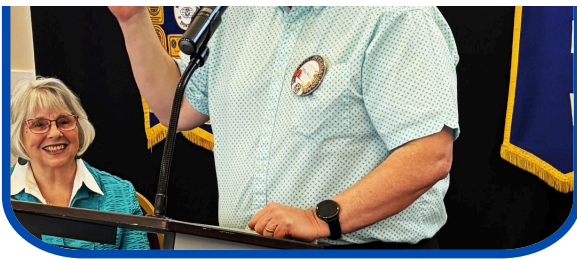


Val Brown urges Kiwanians to bring guests to the meeting next week



Mike Franzese tells of his 1st visit to a Kiwanis meeting and why he joined





KPAD Production Manager, Mike McEvoy cautions volunteers to wear hats to KPAD



Speaker, Brynнен Beierle. receives honorarium for Roanoke Food Group



Kiwanis
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Happenings

Book Club

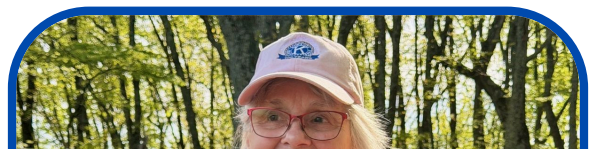
Please note that our next book club meeting will be held on May 6th at 5:30 at Crystal Spring Grocery store. Happy Reading - can't wait to hear what you are reading this Spring!

Join the fun!

Cheri and Dave Hartman

Blue Ridge Marathon

Kiwanis Club of Roanoke volunteered throughout the weekend for the Blue Ridge Marathon. 18 volunteers supported the marathon from Thursday through Saturday. Kiwanians marked the course, gave out t-shirts to runners, worked the beer tent, acted as course marshals, and supported the Roanoke Mountain Mid-Mountain Aid Station. This was an excellent turnout! As a result Kiwanis will receive \$500 check in support of youth programs.





Kiwanis Pancake & Auction Day April 25th



KIWANIS

Pancake & Auction Day

— **ALL YOU CAN EAT** —

Pancakes, Sausage and Drinks

Batter Up with the Salem RidgeYaks!

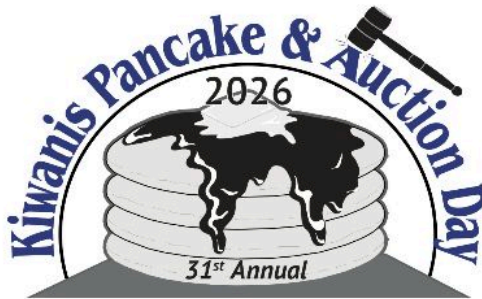
Admission \$8 In Advance • \$10 Day of • Kids under 5 FREE



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE



roanokekiwanisclub.org



For tickets and information

GROUP PRICING

8 for \$60 • 25 for \$125 • 60 for \$400 • 90 for \$600 • 200 for \$1000

Saturday, April 25, 2026

7 am to 12:30 pm

The Berglund Center

— **PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITIES** —

KPAD Countdown: Let's Get to Zero Zeroes

KPAD is right around the corner, and it's time for a full-team push. While the baseball spirit has been strong at meetings, we still need to reach every member—because every member matters. The goal is simple: Zero Zeroes. No one on the roster without ticket sales.

Even small actions make a big difference. Buying just two tickets helps move us closer to our goal—and it's something every Kiwanian can do, whether

you're working the event or not. Let's make it easy, let's make it count, and let's finish strong. Click the link, get your tickets, and help us knock this one out of the park.

Buy your tickets now!

KPAD 2026 is almost here. We need volunteers!

April 25th is the most important day of our Kiwanis year! Sign up yourself, your friends, your relatives...you get the picture! Help make this event successful!

Thanks!

Harry

Sign up today!

Social April 30th at Twisted Track

Fun Committee event. Celebrate the Club's completion of another KPAD. Get together at Twisted Track for a beer, some food, and plenty of fellowship from 5:30-7:30 pm. Wear a baseball cap and a Kiwanis shirt or baseball shirt if you can. No charge. You can order from the menu and pay individually.

National Day of Prayer Breakfast, May 7, 2026

Your Kiwanis Club will bring folks together for our annual breakfast on Thursday, May 7, at the Kazim Shrine Temple, 628 West Campbell Avenue. Amy's breakfast buffet will be available at 7:00AM. The program is scheduled from 7:30-8:30AM.

Our theme will be "Bridging Cultures through Prayer". Prayers will be lifted in the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian traditions. Kiwanian Rev. Joe Cobb will bring our morning meditation.

Tickets (\$10.00 each) will be available at our luncheon meetings in April. (Kiwanians may elect to have the purchase of tickets added to their next quarterly statement). Reservations can also be made by contacting Kiwanians Rita Joyce or Ken Briggs.





Join Kiwanis as we celebrate our annual
Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 7, 2026 7:00am-8:30am \$10.00

Kazim Temple
628 West Campbell Avenue Roanoke VA
(free parking in back)

Join us in learning about the many faiths and cultures in the Roanoke Valley.
Facilitators will lead discussions at each table.

*Our Keynote Speaker for 2026 is Rev. Mayor Joe Cobb, Roanoke, Virginia.
Music provided by Judy Clark. A thank you to our sponsor, Howell's Motor Freight!*



For tickets contact any Kiwanian or call _____ and leave a message.



Social May 7th at the RidgeYaks

Our Club's Fun Committee has made arrangements to enjoy a baseball game at the Salem Memorial Ballpark to watch the RidgeYaks. Gates open at 5:30pm, we will gather to sing the pre-game National Anthem at 6:10pm.

We have a group of tickets reserved for advance purchase for us to sit together. Tickets are \$11 each. Should be a FUN night at the ballpark.

Wear a Kiwanian shirt or hat. This is an excellent opportunity to invite a guest to see some of what makes our Club special.



Spring FunDay May 30th!

Spring FunDay and Career/Community Resource Fair is scheduled for Saturday, May 30th and is open to the public from 11:00 to 3:00 pm. Kiwanians, we will need volunteers from 8:45 to 3:45 as we both prepare the site (at Melrose Plaza) and clean up after the activities. Questions? Please reach out to Cheri Hartman at chartman2423@gmail.com.

Membership Changes

We welcome new members Neil McNally and Tom Fitzpatrick to the Kiwanis fold.

Neil, a retired attorney, was a partner in the law firm Key, Tatel and McNally for four decades. His wife, Susan, recently retired as head of the Presbyterian Community Center. The McNallys are neighbors of Dave and Cheri Hartman in South Roanoke.

Tom Fitzpatrick, who is retiring as Roanoke City Schools Science Supervisor this spring, has been involved with the Kiwanis Nature Park for several years. Tom is sponsored by Mike O'Brochta, as they have known each other for many years through Scouting.

We also are saying good-bye and good luck to Kiwanians Cynthia Gray, Milton Hardy, and Greg Lionberger. Cynthia has been a Kiwanian since 1999 and served a three-year stint on our board of directors. She has now retired and her life involves some new priorities. Milton Hardy, in the club since 2022, has taken a new job in Covington. Greg Lionberger, also a member of the club since 2022, a board member since 2023, and part of a three-generation Roanoke Kiwanis family, is relocating with his immediate family to the Richmond area.

Lori Baker-Lloyd has just changed her membership from Virtual-Plus to Corporate, enabling her National Bank of Blacksburg co-workers to enjoy the Kiwanis experience as well. Welcome NBB associates!

Corporate Partner Spotlight

Gentry Locke

Our history.

Nearly as old as the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, Gentry Locke traces its history back to 1923 when Fred Gentry began practicing law at the Roanoke firm of Funkhouser and King. In the 1930's-1940's, with the other partners having left to pursue other professional opportunities, including in support of the War effort, Mr. Gentry became a sole practitioner. The firm grew from the late

1940's through the early 1960's with John Locke, Dick Rakes, Rabbit Moore and Bill Rakes joining the ranks. In 1965, the firm name was changed to Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, and it was principally an insurance defense firm.

In 1974, Bill Rakes became the firm's first managing partner. Bill later served as President of the Virginia State Bar. In 1977, the expanding firm needed more space and moved into what is now the Gentry Locke/Truist Bank building, as part of a downtown revitalization effort. In the 1970's-1980's, the firm grew its commercial practice to include corporate, banking, tax, and environmental work. In the 1980's-1990's, the firm added a sophisticated plaintiff's practice.

In 1999, Mike Pace became managing partner and later served as President of the Virginia Bar Association. Monica Taylor Monday succeeded Mike as managing partner in 2013, becoming the first female managing partner of a large Virginia law firm.

In the last ten years, Gentry Locke has expanded its statewide presence opening offices in downtown Lynchburg, Richmond, and Norfolk. From Richmond, the firm launched a Government and Regulatory Affairs practice group led by two former members of the Virginia General Assembly and opened Gentry Locke Consulting, a full-service public affairs, communications, and marketing firm. Brett Marston, the firm's current managing partner, is also the current President of the Virginia State Bar.

Today, Gentry Locke has grown to be the seventh largest law firm in Virginia. We take pride in giving back to the communities we serve. With over 100 years of experience, Gentry Locke is an established law firm with innovative, cohesive group of legal professionals. Combining innovative technology with

strong ethics and a relentless drive to serve our clients' needs, we continually strive to match the legacy of our past with the challenges of the future.





GENTRY LOCKE

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 April Birthdays

April 1 Chloe Willis

April 2 Andree Brooks

April 3 Eric Sichau

April 10 Tim Thompson

April 12 Bob Habermann

April 12 Bert Boyd

Anril 14 Garv Duerk

April 18 Jim Randles
April 19 Eddie Barnes
April 27 Dwight Steele



Kiwanis® 2025-26

CLUB OF ROANOKE

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President

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Elect

Reif Kessler, Vice President

John Montgomery,
Secretary-Treasurer

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Greg Lionberger, 2026

Alex Barge, 2026

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Chris Rouse, 2027

Jeff Vick, 2028

Steve English, 2028

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