

"Serving the Children of the World"

See our website at www.smithfieldkiwanis.org

Kiwanis Club of Smithfield

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Smithfield Officers

President:

Bob Cole

President-Elect:

Sherry Vincent

Vice President:

Gerald Gwaltney

Treasurer:

Amy Musick

Secretary:

Beth Supko

Jan/Feb Programs

Peninsula Jan 21
Pilots - Jeffrey
Scott

TBD Jan 28

YMCA Feb 4
Aquatic
Programs -
Caitlyn
O'Hara

YMCA Strong Feb 11
Communities
Campaign -
Leslie Bryant

YMCA Feb 18
Children
Programs -
Sharon
Nichols

YMCA Teen Feb 25
Programs -
Kris Titus

What's Happening??



It's the time of year when we look forward to a busy spring and summer season of meetings, fundraisers and service projects. And, this year, we have a new fundraiser that is going to take the effort of every member of the club (more on that later). Let's do a quick run-down of what is ahead of us as a club.

On January 30, the K-Family Reunion will be held on the campus of Old Dominion University. The Salvation Army has asked each club to bring donations of canned food, clothing and/or cash. President Bob has asked that each Smithfield Club member bring one item to our January 21 or 28 meeting and he will ensure that they are delivered to the Salvation Army truck on the 30th at ODU. Bob thanks all in advance for their Kiwanis support! There will also be a Capital District fundraiser at the K-Family Reunion. Tickets can be purchased from Bob for \$10 for three tickets. Prizes are: first prize \$300, second prize \$200 and third prize \$100. Proceeds will benefit local children's hospitals.

One of the club's biggest fundraisers will soon be upon us. The golf tournament is scheduled for May 6th at the Cypress Creek Golfers Club. Andrew Gregory is chairing the event this year. The committee has already had its first meeting, but there is still time to get in on the action. If you would like to help, give Andrew a call or see him at a luncheon meeting. May 6 is also the date of the Annual Prayer Breakfast. As of press time, details were not yet available, so be listening at our weekly meetings for the particulars.

Now for the information on the club's newest fundraiser...the Homearama Parking Project. The spring Homearama of the Tidewater Builders Association will be held at Founder's Pointe in Carrollton May 7 - 23 and the Kiwanis Club of Smithfield will be directing the car parking. This is a huge project that will require a huge effort from club members and it promises huge returns - to the tune of \$7,000 that will support our children's programs. Jim Blesse and Wayne Willis have graciously stepped up to chair the event - thanks, Jim and Wayne!

July 20 will bring one of the club's biggest service projects of the year, Kid Fishing Day. A favorite of club members, this project truly epitomizes what Kiwanis is all about - service to the community through developing its children! Wesley Brown is chairing the project again this year and he's looking for a lot of help. Let Wesley know if you would like to help!

Interclub visits, coordinated by Ed Mortimer, will continue throughout the remainder of the club year. As Lt. Governor, Peter Stephenson, makes his visits to other clubs, Ed is arranging for interclubs to coincide with Peter's visits. To be counted as an official interclub, we must have four members attending. Let's all step up and participate in visiting another club, as President Bob says, "it's a nice experience."

As you can see, the club will be very busy over the next several months. Let's get everyone involved and PARTICIPATE!!!

SHS Key Club Update



2009 Key Club members at their annual convention

The Smithfield High Key Club continues to be a strong force in the local community and beyond. Scott Lauder, Smithfield Kiwanis liaison to the Key Club, recently attended a meeting and provides us with this update.

The Key Club has raised over \$700 for Unicef, the largest sum raised in the history of the club. Apparently, foreign exchange students are fitting right in to the club, with Suzon Howlader, exchange student from Bangladesh, being one of the students who raised the most money for this worthy cause.

More than 15 club members are signed up to participate in this year's Polar Plunge on February 6 in Virginia Beach. In order to participate, each "plunger" must raise at least \$100 and all monies raised are donated to the Hampton Roads Special Olympics.

Key Club members are also reaching out to help those abroad in Haiti in the wake of the recent earthquake. They are looking at ways to raise money to help the people of the small island nation by holding a car wash, hot chocolate sales, a donation basket during lunch periods and assembling care packages.

If you would like to attend a Key Club meeting and see all the great things these kids are doing, contact Scott.

Getting to Know...

Jeff Nilsson

Commander Nilsson enlisted in the United States Navy in September 1957. He completed four years active duty having served in a number of ships and stations. While enlisted he was a personnelman. Upon release from active duty, he affiliated with the Navy Reserve, drilling with various Reserve Units in New York and Virginia. In November 1974, Jeff was commissioned in the reserves as a LT(jg), 1635 (Intelligence). He drilled in Richmond and Norfolk until June 1978 when he and his family moved from Richmond to Miami, Florida. Jeff was then attached to Reserve Intelligence Area 13 and drilled in numerous units, having command of two of them, while rising to the rank of Commander, and finally retiring from the Reserve in 1999.

In civilian life, upon release from active duty, Jeff entered college and began his studies in Business Management. It became necessary for Jeff to enter night school to continue his education while being employed. In 1969 Jeff entered the banking industry and remained in that field until "retirement" in 2002. In May of 1972, Jeff earned a B. S. in Management from Rutgers University. Jeff has also done some graduate studies at the University of Miami in Miami, Florida.

Jeff is married to the former Susan Mantz of Westfield, New Jersey and they have two children. A son Erik who is a graduate of Virginia Military Institute, is presently serving in the United States Navy as a Commander, and is serving as Executive Officer of Beachmaster Unit One in San Diego, CA. They have a daughter Christian who is a graduate of Randolph-Macon Women's College and is employed with Virginia Asset Management in Norfolk.

Jeff and his wife moved from Miami in July 2002 and currently reside in Carrollton, Virginia. Jeff joined the Historic Naval Ships Association in February 2003 where he currently serves as Executive Director.



Prez Sez...

By Bob Cole

As we continue to influence our community, it is nice to stop periodically and review who we are as Kiwanians. Once a year Peter Stephenson has been doing a wonderful job with club orientation for new members. Periodically it is good for all of us to remind ourselves why we are in Kiwanis.

Some quotes:

"Kiwanis, **through guidance and example**, works to develop future generations of leaders. Every day, **Kiwanians are revitalizing neighborhoods**, organizing youth-sports programs, tutoring, building playgrounds, and performing countless other projects to help children and communities."

"If you don't know what your passion is, realize that one reason for your existence on Earth is to find it. Pay attention to what makes you feel energized, connected, stimulated—what gives you your juice. Do what you love, **give it back in the form of service**, and you will do more than succeed. You will triumph."—Oprah Winfrey

Our Defining Statement:

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time."

Objects

Kiwanis has adopted six "Objects" to help guide activities:

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the [Golden Rule](#) in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

History

The organization was founded on January 21, 1915, in [Detroit, Michigan](#), by Joseph G. Prance (a tailor) and Allen S. Browne (a professional fraternity organizer). In August 1914, Browne suggested to Prance the idea of a business and professional men's club with social and commercial benefits. Prance was sold on the idea, and in 1915 the Kiwanis Club of Detroit, Michigan, was founded. Kiwanis became international with the organization of the Kiwanis club of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, in 1916. Kiwanis limited its membership to the United States and Canada until 1962, when worldwide expansion was approved. Since then, Kiwanis has spread to all inhabited continents of the globe.

The original purpose of Kiwanis was to exchange business between members and to serve the poor. The debate as to whether to focus on networking or service was resolved in 1919, when Kiwanis adopted a service-focused mission. Each year, clubs sponsor nearly 150,000 service projects and raise more than \$107 million. As a global project in coordination with UNICEF, members and clubs contributed more than \$80 million toward the global elimination of [iodine deficiency](#) disorders (IDD), the leading preventable cause of mental retardation.

Until 1988 the organization accepted only men as members. By action of the International Convention in 1987, the rules were changed to admit women as well. Currently women constitute about 22% of total members.

Service

Kiwanis tries to serve children and youth using two approaches. One attempts to improve the quality of life directly through activities promoting health, education, etc. The other tries to encourage leadership and service among youth. In pursuit of the latter goal, Kiwanis sponsors about 7,000 youth service clubs with nearly 320,000 youth members.

Kiwanis members have tried to help shelter the homeless, feed the hungry, mentor the disadvantaged, and care for the sick. They have built playgrounds and raised funds for pediatric research.

In 2007, the charitable financial arm, Kiwanis International Foundation, was awarded the top rating by an independent evaluator.

Kiwanis Family

Kiwanis provides leadership and service opportunities for youth through its Service Leadership Programs.

Key Club

Kiwanis founded and supports [Key Club International](#). Started in [Sacramento, California](#) in 1925, Key Club it is the oldest and largest service program for high school students in the world. There are about 5000 Key Clubs, primarily in the United States and Canada, but with clubs also in Central and South America, Caribbean nations, Asia, and Australia. Worldwide membership is more than 250,000 high school students.

We have some fund raisers approaching that we will need your energies to accomplish. The golf tournament is May 6, followed the next day by the first day of the Homerama Challenge. The outcome from the monies raised for the youth of our area will be significant. Thanks for being a Kiwanian.