

“Serving the Children of the World”

See our website at www.smithfieldkiwanis.org.

Kiwanis Club of Smithfield

Volume 33/Issue 9

June 2009

Smithfield Officers

President

Angie Lowry

President-Elect

Gloria Seitz

Vice President

Bob Cole

Treasurer

Barbara Bryant

Secretary

Beth Supko

Fish...or Cut Bait



Upcoming Events

Kid Fishing Day July 21

Spouses Night July 23

Division Meeting July 25

Actually, Kiwanis Division 21 needs volunteers to fish *and* cut bait for their Annual Fishing Day. This year's event will be held on July 21 (this is a corrected date from last month's newsletter) from 9:00—1:00 at the James River Fishing Pier. As in past years, the Division clubs hope to introduce the sport of fishing to over 200 of area underserved children between the ages of eight and 12. The clubs will also provide educational opportunities focused on local waterways and a hot dog lunch for each child.

June/July Programs

VMRC—Oysters June 25

Phil Rea—"A" is for Attitude Foundation July 2

Senator Fred Quayle July 9

IOW Rescue Dogs July 16

Girl Scouts July 23

TBD July 30

This is a huge project that will require many volunteer hours in addition to the hours that have already been contributed by the organizing committee. Volunteers will be needed on the Sunday preceding the event (7/19) to prepare rods and reels at Wesley Brown's house. Be listening at future meetings for start time and Wesley's address.

The day of the event provides many opportunities to use your talents. Volunteers are needed to pick up hot dogs at the packing plant, set up of facilities, help with registration, food prep/cooking, distributing the rods and bait and clean up. In addition, the Division needs all you fishermen (and women) on the pier to ensure participant safety and untangle those nasty bird nests.

This is one of the Smithfield Club's and the Division's biggest service projects of the year and we need your help to make it another great success!!

Omission from May newsletter: Tidewater Physical Therapy was mistakenly left off the list of Hole Sponsors for the Golf Tournament. Thanks to Debbie Szalwinski and Tidewater PT!!

Key Clubbers Moving On



On May 28, Smithfield Kiwanis recognized the 35 graduating Seniors from the Smithfield High School Key Club. Kiwanians provided pizza and drinks and 16 club members and their spouses came out on a rainy night to congratulate the Key Club on their many accomplishments. Many of the Key Club parents were also in attendance and Bob Cole took the opportunity to make a short presentation about our club's work in the community. Hopefully, we can recruit a few new members from the evening.

A special thank you gift was given to the club sponsor, teacher Tracy Ferguson, for her outstanding leadership. Please join in as our club continues to support the great work being done by the SHS Key Club.

Getting to Know...Gerald Gwaltney

Gerald was born and raised in Isle of Wight County. He graduated from Smithfield High School and went off to Randolph-Macon where he received his Bachelor's degree in Political Science. One could say that Gerald has always had a taxing job! Elected Commissioner of Revenue at age 23 in 1979 and served in that position until 2002 when Governor Mark Warner appointed him Deputy Tax Commissioner for the Commonwealth. At the end of Governor Warner's term, Gerald returned to Isle of Wight County as the Assessor and was re-elected Commissioner in 2006.



Gerald married his high school girlfriend, Sheila, and they will celebrate 28 years of marriage in August. Sheila is the Director of the Arts Center at 319 and is also a resident artist there. Their son, Jonathon, is a Senior at Old Dominion and their identical twin daughters, Ginny and Caroline, are Juniors at Radford and William and Mary, respectively.

Gerald has been a member of the Smithfield Kiwanis for 21 years and served as Program Chair for 16 years. He plays the piano and organ at Bethany United Methodist Church and also plays the violin. He loves Blugrass music, especially the fiddle playing, "Square Foot" gardening and genealogy.

The Prez Sez...

By Angie Lowry

I am on vacation this week with my family, down on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina. The weather is beautiful – sunny with a gentle breeze. We have been coming down here for twenty five years now, and thoroughly enjoy our time here, visiting old haunts, reading, and eating and drinking too much! The beach is very flat with tight packed sand, and it is possible to bike ride for ten miles on the beach, along with the many bike paths on the island too. It has always been a favorite pastime when we are here – we have to get some exercise to combat all the food and beverages!

The many happy memories of our years here will now include seeing our four year old granddaughter Sarah explore the wonders of the beach, learn to swim, and frolic in the ocean. Seeing things through the eyes of a child is one of the most wonderful experiences on earth, and I am so thankful for my family, and the times we share together. However, I can't help but think of the many children in Isle of Wight County who don't ever have the chance to have a vacation at the beach and to be spoiled by grandparents. It saddens me to think they are not so fortunate, and yet I am grateful for the fact that we Kiwanians can at least help to make their lives better.

As you spend time with your loved ones this summer in your 'special place' take a moment to reflect on the blessings in your life. Thank you all for all you do for children within our community.