



# Kiwaniis AMERICUS

April 17, 2026

## 2024-25 Officers

Wesley Larkin, President  
Dennis Stalvey, President-Elect  
Chet Crowley, Secretary  
Jason Williams, Treasurer  
Herschel Smith, Immediate  
Past President

## The Kiwanis Key Kiwanis Club of Americus

### Follow us online:

<https://k00228.site.kiwanis.org/>  
<https://www.georgiakiwanis.com/>  
<https://www.kiwanis.org/>  
**Facebook: Americus Kiwanis Club**  
**Georgia District Theme: Kids Need  
Kiwanis**

## Board of Directors:

**2026**  
Mark Ennes  
David Ewing  
Rusty Warner

**2027**  
Cindy Gillespie  
Sam Peavy  
Carlyle Walton

### International President

Michael Mulhaul

### Georgia District Governor

Barry Gardner

### Division 5 Lieutenant Governor

Faye Copeland

### SIX OBJECTIVES OF KIWANIS

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

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

**To promote** high social, business, and professional standards

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

**To provide** enduring friendships and altruistic services for better communities.

**To cooperate** in creating and maintaining high ideals which will increase righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

### President Wesley Larkin's Goals for 2025/2026

- Create and establish an Under 40 Satellite of 12 members or more.
- Grow our club to 106 members.
- Raise \$10,000 through sponsorships.
- Add at least one service project.

## Upcoming Programs

George Saratsiotis	Apr 24	Presenter: GSW President Michelle Johnston
Tammye Pettyjohn Jones	May 1	Sumter 100 Workforce Development Program – Presenters: GA Power, Sumter County School District, Ignite College & Career Academy, One Sumter
Bobby Harris Hancock	May 8	

## Motto: Serving the Children of the World

*The Americus Kiwanis Club was chartered on April 6, 1920. We meet at 1:00 PM on Fridays in the faculty dining room at Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW).*

# Highlights from the Week

## April 17, 2026



Guest Speaker, **Bethaney Greely**, described her personal background and how a community ambassadorship to India shaped her lifelong commitment to hospitality and service. She traced her life from Kalamazoo, through long residencies in Michigan and Vermont, and explained why health and practical concerns had prevented her original plan to retire in India. Bethaney recounted moving to Americus in 2021 and finding few after-school options for children. She reported witnessing local needs, including language barriers among migrant workers and rising gun violence. In response, a volunteer group formed **Heart of Sumter** to run English-as-a-second-language classes and to start a Thursday-night tutoring program at the library. Bethaney outlined fundraising plans modeled on payroll-deduction giving called **“Come In”** with no administrative overhead, and local businesses have expressed early support. She asked members to consider joining or hosting outreach visits and expressed specific goals to secure an empty downtown building for youth programming.

Bethaney Greely

### Reading Program News

Jody Wade, Chair  
No reading this week



- Jason Williams, Friday, April 17



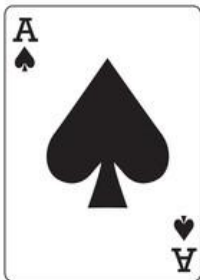
None



**The following Members had Happy Bucks:**

Bill Bowen  
Mark Ennes  
Carolyn Hamilton  
Jerry Sanders

### Weekly Card Game Results



Carolyn Hamilton's Ticket was drawn, but she failed to draw the Ace of Spades. The pot continues to grow.

# Save the Dates



**Baseball Social and Cookout  
April 24, 2026, at 6 PM**



**Americus Kiwanis Annual  
Meeting  
Friday, May 15, 2026, at 1 PM**

## Meeting Location Change

We will NOT be meeting at GSW on the following dates:

- June 5<sup>th</sup>
- June 26<sup>th</sup>
- July 17<sup>th</sup>

Location will be at the Quality Inn on MLK.



**Saturday, May 30, 2026**

Hosted by Mark and Mary Ennes  
104 Entrekin Lane  
Cobb, Georgia 31735

Boat rides, lawn games, great food and drinks,  
and wonderful fellowship will be provided.

RSVP to Mark at (219) 241-8291

## Committee Assignments 2025/26 (updated 4/10/26)

Community Service Cindy Gillespie	Membership Mark Ennes, David Ewing	Fundraising Rusty Warner	Leadership Carlyle Walton	Club Operations Sam Peavy
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Spelling Bee</b></p> <p><b><u>Herschel Smith, Chair</u></b> Tim Bell Becky Gillespie Cindy Gillespie Blake Hill George Peagler James Sizemore Rucker Smith</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>New Member (Recruitment)</b></p> <p><b><u>Patty Ferry, Chair</u></b> Tim Bell Mark Ennes Rusty Warner Charlene Pennymon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sponsorships</b></p> <p><b><u>Jerry Sanders, Chair</u></b> Frank Ceresoli John Edgenmon Cindy Gillespie Carolyn Hamilton Mark Simmons</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Stephen Snyder Gia Wagner Carlyle Walton <b>Wes Wheeler</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nominations (Slate of Officers)</b></p> <p><b><u>Chet Crowley, Chair</u></b> Blake Hill (PP 2022) Kevin Kwashnak (PP 2023) Rucker Smith (PP 2020) Herschel Smith (PP 2025) Dennis Stalvey (PE) Lewis Webb (PP 2011)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting Setup</b></p> <p><b><u>Sam Peavy, Chair</u></b> Wade Barr Carolyn Hamilton Kevin Kwashnak Sam Peavy</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reading</b></p> <p><b><u>Jody Wade, Chair</u></b> Patty Ferry Carolyn Hamilton Jackie Holmes Tammye Pettyjohn Jones Bill Kreson</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Charlene Pennymon Carlyle Walton Alwen Yeung Chuchu Wu</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Retention</b></p> <p><b><u>David Ewing, Chair</u></b> Ron Scott Chet Crowley Jason Williams</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tree Sales</b></p> <p><b><u>Mark Simmons/Mark Pace, Chair</u></b> Mike Fletcher Chadwick Gugg Charlene Pennymon Ethan Wolfe</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Elections</b></p> <p><b><u>Jody Wade, Chair</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Music</b></p> <p><b><u>Bill Sheppard, Chair</u></b> David Ewing Sam Peavy Charlene Pennymon Carlyle Walton Alwen Yeung</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boy Scouts</b></p> <p><b><u>John Edgemon, Chair</u></b> Wade Barr Bill Kreson Herschel Smith Josh Windus</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Senior Member</b></p> <p><b><u>David Ewing, Chair</u></b> <b>Bill Bowen S</b> Bill Sheppard All Senior Members</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Golf Tournament</b></p> <p><b><u>Ethan Wolfe, Chair</u></b> Jamie Cromer John Edgemon Blake Hill Carlyle Walton <b>Wes Wheeler</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chaplains</b></p> <p>Wade Barr Jerry Sanders Dennis Stalvey</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Communication/ Public Relations</b></p> <p><b><u>Chet Crowley, Chair</u></b> Sue Sangster Josh Windus</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key Club (SLP)</b></p> <p>Alwen Yeung – Furlow John Shealy – Southland <b>School Liaisons</b> Furlow -Jason Williams/Alwen Yeung Southland – John Shealy Sumter County – Jerry Sanders Schley County – Blake Hill/Brannon Parks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>New Member (Orientation)</b></p> <p><b><u>Chet Crowley, Chair</u></b> Patty Ferry Tammye Pettyjohn Jones Sue Sangster Beth Siren Mandy Young Chuchu Wu</p>			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Social</b></p> <p><b><u>Cathy Mueller, Chair</u></b> Frank Ceresoli Charles Christmas Becky Gillespie Cindy Gillespie Tammye Pettyjohn Jones James Sizemore Carlyle Walton Gia Wagner</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pet Parade</b></p> <p><b><u>Charlene Pennymon, Chair</u></b> Frank Ceresoli Meda Kreson Alwen Yeung James Sizemore Rucker Smith</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Under 40 Member</b></p> <p><b><u>Wesley Larkin, Chair</u></b> Josh Windus Jerry Sanders</p>			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Interclub</b></p> <p><b><u>Bill Kreson, Chair</u></b> Tim Bell Bobby Hancock Harris</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scholarship</b></p> <p><b><u>Stephen Snyder, Chair</u></b> Rusty Warner Lewis Webb Jason Williams</p>				<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Financial Review</b></p> <p>Lewis Webb (2023-26) Becky Gillespie (2024-2027) Bill Kreson (2026-2029)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Arts and Music Showcase</b></p> <p><b><u>Cindy Gillespie, Chair</u></b> Patty Ferry Becky Gillespie Sam Peavy Jerry Sanders ChuChu Wu Alwen Yeung</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>If you see a committee you would prefer to be on rather than the one assigned to you, don't hesitate to get in touch with either President Wesley Larkin or Secretary Chet Crowley.</p> </div>			

## Programs 2025/26—Dennis Stalvey

List of Friday Kiwanis Programs March 20, 2026, to September 25, 2026

This is the list of people who have signed up to be responsible for a program

through the remainder of this Kiwanis year, which ends September 25, 2026.

There are seven (7) dates not filled and are available for a program. Make sure you have given Dr. Dennis Stalvey, President-Elect, the nature of your program and who the presenter is, so we can promote this to the club members.

### 2026

Apr 24 - George Saratsiotis

May 1 - Tammye Pettyjohn Jones

May 8 - Bobby Harris Hancock

**May 15 – Annual Meeting**

May 22- Jason Williams

May 29 - Bill Krenson

June 5 - Lettie Watford

June 12 - Meda Krenson

June 19 - James Sizemore

June 26 - Charlene Pennymon

July 3 ----- **NO MEETING**

July 10 - Ron Scott

July 17 -----

July 24 - Becky Gillespie

July 31 -----

Aug 7 -----

Aug 14 -----

Aug 21 - Alwen Yeung

Aug 28 - Cathy Mueller

Sept 4 - Judy Parkinson

Sept 11 -----

Sept 18 -----

Sept 25 -----

## From the Club Secretary

For our New Members: We want you to be active and participate in club activities, and we realize Kiwanis is new to you. There are several resources available to you to help you become a Kiwanian. Our website <https://k00228.site.kiwanis.org/for-our-members> contains a directory of members, a new member orientation video, bylaws, and local instructions. The directory is password-protected (AMKI00228). Another great resource is your sponsor or one of the club officers.

For All Our Members: Kiwanis has a new member system called Engage, which now allows members to update their profiles. To log into your profile, go to <http://engage.kiwanis.org/>. And enter the email address you used when you became a member. You will need to create a new password by selecting “Forgot Password”. As always, the club secretary can update your profile if requested.

### The Kiwanis Key

The Kiwanis Key is published weekly after our club meeting and is sent via email to all active members listed in the Americus club roster. You can also find a current copy on our website. The publisher is seeking assistance. If you have creative skills and would like to help with the publication of the Key, please reach out to Chet Crowley at 229-942-7355 through text, call, or email at [ccrowley1947@live.com](mailto:ccrowley1947@live.com).

**Kiwanis**  
Americus



Club Secretary Chet Crowley is the editor of the Kiwanis Key. Please text Chet at (229) 942-7355 or email at [ccrowley1947@live.com](mailto:ccrowley1947@live.com) with pictures and other submissions.