



**JANUARY 2025**

Meetings at noon each 1st and 3rd Tuesday at Green Meadow Country Club, Lunch served at 11:30

Email: [kiwanismaryville.tn@gmail.com](mailto:kiwanismaryville.tn@gmail.com); Website: [www.maryvilletnkiwanis.org](http://www.maryvilletnkiwanis.org)

Dedicated to building community by focusing on service to children and youth

## Santa Claus is Coming



Max Thurston and his grandfather, **Tim Thurston**, got a chance to whisper their Christmas wishes in Santa's ear. Max was one of the speakers at the Christmas party, reading 'Twas the Night Before Christmas with a great deal of confidence and spirit. He is a fourth grade student at West Hills Elementary.

The Christmas Party on December 17 was a great event topped off by our own real Santa Claus. Pictures of all present are available on the website (see QR code link on last page) and several photos are on pages 5-7 of this Kourier edition.

# President's Corner



2024 is drawing to a close and we are celebrating Christmas and looking forward to a new year. It is the time of year we can count our many blessings and spend time with friends and family. We also can use this time to extend charity to those in our community in need.

December has been a busy month for Maryville Kiwanis. We participated in bell ringing for the Salvation Army on Saturday the 7th and 14th. Thank you to all who rang bells, some who did double shifts. The Key Club kids also helped on the 14th.

Caroling was a very rewarding experience. This was my first time participating. I don't have the best singing voice, but it was enjoyable. We visited Brookdale Assisted Living and the home of Pat and **Tim Thurston**. **Emily Mantooth** did a great job organizing and **Katie Beeler** was exceptional in leading us in singing.

A bench was presented at Maryville High School on December 12 in honor of Jenny Sobota. I commend Wanda Davis for all the hard work she puts into this project and to **Robert Russell** for helping sort all those bottle caps.

Our annual Christmas lunch meeting was held on December 17 and was well attended. **Kent Willoughby** did an inspiring reading from Luke on the birth of Christ. I was also impressed with Tim Thurston's grandson Max reading "Twas the Night Before Christmas". He demonstrated remarkable poise and confidence getting up before all of us old folks. It was also a treat seeing Bob Ergenbright again and having him lead us in singing. And of course, we appreciate **Ed Mitchell** playing the role of Santa.

The Amtryke program is in full swing. We presented an Amtryke to a 3 year old at his home in Friendsville on December 23. The little boy was full of smiles. I do think he was a little intimidated by all the attention and did not want to get on the tryke while we were all present. However as soon as we were pulling out of the driveway, I saw him riding with his dad and sister close by. We will be presenting another Amtryke to a 2 ½ year old at our January 7th meeting. It is always rewarding to see the smiles on these young recipient's faces.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, and I wish all of you a Happy New Year.

*Jerry Henry*

# December Meeting Notes

**3** President **Jerry Heiny** rang in our meeting. Present for their last month as Maryville Kiwanians were **Bill and Dale**



**Henry** who received a plaque for her exceptional service to our club over the years. To fill Bill Henry's position. Amanda Nowak was nominated and approved as a Board Director for a 3 year term. Jerry presented her with a Director pin. In recognition of their valuable contribution to the Pancake Breakfast, **Jessica Hannah** accepted the Spotlight Award on behalf of Vienna Coffee.



As guest speaker today we were honored to have Houston Oldham whose family started

Oldham Hospitality with the purchase of Dancing Bear Lodge in 2014 and Apple Valley Mountain Village in 2015. Houston moved here 5 years ago to become the Director of Operations for the business based in Townsend, TN. Their businesses now include Peaceful Side Social, Brewery, and Creamery.

The focus of their dining venues is to provide destination dining and a family-first experience. The Dancing Bear Lodge, now 10 years old, is chef-driven and features Appalachian food. Apple Valley Village is undergoing a transformation to make it also a place for destination dining as well as tourist venue. The Peaceful Side lives up to its name as a comfortable place to stop and eat for tourists, as well as a



place where locals like to bring their families. Peaceful Side Brewery was formerly Blackberry Farm Brewery. It offers the opportunity for them to expand outside of the Townsend area, appreciating what Maryville brings to this area in addition to the Smokies.

The company has a strong interest in community giving and environmental preservation. Their tagline for this part of their program is *Sip, Savor, Support*. Being a family owned business fits well with our community values. We appreciate their presence on the peaceful side.

# December Meeting Notes

**17** The joyous spirit was felt by all at our annual Christmas celebration. In addition to a Christmas feast, Chef Andre prepared dessert for all.



**Kent Willioughby** was one of two guest readers, reading Luke 2:1-20, "The Birth of Jesus." Following that reading, Max Thurston, **Tim Thurston's** 10 year-old grandson, gave a spirited reading of "'Twas the Night Before Christmas."

It wouldn't be Christmas without singing and Bob Ergenbright brought his beautiful voice back to lead us in several Christmas carols. Several members took the opportunity to let Bob know how much he was missed as a member and welcomed him to return. Bob retired to devote time to being a choir director.

It was so nice also to have **Doug Craig** return to the meeting after a serious medical mishap while visiting Alabama. He showed off his new slim and trim self but does not recommend the way that was accomplished.



Merry  
Christmas

# *Christmas Celebration*



# *Christmas Celebration*



# Christmas Celebration



# Briefs

- **Newsom Baker** continues in our prayers for recovery at Morning View in Maryville.
- **Patsy Russell** had yet another eye procedure at Vanderbilt. There is a chance this will be her las but they've said that before. This has barely slowed her down as she continues to participate in club and family activities.
- Donna Antkow is doing well after a recent medical procedure.
- **Bill and Dale Henry** attended their final Maryville Kiwanis meeting on December 17. We wish them well as they return to Virginia to be closer to family.
- **Regina Jennings** introduced Hunter Jones as a potential new member at the December 3rd meeting.
- **Michael Torano's** TV appearances for Second Harvest brought rave reviews.
- **Steve Kiefer** in his final leadership of the golf committee is looking for a Co-chair and will be recruiting committee members for the upcoming 2025 tournament.
- **Dan Monat's** son was requested to audition for a movie - a big step in his voice acting career.

## January Birthdays

11 *Kenneth Atkins*

12 *Katie Beeler*

23 *Bob Ullom*

24 *Suzanne Stockfish*

27 *Tom Coutler*





# *It's An Aktion Club Christmas*



The Community Options staff, pictured above, works with the Aktion Club members and our Masryville Kiwanis members. The Aktion Club is a special gift not only to its club members but to us as Kiwanians. Times like Christmas bring home the importance that just a little extra effort means to those Aktion Clubbers that enjoy Christmas in a way that might not otherwise be available to them. All of us have that little bit of kid still in us and sharing that joy with others in our community makes us all appreciate the smiles that we can bring to the faces of others. While Christmas is even more special, each month the interaction of Maryville Kiwanis with the Aktion Club provides a wonderful opportunity to share our gifts with those in our community that don't often get appreciated.



# *It's An Aktion Club Christmas*



Santa Claus showed up just in time to bring his Christmas joy to all the Aktion Clubbers. Each one received a gift from him and a warm hug. We all appreciate that we have the real Santa Claus right here in our own club and are impressed how much he looks like our Mayor. Thank you Santa!



# Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

For many years Maryville Kiwanis has supported the efforts of the Salvation Army in their Christmas fundraising drive. This year was no different. As usual are Maryville Kiwanians and Key Clubbers braved the sometimes cold, sometimes pleasant weather to ring bells and observe the generosity of all people in our community. Many will save their coins for weeks to drop in the red bucket. The Maryville community truly has a giving heart which we are privileged to watch in this Christmas season.



# Christmas Caroling



The home of Pat and **Tim Thurston** (above) and Brookdale Assisted Living (below) were the recipients of the caroling voices of Maryville Kiwanis on December 10. Kiwanis members shared the true spirit of the season with traditional Christmas songs. **Katie Beeler** led the carolers in an ensemble of cheer-filled voices that warmed the hearts of those being caroled.



# Key Club Honors Jenny Sobota



Jenny Sobota is the long-time faculty advisor of the Maryville High School Key Club was honored, and surprised, on December 12 with the presentation of the 8th bottle cap bench dedicated by Maryville Kiwanis. Pictured left is Rachel Minzyk, the current co-faculty advisor with Jenny, Jenny, and **Bill Henry**, the outgoing Kiwanis Club Advisor to the Key Club. The Key Club is fortunate to have had the leadership of Jenny Sobota and **Bill Henry**. Jenny will continue as co-advisor and Spanish teacher and **Bill and Dale Henry** will be moving to Virginia to be closer to family. The current Key Club leadership is strong and grateful to have Rachel Minzyk and Maryville Kiwanis' **Tom Antkow** to take over as Advisors.



# *Inter-Club*



**Ron Teffeteller, Pete Davis, Jerry Heiny, and Bobby Perkinson** attended the December 5 meeting of Alcoa Kiwanis.

# *Packing for Salvation Army*



Helping out Salvation Army at Christmas time involves Maryville Kiwanis in more than just Bell Ringing. **Patsy Russell, Heather Larson, Geoff Cusick, Cliff Frana, and Steve Kiefer** helped with their Angel Tree bag sorting. Club activities give an opportunity for members to participate in community events in many ways besides our major fundraising events.

# *Amtryke Assembly Team*

Gathering the skills of Christmases past putting their kids bicycles together, the team of **Kent Willoughby, Bob Ullom, Robert Russell, Jerry Heiny, Steve Kiefer, and Pete Davis** (taking picture) assembled another of the custom Amtrykes that Maryville Kiwanis gifts to children with physical disabilities. These children might not otherwise be able to enjoy being able to wheel around themselves.

One Amtryke will be gifted on December 23 at the recipients home in Friendsville - how great is that for Christmas! Another will be given at our January 7 meeting. The support of our club makes these efforts possible to address the needs of children in our community.



# Maryville Kiwanis Kamera



**Tom Coulter**, took these pictures with his D750 and D850 Nikon cameras. He is a Trustee of Connect with A Child orphanage and school in Kenya. He and Donna went there with a medical mission group in 2018 and 2019.

Connect with A Child has facilities in Nairobi Kenya and Siaya Kenya. Siaya is a very remote village close to the Uganda border. The mission group treated patients (over 1,000 for the two years) in the slums of Nairobi and in Siaya.

As part of the trip they spent some time on safari - Masai Mara National Reserve in 2018 and Amboseli National Park in 2019. One of the photos, the lioness in bush, was made in Masai Mara. The photo showing a group of people, who were patients waiting to see a doctor, was made in Siaya, and the others were in Amboseli. The mountain in the background is Mt. Kilimanjaro.



Several of our members have an expressed interest in photography. **Tom Coulter, Pete Davis and Tim Thurston** each use the same camera, the Nikon Z8 and each have different interests. Every month or so we will put some pictures on these pages to share with our members. Any other members wanting to share some of their favorite pics are welcome.



# *Tom Coulter Photos*





## **Bo Shafer Recognized**

Former Kiwanis International President Bo Shafer was the recipient of the Knoxville SCHAS (Senior Citizens Home Assistance Service) Award on December 5. The award is given in recognition and honor of a deserving person who demonstrates their outstanding care for the community and its citizens. Bo Shafer truly demonstrates all those traits.

This was the 31st year of the event. Past honorees include James Haslam II, University of Tennessee coaches Pat Head Summitt, Philip Fulmer, Johnny Majors, and Bruce Pearl, Peyton Manning, Senator Howard Baker Jr., Congressman Jimmy Duncan, and Randy Boyd.

# Maryville Kiwanis Recognized

**Jerry Heiny** recently received the following letter from Lee Kuan Yung, the Kiwanis International President, recognizing the 105 year anniversary of our Club founding. The longevity of our club is a testament to the mission of Kiwanis to impact and improve the lives of children in our own community alongside an International organization that is dedicated to that effort throughout the world. We appreciate the leadership of Kiwanis International and thank them for remembering the over 100 years of local activity in Kiwanis.



December 2024

Dr Jerome J Heiny, President  
Kiwanis Club of Maryville  
1305 Dunbarton Dr  
Maryville TN 37803-6736



Dear Kiwanis Club of Maryville,

Congratulations on your 105 anniversary!

I am excited for your club celebrating 105 years/decades of service. Your passion for working for children and communities stands the test of time and is a testament to the strength of your club.

Continue to be active and engaged to achieve your goals and bring in new members. With enthusiasm, you can inspire each other and attract new people to our organization. Enthusiasm is contagious. Invite your friends and colleagues to a meeting or to help with a service project.

**Inspire other servant leaders to maximize our impact on children's lives!**

Thank you for all you do for Kiwanis. Keep your minds and your hearts open to serve the children of Maryville for another 105 years and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lee Kuan Yung'.

Lee Kuan Yong  
2024-25 President  
Kiwanis International  
Email: Leekuanyong@gmail.com



## *January Meeting Schedule*

7 Youth Protection Training

21 Attendance Awards and other recognitions

# *Objects of Kiwanis*

To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.

To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.

To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.

To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.

To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and good will.



# Division 5 Clubs

CLUB	FOUNDED	MEMBERS	WEBSITE
<b>Maryville</b> Meetings every 1st and 3rd Tuesday noon, Green Meadow Country Club	December 29, 1919	71	www.maryvilletnkiwanis.org
<b>Morristown</b> Meetings weekly, Friday noon, Morristown Country Club	January 23, 1920	50	None
<b>Newport</b> Meeting weekly, Tuesday noon, West End Baptist Church	September 7, 1920	75	None
<b>Knoxville</b> Meetings weekly, Thursday noon, Foundry	April 5, 1919	47	None
<b>Northside, Knoxville</b> Meetings Weekly, Wednesday noon, The Foundry	June 14, 1949	17	www.northside.kiwanis.us
<b>Alcoa</b> Meetings weekly, Thursday noon, Airport Hilton	July 18, 1951	70	www.k04236.site.kiwanis.org
<b>Jefferson County</b> Meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesday noon, Perkins	March 12, 1959	5	None
<b>Norwood, Knoxville</b> Meetings, 3rd Tuesday, noon, Austin's Steakhouse	May 12, 1961	14	None
<b>Sevierville</b> Meetings weekly, Tuesday noon, Applebee's	September 28, 2000	20	www.k16031.site.kiwanis.org
<b>Foothills, Townsend</b> Meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesday noon, The Abbey	October 19, 2023	15	www.townsendfoothillskiwanis.org
<b>Greater West Knox</b> Meetings, 3rd Thursday, 6:30 pm, Olive Road, Farragut	October 19, 2023	18	None

## Board of Directors

### President

Jerry Heiny  
(865) 207-7930  
jjheiny16@gmail.com

### President-Elect

Blake Mansfield  
(731)234-3991  
blake.mansfield@simmonsbank.com

### Vice President

Carl Van Hoozier  
cvanjr@gmail.com  
865-250-1160

### Past-President

Wanda Davis  
865-386-3042  
wandalee161@gmail.com

### Secretary

Heather Larson  
847-421-7422  
kiwanismaryville.tn@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Julie Miller  
865-556-8506  
jmiller@cbbcbank.com

### Directors

Tony Thompson  
Patsy Russell  
Tom Coulter  
Tom Antkow  
Emily Mantooth  
Ron Teffeteller  
Katie Beeler  
Debbie Jones  
Carl Van Hoozier  
Amanda Nowak

# Proud Sponsors of



**Volunteer State Aktion Club**



**Heritage, Maryville, Eagleton Middle School and  
Montgomery Ridge Intermediate School**

**KEY CLUB**

**Eagleton College & Career Academy,  
Maryville High School**

## Our Corporate Members

These corporate members have committed to have representatives at our meetings and have embraced our commitments to our community and our child enriching causes, programs, and projects."

**Advanced Catalyst Systems  
Blount County Public Library  
Boys & Girls Club of Blount County  
Community Options, Inc,  
Great Smoky Mountain Council of Boy Scouts  
Life Care Center of Blount County  
Maryville City Schools  
United Way of Blount County**

**Newell Brands  
Blount Partnership (Chamber of Commerce)  
Second Harvest Food Bank  
Smart Bank  
The Daily Times  
The Salvation Army  
Vienna Coffee House**

### Maryville Kiwanis Website

[www.maryvilleknkiwanis.org](http://www.maryvilleknkiwanis.org)



The membership directory has been updated on the website (<https://maryvilleknkiwanis.org/members-only>). Also added link to information for all KT District Clubs.

**Scan the QR code to the left to directly link to the Maryville Kiwanis website.**

### Kourier Staff

Tim Thurston and Pete Davis, Co-Editors  
Pete Davis, Photography, Layout  
Heather Larson, Meeting Minutes