

“Serving the Children of the World”

See our website at www.smithfieldkiwanis.org

Kiwanis Club of Smithfield

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September 2011

Smithfield Officers

President:

Gerald Gwaltney

President-Elect:

Sherry Vincent

Vice President:

George Perez

Treasurer:

Amy Musick

Secretary:

Beth Supko

Board Members:

Jim Blesse
Bill Laine
Charlie White
Kristin Wilda
Carter Williams

Kiwanis Club of Smithfield to Celebrate the 35th Anniversary of its Charter!



October Programs

Library - Jim Phillips Oct 6

TBA Oct 13

Nansemond-Suffolk Academy - Mr. Colley Bell Oct 20

Isle of Wight Academy - Mr. Whitney Oct 27

Mark your calendars now for the Smithfield Kiwanis event of the year!!! On Thursday, September 29, the club will celebrate its 35th Anniversary at the Smithfield Center (there will be no lunch meeting at the Station that day). The event will also include the annual installation of new officers and the beginning of a new Kiwanian year. Cocktails will begin at 6:00 followed by dinner at 7:00.

We are fortunate enough to have five original charter members from those 35 years ago. Mac Cofer, Bill Laine, Tom Ross and Charlie White are all still active members and Bob Clay is an honorary member.

During the celebration, there will be many members recognized for their contributions to the club and several Legion of Honor pins will be presented. Lt. Governor Rick Gonzales will also be with us to install the new officers and board of directors who will lead us through the new Kiwanis year.

The dinner will include a choice of broiled seafood platter or prime rib and stuffed shrimp entrees. Make sure to contact Gerald Gwaltney if you and your spouse are planning to attend if you missed the sign up sheet at the weekly meetings. This will be an event you don't want to miss!!!

The History of our Club



As we approach the celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Smithfield, Bill Wyrick has volunteered to serve as Club Historian. This project originated from a discussion by the Board about their desire to include a brief history of the club in a new member packet so they will know of the accomplishments of our club over the years.

Bill responded to the request for a volunteer to coordinate this project. This endeavor will take nearly a year to complete. The project has been expanded to include a search for Kiwanis memorabilia, news articles and other items which will be helpful in telling our story.

While Bill is organizing the history, he needs your help in making this a successful project. If you have items or memorabilia that would be helpful, please copy or give them to Bill. Most importantly, what makes history come alive is to have first hand stories of events and memories of fellow Kiwanians who have been part of this club. Write down these memories and forward them to Bill at wyrick0885@charter.net.

The Prez Sez...

By Gerald Gwaltney

It is time to write my final newsletter article to you. Each month, I write what is in my heart that I want to convey to the membership. Naturally, with this final message, I say “thank you” to each and every member. Many of you have taken a leadership role and have headed up projects, served as committee chairs or guided the club through their membership on the Board. But keep in mind that these leaders cannot be *leaders* without having members serving on committees and projects working with them. It is collectively, that we have been able to accomplish many great things this year.

In the 6th chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus teaches us to privately help the needy. I reflect on our help for those in need. The children who wake up on Christmas morning and have presents to open, who learn to fish on *Fishing Day*, who read books at the library or travel to a hospital for medical help; they do not know the faces of our Kiwanians who worked to make these things possible. But, in our hearts, we know that we have done the right thing by making these life experiences a reality.

Sherry Vincent will be sworn in as our next President and she will be a great President! She has ideas that will continue to move our club forward helping children and I am looking forward to her term. Finally, I hope each and every one of you will thank Karen Foster who has taken my scribbles and turned them into articles in our monthly newsletter. She has been the silent photographer, reporter and editor of these newsletters for several years and is passing the responsibility for the newsletter to Connie Chapman. Karen, thank you so much.

I close now with the phrase I have used in opening each Thursday meeting. “Welcome to the Kiwanis Club of Smithfield where we are changing the world one community and one child at a time.” Thank you all.