



Kiwanis Club of Kingsport and the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Foundation

Annual Report - October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport is a community service club whose purpose is the civic betterment and social improvement of the community, with an emphasis on contributions of funding and volunteer service to organizations serving the children of the community. The administrative function of the club provides the basic structure for the club including the process for election of officers, bookkeeping, meals and educational programs for members. Several committees are assigned roles to coordinate the various activities of the club.

There is an administrative component of the club that functions as a 501 (c)4 affiliated organization. There is also a tax-exempt 501(c)3 Foundation which conducts charitable activities of the club. The administrative function provides the basic structure for the club including the process for election of officers, bookkeeping, meals, and educational programs for members. Several administrative committees are assigned roles to coordinate the various activities and operation of the club.

The Foundation conducts all charitable activities of the club for the community. There are several committees established which carry out the functions of the Foundation.

Management of the club is by a Board of Directors consisting of 7 officers and 10 directors elected annually by the club membership. The officers and board of directors for the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport also serve as the management team for the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Foundation.

The membership meets weekly on Friday at 11:30 a.m. for lunch, social interaction and guest speaker programs that primarily focus on local civic issues impacting the community. The board of directors meets at 4:45 pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

The annual report includes information on the Club's administrative component and the Foundation's charitable activities component.

Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Foundation

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport has established a tax-exempt 501(c)3 Foundation for the purpose of conducting charitable activities for the Club. The Foundation is funded by fundraising activities as well as individual and corporate contributions. While some contributors are interested in providing for current charitable activities, others are interested in making contributions that provide a permanent source of support for the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport through investment income. Recognizing the latter interest, the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport has established an Endowment Fund that annually distributes a percentage of the fund balance income to the foundation operating account.

Administrative Committees Reports:

Communications and Publicity:

- Our website hosted by MemberDay was maintained and updated.
- There were 12 editions of the newsletter written and published. It was distributed by email and also archived on our website.
- Social media (Facebook) was used frequently to promote each weekly program. The speakers were recorded and archived on YouTube each week. Links to the recordings are listed in the newsletter.
- Several news articles were published in the Kingsport Times-News. We also appreciate the sponsorship of the Times-News by providing free ads for our fundraising events.
- Kiwanis members were interviewed on local TV and radio shows to promote our fundraisers.

Finance:

This committee managed the financial issues of the club. We have worked closely with the treasurer and other club leaders to ensure that the club's budget is well managed and that all financial transactions are conducted properly. The committee created and maintained the club's budget, reviewed financial statements and reports, and provided recommendations to the club's board of directors regarding financial matters.

House:

- Communicated feedback to Food City on quality and type of meals
- Prepared meeting room each week (banner, sound system, etc.)
- Betty Blass was volunteer greeter.

Membership Development and Welfare:

- There are 87 members in our Club, including 9 organizational memberships. We inducted 5 new members.
- The average attendance at our weekly lunch meetings during 2024-25 was 42 members.

Nominating:

There are 7 Officer positions and 10 Directors. The 2024-2025 officers and board of directors: Donna Sade, president; Darrell Duncan, past president; John Campbell, president-elect; Phil Richards, vice president; Susan Herron, Secretary, Treasurer: Matthew Quay; Assistant Treasurer, Anne Beckelman; Board of Director members: Jonathan Albarado, Pat Brose, Brian Brummett, John Campbell, Amy Edwards, Cindee Gagnon, Carolyn Hamilton, Jan Melott, Brent Mullins, Spencer Snook, Gary Stidham.

Programs:

In the Club year October 2024 through September 2025 the club had approximately 55 programs. The broad categories included: Youth Related, Local Government, Education (Elementary and High School), Higher Education, Service Organizations, Local Interest, Law Enforcement, Entertainment, Local Industry, World Affairs, State Government, Health Industry, Sports.

Topics included the following:

NETVETS Update on Veterans Affairs; State Update by Comptroller; ETSU Basketball; Motivation for Leadership; NetHub Update; The Political Intrigue Quillen College of Medicine; Update on D-B Dome; Update on State of the City - City Manager/Staff; Holiday Music by The King's Messengers; Healing of Rotherwood; Nuclear Fuel Services Update; D-B Basketball Coach; Equipment and Apparatus Used by Fire Dept.; Local Sports Q&A with WJHL Staff; Veterinary Work Pertaining to Animals and Agriculture; Hurricane Helene Update by Mayor of Carter County; Move to Kingsport Update; D-B Baseball Coach; Update on Bell Helicopters; Visit Kingsport Update; TCAT Update; Hard Rock Casino Update; Create Appalachia; CEO of Ballad Health; Kingsport's Strategic Plan; Author of Blazing Toward Freedom; Good Friday Program; Eastman Chemical Update; Key Club Tribute and Update; Doby's Bennett Band students; ETSU Happenings; Update on UT Institute of Agriculture; Kingsport Axemen and the Appy League; The Marines New Look; Inflation and the National Debt; The U.S. Army Outlook; The U.S. Air Force Outlook; Update on Kingsport Police Dept; Update by Kingsport Times-News Editors; World Affairs Update; Update on Jonesborough Int. Storytelling Center; Update on ETSU Football; Update on D-B Football; UT Center for Emerging and Collaborative Studies; Update of City of Kingsport Fire Department; Update of Small Miracles; Beef Industry in Tennessee; ETSU College of Nursing Update

Kiwanis Night:

Kiwanis Night was October 16, 2025; Committee Members: Amy (and Katie) Edwards; Anne Beckelman; Donna Sade; Theme – Kiwanis Family Picnic; ; Venue – The Brooks' Pavilion, The Allandale Mansion, Kingsport; Food - Catered by Two Dad's Cafe

Outgoing Directors were recognized with service awards: Spencer Snook, Amy Edwards, Brian Brummett, Gary Stidham. Outgoing Director Pat Brose was given the "Above and Beyond" award. Bill Anderson was the recipient of the Stewart Crosley Award and the 2023 Kiwanis Outstanding Committee Chair. Darrell Duncan was recognized as the Art Roper Kiwanian of the Year.

Kiwanis Spirit of Kingsport Award:

The 2025 award was presented to Johnnie Mae Swagerty. This annual award is given to a non-Kiwanian that is actively involved in enhancing the quality of life in our community. Her work with New Vision Youth certainly has positively impacted our city. She co-founded this organization to teach and mentor youth about life skills, job preparation skills, and volunteering in the community. This award carries this inscription: 'A special person who goes about making Kingsport the best place to live, work and raise a family.' Johnnie Mae has served on many community boards and volunteered with many organizations that strive to improve the quality of life and safety of all residents in our community.

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During the Kiwanis Fiscal Year During the Kiwanis Fiscal Year October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025, we provided \$25,400 in donations to the children of our community.

Foundation Committee Reports:

Foundation: Responsible for oversight and coordination of the various foundation committees with emphasis on building a financial base for the Kiwanis Foundation through the identification of new fund-raising projects or other means.

The Kiwanis Northeast Tennessee Children's Charitable Foundation Grant: Local chapters of Kiwanis are located in Johnson City, Kingsport, Elizabethton, Jonesborough, Erwin, Greeneville and Bulls Gap. These local service clubs submit grant applications on behalf of other charities toward causes that will directly benefit needy children within their communities. Grants are given on a quarterly basis. Applications by local charities can be made through the local Kiwanis Clubs.

Hans Kinner from our Club continues to serve on the Board of this Foundation and facilitates review of applications by local charities in Kingsport which are submitted to our Club. The following grants were received and issued to the following organizations: Smiles Foster Closet \$2,500, Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground \$3,450, and the Sullivan County Area Key Clubs and Builder's Clubs \$2,500.

Fundraising Committees:

- **Golf Tournament:**

This event was held on October 2, 2024, at The Cattails at Meadowview. The money raised for this one-day event is used for supporting the Club's overall objective of "Improving the Lives of Children, One Child at a Time". This event is possible due to the coordination of the golf committee and the hard work and dedication of many club members who work diligently to make this event a success every year. The gross income collected for 2024 was \$19,490, expenses \$5,588.58, net \$13,901.43.

- **Rolling of the Balls:** This is a gaming event approved annually by the State of Tennessee and City of Kingsport. This was the fourth year of this event. Kiwanis members sold 1160 numbered golf balls for \$5 each. The event was held on July 12, 2025. All balls were loaded into a bin at the top of Legion Drive, just behind the Kingsport Civic Auditorium. Then, balls were released down a chute to a finish line. New metal edge bumpers were purchased at a cost of \$1,277 and used to more efficiently guide the balls. The first ten balls won prizes donated by members or local businesses. Sponsors provided \$2,540. Tickets \$5,800; Expenses \$1,778; 2025 net profit was \$ \$6,561.58

Endowment:

The mission of the Endowment Fund is to supplement Kiwanis Club of Kingsport efforts to "serve the children of the world" both now and in the future by establishing and managing a fund intended to provide income to the Club's Foundation into perpetuity.

The Endowment Fund's beginning balance 10/01/2024 = \$243,294.11; Ending balance 09/30/2025 = \$303,399.17. The endowment account value increased by \$60,105.106 (net). During the year, we received contributions of \$38,612 (including \$25,000 donation by Eastman Credit Union). The amount transferred during 2024 to Kiwanis Foundation account was \$9,604.

Grants:

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Foundation Committee formed a sub-committee to develop a process for issuing grants to not-for-profit groups in our community. The grants process is separate from the Foundation's committee budget which is established at the beginning of the Kiwanis year. With input from members of the sub-committee, we developed a documented process for grant application and a process for evaluating the grant request. The Foundation Committee made a public announcement to the community that we had \$10,000 available to issue as grants in 2025, with a deadline of December 31 for our receipt of the applications. We received grant requests from 13 local not-for-profit organizations totaling \$97,966. The sub-committee met in January and evaluated the request using the review process developed by the committee. The committee decided to recommend to the board of directors that grants be given to the following organizations. Kingsport Homeless Ministries \$2,625, The Oasis \$2,625, Small Miracles Therapeutic Equestrian Center \$2,500, and the Family Promise of Greater Kingsport \$2,500. The board of directors approved the recommendations, and these grants were presented to the recipients.

Spiritual Aims:

Invocations at meeting were provided by Dr. Ted Hagen, Mr. David Light, Rev. Scottie Burkhalter, and Mr. Wayne Ladd.

4-18-25 Good Friday program: Rev. Scottie Burkhalter / Mr. Chris Neal, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Youth Impact Committee:

Following is a list of the projects funded for the students in Kingsport:

- Meals for Key Club members to attend our Friday lunch meetings: \$365.90
- Key Club projects (Trick or Treat event \$200; Angel Tree \$200)
- Builders Club Dues to International: \$215
- Key Club Scholarships (2): \$1000
- Doby's Bennett High School Highest GPA Scholarship: \$500
- Boys & Girls Club of Kingsport Christmas Donation: \$1,200
- Kennedy Elementary School 5th grade field trip to colleges - \$450
- Coats project for Kingsport City School students - \$4,000
- Family Promise of Greater Kingsport - \$1000
- The Doby's Bennett Robotics team sponsorship - \$1,500
- CASA For Kids - \$500
- End of the year Kiwanis scholastic awards for 12 schools - \$400.
- Roosevelt and Kennedy Schools backpack program helps the school to provide food for homes, since many students don't eat until they get to school – \$2,500
- Resource library for Kennedy and Roosevelt Elementary Schools - \$4,500

Children's Literacy

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport volunteers participated in our reading program with kindergarten and second grade students at Kennedy and Roosevelt elementary schools in the fall of 2024 – spring 2025. 18 individuals were volunteer readers. In addition to teaching reading skills, our volunteers can also serve as

role models for some of the students. Many of the children come from single parent homes and may not get a lot of encouragement at home. By giving a child our full attention, Kiwanis readers provide a valuable gift – worth as much as the reading help.

Our club also disburses funds to organizations in Kingsport that support children's literacy. In addition to \$2,250 for each of the two schools, we donated \$1,000 to the Imagination Library of Sullivan County and \$1,000 to the Literacy Council of Kingsport.

Service Leadership Programs/Key Clubs:

- We sponsor Key Clubs at Dobyns Bennett High School, Dobyns Bennett EXCEL and West Ridge High School. We sponsor a Builders Club at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kingsport.
- As the local sponsor we encourage students to attend our luncheon meetings throughout the year and participate in Kiwanis activities
- Students have volunteered at the Day of Caring cleanup during the spring and the fall at Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground.
- D-B EXCEL Key Club: Advisor is Antonia Adinolfi; 5 members.
- Dobyns Bennett High School Key Club: Advisors are Shelby Lawhead and Heather Watts; 61 members
- The Key Club of West Ridge High school: Advisor is Brittany Robbins, 83 members.

Summary of activities: 2024: April: Warrior's Path State Park Day of Caring Clean-up and Ronald McDonald House (meal cooked and filled pantry) May: End of Year Celebration, Executive Board Team Building, Teacher Appreciation, & Honor's Day Presentations June: virtual meetings to plan back to school activities July: virtual meeting to set calendar, Back to School Orientation & Membership Drive August: School Supply Drive to support WRHS students & WCQR Acts of Kindness Service Project for Local Disabled Veterans September: Canned Food Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank (450 lbs of food) and Hurricane Relief Supplies Drive; November: Fall Day of Caring, Goodwill National Day of Recycling, Power through the Storm (thank you cards for linemen), Merch Fundraiser (supporting Angels = \$593), Central Middle School Basketball Concessions, packing Holiday Food donation & boxes (over 100 families served) December: Angel shopping, wrapping, & delivery, Thank You Holiday Cards for School Staff, Central Middle Basketball Concessions; 2025 January: Isaiah 117 House, Hearts for the House (RMDH), World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser, CMS Basketball Concessions February: Hearts for the House (collected over \$500), SMILE Foster Closet Donations March: Somebody Loves Me Clothing Drive (through April), April: Easter Egg Hunt (with Beta Club served over 250 attendees), Spring Day of Caring at Warriors Clean Up, Goodwill May: Teacher Appreciation, End of Year Celebration, Senior Honors Day, Executive Board Team Building

Service Projects:

- Fall 2024 Volunteers at the Warriors Path Darrell Rice Boundless Playground: November 9, 2024 – approximately 12 Kiwanis members worked on teams
- December 7, 2024: Approximately 25 Volunteers for the Red Kettle Bell Ringing for Salvation Army; at two locations (4 entrances) for a total of 52 hours; Financial donation to Salvation Army (by members in Table Baskets at meeting): \$475.
- Spring 2024 (April 25) Volunteers at Warriors Path Darrell Rice Boundless Playground: approximately 10 participated along with several students from the Dobyns Bennett High School, DB EXCEL, and West Ridge High School Key Clubs.