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Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

May 2026
Vol. 107 No. 32

"Year of Inspired Action"

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Notice to the Membership

Proposed Slate of Officers & Directors for 2026 - 2027

Kiwanians,

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present for the Membership's consideration the following slate of Officers & Directors for the 2026-2027 Year to begin October 1, 2026:

Officers

President – David Hartman

President Elect – Reif Kessler

Past President – Joyce Montgomery

Vice President – Jeff Vick

Secretary / Treasurer – John Montgomery

Directors

Melissa Woodson

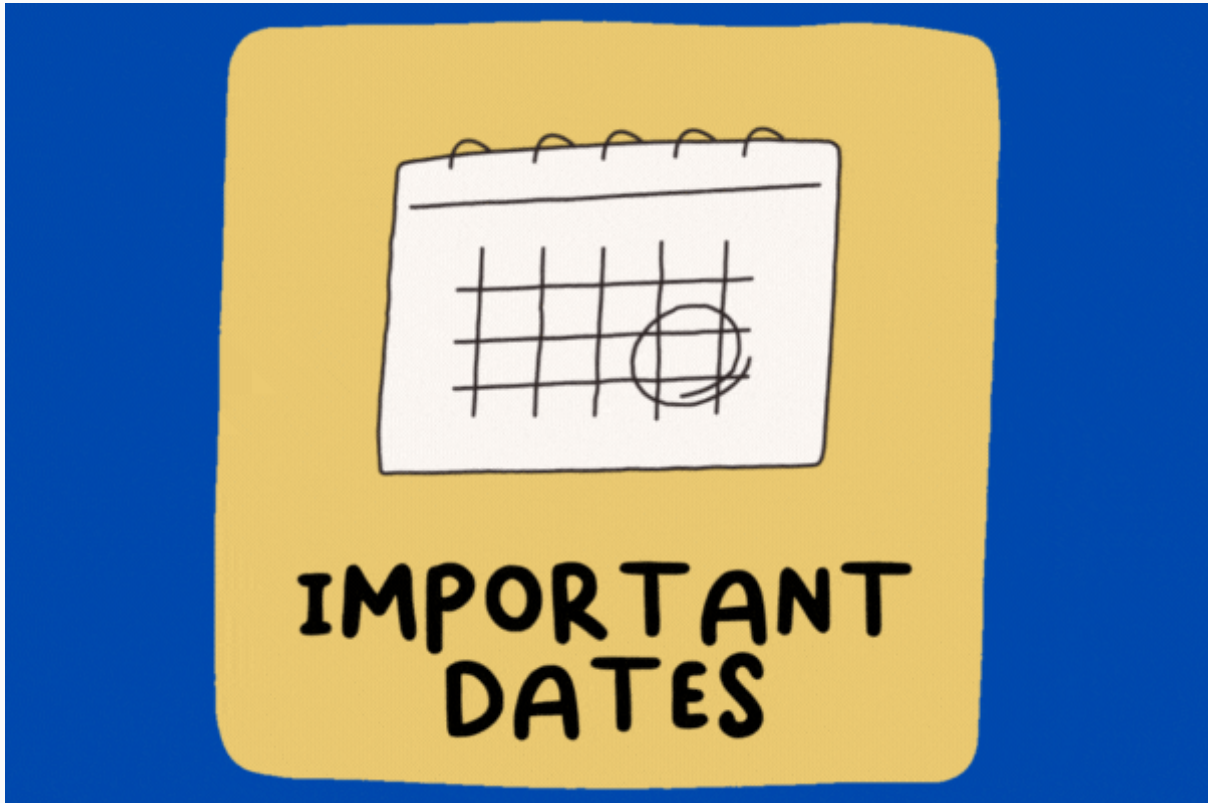
Randy Myers

Jason Poff

Steve McGraw (filling Jeff Vick's remaining Director term)

The slate will be presented to the membership at its regular Wednesday Meeting, May 13, 2026. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the regular Wednesday Meeting, May 20, 2026. A vote of the Members present, which shall constitute a quorum, will be conducted at the regular Wednesday Meeting, June 3 , 2026.





May 20 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, High School Awards

May 27 NO MEETING

May 30 - Spring FunDay

June 3 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Kiwanis Pancake and Auction Day wrap up

June 3 - (5:30) Book Club

June 8 - (12:15 - 1:30 pm) Board Meeting

June 10 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Dana Ackley with EQ Leader

June 17 - (12:30 - 1:30) Club Meeting, Patrick Henry Jolly with Patrick Henry's Red Hill National Memorial

June 24 - (12:30-1:30) Club Meeting, Robert Turcotte with AI Change Expert

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

May 20th - Club Meeting, High School Awards

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 award \$20,000 in scholarships to six outstanding area high school students. This event is central to our Kiwanis Club's focus on youth. Scholarship recipients, their families, and school representatives will be attending.

Dozens of students in High Schools with Key Clubs supported by the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke competed (Cave Spring, Hidden Valley, Northside, Patrick Henry, William Fleming, Roanoke Catholic). Award criteria is focused on school and community volunteer service, academic achievement, and financial need. A panel of Kiwanis members read each application, identified and interviewed the six finalists:

- Ernesto Gomez-Meza
- Daniel Horne, Jr
- Camila Moctezuma Carrizales
- Brinna Seidel
- Emily Tull
- Safana Wajed



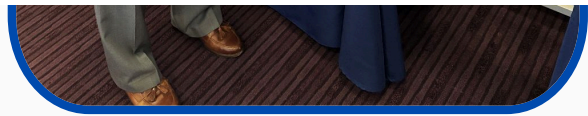
Highlights From Our Last Meeting

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





Miss Roanoke Valley serenades the club with her cello



Will Dibling receives the Legion of Honor award: "I only show up."



Jeanne Bollendorf reports the club's nominations for office next year



Amy White extols all the excellent programs at Virginia Western Community College



Book Club

Please save the date: next Book Club meeting is going to be held on June 3rd at 5:30 pm at the Crystal Spring Grocery. See you then!

Club News - Happenings

Cheri and Dave Hartman

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.

THE KIWANIS CLUB &
SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
MEN'S MINISTRY
PRESENT

Spring FUN DAY

 **MELROSE PLAZA**

2502 Melrose Ave NW

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH

11:00AM - 3:00PM

Thanks to Our Amazing
Sponsors!

Virginia Western
Total Action for Progress
Shiloh Baptist Church
Duncan Foundation
VISTAR - Dr. Frank Cotter
Heywood Fralin
Steve Bowery
Anthem
Kiwans Club
Roanoke College
Goodwill Industries
New Horizons Healthcare
Marsh McKennan Agency
Bridge Builders
Brain Injuries Agency

Event Highlights

EXCITING GAMES & ACTIVITIES
FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
CRAFTS & FAMILY RESOURCES &
JOB FAIR!!!

**Join Us for a
Spectacular
Family Fun
Day!**



Ridge Yaks

A great time was had at the Ridge Yaks event on May 7. Kiwanians sang the National Anthem and then enjoyed the game from Don Wilson's box, thank you, Don!



Kids' Fishing Day was a Success

In addition to being visible in that part of the city, it gave us a chance to get to spend some quality time with each other.





Wise Avenue Trash Pick-up

In addition to being visible in that part of the city, it gave us a chance to get to spend some quality time with each other.



Message from Past President James Bellard and Capital District

**Message from Past President Jeanne Bollendorf and Capital District
Foundation President, Don Witt**

Kiwanians, you may remember the devastation of Hurricane Helene during Jeanne Bollendorf's term as Club president in February 2025. We recently received a DISASTER RECOVERY REPORT from United Way of Southwest Virginia that was shared throughout the Capital District and Jeanne and Don are sharing it with all of you as an expression of thanks for your financial contributions to help our neighbors.

United Way SWVA launched the Citizen Recovery Program in February 2025 to address Hurricane Helene's severe impact on the region. Their mission was to assist citizens in recovering from losses and damages caused by the storm. The program covered personal property replacement, temporary housing, loss of work, food recovery, utility assistance, and minor home repairs. Funding was nearly exhausted as caseloads increased. While planning to secure more resources for citizens, the Capital District

Kiwanis Foundation reached out, having raised over \$30,000 in disaster recovery donations to support the program. This support arrived at a critical moment in the recovery process, helping sustain direct assistance efforts as community needs continued and available resources became increasingly limited. The generous \$31,036.97 grant from the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation prevented service interruptions and enabled program expansion. A total of 211 families were helped with disaster recovery funds, and thanks to the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation grant, 88 households received direct recovery support.

Board Meeting Notes - May 11, 2026

The May 11 board meeting included several exciting updates for the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke. Reif Kessler presided over the meeting in the absence of Joyce and David and the board approved the April minutes and financial

Joyce and David, and the board approved the April minutes and financial reports.

The club recognized the passing of longtime supporter Dick Clark, whose wife Judy Clark previously served on the board. Members also celebrated the successful chartering of the new Halifax County Kiwanis Club with 16 charter members and strong support from Division 15 leadership.

Three new members were unanimously approved:

- Ben Baird
- Paul VanWagoner
- Dr. Hetzal Hartley

The board also accepted the resignation of Don Evans due to scheduling conflicts.

Several upcoming programs were announced for June, including presentations on emotional intelligence, family history, and artificial intelligence.

Fundraising efforts continue to show strong momentum. Recent event ticket sales exceeded \$49,000 with projected net proceeds approaching \$50,000. The Prayer Breakfast was also praised as a major success, with appreciation extended to Ken Briggs, Preston Tyler, Joe Cobb, and the many volunteers who supported the event.

Planning is underway for the May 30 Spring Fun Day at Melrose Hub. Registration is now live, and volunteers are continuing to coordinate event logistics and safety requirements.

The board reviewed future membership recruitment efforts, marketing

opportunities, and leadership transitions for the upcoming Kiwanis year. Incoming officers include David Hartman as President, Reif Kessler as President-Elect, and Joyce Montgomery as Past President.

Additional board nominations were approved, including Jeff Vick as Vice President and new board members Randy Myers, Jason Poff, and Melissa Woodson. The meeting concluded with continued focus on membership growth, community service, and strengthening the club's long-term impact throughout the Roanoke Valley.

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 May Birthdays

Kiwanis May Birthdays

Sheila Umberger -- May 3
Ryan LaFountain -- May 5
Emily Bailey -- May 9
Steve Bowery -- May 10
Paul VanWagoner -- May 10
David Bowers -- May 11
Hi Nicely -- May 14
David Points -- May 16
Jeff Vick -- May 18
Bob Bradshaw -- May 25
Melissa Woodson -- May 25
Ashton King -- May 29



Kiwanis[®] 2025-26
CLUB OF ROANOKE

Officers:

Joyce Montgomery,
President

David Hartman, President-
Elect

Reif Kessler, Vice President

John Montgomery,
Secretary-Treasurer

Jeanne Bollendorf, Past

Directors:

Lee Osborne, President
Kiwanis Foundation of
Roanoke

Bill Bestpitch, 2026

Alex Barge, 2026

Steve McGraw, 2026

Preston Tyler, 2027

Bert Boyd, 2027

Chris Rouse, 2027

Jeff Vick, 2028

Steve English, 2028

Fred Ieter, 2028

President



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