

“Serving the Children of the World”

See our website at www.smithfieldkiwanis.org.

Kiwanis Club of Smithfield

Volume 33/Issue 7

April 2009

Smithfield Officers

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Angie Lowry

President-Elect

Gloria Seitz

Vice President

Bob Cole

Treasurer

Barbara Bryant

Secretary

Beth Supko

Butts Benefit Children



Upcoming Events

**Prayer Breakfast & May 7
Golf Tournament**

On April 11, the Kiwanis Club of Smithfield held another successful barbeque sale. This time, the goal was to raise money for the club's many service projects focused on the children of Isle of Wight. As always, at the helm of this project were Carter Williams and Charlie White. They and their crew were out bright and early for set up and to start smoking that delicious barbeque. Despite a bit of wind and cold, the club had a very successful event, raising over \$1600.

April/May Programs

CNU—Paul Trible Apr 23

Newport News/Williamsburg Airport Apr 30

Lunch at Cypress Creek—no speaker May 7

Camp Chanco May

Home Sweet Home Care May 21

Prudential Credit Counseling May 28

Thanks go out to all club members, family members and others who cooked, served and cleaned. Another job well done!!

**Don't Forget! The Annual Prayer Breakfast on May 7.
See Wesley for details.**

Golf Tournament Coming Soon!!!

Thursday May 7 will be a very busy day for Smithfield Kiwanians. The day starts with the Annual Prayer Breakfast and then leads to one of our biggest fundraisers of the club year—The Annual Golf Tournament. The outing will be held at Cypress Creek Golfers Club and this year's sponsor is Towne Bank.

Club members are asked to find all their golfing friends and encourage them to sign up to golf, or to possibly be a sponsor for the event. There are many sponsorship levels available, they can be found on our website at smithfieldkiwanis.org. Golfers can also register through the website. Deadline for online registration is April 30.

As a special treat this year, our regular lunch will be at the golf course at 12:30. The golf committee hopes that all members will come out and mingle with the golfers.

More Kiwanis Trivia

The name “Kiwanis” was coined from an expression of the American Indians in the Detroit area where Kiwanis was founded. The expression “Nunc Kee-wan-nis” meant, broadly, “we trade” or “we share our talents.” As a coined word, however, Kiwanis has no real meaning except as the name of our great organization.

The first president of Kiwanis International was George F. Hixson of Rochester, NY. He was elected at the first convention in Cleveland in 1916 and re-elected the next year. He is the only International President to have served two terms. Today, we honor Hixson with the Hixson Fellowship of the Kiwanis International Foundation which presents medals to members who have donated at least \$1,000 to the Hixson Endowment Fund or the Worldwide Service Project.

Until 1962, Kiwanis clubs were limited to the U.S. and Canada. Club delegates to the 1961 convention in Toronto approved the extension of Kiwanis to the rest of the world. In April 1962, the Kiwanis Club of Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico became the first club to be organized outside of the two founding nations. Today, Kiwanis clubs are active in more than 70 nations and geographic areas.

Iceland has the highest per capita Kiwanis membership. About one in every 200 Icelanders is a Kiwanian, compared with about one in every 1,000 Americans.

Getting to Know...Melinda Williams

Melinda is one of our newest members having joined the club this past winter. She is a native of Portsmouth and grew up in Virginia Beach. Melinda has a degree in finance from Tidewater Community College where she graduated with honors. She is currently an Assistant Vice President and Senior Branch Manager with Farmers Bank here in Smithfield and has been in the banking field for the last 17 years.

Melinda is married to Drew Williams (editor’s note: she says Drew is “absolutely fabulous”, but I didn’t think it was my place to describe him this way) who is the Program Manager for Marine Hydraulics International in Norfolk. Melinda has 2 children, Julie, just turning 13 years old and Jackson, turning 8 years old.

Outside of work, Melinda enjoys powerboating, music, and watching her kids riding motocross. She is involved with the American Cancer Society and enjoys Kiwanis (we made her say that). Each year, at Thanksgiving, Melinda does an annual fundraiser to feed as many as 25 families whose children attend a local elementary school.

We are glad to have Melinda as a new member. The next time you see her at a meeting, be sure to give her a big Smithfield Kiwanis Welcome!!



The Prez Sez...

By Angie Lowry

This month, a group of 18 students and chaperones attended the Key Club Annual Conference, in Richmond, representing Smithfield High School. The Key Club is the largest school club, with over 60 active members. Under the leadership of Tracy Ferguson, they organized many positive activities and fundraisers within and outside the school. As their sponsors, we are proud of their achievements, and this year we will be honoring them at the Senior Awards Ceremony, when we will present the 2009 graduates with certificates to acknowledge their dedication and leadership. Also, at one of their meetings, we plan to invite their parents and our club members to come to see and hear how they have worked throughout the year to make a difference in so many ways. The date is to be determined for this event, and will be announced. We hope to see many of you in attendance, to show our support to these wonderful young people – the leaders of the future!