



Kiwaniis
CLUB OF MARYVILLE

Kourier

MAY 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

A Beautiful Day For a Golf Tournament



Our Annual Golf Tournament was another great success. **Steve Kiefer** and **Jerry Heiny** led the effort for our major fundraiser of the year. Seasoned tournament players consistently praise how well ours is run: smooth registration and door prizes at the start; a well-paced schedule with lunch before play and pizza afterward; a best-ball format that keeps the day fun while staying on time; homemade cookies; and one simple fee that includes extras like mulligans and the putting contest. Green Meadow also helped by quickly collecting and tallying scorecards, so there was no delay in awarding prizes at the end.

With so many charity tournaments for golfers to choose from, attracting donations and teams becomes more challenging each year. Scheduling our event for the Monday after the Masters gives us an early-season advantage, ahead of many other tournaments. Thanks to all who helped.

President's Corner

Fellow Kiwanians,

April was a great month for our club. We had our second big fundraiser of the year on April 13th, the "Tee It Up for the Kids" golf tournament. There were 22 teams that played that beautiful Monday afternoon, and everyone seemed to have a great time. There were door prizes, closest to the hole prizes, straightest drive prize and team prizes. There were hamburgers and hotdogs prepared for the players and volunteers before the tournament and pizza served to the players while the winning teams were announced after the tournament. And let's not forget the "cookies".

Thanks to our cookie Queen, **Patsy Russell**, and all the volunteers that baked cookies, the players had more than they could eat. And lastly, let's not forget that a golf tournament does not happen without a great team of volunteers including the golf committee and Chair, **Steve Keifer** and co-Chair, **Jerry Heiny**.



The Prayer Dinner was held on the evening of April 21st at the Airport Hilton. The guest speaker was to be Kiwanis International President-Elect, Hope Markes. Ms. Markes had an emergency at the last minute and was unable to attend but was able to send a video with some gracious remarks. This was a very festive evening as the Lay Person of the Year for KY-TN Division 5 was announced. There were four nominations from four different clubs in our district, and each was indeed accomplished: Art Hafner [Alcoa], Terry Weber [Knox Northside], **Emily Mantooth** [Maryville], and Scott Williams [Newport]. As you will see in photos in this Kourier, **Emily Mantooth** won Lay Person of the Year. Our clubs clearly have accomplished members! Congratulations Emily!

Our club is very blessed to have an active Social Committee. The Smokies Baseball game is already on the calendar for May 8th, and we are looking forward to an additional time to socialize with upcoming events during membership month and beyond.

Though we're a few weeks out, I also want to acknowledge the importance of Memorial Day, and appreciation for many services and recognitions our community holds for those who have served.

Blake Mansfield

Please note:

We regret an error in last month's Kourier regarding Jennifer Wackerhagen. Jennifer is the CEO and President of United Way and will continue in that role. The Kourier incorrectly reported that she would be retiring. United Way and our community are grateful for her years of service and look forward to many more.

April 7 Meeting Notes

After graduating in 2001 from the University of Tennessee Knoxville, Mark Dowlen started his career at Heritage High School where it spanned 17 years. After In 2018, Mark transitioned into school administration as assistant principal at Eagleton Middle School. The following year, he was named principal, a role in which he has led significant growth and transformation. Under his leadership, the school evolved from Eagleton Middle School into Eagleton College and Career Academy, successfully adding four new grade levels over a four-year period and expanding opportunities for students to prepare for both college and the workforce.



Preparations for Eagleton College and Career Academy (ECCA) in 2019. Following a COVID delay the first freshman class was initiated in August 2021. Each subsequent August up to 2024 a new class was added for a full 4-year high school. Varsity athletics were begun in 2023 and have flourished with several state appearances in a variety of sports. Mark showed the numerous learning opportunities which separates ECCA from many other schools. The goal is to provide training for the type of jobs that the student can enter following high school as well as to provide the base for entry into junior college, technical school, and college. Getting the highest scores on college entrance exams is not nearly as important as providing the foundation to make appropriate decisions that match their skillset. ECCA doesn't try to teach the three R's as its primary goal, they try to make each student prepared for a future after high school, whatever that might be.



Advisor Andrea, Pres. Audrey, and V.P. Jackson, shared appreciation for MK Foundation SLP financial support and each mentioned a component of Convention they enjoyed. They also shared outreach projects, including Ronald McDonald House, Dolly Parton's Children's Hospital, Alcoa Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. Community visibility of Key Club is important!

May 21 Meeting Notes

Joe Huff, Executive Director of the Maryville-Alcoa-Blount County Parks and Recreation Commission, has been with the Commission for over 42 years and served as the Executive Director for the past 26 years. His accolades are many and topped off by being named winner of the Tennessee Recreation and Parks Fellow Award in 2022. This is the highest award in the State of Tennessee bestowed on the Recreation field.



The name of our commission identifies the unique association of two city and one county governments supporting a single Parks and Recreation Commission. There is no similar joint venture in the State of Tennessee. The Commission has its own set of by-laws, policy manual, and job classifications making it autonomous from any one government. The Board provides direction by being representative of the government entities. The Commission owns nothing; they operate and maintain recreation facilities. While Parks & Rec manages all improvements, each individual government is responsible for their own capital expenditures.

Facilities are on approximately 200 acres, consist of 2 outdoor pools, 3 Rec Centers, 1 Senior Center, 1 Disc Golf Course, 1 Dog Park, 16 Parks, 14 Pavilions, Louisville Point Park, and Singleton Park. There are also fourteen pickleball courts which has rapidly become one of the most popular sports not only for the seniors but for young people.

To understand the impact of their programs, he gave some interesting numbers. In this past year alone, the Rec Centers and the Senior Center have seen 122,000 persons. The pools were attended by 55,000. There are over 60 programs and camps with over 6000 participants. The Annual Smoky Mountain Classic done under the auspices of the Parks and Recreation bring more than \$1 million into our community and is widely acclaimed as the premier event of its type in the country. Other programs that are managed through Parks & Rec are Hometown Christmas; Gotta Tri Kids' Triathlon; Triple Crown of Running; Fishing Derby – 200 participants; Paws in the Pool; Spooktacular – 3000 participants; Songs by the Brook summer music series as well as Special Olympics and Senior Programming

We live in a special place, and Parks & Rec is an integral part why we love where we live. Take time to check out [Parks and Rec website](#) to get a more complete scope of their programs.



Golf Tournament 2026



Upcoming, current and past presidents **Carl Van Hoozier**, **Blake Mansfield**, and **Jerry Heiny** help anchor the sign at hole #1. Winners of the whole thing are pictured to the right.



The weather was perfect, a little windy. Golfers practice putt above left. Once on the green (R) everyone gets one chance to hole the putt from the best ball.

Golf Tournament 2026 (2)



Mayor **Ed Mitchell** gave the invocation and was honored for his years of service to our community. He will be retiring from Blount County Mayor this summer, leaving a legacy of exceptional service to this community.



Golfers stopped by the practice tee to participate in the closest to the hole. There were two "holes in one."



Carts jockey for position at the start of the golf tournament. Each team of four began at one of the eighteen holes. The best ball format made for a fun round of golf for a great cause. The effort is easy when considering the funding of our Imagination Library program. Thanks to all.

Awards and Gifts



The Blount County Youth Court represented by Lynn Peterson supports local youth through challenging times, helping them build a better future and avoid further legal trouble. With this support, most do not return to prior behavior. This is one more way Kiwanis helps kids and strengthens our community.

Imagination Library in Action



Our support of Imagination Library is much more than financial. This month members took book displays to four elementary schools to provide an opportunity for parents with young children to sign up to receive free monthly age-appropriate books. Linda Carraway (top left), **Patsy Russell** and **Elaine Russell** (top right), **Linda Ullom** (bottom left), and **Jerry Heiny** and **Wanda Davis** (bottom right) all participated in this ongoing effort.



Interclubs



Marie Roush and Wanda Davis at the Aktion Club on April 16.



At the Aktion Club meeting they discussed National Poetry month and member RJ Hunter read a poem by Robert Frost.



Maryville at Morrystown April 24
Bobby Burke, Pete and Wanda Davis, and Jerry Heiny



Maryville at Alcoa April 2
Mike Morell, Pete and Wanda Davis, and Jerry Heiny attended.



Maryville at Jefferson County April 15
Pete Davis, Marvin Stewart, Patsy Russell, Bobby Burke, and Ron Teffeteller enjoyed good conversation and a fine meal.

Pete Davis Installed as New Lt-Governor KT District 5



Pete Davis was recently announced as K-T District 5 Lieutenant Governor. This is his second time in this position. As Lieutenant Governor, he is the primary link between the nine clubs in our division and district leadership and serves as liaison between Kiwanis International, the district, and local clubs. Pete's leadership and experience make him well suited for this demanding position, which will keep him on the road much of the year. Maryville Kiwanis is honored to have one of its own in this important role.

These were the trainers and trainees from the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Kiwanis Lt. Governors for the year beginning on October. Pete is pictured above second from left above. Pete attended classes April 17-18 Friday at Rough River Dam State Park in Falls of Rough, KY.

Maddie Gravitte New K-T District Governor of CircleKI

After rising through the ranks of Key Club at MHS, Bobby Perkinson shared that his granddaughter Maddie Gravitte has been appointed as the K-T District Governor of CKI and is also serving as President of the Circle K Club at UT Knoxville. Congratulations to Maddie who is a freshman at UTK.

Emily Mantooth Named Layperson of the Year



Congratulations to **Emily Mantooth** being named 2026 Layperson of the Year at the Division 5 Prayer Dinner on April 21. Emily represents United Way as a corporate member of Maryville Kiwanis. At United Way she is the Director of Resource Development and is the leader of the annual fundraising campaign raising more than \$2 million.

Some of her accomplishments over just the past year:

- Leadership Blount Board of Directors
- Runner Chair for the Blount Partnership membership drive
- Volunteering at Coulter Grove Intermediate School to help students build resumes, research roles, and practice interview skills
- Playing the bassoon in the Maryville College orchestra
- Maryville Kiwanis roles include Board of Directors, Membership Committee chair, and updating the club Facebook pages



This is but a few of the many things Emily participates in our community. Her volunteer activities highlight why Emily was nominated for and ultimately elected as the 2026 Layperson of the Year for District 5 of Kentucky-Tennessee Kiwanis. Maryville Kiwanis is honored to have Emily as a member and excited for her being named Layperson of the Year – well-deserved.

In Emily's own words: "I was very humbled to receive the nomination for this year and represent Maryville Kiwanis. Our club is comprised of many people who bring their unique skills, time and efforts to improve the lives of children." Indeed, Emily is a treasure to our club, representing us well as Layperson of the Year.

Briefs

- Make time for prayers for **Denn Larson**. His heart issues are giving the doctors difficulty in arriving at a solution. He was originally planned for surgery until it was determined not necessary during pre-op evaluation.
- **Howard Kerr** gave a passionate message to all regarding the devastating lethal effects of nuclear war. The amount of highly enriched nuclear material available to Iran at the start of this intervention was multiples of that contained in the bombs that ended WWII. It is unimaginable the destruction of life that they had the capability of unleashing and doing whatever necessary to remove that capability is in the interest of our nation and the free world. Few can speak from the perspective that Howard has as being involved in the nuclear industry since its inception.
- Blount County Salvation Army representative, **Bobbie Burns**, has an inoperable brain tumor which will require 35 proton radiation laser treatments. Keep her in your prayers.

April Birthdays

<i>May 6</i>	<i>Bobby Burke</i>
<i>May 10</i>	<i>Maria Farmer</i>
<i>May 13</i>	<i>Jessica Hannah</i>

Programs

May 5	Board Proposal	Member Voting
May 19	Rep. Tom Hatcher and officer elections	

Meet Our Members

Dian Trosclair

What brought you to the Maryville area

Dian was born in Carbondale, Illinois and moved to Maryville with her parents when she was in 6th grade.

Family life

She has two brothers living in Knoxville along with several nephews. Taking care of her 96-year-old mother keeps her busy.

What are you the happiest doing, when you're not working?

She is retired and volunteers with Good Neighbors. Dian enjoys spending time with family and friends, bicycling on the Greenbelt, reading, helping people and entertaining friends

Who is someone you admire, and why?

She admires Fred Smith who was a great leader in business, yet very charitable and humble.

Name three words that you think best describe YOU

Positive, active and easy going.

What would be your personal motto?

Her personal motto is Faith Family and Integrity, Living with Faith; Loving through Family; and Leading with Integrity.

Why did you join Kiwanis?

She says she joined Kiwanis to contribute to children and society in general.



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	
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

President

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

President-Elect

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

Vice-President

Tom Antkow
 (865)336-0952
Tom.a@drivesafer.info

Past-President

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

Secretary

Heather Larson
 (847)-421-7422
kiwanismaryvilletn@gmail.com

Treasurer

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

Directors

Tony Thompson
 Patsy Russell
 Kent Willoughby
 Emily Mantooh
 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



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 access
the website.

Kourier Staff

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