

The Capital

October/November 2024

KIWANIAN

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**SERVICE, EDUCATION, AND
FUN AT DISTRICT CONVENTION**



Kiwanis

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COVER: Members put together meal packets for Generosity Feeds at the District Convention in Portsmouth, VA.





The 23-24 Capital District Board of Trustees sat for their last meeting of the year, which was held at the District Convention in Portsmouth, VA



2024-25 LEADERSHIP INFORMATION

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GOVERNOR-ELECT

Tim Gillette
Tysons, VA

VICE GOVERNOR

David Lurie
Tysons, VA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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TRUSTEE - SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA

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The Capital Kiwanian is published bi-monthly by the Capital District of Kiwanis International.

All correspondence relating to editorial content, distribution, or advertising should be sent via e-mail to Editor John Montgomery at editor@capitalkiwanis.org.

The information in this magazine is for illustrative and discussion purposes only. It is intended to provide general information about the subject matter covered.

Governor's Message

JOSH HISCOCK, 2024-25 GOVERNOR



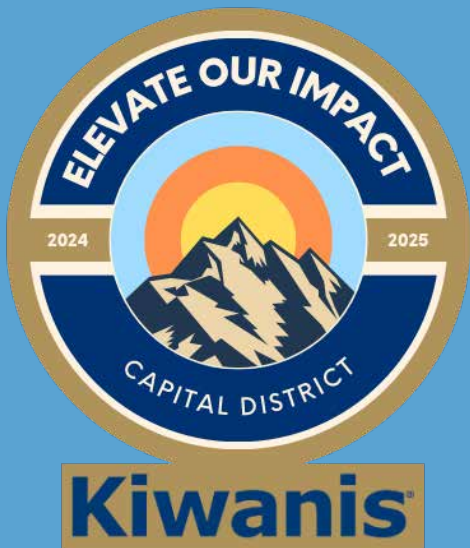
Greetings, Kiwanians and friends!

October signals a time of change. In our world, the arrival of October indicates the start of Autumn with cooling temperatures and the color transformation of local foliage. College and professional football return to our television programming lineups and Halloween decorations grace the shelves of stores. There is a crispness in the air and in the refreshing apples we pick from local orchards. Pumpkin spice everything is on the menu, and we cannot get enough of it.

In Kiwanis, October signals a transition to a new administrative year. New officers assume their roles within clubs, and new district leaders assume their elected positions. It is a time of transformation. Planning of annual service projects and fundraisers begins anew. It is a return of programming that is familiar to us. Our service leadership program (SLP) students jump into the new academic year excitedly. Their energy is crisp and refreshing. This is a time of reflection, renewal, and revival – and we cannot get enough of it.

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your 2024-2025 Capital District Governor. Your Board of Trustees and Lt. Governors have prepared diligently over the past year to support you and your club in the year ahead. We want to nurture your club so that it thrives.

Thriving Kiwanis clubs are unstoppable forces in their communities. They serve children, raise money for worthy causes, and make a notable difference in the lives of others. Kiwanis is not the only group doing good in the community. We must work diligently to be the most unstoppable service organization in every community.



To truly be unstoppable, we need to do better. We need to do more. In the years ahead, I propose that we **Elevate Our Impact** in seven key ways.

Encourage collaboration between clubs, divisions, and regions to elevate our fellowship;

Leverage opportunities to elevate honest dialogue and decisive action around improving diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and accessibility within our clubs, Kiwanis, and our communities;

Expand the growth and club-level support of service leadership program (SLP) clubs to elevate our support of youth and adults with disabilities;

Vocalize the needs and concerns of non-traditional clubs, such as e-clubs, to elevate inclusion;

Augment opportunities for greater hands-on service to elevate our social impact;

Target the growth of Kiwanis in strategic new communities to elevate our physical presence;

Engage members in meaningful education and leadership experiences to increase retention and elevate our leadership pipeline.

In the year ahead, I will outline the intentional, strategic, and collaborative actions our clubs can take to elevate our impact. Today, I wish you all the best as your club celebrates the start of the new Kiwanis administrative year. I look forward to working with Governor-Elect Tim and Vice Governor Dave to create seamless plans that move the Capital District forward in critical ways. It is a pleasure and a privilege to serve you, and I look forward to partnering with you to elevate our impact.

Yours in Service,



Josh Hiscock

IMPACT CLUB

NEW

The Possibility Project is our campaign to build a brighter future for 10 million children by raising US\$25 million for the Kiwanis Children's Fund by the end of the 2027-28 Kiwanis year. **It's the first fundraising campaign created solely to support the Kiwanis family and the children we serve.** With a commitment to give a per-member average of US\$500 or more over five years, your club becomes an Impact Club. It's recognition for an extraordinary commitment and for the inspiration it provides to fellow clubs and Kiwanians.





Notes from the Executive Director

BY PG JEFFREY WOLFF

NEW YEAR: TIME TO GET YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER

Happy New Kiwanis Year!

October in Kiwanis is always so inspiring to me. A whole new leadership team takes over at every level of our organization, with new ideas and goals. Hopefully by now, your incoming club board of directors should have conducted its training and done its goal setting for the year. Also, your club has polled its membership and knows which members of your club will remain and pay dues and which you need to drop from the roster. Those drops need to be done by October 10 at the latest or your club will be billed for another year of dues for those still on the roster.

MEMBERSHIP

In 2024-25, creating a club membership plan is part of the distinguished club criteria and so this is a great activity for your club if you haven't already done so. In fact, if your club appoints a membership chairperson, develops a membership plan, uses at least one ACE (Achieving Club Excellence tool), brings in four new members and finishes the year at least +2, you are already at 50 points out of the necessary 100 points to be a distinguished club. The KI-produced Membership Planning workbook is available online here and a great resource for developing your club's approach to increasing membership this year.

CLUB TREASURERS

Now is the time where we close the books on the previous fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2023-Sept. 30, 2024) and ensure that a complete review is performed by the two or more members of your club's Financial Review Committee (as dictated in the club's mandatory policies-section F). An annual examination of financial records should include, but not be limited to, bank reconciliations, income, disbursements, budgets, balance sheets and income and expense statements for both the administrative and service accounts, and any other financial records or reports of the club.

Your club's board of directors needs to approve a new budget for 24-25, so don't forget that KI allows you to get rid of the separate accounts for administrative and service.

CLUB SECRETARIES

Please make sure that all of your 2023-24 Monthly Reports were submitted (if not, you will need to complete the club's annual report which is not required if all 12 monthly reports were done) and that you have submitted the 2024-25 Club Election Report. This information is critical to the operation of the District, but more importantly to make sure that the right information is getting to the officers of your club.

YOUTH PROTECTION

October is Youth Protection Month, so please make sure that you have a program within your club on how to safely work with the youth that we serve and that all of your Service Leadership Program Advisors have a clear criminal

background check as required. Once this program has been done, club secretaries, please remember to check the box in the Secretary Dashboard that says "Our club has received Youth Protection Guidelines training."

CLUB DUES

As the dues amendment proposed by Kiwanis International passed in July, our dues will increase this year. Here is what your club will be billed at the end of October for each of your existing members: \$77 Kiwanis International Dues (up from \$52), \$22 Kiwanis Liability Insurance, \$8 Kiwanis Magazine, \$32 Capital District Dues for a total of \$139 per member (up from \$114). The only exceptions would be Life Members of Kiwanis International (who are exempt only from the \$77 KI Dues) and Former Service Leadership Program Members in their first two full years of Kiwanis membership who are exempt from both the \$77 KI Dues and the \$32 Capital District Dues.

CHANGES TO BYLAWS

This increase in KI dues means that your club probably needs to update its "Mandatory Club Policies" to specify a new club dues amount. The secretary needs to go to the "Club Bylaws" section of the Secretary's Dashboard and "Download a PDF copy of your bylaws". This document will show in Mandatory Club Policies Section A - CLUB DUES AND FEES, the current amount on line 1 for "Annual dues amount" that you are collecting from existing members. A vote of the entire membership is required to change this amount and should be high enough to pay KI and still have a bit leftover in the club treasury. Once the club has approved a new amount (and any other updates to the policies that might be needed), the club secretary should go back into the same module and select "To amend your club bylaws after approval, you must create a new version". They will be able to update the necessary sections and will be asked for the date of the club vote to approve the changes before submitting them to KI for ratification.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at jeffrey.wolff@capitalkiwanis.org.

(Past Governor Jeffrey Wolff, from Tysons, is the Capital District Executive Director.)



NEW CKI ADMINISTRATOR NEEDED

Greetings Capital Kiwanians! We are seeking a new CKI District Administrator to serve a three-year term beginning on April 1, 2025. This is a great opportunity to work with service-minded college students and grow CKI membership in the Capital District. If you have any questions, please reach out to Governor-elect Tim Gillette at tgillette1981@yahoo.com.

The application packet can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/cki-admin-app>

The deadline to apply is November 1st.

From the Governor-Elect

BY TIM GILLETTE

HOW WILL THIS YEAR'S CHANGE AFFECT YOUR CLUB?

Happy Kiwanis New Year! I'm excited to start the year as your Governor-Elect and am extremely humbled to have your confidence to serve the Capital District in this role. I look forward to working with Governor Josh and the rest of the Board of Trustees to support clubs and empower them to have a wonderful year.

October is an exciting time for our clubs, as we transition to a new year. We celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, and start on our goals for the next year. We retire and honor past officers and install and inspire new officers.

October 1st always has a special meaning for me. On Oct. 1, 2016, not only did I become Lt. Governor of Division 2, but I also became a father. Our daughter Natalie was born that morning – a Kiwanis New Year Baby!

With any transition comes change. Let's face it, change can be scary. I had an Economics professor who described change as a marble in a cereal bowl. Change that happens vigorously and quickly will cause the marble to move fast and not settle even after the change has been implemented. Change that happens more gradually will cause fewer disruptions to the marble, and the marble will settle soon after the change is completed. Something to think about as your clubs make changes in the new administrative year.

As I said in my speech to the House of Delegates at our District Convention, I'm going to use my time as Governor-Elect wisely. During the next year, I will be planning my year as Governor – forming goals, building teams, making appointments. It's like my freshman year Algebra teacher used to say, "If you fail to prepare, then prepare to fail."

I hope that members consider chairing or joining a District Committee. The work we do at the District level helps empower clubs to be successful. It's a worthwhile cause,

and very rewarding. I know there are still some openings on Governor Josh's team, so if you're interested, I highly encourage you to reach out to him and volunteer.

One of the first leadership positions I'll be appointing is a new Circle K Administrator. Circle K clubs are located on our colleges and universities across the District. The members of Circle K are doing amazing work on their campuses and embody their motto of "Live to Serve. Love to Serve." However, just like Kiwanis, we need more CKI members. The new administrator will have some tough challenges, as membership in Circle K hasn't recovered as quickly as we would like after the COVID pandemic. The new administrator will need to work well with student leadership to help increase membership and build clubs across the District. This person will serve a three-year term that will begin April 1, 2025 and end March 31, 2028. The application process for this position just opened Oct. 1. More information is included in this issue of the *Capital Kiwanian*.



In closing, I'd like to remind clubs and members that the District is here to provide support. If your club is having trouble, reach out to your Lt. Governor and he or she can connect you with someone on the District team. We're here to serve you!

And lastly... "Don't Forget to Sing When You Win!"

In Service,

TRG

(Tim Gillette, from Tysons, is the Capital District Governor-Elect for 2024-2025.)

From the Vice Governor

BY DAVID LURIE

A FAMILIAR FACE IN A NEW PLACE

Greetings, fellow Kiwanians and Happy New Year! It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the 2024-25 Vice Governor of the Capital District. So, you are probably looking at this article and saying to yourself, “This name sounds familiar,” and yes, it is true that I have been around for a minute. Let me tell you a little about my Kiwanis story.

My Kiwanis story began in September 1979 (yes, *Tyson's Kiwanis, I know that is 45 years ago!*) at Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School in Hialeah, Florida. I was encouraged to seek out some other activity besides just marching band and soccer.

A classmate of mine invited me to come to Key Club. I attended, liked what they did and joined (even though my faculty advisor was also my Algebra 2 teacher). Mr. Colby encouraged us, though, to try and make a difference in our community and be better citizens.

Not long after I joined, I got an opportunity to attend a Kiwanis meeting and visited our sponsoring club, the Kiwanis Club of Miami International Airport. It was there that it dawned on me that I was part of something bigger than myself and my school.

I was hooked at that point and after I graduated and went to college, I immediately joined the Circle K Club of Florida State University. At the end of my junior year, I was looking to do more so I joined my first Kiwanis club in 1985 – Lake Jackson, Florida.

The experiences and support from those Kiwanians in my first club I have carried with me. I moved to Virginia in 1989 and since that time I have held a very long list of offices including Club President (twice), Lt. Governor (three times), District Committee Chair (10 times), District Trustee, District Governor. However, for me the two most important positions that I hold are that of club member and Kiwanis Advisor to Key Club.

The Vice Governor has two very important roles. The first is to use this time to prepare for my eventual term as Governor. While Oct. 1, 2026, seems far away, it is not. I must start now to make sure I have a full team of committee chairs, Lieutenant Governors, and a Board of Trustees who will hit the ground running to serve you and the clubs.



The second role is to serve as a counselor to the administrators and committee chairs of our Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) – Kiwanis Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K International, Aktion Club, and Key Leader. It was said to me many years ago that if Kiwanis did nothing else but support our service leadership programs, we would be considered successful. If you ever need a reminder of what we do is important, spend some time at a Key Club meeting – you will come out inspired and refreshed to serve your community!

When I ran for Vice Governor, I decided that my theme was “Belief Plus Dedication Equals Hope.” I do believe that we are the premier service organization in our communities. As Governor, I will work with our team to increase our service and impact in our communities, strengthen our service leadership programs and prepare our organization for the next generation of leaders to lead us.

I’m excited to see what the next few years will bring. I’m looking forward to working with Governor Josh, Governor-Elect Tim, and the rest of the Board of Trustees to have a great year. Most of all, though, I am looking forward to serving you!

In Kiwanis Service and Friendship,

Dave

(David Lurie is on schedule to serve as Capital District Governor in 2026-27. He is an active Kiwanian in Tysons.)

Education News



KIWANIS: A TEAM SPORT BUILT ON COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION, UNDERSTANDING, AND CELEBRATION

BY SAMANTHA BOSSERMAN

At initial blush, Kiwanis might appear to be a civic organization much like many others. However, for those who have been involved, and certainly within the Capital District, it quickly becomes clear that Kiwanis is much more than just a group of individuals performing random acts of kindness.

Kiwanis is a team sport driven by collaboration, communication, understanding, and celebration. As in any sport, success comes not from the efforts of a few but from the united efforts of all members. We are a team!

Communication: The Key to Coordination

In any team sport, communication is essential, and the same is true for Kiwanis. Whether it's planning a fundraiser, organizing a service project, or strategizing for the future of the club, effective communication allows members to stay on the same page. Clubs depend on clear and open dialogue to ensure every member understands their respective roles, timelines are met, and tasks are completed efficiently and within a defined timeframe.

This communication must flow in multiple directions: from club leadership

to members, among members, and even from members to our communities. Whether through regular meetings, emails, or informal discussions, each interaction strengthens the foundation of the club. In this way, communication allows the club to function like a well-coordinated team, a well-oiled machine, where every player knows their role, understands the game plan, and can trust their teammates to fulfill their responsibilities and uphold their end of the bargain.

Collaboration: Working Together for the Kids

Much like a team working toward a championship, Kiwanis clubs work together to serve and improve the community. A successful Kiwanis club has the ability to harness the diverse talents, skills, and passions of its members to achieve a common goal – a better experience for the children in our communities. Each Kiwanis project is a testament to teamwork – whether it's organizing a school supply drive, hosting a fundraiser, or sponsoring a Key Club.

In a team sport, each player contributes their unique abilities to support the collective mission. Similarly, in Kiwanis, no two members are alike. Some are exceptional planners, others are creative problem-solvers, while some are natural leaders. It is important that club leaders identify and understand the ways that a member can contribute

to the club and encourage that important contribution. We always say that “many hands make light work.” Stay true to that essence and involve as many members as possible in the work of the club.

Understanding Club Members: Building Trust and Camaraderie

In sports, trust and camaraderie are built over time through shared experiences, both positive (wins) and negative (losses). Players learn each other's strengths and weaknesses and figure out how to complement one another, like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle. The same is true in Kiwanis. When members take the time to understand each other's backgrounds, strengths, motivations, and ideas, the club becomes stronger.

Don't forget to utilize those ice breakers that we talked about earlier in the year. Take time to get to know each other; it may seem simple and silly at the time, but in the long run, the club will benefit.

An understanding of each other fosters a culture of respect and empathy, where members support one another both inside and outside of club activities. It also helps the club to function more efficiently, as members can be placed in roles that best match their abilities. When everyone is working in a position that plays to their strengths, the club can operate more smoothly and serve even more children.

Building this trust and camaraderie often happens through consistent participation in club meetings and activities, informal social gatherings, and open conversations. When members feel valued and supported, they're more likely to contribute their best efforts to the team.

Celebrating Successes Together: The Joy of Collective Achievement

In any sport, the joy of winning is magnified when celebrated with teammates. In Kiwanis, celebrating successes – whether small or large – helps build morale and strengthens the bond between members. Whether it's reaching a fundraising goal, completing a service project, or making a significant donation to a local organization, these victories are a testament to the club's collective effort. As Governor-Elect Tim Gillette frequently espouses, "Don't Forget to Sing When You Win!"

Celebrating these achievements publicly, whether through recognition at meetings, community shout-outs, or simply taking a moment to reflect on what the club has accomplished, reinforces the spirit of teamwork. It's not just about recognizing the results but acknowledging the effort, the collaboration, and the shared vision that made success possible.

These celebrations also serve as a source of motivation. They remind members of the positive impact their work has on the community and inspire them to continue striving for more. Just as sports teams celebrate their victories and analyze their losses, Kiwanis clubs can use celebrations as opportunities to reflect, grow, and push toward even greater achievements.

(Samantha Bosserman, from the Kiwanis Club of Waynesboro, continues as the 2024-25 Leadership Development & Education Coordinator for the Capital District.)



Kiwanis as a Team Sport

In Kiwanis, community service isn't just an individual effort; it's a team sport. Nothing gets done in our clubs because one person did it. It takes the entire team to accomplish a goal. Through communication, collaborative efforts, understanding of fellow members, and shared celebrations of success, Kiwanis clubs are able to provide a great impact in the communities they serve. As in sports, when every member of the team comes together, they create something powerful, effective, and lasting.

Our ultimate goal as Kiwanians is to serve the children of the world, but the process of doing so also strengthens bonds between our club members, turning service into something even more fulfilling and enjoyable. Just like a championship team, a successful Kiwanis club thrives on the energy, dedication, and collaboration of every single member. Together, we are capable of doing great things.

Around the CD

What follows is a compendium of news briefs regarding recent or upcoming happenings throughout the Capital District. Should you have an item you would like to share in a future issue of The Capital Kiwanian, please email it to: editor@capitalkiwanis.org

Using KI tools to increase a club's presence

It has been on the Kiwanis Club of South Arlington's to-do list for a long time. And now, the club has a full-service website to promote itself and its service to the local community.

The club used the free site-builder tool from Kiwanis International as the starting point. Having a member with enough knowledge of Wordpress, on which the site structure is built, was a help in customizing it.

The result is the new site – <https://k03013.site.kiwanis.org> – that provides links to what the club (and Kiwanis International) is and how its members serve the children of the world.

"Being a small club, we needed a website but didn't need 'too much' of a website," club leader Scott McCaffrey said. "Using the Kiwanis International template and then customizing it was the perfect marriage."

Founded in 1947 under another name, the South Arlington club has gained a net three members over the past year, ranking it near the top, percentage-wise, among Capital District clubs.

"Having a professional website is going to be a marvelous recruiting tool," McCaffrey said. "To be able to get it together without expense or significant time involvement is an added bonus."

– Submitted by Scott McCaffrey, current secretary and immediate past president of the Kiwanis Club of South Arlington



Nicely presented Tablet of Honor

Outgoing Capital District Kiwanis Foundation President Hiawatha Nicely was honored at the August board meeting in Portsmouth with a presentation of the George F. Hixson Tablet of Honor. A dual member of the Botetourt and Roanoke clubs, Hi was awarded his first Hixson several years ago. Hi is pictured with Foundation Secretary Nancy Simonelli from Lynnhaven Virginia Beach.

Jane Erickson to visit Kiln Creek

The Kiwanis Club of Kiln Creek (Virginia) will host past Kiwanis International President Jane Erickson at its Oct. 24 club meeting. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Kiln Creek Country Club in the ballroom (1003 Brick Kiln Blvd, Newport News, VA). There is no meal. If you will be attending, please email Carla Morin at kiwanis99pres@aol.com with your headcount no later than Oct. 21.

Erickson, from Bellevue, Nebraska, was KI President in 2016-17.

Kudos to Lynchburg leaders

A recent issue of the Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg's newsletter, *Building Blocks*, contained an item extending congratulations to several folks currently filling Capital District leadership positions. Tulane Patterson, a Kiwanian for 38 years, is the new Lt. Governor for Division 15, a role he previously filled 17 years ago.

Jeannette Ogilvie is now serving as the district's new Youth Protection Manager. Jeannette has extensive SLP experience as a teacher in Bedford County Schools.

The club also recognized two-time PLG April Farmer, a member of the nearby Forest Club. April now fills the role of Southwest Trustee of the Capital District, responsible for an area running from Danville to Wise and including a portion of West Virginia.

Lynchburg is one of the oldest clubs in the district; its charter date is Jan. 21, 1920.

Delivering some big checks

At its Sept. 18 meeting, the Kiwanis Club of Williamsburg presented checks totaling \$61,250 to its "Headliner" organizations and those receiving sustaining grants.

Receiving checks from the club and the foundation this year were: the Williamsburg Regional Library, the Williamsburg Boat Club, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and FISH (a food pantry and clothing organization), as well the Arc of Greater Williamsburg and the Williamsburg Volunteer Fire Department, the latter two of which received sustaining grants.

The checks represent the funds the club has worked all year to raise to help support the outstanding work the organizations are doing within the community, especially for kids.

Teamwork makes dream work

Churchland (Virginia) Kiwanis coordinated the Blessing Bags initiative for Saturday's service project at DCON, successfully assembling 800 bags with the assistance of many dedicated Kiwanis volunteers. These Blessing Bags were distributed to four organizations: PIN Ministries, 4 Kids, Her Shelter and the Seton Youth Services.

– Submitted by Sonja Collier-Owens

Winchester supports Operation Remember

Betty Sue Unger, a recent program presenter at the Kiwanis Club of Winchester (Virginia), invited Kiwanians to support Operation Remember, a program designed to assist residents of area nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Kiwanians were asked to bring the following staples and supplies to Kiwanis meetings during the month of October: large print word search puzzle books; boxed tissues (the number one requested item); hygiene items such as body wash, men's razors and shaving cream, hair brushes and combs; throw blankets; socks; and snacks such as crackers, individual chocolates, cookies and mints.

The intent is to help residents feel remembered and cared for.



Ocean Pines hears an important message

Organ and tissue donations was the topic at the Kiwanis Club of Ocean Pines-Ocean City (Maryland) on Sept. 18. The speaker was Latrice Price of Infinite Legacy, who emphasized these donations save lives. (Pictured above L-R) are Club President Bob Wolfing, Latrice Price and Kiwanian Jack McLaughlin, who arranged the program.

A donor designation on a Maryland driver's license or identification card is sufficient legal authority for the removal of body organs and tissues upon the death of the donor. To register as a donor, check the "Yes" box when obtaining or renewing your driver's license or identification card. The MVA will also change your donor designation at any time at no charge, as long as donor designation is the only item you are updating.



Passing the Gavel

At the Roanoke club's installation of officers on Sept. 25, 20 presidents spanning 48 years of club history participated in "passing the gavel" ultimately to 2024-25 club president Jeanne Bollendorf, far right. Participating in the ceremony (left to right with the corresponding year of club presidency) were: John Bradshaw (1977), Gary Duerk (1988), Jackie Bledsoe (1994), Vern Danielsen (1997), Don Wilson (1999), Tom Miller (2000), Rupert Cutler (2003), John Montgomery (2005), Andree Brooks (2009), Ken Briggs (2010), Mike Loveman (2011), J.C. Taylor (2014), Sherry Dillon (2015), Andy Stone (2017), Don Witt (2018), Cheri Hartman (2020), Mike McEvoy (2021), Ben Spiker (2023) and Mike O'Brochta (2024). Duerk, Bledsoe, Danielsen, Montgomery, Brooks and Witt have also served as Lt. Governors. At least 12 other former club presidents are living and many of those remain active club members, although their respective schedules did not allow them to attend the ceremony.

Westminster announces forum series

The Kiwanis Club of Westminster (Maryland) will sponsor quarterly informational presentations this year at Explorations Commons Westminster Branch from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The first session, addressing Youth Leadership Education, was conducted Oct. 1.

The following sessions, all Tuesday evenings, will be held Dec. 3 (Early Childhood Literacy), March 4 (EMS Services in Carroll County) and June 3 (Post High School Options).

All meetings are open to the public. The Community Forum Series is designed to encourage participation in improving the community.

– Submitted by Art Riley, Past Kiwanis International President

FROM RUBBER CHICKEN TO KIWANIS CLUB PRESIDENT

BY MIKE O'BROCHTA

Over a short span of time, I went from being a new member selling rubber chicken raffle tickets in the largest Kiwanis club within the Capital District to being the club president.

My goal in writing this article in the first person is to summarize the steps that moved me along that journey and, hopefully, to do so in a manner that supports adaptation and adoption by others. I chose to invest a considerable amount of effort in the journey; others may choose differently. The journey was, just as I expected, very rewarding and satisfying on so many levels.

Get Involved

After joining the club 6½ years ago, I immediately made it known that I had a goal of being active. My sponsor along with the club president at that time both began offering me opportunities. I agreed to lead a new one-year club project to raise supplemental funds to support the administrative budget by selling 50/50 raffle tickets to

club members. Each week at our club meeting, the raffle winner received half of the money collected. The winner also received a rubber chicken to keep as a traveling companion until the following week.

Get Noticed

Leading the raffle got me noticed. Periodically, I would make a presentation to the club's board of directors that included a written summary and financial report. I would also publish articles in the club newsletter and make announcements from the club-meeting podium.

The "fun with a purpose" style of the announcements resonated with the members. The financial aspects of the raffle were only a portion of the success definition. The other key to success was the spirit that was being enjoyed by the club members: taking what we do seriously, but not taking ourselves too seriously.

Raffle winners would provide fun and often silly reports, complete with photographs, of their week of rubber chicken adventures. "RC" traveled all over the country. The project allowed me to build many new relationships, and begin developing a reputation. In a good way, I became known as the "rubber chicken guy."

Overachieve

I was becoming viewed as an active club member with a sense of humor who could be relied on to do a good job. I was also seen as someone who did his homework and who did not feel constrained to do things the same way they had been done previously. "He sure asks a lot of questions" was something that was routinely said by others as I questioned the status quo. The club leadership first took notice when, as a condition of accepting responsibility for the rubber chicken raffle, I explained that the raffle would not begin until after I had researched other 50/50 raffles to identify lessons learned and until approval was received for a plan I would write.

This "proper prior planning prevents particularly poor performance" approach received some raised eyebrows at first; after all, "we were just selling raffle tickets." However, as time went on, as many club members began enjoying themselves, and as more money was raised than expected, the word "overachieve" began being used. I was enjoying the time I was spending in the club; it must have showed.

Inspire and Support

Unsurprisingly, more opportunities to lead club projects quickly came my way. That pleased me very much. After all, I joined the club intending to be an active member. I led the ticket sales for our large annual pancake fundraiser and went on to lead that entire project; I led our weekly club meeting speaker program; and I led our large environment committee. As with the raffle, I treated these as leadership opportunities.

A different volunteer was recruited each month to do the actual raffle ticket sales, and a different volunteer was recruited each month to line up our weekly club meeting speakers. Volunteers were recruited to manage our pancake fundraiser efforts, including the ticket-selling. And, volunteers were recruited to run each of our environment projects.

Club members were inclined to volunteer because of the appeal of the "fun with a purpose" approach. One-by-one, these projects exceeded the success expectations by club members and leaders. And with each success, more club members became more inclined to volunteer. Volunteering also hinged on whether the club member thought his/her time would be well spent (research shows that the number one reason volunteers join or leave civic organizations is based how they feel their time is being spent).



My responsibility as a leader, after inspiring club members to volunteer, centered on providing each of these volunteers in each of these roles with a clear and unambiguous definition of success. Equally important, my role also included supporting them with the means to succeed: direction, guidance, instructions, budget, additional labor, and accountability. This style is often referred to as servant leadership.

Not long after starting this journey, I was asked by our club's nominating committee to join our board and then to begin the club's established sequence leading to the role of president (vice president for one year, president-elect for one year, president for one year, then past president for one year). My journey began with getting involved, accelerated by getting noticed, took off by overachieving, and culminated with leadership roles. When that nominating committee first called, I immediately responded that I would be "delighted" to accept.

And now, when I look back on the journey from selling rubber chicken raffle tickets to president, delighted is precisely how I feel about having accepted the nomination.

(Mike O'Brochta, a Kiwanian since 2018, just completed his term as president of the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke. He is retired from a long, rewarding career with the CIA.)

Membership Momentum



Let's make it a year for the history books

BY ALISA DICK

As we embark on a new Kiwanis year, I want to begin by expressing heartfelt gratitude to John Morris and his incredible team. Over the last three years, their dedication to the Membership Committee has been nothing short of remarkable. Under Jen Wolff's leadership as Governor two years ago, they accomplished something extraordinary – opening seven new clubs in a single year!

And their momentum hasn't slowed down. Together with last year's Governor Eric Lamb, they've kept the momentum going, with two more clubs opening by this past year's end. Their efforts have truly laid the foundation for a brighter future in our Kiwanis community.

Now, it's my privilege to introduce our new team for the year ahead. Our strategic focus will be clear and powerful: Build, Nurture, and Retain. I'm Alisa Dick, honored to serve as your Membership Committee Chair, and proud to be a member of the Midlothian-Chesterfield Club. Having had the privilege of serving as Division 10 LTG for the last two years, I'm excited to bring my passion for growth and community building to this role.

This year, I'm thrilled to be working alongside those two aforementioned and amazing leaders –Jen Wolff from the Tysons Club, who brilliantly served as governor in 2022-2023,

and Eric Lamb from the Charlottesville Club, our dynamic 23-24 governor. Jen will lead our efforts to open seven new clubs, while Eric will focus on providing membership boosts to our existing clubs. My focus will be on retention, ensuring that the vibrant energy we create today is sustained far into the future.

Both Jen and Eric are already hard at work, crafting their plans for this year. Under the inspiring leadership of Governor Josh Hiscock, we are poised for outstanding success – seven new clubs, boosting current clubs, and a Kiwanis spirit that will resonate far and wide.

I also want to remind everyone of some key resources to help your clubs thrive. The Club Toolbox, available at Kiwanis.org/members/club-toolbox/, is packed with vital resources to strengthen your clubs. And don't forget – your Club's Membership Plan is due by Oct. 31, 2024. Let's set ourselves up for success by staying proactive and committed to our shared vision.

Lastly, know that we are here to support and help you every step of the way. If you ever have questions, need guidance, or just want to brainstorm, don't hesitate to reach out. We're all in this together, and together we will Build, Nurture, and Retain a Kiwanis community that makes a lasting impact.

Let's make this year one for the history books!

(Alisa Dick, from the Kiwanis Club of Midlothian-Chesterfield, is currently the membership coordinator for the Capital District.)

NEW CLUBS COMING!

We are looking for volunteers to help in remote and in-person positions! Please contact Jen Wolff for more information: jen.wolff@capitalkiwanis.org.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| North Stafford County, VA | November 18-21 |
| Laurel, MD | January 13-16 |
| Cambridge, MD | February 24-27 |
| Moundsville, WV | April 7-10 |
| Bel Air, MD | April 7-10 |
| East End, VA (Richmond) | May 12-15 |
| Southwest, VA - TBD | Summer |

Join Us for a New Club Opening!



Planning is underway for 2024-25 New Club Openings.
We need dedicated Kiwanians like YOU!

- Bring Kiwanis to a community that needs it!
- No experience required, training will be provided.
- Learn recruitment skills to bring back to your home club.
- Help complete tasks from home, or join us for 1 to 3 days of recruitment and fellowship!
- Hotel will be provided for volunteers that are not local to the site.

Contact Jen Wolff to help us with an opening!
jen.wolff@capitalkiwanis.org

From the Kiwanis Children's Fund

YOU CAN'T TELL THE PLAYERS WITHOUT A PROGRAM!

BY PG JOHN TYNER

LEARN WHO OUR CAPITAL DISTRICT POSSIBILITY TEAM IS, plus how YOU can participate in what we are doing for the children of the world.....here's who to talk to, how to decide for what you can donate and where to send your donation, and finally who gets the credit. It's all in one article, so read it and act!!!

First off, let me introduce our volunteer Champions and advocates in your division who are Spreading the Word about how you and your clubs can help:

| Divs. | Champs/Advocates | E-mails | Club |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1&3 | Elana Gardner | egardner475@gmail.com | Rockville |
| 2 | Jen Wolff | jen.wolff@capitalkiwanis.org | Tysons |
| 4&8 | Renee Mackay /Ed Daley (8) | renmky@aol.com ecddaley@comcast.net | Crofton Front Royal |
| 5&6 | Robin Marks | robinmarks62@gmail.com | Bridgeville |
| 9&10 | Joe Stankus | keyclub@verizon.net | Tuckahoe |
| 12&13 | Ron McCallum /Wesley Brown (13) | mc6ram@aol.com jwesleybrown@hotmail.com | Middlesex-Saluda Smithfield |
| 14 | Richard Pippin | rapippin@cox.net | Chesapeake |
| 15 | Jackie Bledsoe /Melinda Dalton | jbled76500@aol.com dalton2836@gmail.com | Roanoke Danville |
| 16, 17, 18, 19 | - to be announced | | |
| 20 | Nathaniel Kyle | kyle16@comcast.net | East Huntington |



While we still have a few folks who are debating whether they have time to volunteer in addition to what they are already doing as Kiwanians, our Capital team is moving ahead to acquaint all our clubs with our three pushes for nutrition and health, education and literacy, and youth leadership and development. While our intention is to raise \$25 million over five years to help 10 million children, it is important for you

to understand what the program attempts to do and how it can be carried out.

It sure bears repeating that our whole point is to raise more funds for our Kiwanis grant programs which can be extremely supportive of existing Kiwanis clubs serving their own communities.

A club receives financial credit at KCF for every donation that indicates the club's Key Number and can come from any source whether a Kiwanian, a club budget or fundraiser, a Foundation source, an outside personal donation, a community source or as the result of a member acquiring a Hixson, a diamond, a Dr. Wil Blechman Fellowship or any higher recognition level. Every club can begin by making their 2024-25 annual gift donation. By the way, since TPP began in October 2022, many clubs already have credit towards whatever the pledge as an Impact Club would be. Check with your Champion to find this out!

A note for all club and foundation treasurers and individual donors: all donations (remember key numbers) should be sent to **Kiwanis Children's Fund, Dept 286, P. O. Box 6457, Indianapolis, IN 46206** for processing. Then, *voila*, your club receives more credit because of your effort.

A final note – if you'd like to be involved in any way, please email your Champion and let him/her know of your willing involvement. Comments, observations and questions are welcome to me as well at tyner@taliesan.com at any time.

(Past Capital District Governor John Tyner currently serves as district chair for the Kiwanis Children's Fund.)

Service Showcase

Welcome to a New Year of Service and Impact

BY CARRIE WAGNER

Hello, Capital District Kiwanians! My name is Carrie Wagner, and I'm thrilled to serve as your 2024-2025 Service and Signature Project Chairperson. As we kick off this new Kiwanis year, I'm excited for the amazing things we can accomplish together.

Volunteering is at the heart of what it means to be a Kiwanian. It's all about giving back, making a difference, and having fun while doing it. This year, we want to elevate our volunteering and do even more in our communities. Let's make this a year where we push ourselves to serve in new and impactful ways.

Here are a few examples of how you can take volunteering to the next level:

- **Organize a Day of Service:** Partner with other organizations or clubs to host a large-scale volunteer event that brings the whole community together.
- **Work with Local Schools:** Whether it's mentoring students, supporting school programs, or helping with facility improvements, partnering with schools is a powerful way to give back to the next generation.
- **Environmental Clean-Up Projects:** From local parks to rivers, organizing regular clean-up efforts can have a lasting environmental impact on your community.
- **Ongoing Support for Local Shelters:** Collect items, provide meals, or volunteer time at shelters for families, individuals experiencing homelessness, or animals in need.
- **Fundraising for a Cause:** Host fun, community-driven events to raise funds for a cause that your club cares deeply about, like scholarships or health initiatives.

This year, I also want to challenge each of you with two important questions:

1. *What ways will you volunteer in your community?*
2. *What will your club's signature project be?*

Your signature project is a chance for your club to leave a lasting mark. It's what makes your club stand out and shows your community what you're all about. And don't forget, the Capital District's Signature Project Contest is happening in January, so it's a perfect time to get creative and start planning something amazing.

Need Some Ideas? I'm Here to Help

If you're not sure where to begin, don't worry! I'd love to help you brainstorm and promote all the incredible work you'll be doing this year. Feel free to reach out to me at carriemwagner@gmail.com. I can't wait to hear all about your plans and projects.

Also, I would love for you to join my committee. We'll be meeting once a month to share ideas, plan projects, and brainstorm how we can elevate volunteering across the Capital District. If you love to serve and want to be part of a fun and passionate group of Kiwanians, this is your chance.

Quick Tips for Getting Started:

1. **Identify a Need**
What's something your community really needs right now? Whether it's a small gesture or a large-scale project, find that one thing that will make the biggest impact.
2. **Get Everyone Involved**
More hands mean more impact! Engage your club members, your neighbors, and even local businesses to create a project that everyone can be proud of. Invite your Service Leadership Clubs to participate with you in a few events and projects.
3. **Make it Fun and Sustainable**
Let's keep the fun going! Think about how your project can grow over the years and continue to benefit your community.
4. **Show Off Your Hard Work**
Don't forget to take pictures, share stories, and celebrate your successes. After all, who doesn't love a little recognition for a job well done?

I'm so excited to see the fantastic projects that will come out of this year. Let's make it a year filled with bold ideas, enthusiastic volunteering, and projects that make a lasting difference. Together, we can inspire a wave of service that leaves our communities stronger and our hearts fuller.

I can't wait to hear from you and see all the amazing things you'll accomplish.

(Carrie Wagner serves as president of the Kiwanis Club of Waynesboro.)



DCON 'ANCHORS OUR FUTURE' AND HAS FUN DOING IT

BY JOHN A. MONTGOMERY

The subject “seamless transfer of power” seems to be on the minds of everyone around the country these days. But for a source that actually explains how to do it, however, the politicians might consider looking to Capital District Kiwanis.

Our cherished organization’s 104th annual convention was held in Portsmouth VA Aug. 23-25 and several hundred Kiwanians and guests gathered at the Renaissance Portsmouth hotel to celebrate recent accomplishments; to recognize past, present and future leadership; and to plan moving forward together. Mission accomplished!

Kiwanis rotates its convention sites yearly among the various regions within our district.

Portsmouth is known as one of America’s most historic naval seaports, and it provided a beautiful backdrop for the Capital District to conduct its annual gathering emphasizing education, camaraderie, business and fun.

Governor Eric Lamb (2023-24, Charlottesville) and incoming Governor Josh Hiscock (2024-25, Ellicott City, Maryland) not only share broad physical frames and shaved heads; more importantly, they both embrace a philosophy of pursuing service excellence. They possess the energy to make it happen through Kiwanis applications; they understand the importance of intertwining good-natured humor along the way. This year’s convention reflected all of these characteristics.

“Anchoring Our Future” was this year’s seafaring theme. Pirate garb and tomfoolery were in evidence throughout the three days. Saturday night’s gala included a pre-dinner

reception where most in attendance displayed appropriate attire and accessories. “Aar,” “Shiver Me Timbers!” and “Ahoy, mates!” were commonplace catchphrases.

By weekend’s end, attendees marveled at the advance planning and attention to detail by convention chair Caren Schumacher (Williamsburg), vice chair Nancy Simonelli (Lynnhaven-Virginia Beach) and the entire convention committee. Good times and fresh ideas were absorbed by all.

From a leadership standpoint, the election of David Lurie from Tysons to the position of Vice-Governor was a key item. David, previously



governor in 2019-20 when the pandemic emerged and altered the best-laid plans, edged Chester's Jamie Moore, Heart of Virginia regional trustee, in a contested election. Governor-Designate Josh and Governor-Elect Tim Gillette (Leesburg) were unopposed and elected by acclamation.

As conventioners arrived on Friday, the district board and various committees conducted topical meetings. A "Leadership Luncheon" featured recognition of the past year's committee chairs. An extended afternoon CLE session was held for those incoming club officers who had missed earlier opportunities. Various exhibits and displays were set up.

The evening social included a pleasant boat ride from the hotel's adjacent dock to attend a Norfolk Tides-Worcester Red Sox AAA baseball game, complete with an outfield picnic. Kiwanians sailed back to the hotel after the game and had the opportunity to catch up with old (and new) acquaintances in various hospitality suites.

Saturday's docket included an address from the Mayor of Portsmouth, Shannon Glover, and 15 educational programs (five tracks with three concurrent hour-long sessions) on topics ranging from youth programs to social media; from member retention to the Kiwanis Children's Fund; from Diversity and

Equity to secretary and treasurer training.

John Muszkewycz, philanthropy officer of the Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters, was the luncheon speaker. As with all meal opportunities, Kiwanians from respective divisions shared program-support responsibilities.

The House of Delegates met Saturday afternoon and heard from the candidates for office, a precursor to Sunday's vote. Our counseling International Trustee Cathy Tutty (Butte, Montana) addressed the house and offered her assessment of the organization along with accompanying inspirational remarks; Capital District Executive Director Jeff Wolff (Tysons) shared his state of the district address. The consensus? Things are good in Capital!

The Capital District Foundation then held its annual meeting, with Hiawatha Nicely from Botetourt (Virginia) presiding; it was announced the Ducky Derby goal of \$15,000 had been exceeded; the Caring Corner drawing winners were posted, and next year's foundation officers were introduced – Dave Laraba from Beckley is the new president and Don Witt from Roanoke is president-elect. Nancy Simonelli and David Lurie continue as secretary and treasurer, respectively.

The aforementioned Governor's



Reception preceded the dinner and a program with several speakers followed. Governor Eric presented Susan Knick (Jackson River Area, Division 9 Lt. Governor) with a Hixson Fellowship.

The convention resumed early Sunday with a second House of Delegates session; nominating and candidate speeches were delivered, votes cast and the election results announced.





The inspirational breakfast followed, with Williamsburg Kiwanians Ken Ashby and Maris Segal presenting the message. The traditional staples of the closing session followed – retirement of district officers, installation of new officers, promotion of next year’s mid-year conference (Cambridge, Maryland), ICON (Pittsburgh) and DCON (Arlington).

Governor-Designate Josh then closed the session with his year-opening address.

Before the convention attendees left the hotel, many congregated to complete a hands-on service project of putting together 2,000 meal packets for Generosity Feeds (see cover photo of this issue).



Our Firm Foundation



Ducky Derby Nets Record Contributions

BY DON WITT

The Capital District Kiwanis Foundation established a new high in its fund-raising Ducky Derby raffle at this year's District Convention in Portsmouth. The \$17,000+ raised has permitted the Foundation to increase its contributions to 11 pediatric trauma hospitals within the district by 33 percent, from \$3,000 to \$4,000 for each hospital. The Foundation thanks its supporters for their support.

However, hospitals are not the only reason for contributing to the Foundation. Last spring the Foundation supported local Kiwanis clubs with \$21,550 in grants for projects ranging from school backpacks to a youth symphony instrument. Another cycle of grants will be awarded this fall. If your club needs support for a special project, be sure to apply for the spring 2025 grant cycle. <https://f03.site.kiwanis.org/grant-application/>

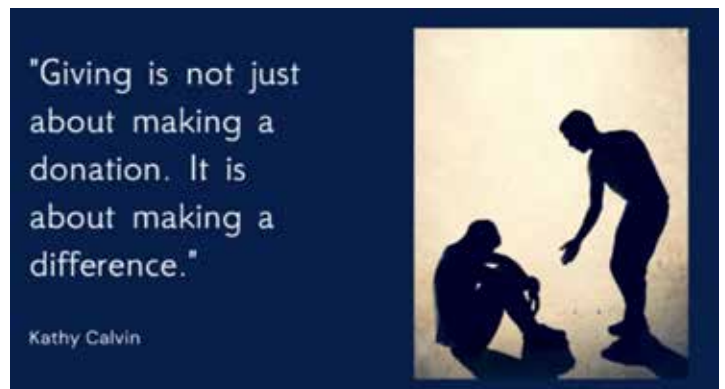
Other support the CDKF provides for the youth and community includes awarding \$2,500 to the Capital District Teenager of the Year, awarding scholarships to Key Club and CKI students (\$9,000), supporting leadership training and conference attendance for youth (up to \$10,000), and managing disaster assistance donations. None of this could happen without club support and individual donations; please keep those checks coming. Donations may be forwarded to:

David Lurie CDKF Treasurer
15189 Londons Bridge Road
Haymarket, Virginia 20169

(Don Witt is president-elect of the Capital District Foundation.)



Immediate Past CDKF President Hi Nicely presents a check to Carilion



Eye on KI

Here is a summary of recent news and advice from Kiwanis International that can inform your members and help your club run more effectively and efficiently.



Maximize your speakers' effectiveness

Most Kiwanis clubs know that inviting speakers to meetings adds interest for members – helping them learn about potential service projects and/or partnerships. For community leaders, it can also be an effective introduction to Kiwanis. But to ensure that the experience is productive and positive for both parties, it's important to prepare. These tips can help.

Establish clear guidelines. Give the speaker as much information as possible so they can make the most effective presentation:

- Confirm the meeting date, place and time.
- Make sure you and the speaker agree on their content.
- Request the spelling and pronunciation of the speaker's name and a resume to help you (or the appropriate club member) make a proper introduction.
- Let the speaker know the meeting's agenda, the time allocated for the speech (and Q&A session if you offer one), and the approximate time the meeting will end.
- Provide the number of members expected to attend.
- Detail any available equipment the speaker can use (screen, lectern, audiovisual equipment, computer, etc.).
- Explain the club dress code, if any.

Make the speaker feel welcome. Ask an officer or member to greet the speaker upon arrival and introduce them to other members. Provide a guest or speaker's badge and seat them at the head table (if applicable). Have water available within easy reach of the speaker during the presentation. Designate an officer or member to officially introduce the speaker and provide their credentials before the presentation.

Promote Kiwanis. If the speaker agrees, invite local media to attend the meeting and presentation. Don't forget to add a Kiwanis logo to your podium or lectern for photo opportunities.

End on a positive note. When the presentation concludes, thank the speaker and offer an inexpensive token of appreciation. Consider a donation on the speaker's behalf to a cause that reflects your club's focus on service and community.

Follow up. A day or two after the presentation, send the speaker a note of appreciation on behalf of the club. And don't forget to invite them to join Kiwanis!

What's your moment?

Kiwanis moments. We've all had them – those experiences that remind us why we joined Kiwanis and help us understand what it means to be a Kiwanian. Moments where a kid discovers their potential, a community comes together and the world becomes a little better.

Kiwanis International asked attendees of the 2024 Convention in Denver in July to share their favorite Kiwanis moments. Here is one example:

"My first Terrific Kids assembly as a brand-new Kiwanian, a little girl smiled at me (with missing teeth) and said, 'I've never been terrific before.' My heart melted. I told her she's always been terrific and always would be!" – T.M.

What's your Kiwanis moment? KI would love to hear about it. Share it by emailing it to ShareYourStory@Kiwanis.org or editor@capitalkiwanis.org; it may be featured in upcoming Kiwanis communications.



Scholarship opportunities

Scholarships from the Kiwanis Children’s Fund are designed to help members of Circle K International and graduating members of Key Club International. The Children’s Fund appreciates the generous donors whose dedication to the Kiwanis family and education makes these scholarships possible.

Scholarship applications are posted Nov. 1 and application submissions are due Feb. 1, 2125.

It is important to emphasize that the Children’s Fund only has information regarding the awards it disburses. Obviously, there are numerous other opportunities within the Capital District and individual clubs.

Kiwanis Children’s Fund Scholarship for Key Clubs

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund Scholarship is made possible by donations made in memory of J. Walker Field, David W. Hancock, Harry S. Himmel, Andrew Reardon, Stephen A. Sapaugh, Florence Skomba and Robert Thai. These donations were made to provide a scholarship opportunity to a deserving member in good standing of Key Club International.

Amount awarded: Two scholarships will be awarded with a minimum of award amount of \$2,300 each.

Circle K International Scholarships

Kiwanis Children’s Fund Scholarship for Circle K

The Kiwanis Children’s Fund Scholarship is made possible by donations made in memory is J. Walker Field, David W. Hancock, Harry S. Himmel, Andrew Reardon, Stephen A. Sapaugh, Florence Skomba and Robert Thai. These donations were made to provide one scholarship opportunity to a deserving member in good standing of Circle K International.

Amount awarded: Two scholarships will be awarded with a minimum award amount of \$2,300 each.

John E. Mayfield Circle K Scholarship

Former Kiwanis Children’s Fund President John E. Mayfield was a generous philanthropist and enthusiastic supporter of Kiwanis and the Children’s Fund. He established the John E. Mayfield Circle Scholarship Fund in 2015. John died in 2017, but his good works continue.

Amount awarded: minimum is \$1,300.

Members in good standing of Circle K International with a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent may apply.

Circle K International Past Presidents’ Scholarship

The Circle K International Past Presidents’ Scholarship was created in 1990 to recognize current club presidents who have demonstrated excellence and dedication to CKI. It is given every year to one current club president.

Amount awarded: \$1,000.

Who can apply? Current CKI club presidents in good standing.



Single-focus club mixes sports, service

When it comes to opening new Kiwanis clubs, many members find success by bringing together people who share a specific interest. They're called single-focus clubs – and the focus can be on just about anything that creates a sense of fellowship.

For example, the Kiwanis Club of the East Coast (based in New York state) was designed last year for members to meet virtually for a fantasy football league. Members also donate \$100 quarterly to support service projects, which have included a water project in Africa, service animals and sheltering single moms and their children.

In its first year, the club also formed a charitable foundation. Fundraising is based on member donations but has extended its reach with GoFundMe pages on behalf of its charities.

Members do reach beyond sports and occasionally gather in person. The club has provided birthdays parties for children who have cancer and are in the hospital on their big day.

Kiwanis Club of the East Coast is a reminder that the classic club format is just one option, meeting in-person on a regular basis. Other options include:

- Internet-based clubs offering flexibility for those who travel often or cannot attend traditional meetings. Internet-based club meetings are generally held in online chat rooms, and officers use technology extensively to keep members informed and connected.
- Young Professionals' clubs meet the needs of younger members with busy lifestyles, generally offering more flexible meeting schedules and hands-on service projects. In addition, young professionals' clubs conduct social activities for members and families, and they use technology in club operations and administration.
- 3-2-1 clubs: These clubs are for members who want to meet less and do more. A 3-2-1 club represents three hours of service, two hours of social activities and a one-hour meeting each month.

Happy Anniversary

Organization dates

October

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Crewe, VA..... | 1924 |
| Manassas, VA..... | 1924 |
| Chesapeake, VA..... | 1927 |
| Midlothian-Chesterfield, VA..... | 1950 |
| Northwest Washington, DC..... | 1955 |
| Mercury 64, VA..... | 1962 |
| Gloucester, VA..... | 2008 |

November

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Roanoke, VA..... | 1919 |
| Pocomoke City, MD..... | 1953 |
| Waldorf, MD..... | 1979 |
| Annapolis, MD..... | 1980 |
| Central Chesterfield, VA..... | 1983 |
| St Paul-Castlewood, VA..... | 2017 |



Support the Capital Kiwanis Disaster Assistance Program

The Capital District's [Disaster Assistance Program](#) was recently activated due to the devastating destruction of Hurricane Helene. This is a joint effort of the Capital District of Kiwanis and the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation.

Governor Josh is following the federal government's lead by declaring disaster areas for parts of the Southwest region of the Capital District, particularly the Damascus area. As you see on the news, many communities are destroyed and people need our help.

In the darkest moments, Kiwanians always rise to assist those in need.

Numerous Kiwanis clubs have pledged funds to help the communities in need. Some of our initial pledges include:

- Kiwanis Clubs of Bassett and Martinsville: \$1,000
- Kiwanis Club of Roanoke: \$1,650
- Kiwanis Club of Beckley: \$1,000

The Kiwanis clubs of Division 15 and 16 are challenging all Kiwanis clubs in the Capital District to donate to help people in these hard-hit disaster areas.

The Capital Kiwanis Foundation is accepting donations for the Disaster Assistance Program, which will be distributed to Kiwanis clubs that request assistance through our website.

Clubs can mail their check marked for the Disaster Assistance Program to:

David Lurie, CDKF Treasurer
15189 Londons Bridge Road
Haymarket, VA 20169

Clubs and members can also donate online at: www.CapitalKiwanisFoundation.org

Have questions? Please [contact the Foundation](#) directly for assistance.

No gift is too small. Every dollar matters and makes a difference!

Thank you for your support.

THE POSSIBILITY PROJECT

For over 100 years, Kiwanians have answered when called upon.

We've addressed some of the world's largest health crises — saving babies from tetanus and fighting iodine deficiency. We've helped kids learn to read. We've helped young people become leaders. And in Kiwanis clubs around the globe, we serve children in our communities.

Now the Kiwanis Children's Fund calls upon you to make a gift to amplify your impact through The Possibility Project. After all, 66 million children go to school hungry every day. And 250 million children lack basic literacy skills. When you give, you will join others in the Kiwanis family — supporting clubs that see an urgent need in their communities and helping them serve more children. Will you answer the call?



Kiwanis
CHILDREN'S FUND