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Kiwanis®
CLUB OF ROANOKE

July 2026
Vol. 107 No. 40
"Year of Inspired Action"

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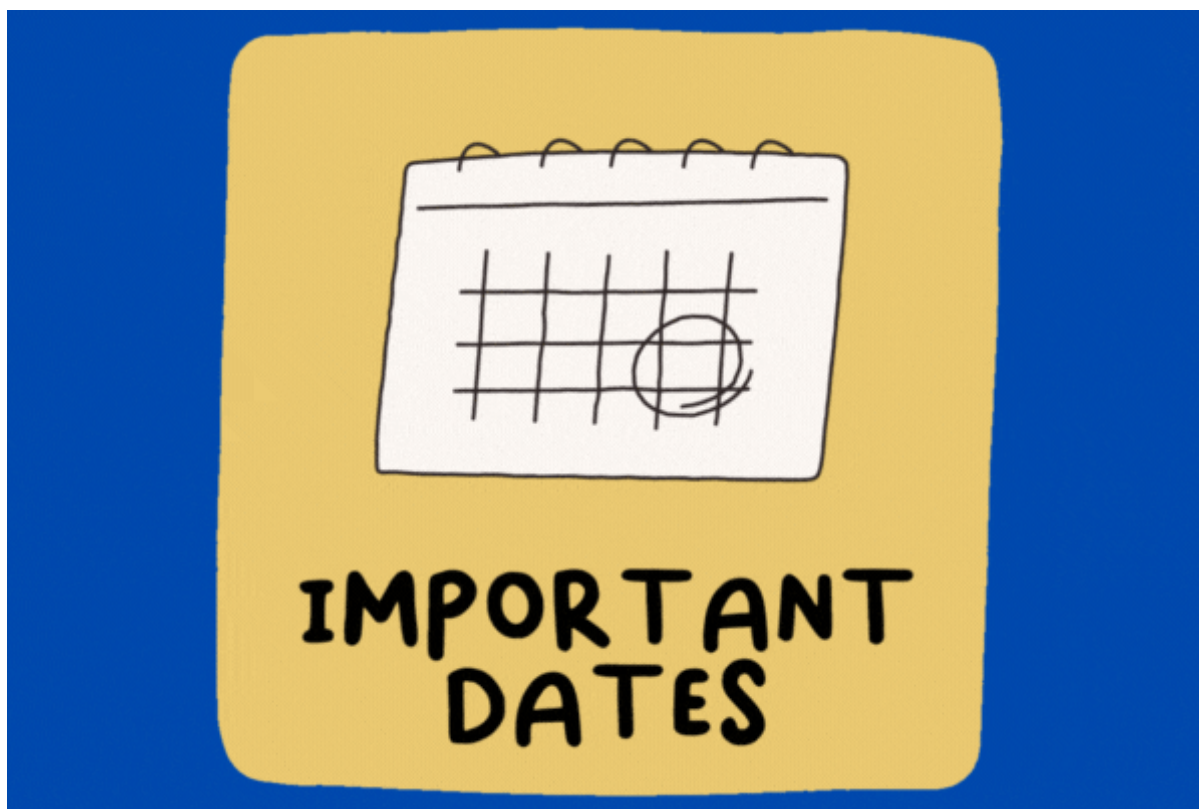
Important Dates

Speakers' Info

Feature Photos

Kiwanis Happenings

Kiwanian Birthdays



July 15 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Leadership Roanoke Valley (Team 1)

July 22 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Leadership Roanoke Valley (Team 2)

July 29 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Jason and Carol Kiser - Blue Cow Ice Cream

July 30 - (6 - 8 pm) Fun Social at Remini's

August 8 - (12:00-4:00) Commonwealth Day of Play

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

July 15th - Club Meeting, Eric Sichau and Andrew Joseph Leadership Roanoke Valley

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 Eric Sichau and Andrew Joseph talk about the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce Leadership Roanoke Valley (LRV) program and about the recent LRV transportation project.

LRV is the Chamber's premier 40-year-old community leadership program. It recruits and trains a diverse mix of local professionals to address regional challenges, expand their networks, and drive impact across Virginia's Blue Ridge.

Eric Sichau has served as President and CEO of the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce since 2023. He previously worked in Minor League Baseball, with the Delmarva Shorebirds in Salisbury, MD. Eric holds a Marketing degree from Salisbury University along with an Associate's degree in Business from Wor-Wic Community College.

Andrew Joseph led the recent transportation project LRV team. He currently works as a Supply Chain Manager at Tread Corporation; he has held positions at Virginia Transformer and Yokohama Tire. He is a graduate of Staunton River High School and holds a Bachelor of Business Administration.



Highlights From the Last Club Meeting (Returning July 28th)

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



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Happenings

Nature Park Update

100 new plants are in the soil! A bluebird house is installed. To date 7 fledglings have taken flight! Bees and butterflies are showing up! **YOU ARE NEEDED!**

Our first garden brigadiers have rolled up their sleeves and rolled out the garden hose to nurture nature at the Wildflower Garden. Thank you to Don Witt and Joyce Waugh and yours truly for keeping the wildflowers from succumbing to the drought. Please let me know if I can guide you through a mentoring session to help out for one week this summer. We still have no

sign ups yet for the following weeks:

July 27th to help Sarah Ross through August 3rd

August 10th -- August 16th

August 17th -- August 23rd

August 24th -- August 30th

August 31st -- September 6th

Sept. 7th -- Sept 13th

Thanks to those of you who signed up as follows:

July 13th: John Pendleton

July 20th: Jason Poff and Kelsie

August 3rd: Tom Fitzpatrick

Thanks much!!! Please email me which week works for you and I will be sure to find a time we can meet at the Nature Park to provide an intro to the "ropes." or rather the hoses...

Good day to be a Kiwanian!

Cheri

Cheri W. Hartman

Pop Up at Remini's Fund Social

Socialize at the Remini's on Brambleton Avenue on July 30 from 6-8pm; we will have a private room. 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.





Book Club

Thanks to everyone who could join us tonight for Book Club. Here is the awesome list of books that were reviewed:

- 1) A Quantum Life: My Unlikely Journey from the Streets to the Stars by Hakeem Oluseyi and Joshua Horwitz nonfiction memoir
- 2) Regime Change: Inside the Imperial Presidency of Donald Trump by Maggie Haberman and Jonathan Swan nonfiction
- 3) The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism by Edward Baptist nonfiction
- 4) The New Localism: How Cities Can Thrive in the Age of Populism by Bruce Katz and Jeremy Nowak nonfiction
- 5) Culpability by Bruce Holsinger fiction
- 6) Wild Dark Shore by Charlotte McConaghy fiction
- 7) Marion: A Novel by Leah Rowan fiction
- 8) Beach at Summerly by Beatriz Williams historical fiction
- 9) Horse by Geraldine Brooks fiction
- 10) Mutiny on the Bounty: A Novel by Charles Nordhoff historical fiction

THANKS TO ALL WHO PRESENTED SUCH FASCINATING BOOKS!

We meet next on Wed August 12th at 5:30 at the Crystal Spring Grocery Store
-- hope you can join us. Share your favorite recent read...

Cheri on behalf of David Hartman





Ducky Derby

Our annual Kiwanis Capital District Ducky Derby is underway. This fundraiser has been ongoing for many years and has raised near 1 million dollars to support 11 pediatric hospitals around the district. Among these is our own Carilion Children's which makes care available locally not only for premature infants in a state-of-the-art facility, but also for youngsters suffering from both acute and chronic illnesses, certain malignancies and with significant traumatic injuries. It is of enormous benefit for the entirety of Southwest Virginia.

Please help by buying some raffle tickets. (There are many prizes, but the first prize is \$750 cash.) Participation is easy. Type "Capital District Ducky Derby" on your search bar – you can do this immediately after reading this message. Click on "Buy Tickets Here", then proceed to "Purchase". Next click "Buy Entries", select a quantity of tickets to purchase and proceed from there with your information. Along the way be sure to click on "Select Club" and look for Roanoke. We should be the district's leaders in this endeavor. After all, we are one of the largest clubs and certainly among the very best.

As an alternative, you can just give money or a check to Reif Kessler (or send to him at 6524 Fairway View Trail, Roanoke, VA 24018) and he will push the buttons on the computer for you.

Quack – Quack. Thanks for your consideration and double thanks if you elect to buy some tickets.

Upcoming Newsletters

Alex is on vacation and will be back July 23rd. Please email Alex at abarge11@gmail.com if you would like to add anything to the July 28th newsletter.

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 consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

Kiwanian July Birthdays

- * July 4 -- Preston Tyler
 - * July 7 -- Sam Lionberger, Jr.
 - * July 9 -- Tom Fitzpatrick
 - * July 13 -- David Farnum
 - * July 19 -- Ken Mowbray
 - * July 21 -- Taylor Medley
 - * July 23 -- Lori Baker-Lloyd
 - * July 24 -- Ollie Howie
 - * July 29 -- Reggie Harris
-



Kiwaniis® 2025-26

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Alex Barge, 2026

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