



Kiwanis
CLUB OF MARYVILLE

Kourier

MARCH 2026

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

Email: maryvillekiwanis.tn@gmail.com; Website: www.maryvilletnkiwanis.org

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

WATE anchor visits Kiwanis



Lori Tucker is a familiar face to most, having been on WATE TV6 news for 30 years. While she is a local, just like all of us, it seems like you are being visited by a national celebrity when someone steps out of the TV screen to an in-person presence at our meeting. Lori has received numerous awards for her work including "Best Television Anchor" by the Society of Professional Journalists. We all sincerely enjoyed and appreciated meeting someone who seemed more like an old friend.

President's Corner

Fellow Kiwanians,

This is the time of year when we're ready for winter to be over, just as a few warm days tease us, only for the cold to return. We typically go through this scenario a few times until we get to mid-April. We do live in East Tennessee!



We are in the middle of planning our second big fund raiser of the year, the Kiwanis Annual Golf Tournament. **Steve Kiefer** and **Jerry Heiny** stepped up to co-chair this event for us this year and I am very grateful. Also, a big thank you to the members of the golf committee as this tournament takes many hands to make it successful. Everyone in Maryville Kiwanis Club can help with this tournament by being a sponsor, asking someone to be a sponsor, participating in the tournament, or volunteering the day of the tournament. We have had a couple of golf committee meetings so far and Steve and Jerry have things in good order. The proceeds from this golf tournament help benefit the youth in our community through the Imagination Library of Blount County, Second Harvest Food Bank of East TN, Key Club Scholarships, and Girls and Boy Scouts to name a few.

The Best of Blount Awards was recently held at the Hilton in Alcoa, and our own **Tom Coulter** was honored with the Community Impact Award for Trinity Dental where Tom volunteered for many years. I would be remiss if I did not mention that former member, Brenda Sellers, received the Philanthropist of the Year Award and former member, Elton Jones, was recognized as a Blount County Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Member.

I am proud to be called a Maryville Kiwanian because of what our club does for the children of our community!

Blake Mansfield

February 3 Meeting Notes

We were treated to a visit from a long-time local news anchor, Lori Tucker, at our February 3 meeting. Lori has been with WATE-TV6 for 30 years and will be retiring to be a full-time grandma this year.

Engaging, entertaining, and articulate describe some of the qualities obvious from the moment she began her talk. Today she just commented on a number of things that have made her life on TV interesting. It is hard to put her in any specific category of reporting. She has received awards for medical reporting, a national team award for the evening newscast, and she has educated the public about cancer with her targeted reporting.



Lori takes being a woman seriously as an appointee to the Board of Directors of the Women's Fund of East Tennessee. This fund supports low-income women by helping them become self-sustaining. As part of this work, she hosts and emcees many community non-profit events.

Being a mom of two daughters some of her most endearing moments have come with a Wednesday's Child segment she first created in Texas. Her core was forever affected by the heart-wrenching stories of these young children. One result of her reporting has been getting children into foster care and adoption.

Lori recognizes that the news world has changed over the past several years, largely beginning with some of the intolerance of different positions during COVID. There is probably a small part of her that is pleased with being able to get out of the business at this time, but, no doubt, there is a big part of her that will always cherish what she has done and been able to accomplish. Our best to her as she enters this new phase of her life.



February 17 Meeting Notes

Our program today was presented by Elaine Streno, the Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank., now for over 30 years. Under her leadership the amount of food distributed by Second Harvest has increased from 3.1 million pounds to over 27 million pounds per year. With 780+ partner agencies, an 18-county 8000 square mile area is served. A large number of our club count themselves among the 32,000 hours volunteered annually.

Elaine explained that Second Harvest is a food distribution center, not a food pantry. A large portion of their food for distribution is purchased with funds generated from their multi-million-dollar annual campaign. Purchasing food in bulk is the most efficient way to get the most food but individual donors, grocers, restaurants and food suppliers all contribute to the food stored in their state of the art 2-million cubic foot facility. Sorting, evaluation, and packing of donated product are a constant activity of the volunteers.



Several hunger-relief programs were described. The *Food for Kids* partners with local schools to provide supplemental food assistance over the weekends. Over 15,000 students in 300+ schools are served at a cost of about \$100 per child. For communities that lack infrastructure, *Mobile Pantries* provides 2.3 million pounds of food each year in over 200 distribution centers serving 144,000 persons a year. The *Food Rescue* program visits grocers, farmers, restaurants, and food suppliers to retrieve unused extra food amounting to 11.5 million pounds *annually* through 1000 monthly pickups. 37-pound boxes with 31 meals each of food are packaged by *Senior Outreach* to serve the elderly. *Empowerment Services* support individual families through various programs to help break the cycle of poverty.

Most of us are aware of Second Harvest Food Bank through the activities of our many volunteers and the acquaintance with **Michael Torano**, one of our own. Below left, Elaine accepts a \$5000 contribution from Maryville Kiwanis. On the right Michael Torano joins **Blake, Elaine, and Wanda** accepting some member donations at the meeting.



March 2026



Maryville Kiwanis Kourier

Awards and Gifts



Blake presents **Bobby Burke** with his Legion of Honor Award for his 50 years in Kiwanis and his 36-year perfect attendance pin.



Katie Beeler (L) and **Dian Trosclair** were given 3 year and 1-year perfect attendance awards by Blake.



Blake Mansfield and **Patsy Russell** (R) accept a donation from Deborah Massey, representing Mary Blount Chapter of the Daughters of the American



Blake honors **Emily Mantooth** and **Tom Antkow** for their 3-year perfect attendance.

Golf Committee Readies for Tournament



Golf pro, Scott Wilson, meets with co-chairs **Steve Kiefer** and **Jerry Heiny** to discuss the upcoming Kiwanis Golf Tournament on April 13. This fundraiser is our biggest and always presents a challenge of how we can match or improve our previous efforts. This year is no less of a challenge and Steve has encouraged all members, in addition to those golfing in the tournament, to participate in the financial support of this tournament. The Booster support is only \$100. For comparison, each golfer pays \$150 to play and about \$100 of that goes to the fundraising. Many of our members give \$250 as a Hole Sponsor with \$500 and \$1000 levels also available. Sadly, over \$5000 of donations won't be seen this year due to passing of these donors.

In addition to funding, all that can help on the day of the tournament are encouraged to let one of our golf committee members know. Thanks to the Golf Committee for their continued efforts to make this year's tournament a success.



Interclubs



Fred Martin, Brad Smith, Chris and Laura Mahler, and David Nichols visit our February 3 meeting from the Alcoa Kiwanis Club.



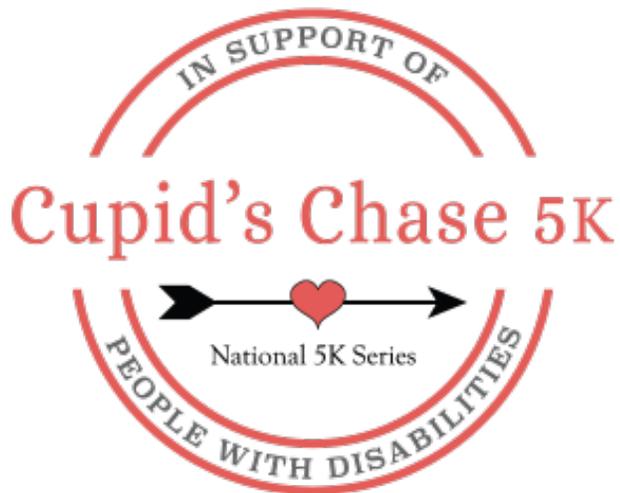
Jerry Heiny, Marie Rousch, Wanda and Pete Davis attended the Volunteer State Aktion Club meeting on February 19.



Jerry Heiny, Linda Ullom, Pete and Wanda Davis enjoyed visiting the Sevierville Kiwanis Club on February 24.



The Townsend Kiwanis Club meets at the Abbey. Mike Morrell, **Pete Davis, Elaine Russell, Steve Kiefer, Bobby Burke, Kent Willoughby** and **Ron Teffeteller** attended their February 25 meeting.



On Saturday February 14 **Debbie Jones** and **Wanda Davis** volunteered to help **Marie Roush** and Community Options, our Volunteer Aktion club partner, with their Cupid's Chase Race. This is a national race series celebrating Community Options' founding. Last year over 11,000 runners nationwide joined raising funds to provide housing and employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Everyone was welcome to run, walk, bring baby strollers or wheelchairs and even bring their dogs.

Community Options believes in the dignity of every person, and in the freedom of all people to experience the highest degree of self-determination. Embracing this philosophy, Community Options provides housing and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Maryville Kiwanis is proud to partner with Community Options.

Meet Emily Saalfrank

Her journey from and to East Tennessee Emily Saalfrank was born and grew up in Friendsville, Tennessee. She moved to Indianapolis, Indiana in 2013 to work for her sorority up to 2017. She met her husband Zack in Indianapolis, and they were married in Tennessee in 2021. When they decided to start a family, they moved back home to be close to her parents and other family members.



At age 10 what did I want to be? a dancer and teacher.

My job. Emily has been a Kiwanis International area director since 2017.

When not working, she enjoys spending time with her family and their golden retriever Lane. They enjoy family dinners and get togethers. They often try new restaurants and coffee shops and watching all Tennessee sports on television. They also like to get to know new people.

Family life, she and Zack have 3-year-old daughter Colby Jane and 1-year-old son Dansby.

Who she admires. Her parents and sister mean the world to her. They support each other in all their activities. Their interacting with her children is very special for her.

Three words that best describe her are: Engaging, Empathetic, and Maximizer.

Why Kiwanis? Emily says she joined Kiwanis because she sees the bigger picture of Kiwanis every day in her professional life. She loves the idea of what a Kiwanis member and Kiwanis club can intentionally do to impact their community. She wants to be a part of that magic.

Her personal motto is a Dolly Parton quotation: *"Find out who you are and do it on purpose"*.



Division 5 Annual Prayer Dinner

This year's dinner will be held Tuesday, April 21, 6 PM at the Airport Hilton. Each year at this dinner the Layperson of the Year is recognized. Last year's recipient was **Patsy Russell**. The speaker at this year's event is Kiwanis International President-elect Hope Marks.

Please let **Heather Larson** know whether you will attend soon in order to get a tentative head count. Formal invitations and specifics will be available when they are finalized.

Division 5 Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, March 2 in Kodak, TN.

Don't Forget

**Kiwanis Club of Alcoa
2026 Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, March 28
7:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Alcoa High School**

Briefs

- **Steve Lick**, our newest member, showed a license plate given to him by **Newsom Baker**. As one of his hobbies he creates art with them.
- At the recent Best of Blount Awards several of our current and former members were honored. **Tom Coulter** along with Danielle Reggio received the Community Impact Award for their volunteer work at Trinity Dental. Former members Brenda Sellers and Elton Jones also received awards, Brenda as Philanthropist of the Year and Elton recognized as Blount County Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Member.
- **Tom Antkow** was back at the February 17 meeting after cracking a couple of ribs in a fall.
- Elton Jones with his wife Patsy is now at the Brookdale Sandy Springs Assisted Living. It is located at 511 Pearson Springs Road, Room 704. He welcomes brief visits.
- **Lynn Tittsworth** is way ahead of most of us as a great-grandparent, announcing the birth of his 6th with a 7th on the way.
- Prayers for **Heather Larson** as she recovers from a nasty encounter with shingles.

March Birthdays

March 1	Roy Fox
March 4	Steve Kiefer
March 4	Julie Miller
March 12	Blake Mansfield
March 12	Ed Mitchell
March 13	Bob Ramsey
March 15	Marie Rousch
March 27	Howard Kerr

Programs

	Title
March 3	United Way Updates
March 17	Smoky Mountain Harley-Davidson

Division 5 Clubs

Club	Founded	Members	Website
Maryville	December 29, 1919	66	www.maryvilletnkiwanis.org
Meetings every 1st and 3rd Tuesday noon, Green Meadow Country Club			
Morristown	January 23, 1920	50	None
Meetings weekly, Friday noon, Morristown Country Club			
Newport	September 7, 1920	75	None
Meetings weekly, Tuesday noon, West End Baptist Church			
Knoxville	April 5, 1919	47	None
Meetings weekly, Thursday noon, Crowne Plaza Hotel			
Northside, Knoxville	June 14, 1949	17	www.northside.kiwanis.us
Meetings weekly, Wednesday noon, Shoney's on N. Broadway			
Alcoa	July 18, 1951	70	www.k04236.site.kiwanis.org
Meetings weekly, Thursday noon, Airport Hilton			
Jefferson County	March 12, 1959	5	None
Meetings 1 st and 3 rd Wednesday noon, Perkins			
Sevierville	September 28, 2000	20	None
Meetings weekly, Tuesday noon, Applebee's			
Foothills, Townsend	October 19, 2023	15	www.townsendfoothillskiwanis.org
Meetings 2 nd and 4 th Wednesday noon, The Abbey			

Board of Directors

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Directors

Tony Thompson
 Patsy Russell
 Kent Willoughby
 Emily Mantooth
 Dian Trosclair
 Cliff Frana
 Amanda Nowak
 Paige Thompson
 Dan Monat

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 relationships, 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.



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 representative at our meetings and have embraced our commitments to our community and our child-enriching causes, programs, and projects.

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

Blount Partnership (Chamber of Commerce)
Second Harvest Food Bank
Smart Bank
The Daily Times
The Salvation Army
Vienna Coffee House
State Farm – Hunter Jones



Maryville Kiwanis Website

www.maryvilletnkiwanis.org

Scan this QR code to directly
Link to the website.

Kourier Staff

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