

All the News that is fit to print and
then some....

January 6, 2026 Newsletter
Volume 5, No. 1

Club Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month.
Friendship Hall of Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church,
143 Chota Ctr., Tellico Village. Across from POA office.

It's a Great Day



Kiwanis
TELICO VILLAGE
LOUDON, TN

to be a Kiwanian

Meeting Highlights

Our first meeting of 2026 was exciting. We welcomed 41 members, friends from Sweetwater Kiwanis, 3 returning guests, 1 new guest, 3 interesting speakers, and ended with delicious food from Cracker Barrel and tasty desserts. Jim and Shirley Bierkamp and Phyllis Quarin previously attended a meeting. We look forward to having them become a part of our membership. Dennis Downs visited for the first time. We hope we were successful in peaking his interest in Kiwanis.

Happy Birthdays – [Page 2](#)

Welcome January - [Page 3](#)

Guest Speakers, - [Page 4](#)

In the absence of President Andrea Johnson, our President-Elect, Mary Procyk, President-Elect, ran the meeting.

- **Thank you notes** Mary shared a number of thank you letters and cards our club has received.
 - Lenoir City Schools
 - Skee Orr, Dec. 16th Guest Speaker.
 - The Neighborhood at Tellico Village.

Tentative Date for Spring Pancake Breakfast is March 21st!
Co-Chairs are **STILL** needed. Contact either Mary Procyk or Ginger Swintosky. They have co-chaired for a number of years and are willing to guide you through the process.

Mary: mprosouth61@gmail.com

Ginger: gswintosky@gmail.com

We Did It!

Kevin #1 Meyer A Bench for Caps - [Page 5](#)

Andrea Johnson Rudolph Pancake Party - [Pages 6](#)

Kevin #1 Meyer More Benches 104-111– [Page 7](#)



Kevin #1 Benchman needs help with A Bench for Caps Project. - [Page 8](#)

Ron Uncapher Lending Library - [Page 9](#)

Pat Humphrey Weekend Food 4 Kids - [Page 10](#)

Phil Rothrock Inter-Club Oakridge Kiwanis - [Page 11](#)

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Ken Austin Monthly Commodity Food Distribution - [Page 13](#)

Tellico Working Together - [Page 14](#)

Don't Stop Praying and Closing - [Page 15](#)

Thank you to everyone following us on Facebook.

We are now at 204!

Do you use Facebook? Are you following us?



happy
birthday



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JANUARY 2026 – HAPPY BIRTHDAYS						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Beth Mouse
4	5	6	7	8 Sarah Campbell Bob Coleman Debbie Morris	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Mike Herrinton	17 Dave Preston
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Rick Hamm	28 Kim Silvestri	29	30	31

February 2026– HAPPY BIRTHDAYS						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Louise Coulter	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Richard Hoffmann	13	14 ❤️
15	16	17	18	19	20 Mark Johnson	21
22	23	24	25	26 Dave Miller	27	28



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Welcome January

One day at a time.

New Month, New Year,
New Chapter, New Lessons,
New Blessings, New Beginning,
New Mindset, New Focus,
New Inspiration,
New Opportunities
New Results!





Guest Speakers January 6, 2026:
Richard Glover (middle),
Head Techie
Clint Lockwood (left), Techie, and
Heather Glover (right),
Secretary/Treasurer/Techie



Phone: 865-245-9811

For over two decades, Richard has built and secured complex IT environments for the U.S. Government and military. A retired Information Technology Scientist from ManTech International, he is known for his ability to improve processes and automate complex IT tasks using scripting languages.

Clint's 15 years working in a hospital emergency room ignited a passion for technology. He was the go-to person for troubleshooting the ER's electronic medical records (EMR) system and discovered a natural talent for teaching. After earning a Computer Information Technology degree, he focused on device repair and tech education.

Tech-Ease is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to helping anyone who struggles with technology—whether it's setting up a device, learning how to use it, or troubleshooting a problem. For over five years, they have offered support informally before formalizing our mission to better serve the community.

Founded by a local Rockwood resident and U.S. military veteran, Tech Ease provides free, compassionate tech assistance to make everyday life easier and more connected.

They don't just fix devices; they empower people. Whether you need to set up a new phone, learn video chat, or troubleshoot a slow computer, we suggest you contact Tech-Ease.

You can download copies of their Tech-Ease Tid Bits located at the bottom of their web page.

To learn more, visit <https://tech-ease.org/>

Ch. Ammer

We Did It!

A BENCH FOR *caps*

The ABC Program is an inspiring initiative that transforms non-recyclable plastic caps and lids into functional and meaningful benches and tables, fostering inclusivity and reducing social isolation among children. Through collaboration with Green Tree Plastics in Indiana, the collected plastic is processed using an extrusion method. While providing minor funding, our Kiwanis Club observes the project's expansion to new counties, involving other Kiwanis Clubs and charitable organizations. This expansion supports environmental sustainability and community engagement.

Project Coordinator and our Benchman, Kevin Meyer picked up 9 benches on December 17, 2025 at Green Tree Plastics in Evansville, IN.



Jerry Perata, with Compassion Ministries, joined Kevin in the pickup and transporting the benches back to Tellico Village.

Details on each bench delivery with photos will follow as the presentations are completed.

A Moment

A BENCH FOR *caps*

Kiwanis Club of Loudon County
Facebook Post on Dec. 18, 2025

Our club was excited to deliver a Buddy Bench to Eaton Elementary School this morning with the help of Kiwanis Club of Tellico Village. Eaton students got involved and helped collect the plastic for this bench. Way to go Rockets! We hope that when students see it, they remember they are loved and supported by our clubs.



Pictured: Kevin Meyer (Kiwanis Club of Tellico Village), Ashley Baessler (Principal of Eaton), Gina Troutman (President of Kiwanis Club of Loudon County), Melissa Browder (Loudon County Board of Education Board Member and Kiwanis Club of Loudon County Member)

A Moment



Mrs. Echol's Kindergarten class at Lenoir City Elementary School had a delightful time at their Rudolph Pancake Party on December 18, 2025. The event was a collaborative effort, with both the teacher and parents contributing to the delicious breakfast spread. Adding to the festive spirit, Andrea Johnson, known as the Tellico Village #1 Kiwanian Elf, joined in on the fun. She brought bookmarks for each child to decorate, sparking creativity and showcasing many budding artists.



#1 Kiwanian Elf
Andrea Johnson





A BENCH FOR caps

Santa is thoroughly impressed by Kevin Meyer's boundless energy and unwavering dedication as the Project Coordinator for the Tellico Village Kiwanis Club's "A Bench for Caps" Program.

Kevin's tireless efforts in transforming countless bottle caps into beautiful community benches have not only made a tangible impact but also inspired those around him.

Santa, recognizing the same spirit of giving and commitment that fuels his own Christmas Eve endeavors, is eager to enlist Kevin's help for his magical night of deliveries. With Kevin's organizational skills and enthusiasm, Santa is confident that they can spread even more joy and cheer to children around the world. It's a partnership made in holiday heaven, where each plays a vital role in making the world a better place, one bench and one gift at a time.



Kevin delivered all 9 benches on December 18th, 2025, traveling between Loudon and Blount Counties.

He didn't slow down from 9:00 am until 2:30 pm.

He definitely set a record. It's no wonder Santa wants to recruit Kevin.



Bench #109
was dedicated in honor of Wanda Davis to the Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee by the Kiwanis Club of Maryville.

Left to Right:
Wanda Davis, Past President of Maryville Kiwanis Club,
Michael Torano, Donor Relations of Second Harvest,
and Kevin Meyer.



Bench #110
Presented to the Blount County Boys and Girls Club
Sponsored by Tellico Village Kiwanis Club

Pictured are Kevin Meyer, and
Paige Thompson, Executive Director of the Blount
County Boys and Girls Club.
info@bgctnv.org



Bench #111
Donated to Chatuga Point Circle
by Tellico Village Kiwanis Members
Seated: Theresa Maresca (Ramsey)
and Janine Julian.
Standing is Kevin Meyer.



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Bench #104
Immanuel House Lenoir City.

Left to right:
Pam Crass - Volunteer Coordinator,
Teresa Wood Co-founder and Executive Director of
Immanuel House, and Kevin Meyer, Project Coordinator
Tellico Village Kiwanis.

Immanuel House is a safe haven for children in transition
to DCS care. <https://www.immanuelhouselc.com/>



Bench #105
Eaton Elementary, 423 Hickory Creek Rd, Lenoir City, TN

Sponsored by Loudon County Kiwanis Club.

Left to right: Kevin Meyer, Ashley Baessler- Eaton Principal,
Gina Troutman- Loudon Co. Kiwanis Club President,
and Melissa Browder - Loudon County Board of Education
and member of Loudon County Kiwanis Club.



Benches #s 106 and 107
Fairview Park (part of Fairview Church)
Fairview Church, 2508 Old Niles Ferry Road, Maryville, TN

Pictured are Karren Cochran, President of Fairview Women
and Kevin Meyer
info@fairview-church.org.



Bench #108
Fairview Elementary School
2130 Old Niles Ferry Road, Maryville, TN

Bench was sponsored by the Alcoa Kiwanis Club.

Pictured are Kevin Meyer and
Fred Martin past President of Alcoa Kiwanis Club.



Kevin "the bench man" Meyer
NEEDS HELP

I would like to assemble a small committee to assist with selecting qualified recipients of benches for 2026.

Team members will form the committee.

The goal in 2026 is 55 - 60 benches.

This is a HUGE goal, but we did nearly 50 in 2025.

I will be needing folks to help with the following teams:

There will be a funding team to seek out contributions from area businesses, churches, individuals, grants etc.

Rick Hamm will lead this team.

I need additional sorters to train on what caps and lids we accept and which we discard into recycle bins to take to the convenience center.

I am seeking additional co-drivers to assist with picking up caps locally as well as making trips to Evansville.

Janine Julian has offered to take over the design and creation of the nameplates.

The plan is to reduce trips by utilizing a donated trailer and to secure 9 - 10 benches at a time which would result in an every OTHER month trip to Evansville.

The goal is 6 round trips to Evansville versus the 13 trips (9,000+ miles) that we did this year.

Working smarter and not harder. Please consider helping.

Kevin #1 Meyer - kmeyer56@sbcglobal.net
586-929-2333



All our upcoming events are listed in
MemberDay, under Meetings and Events Section.

Jan. 8th is the next
Lending Library.

Contact Ron Uncapher
if you want to
Inspire a child.

THE WORLD IN WORDS LENDING LIBRARY

The Lending Library Program
at Lenoir City Elementary School is
every Thursday while school is in session
from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

Our Kiwanians serve as librarians, equipped with a cart full of diverse books. The kindergarten students independently select a book that interests them. This process not only empowers young learners to make their reading choices but also instills a sense of responsibility as they manage their borrowed books. Teachers supply folders containing useful reading tips for parents, ensuring that the reading experience continues beyond the classroom into the home. This endeavor fosters an environment that celebrates literacy and promotes lifelong learning.

Ron Uncapher is the Project Leader.
Young Children: Priority One Committee

If you want to be added to the list of volunteers,
Email: ronalduncapher@gmail.com



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WF4K Spring Schedule 2026

Date	Club
Jan 9	Kiwanis
Jan 16	LWC
Jan 23	Kiwanis
Jan 30	TVWC
Feb 6	Kiwanis
Feb 13	TVWC
Feb 20	Kiwanis
Feb 27	LWC
Mar 6	Kiwanis (Double Pack)
Mar 13	Spring Break
Mar 20	Kiwanis
Mar 27	TVWC
Apr 3	LWC
Apr 10	Kiwanis
Apr 17	TVWC
Apr 24	Kiwanis
May 1	LWC
May 8	TVWC
May 12	VFW

**Contact Pat Humphrey if
you want to be added to
the list of volunteers.**

**NO child should go
hungry!**

What is Inter-Club?

Briefly, an inter-club meeting is a meeting staged by two or more Kiwanis clubs.

Inter-clubbing is a means of supporting Kiwanis' fifth Object, which is "To provide, through this club, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build a better community." This wider scope of Kiwanis can be achieved by member visits between clubs in the same town, division and district, as well as inter-district get-togethers.

The development of fellowship among members of the Kiwanis family by having inter-club activities is so important.

Through the fellowship gained by inter-club activities, members learn how other clubs function, get to know their neighboring Kiwanians, develop new ideas and a broader interest in how Kiwanis operates, find new ideas for use in their own club, and become better Kiwanians.

Inter-clubbing creates fun and strong fellowship.

A Antico

The next Inter-Club is Tuesday, January 13th

Kiwanis Club of Oak Ridge

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**Oak Ridge Public Library Auditorium
1401 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830**

**If you wish to attend, please contact
Phil Rothrock.**

Danphiltn100@gmail.com

865-657-9698



Early Childhood Literacy Young Children: Priority One Committee

Project Leader: Ron Uncapher
828-337-9747
ronalduncapher@gmail.com

The Early Childhood Literacy Program at Lenoir City Elementary School is designed to promote books and reading among Pre-Kindergarten children. Held every other Thursday, during the school year, this program complements the Lending Library initiative, providing a literacy experience. Volunteers read aloud to the children, capturing their attention and inspiring their imagination.

The interactive question-and-answer sessions that follow encourage curiosity and engagement, helping to develop critical thinking and comprehension skills. This program introduces children to storytelling and aims to lay a foundation for lifelong learning and literacy.

Volunteers begin at 8:30 following the Lending Library Project. They spend an hour reading to the Pre-kindergarten children.



© A. Nelson

**Early Childhood Literacy Program
Pre-K Reading
Is scheduled for Thurs., Jan. 15th.**

**Do you want to help build a
child's love for learning?**

**Contact Ron Uncapher to be added
to the list of volunteers.**



Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee



**Commodity Food Distribution
is scheduled for the 3rd Friday of each month.**

Blairland Baptist Church, 730 Steekee Rd, Loudon.

**Made possible by the Second Harvest Food Bank
of East Tennessee.**

**Volunteers are needed to place the bags of food
into the vehicles passing through the distribution line.**



**Volunteers should arrive by 9:30 a.m.
Distribution begins at 10:00 a.m.**



**The next Commodity Food Distribution
Is Friday, January 16th.**

**Contact Ken Austin if you can assist
with this critical project.**

kaustinmedia@aol.com

865-657-9661

Tellico Working Together - Service and Fundraising Events



January 2026

- 8 – New Villager Social- Service Information Table
- 13 – HOA Social – Service Information Table
- 31 – Good Shepherd Center – Mardi Gras Dance Party – YC

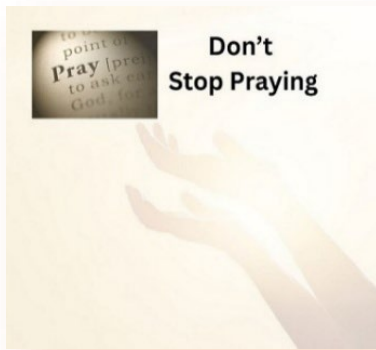
February 2026

- 3 – TV Welcome Orientation – Service Information Tables
- 5 – New Villager Social – Service Information Table
- 10 – HOA Social – Service Information Table
- 19 – 100WWC Giving Circle – 4 pm at YC

Kiwanis Club works together with fifteen other civic organizations and churches in the Tellico Village area to support each other in various community-oriented projects and charitable causes. The 16 Organizations that make up TWT currently are Community Church at Tellico Village, First Baptist Church Tellico Village, Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Kiwanis Club of Tellico Village, Rotary of Tellico Village, Lions Club, General Federation of Women's Club Tellico Village, Adopt-a-Class, Our Place and Tellico Foundation, Friends of the Library, Stay in TV, WATeR, T-Bart and 4 Paws Food Bank.



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Let us know if you or someone you know has asked for prayers.

Continue to pray for our nation, our military, the first responders, everyone committed to protect and uphold our freedoms.

**Always
Stop
And
Pray**

Peace Out,
Angie Antico
Editor