

“Serving the Children of the World”

See our website at [www.smithfieldkiwanis.org](http://www.smithfieldkiwanis.org).

# Kiwanis Club of Smithfield

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## Smithfield Officers

### President

Angie Lowry

### President-Elect

Gloria Seitz

### Vice President

Bob Cole

### Treasurer

Barbara Bryant

### Secretary

Beth Supko

## Upcoming Events

Annual Toy Store Dec 2&3

Santa Breakfast Dec 13

## November/December Programs

Christian Outreach Nov. 20

Thanksgiving— No meeting Nov. 27

Key Club Dec. 4

TBA Dec. 11

TBA Dec. 18

Christmas—No Meeting Dec. 25

## *Santa's Helpers in Full Swing*



*Gloria Seitz and shopping volunteers shop for Toy Store treasures*

## *Toy Store Gets Ready to Open the Doors*

After much preparation to identify underserved children in IOW, the Toy Store Committee and other volunteers descended upon the Target Store at Chesapeake Square Mall on November 13. It was a day of shopping for toys, great fun and hard work. With tremendous assistance from an army of Target Associates, the shoppers were able to complete a large portion of this year's shopping. Cart after cart rolled through the checkout stands and then Charlie Seitz (Gloria's husband) rolled them to the parking lot and loaded vehicle after vehicle—Thanks, Charlie!! The toys were then taken to Carter's "river house" for storage and Carter has volunteered to take them to the Smithfield Center for distribution on December 2 and 3—Thanks Carter!!

Due to inventory schedules at Target, there will be another shopping day on November 20 to complete the shopping. Please let Gloria know if you can help.

## *Santa is Coming Back to Smithfield*

One of our most successful projects is back for another year. Breakfast with Santa, the prelude to Smithfield's Annual Christmas Parade, will be held on December 13 beginning at 8:00 at the Smithfield Center. Sue Ivy will once again be chairing this event, so be listening for her at upcoming meetings for all the details.

Key Club members will be assisting as Santa's Elves again this year and we need your help with cooking, serving and general manpower. This event seems to grow bigger every year, so please consider coming out and lending a hand.

## *Key Club is a “Key” Club at SHS*



*SHS Key Club members at their annual convention in Richmond. Pictured are Amanda Lewis, Gina Latimer, Amy Esser, Samantha Ketcham, James Hirst, Keith Tucker, P.J. Cave, Jonas Kalter, and Tracy Ferguson (advisor)*

One of the Board's initiatives for 2008-2009 Kiwanis year is to increase our involvement and support of the Key Club at Smithfield High School. As part of that effort, we think it's important that our members know a little bit more about the Key Club we sponsor. The Key Club at SHS is the most active club at the school and has over 50 members, 30—40 of whom routinely attend meetings and are involved in projects. They have about 14 projects scheduled for this year, including assisting our club at the Santa Breakfast. Scott Lauder and Angie Lowry attended a recent meeting and in Scott's words, "Angie and I were floored with the amount of activities they do."

The Key Club meets weekly on Thursday evening and our Kiwanis Club has committed to having a Board Member attend at least one meeting a month to discover how we can best support them and work together with them. If you are interested in attending one of the Key Club meetings, contact any Board Member. Key Club members will be the speakers at our December 4 weekly meeting—let's give them a warm Kiwanis welcome!

## *Getting to Know...Mac Cofer*

Mac is a native of Surry County and a graduate of Surry High School. He continued his education at Virginia Tech School of Agriculture and later at Christopher Newport School of Business where he majored in accounting. Mac worked for Smithfield Packing and ITT Gwaltney from 1964 to 1976 starting as a plant worker and rising to Director of Cost Accounting at both plants. In 1976, Mac left the meat packing business and joined AXA-Equitable as an agent and Registered Representative selling life, health and annuities. In 1994, he added to his business by branching into property and casualty insurance with the purchase of the Barrett-Folk Agency. He added a second agency purchase in 2000.



Mac is married to Edna, Assistant to the Director at Paul D. Camp Community College and former teacher at Smithfield High School. They had one child, Thomas, who passed away as the result of an accident in 1989.

Mac has a long and varied history of community service. He was active in the Jaycees for 19 years, serving at the local, state and national levels. He is a Charter Member of our Smithfield Kiwanis Club. Mac served on the Smithfield Planning Commission, Smithfield Town Council, IOW Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors for 26 years. Mac is a founding member and vice chairman of the Smithfield-Isle of Wight-Windsor Crime Line.

## *Did You Know?*

This is a new feature that will help all of us get to know a little more about the Kiwanis organization, its vision and its goals. If you have a topic you would like to see addressed here, please email the newsletter editor at KarenLFoster@gmail.com



The first Kiwanis Club was organized in Detroit, Michigan in 1914. The group received a charter from the state of Michigan on January 21, 1915. This day is now regarded as the birth date of the Kiwanis organization. The original club's name is Detroit Kiwanis Club No. 1 in recognition of its heritage.

Kiwanis was created by a professional club organizer named Allen Simpson Browne. His concept for the new organization included the exchange of business among the members. However, the Detroit club had been organized only a few weeks when the members became involved in their first service project. During the next five years, Kiwanians would debate the purpose of the organization: mutual business exchange or community service. I guess we all know how that debate turned out!

The first name that was suggested for the organization was "Benevolent Order Brothers." Ottie Robertson, a charter member of the Detroit Kiwanis Club No. 1 didn't like it. "It seems to me," he said, "that Benevolent Order Brothers is a mighty peculiar name for an organization of business men. Who wants to be a BOB?"

## *The Prez Sez...*

*By Angie Lowry*

Everyone is so busy! It seems there are lots of things going on – in our personal lives, in Kiwanis, in our community and our country, and across the globe. As Christmas approaches, the next six weeks will probably not just be busy, but hectic for most of us as we juggle family, work, decorating for the holidays, recitals, shopping, cooking, parties....etc. etc. During all the activity around us, it is so important to take a few minutes to consider all of our many blessings this Thanksgiving, and to think of those who are much less fortunate. It is wonderful that our Club can reach out and help so many people in our community during the Holiday Season – the Toy Store and Breakfast with Santa are both just around the corner!!!

I would like to share with you the following email I received recently.....

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl, Shelby. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to Shelby and said, 'Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today.' After a few minutes, Shelby returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. 'Oh,' she said, 'on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together.'

May your Holiday Season 'just come together' and be filled with love, joy and peace.

Blessings,

Angie.