

“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

Mid Winter Conference March 7

Kurt Beach Fundraiser March 14

Kiwanis Fundraiser April 11

## February Programs

U.S. State Department Feb 19

TBA Feb 26

Check our Website After 2/25 for March Programs

## Smithfield Kiwanis Gets in the Swing of Things



*John Graham is Back in the Role of Golf Tournament Chair for 2009*

On Thursday, May 7, the Smithfield Kiwanis will hold its Annual Golf Tournament at the Cypress Creek Golf Course. The Golf Tournament committee, led by John Graham, is working feverishly to make this the club's biggest fundraiser of the year.

According to Graham, "Sponsors will be our biggest challenge." For this reason, each club member is being asked to provide the committee with names and contact information for prospective sponsors in the community and beyond. There are several levels of sponsorship opportunities including, Hole Sponsor for \$100 or \$250, Snack Cart and Beverage Cart Sponsor for \$500 each, Golf Cart Sponsor for \$750, Dinner Sponsor for \$1,000 and Title Sponsor for \$1,500. Each sponsor level receives an increasing degree of recognition in pre-tournament advertising, during the tournament itself and in publicity after the tournament. For the specific opportunities at each sponsor level, ask any tournament committee member (listed below).

In the club's ongoing quest to use technology to make club life more efficient, golfers will be able to sign up for this year's tournament through the website at [SmithfieldKiwanis.org](http://SmithfieldKiwanis.org). Scott Lauder, club webmaster, is currently working on setting this up and will let us all know when it is available. To encourage golfers to register online, there is a discount for both foursomes and individuals for using this registration method. Paper registration is still available, but online registration is definitely encouraged.

Any questions about the tournament can be directed to the following committee members: John Graham, committee chair, Bob Cole, Andrew Gregory, Kristin Wilda, Amy Musick, Connie Chapman and Scott Lauder.

## *Local Kiwanian Gets Big Honor*



*Billie and Mary Ellen, His Wife, at the Demon Baseball Opening Day Banquet Where His Number was Retired.*

Saturday, February 7 was a special night for one of our Smithfield Kiwanian's. Billie R. Cook, former Northwestern State University baseball player, had his number retired during the annual Demon Baseball Opening Day Banquet. The guest speaker was Ryan Theriot, Chicago Cubs shortstop. Cook is only the second baseball player in the Division 1A University's 120-year history to have a number retired. Cook was a record-shattering pitcher for the Demons from 1956-59 pitching 37 games and winning 29, a school record that still stands 50 years later. He was a dominating factor in Gulf States Conference play. A three-time All Gulf State Conference pitcher, Cook led the nation in wins in 1957, earning MVP honors. Nicknamed the team's "Iron Man" by the newspaper, Cook took victories in two doubleheaders during the 1957 season, three of them shutouts. His career ERA was 1.91 with an average of 7 strikeouts per game. In three seasons, he walked only 20 batters. Cook also played semi-pro for the Homer Oilers, Big Eight Conference, posting an 8-4 record. He had offers from the Giants, Tigers, Kansas City, Yankees and the St. Louis Cardinals. In an effort to influence Cook to sign with their club, the Cardinals footed the expense for Cook and his bride's honeymoon in St. Louis. Despite such lavish offers, the righthander decided with the advice of his father, to remain in college and earn his degree. It's a decision he says he's never regretted (well maybe just a little).

## *Getting to Know...Bill Laine*

Bill was born in Isle of Wight County and grew up on a farm near the courthouse. Ironically, his life's work would bring him back to that very courthouse (more about that later). After attending Windsor High School, Bill was off to Virginia Tech to graduate with a B.S. in Business Administration in 1960. After graduation, Bill was on his way back to the county to join Gwaltney, Inc. where he was a Quality Manager for 12 years.



It was in 1973 that Bill would return to that courthouse and follow his family's work as the Clerk of Isle of Wight Circuit Court where he would remain for 34 years. During his time as Clerk of Court, Bill served as the President of the Virginia Clerk's Association and was Legislative Chairman for 10 years.

In addition to being a Charter Member of the Kiwanis Club of Smithfield, Bill has a long history of community service. He has been President of the Jaycee's, Ruritan, Kiwanis, Tidewater Soaring Society and Historic St. Luke's Restoration. Bill is a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and served as the church's finance Chairman for 20 years. He has recently been appointed by Governor Tim Kaine to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission as the official recreational fishing representative.

In the little spare time he has, Bill enjoys reading, hunting, fishing, flying, skiing, hiking and traveling. Bill is also a friend to numerous wildlife species by maintaining food plots for them on his farm.

The Kiwanis Club of Smithfield thanks Bill for all his years of service and looks forward to many more!

## *Key Club Update*



On Saturday February, 7, the Smithfield High School Key Club participated in the 17th Annual Polar Plunge in Virginia Beach to benefit the Special Olympics. It was a relatively warm day for February, but the water was a bone chilling 41 degrees! Despite the blue lips and chattering teeth, SHS Key Club members raised a whopping \$1400 for this special cause.

### ***Announcement:***

**On April 9th, during our Annual Meeting, the Club will elect Board Members for the 2009—2010 year. There are four board positions open, please let any current board member know if you would be interested in serving.**

### ***The Prez Sez***

***By Angie Lowry***

Recently, I received an invitation from the Williamsburg Club, to attend their annual fundraiser, the Snowball. As the date of the event, February 14<sup>th</sup>, tied in perfectly with us being in Williamsburg for the Consecration of the new Episcopal Bishop Holley Hollerith, and the Annual Council, we decided it would be great to go, and see how a large club threw a big event. And, what better than 'An evening in Paris,' the theme for the night, to take your sweetheart to on Valentines Day! So, Peter was let off the hook this year!

It was a really fun night, with a HUGE Silent Auction, beautiful decorations, and everyone dressed up to the nines. There were 350 people in attendance, at the Williamsburg Marriott, for dinner and dancing. We met some most interesting folks, including a couple who had come down for the event from the Rehoboth Beach Club. They had spent the previous day in Smithfield, admiring our lovely town – and they had lunch at The Station! Their Club has only 35 members, and they have two Key Clubs, and their support of many various organizations throughout the year, keeps them very busy. I chatted with Gary, the President of the Williamsburg Club, about the running and orchestration of a club with over 200 members! We wine and dined on Coq au vin, and a yummie French pastry dessert, with great fellowship at the table, both with other Kiwanians and guests. And as we spent the night there with our Marriott points, we didn't have far to go to get 'home!'

February seems to be a good time of year for such an evening – I can't wait to see how much money they raised! Maybe there will be a time when we could hold a similar event in Smithfield? Food for thought!!!

I hope you all also had a lovely Valentines Day evening, Angie.