



Annual Charter Picnic 2023

The Southport-Oak Island Kiwanis Club hosted its annual Charter Picnic on the evening of May 2, 2023 at Woodlands Pavilion in St. James. Over 100 attendees were present to include Kiwanis Dignitaries - Joe Crostic, Past Governor of the Carolinas; Past Presidents of the Southport-Oak Island Club - George Bayless, Steve Corbett, Ray George, Pat Boyce, Jeff Johnston, and Peg and Greg McDonald. School Dignitaries included Katherine Weeks, Advisor to BC ECHS, and Muriel Watson, SBMS.



It was the Club's distinct honor to present the Kiwanis Scholarship Awards to several very deserving students. They included Trinity Clark for the Glenda Ansley Teen Court Scholarship, Brianna Bones for the South Brunswick High School Key Club Scholarship, Evianna Merriam for the South Brunswick High School Merit Scholarship, and Samantha Hylton for the South Brunswick High School Citizenship Award. From Early College

High School the Club awarded Makayla Maignan the Key Club Scholarship, Arabella Ong the Merit Scholarship and Alexandria Melvin the Student Leadership Scholarship. Two additional awards were given to Jayvon Hayes and Yahaira Gomer-Reyes for Leadership in JROTC.



The Scholarship Committee thanks the Club's members for the hard work and generous support of these scholarships that aid these students in pursuing their academic goals.

Additionally, Kathleen Bradcovich, current President of our Club, announced the awards that our Club received at this year's Mid-Year Carolinas Conference. In the spirit of "it takes a village," these awards were distributed to the people in our club who did the yeoman's work of getting our club recognized.

June 2023

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Membership Meetings

June 1st @ 8:00 AM

Kathleen Bradcovich
Changes Kiwanis By-Laws

June 8th@8:00 AM
BOD Meeting

June 15th@ 8:00 AM
TBD



The Anna Mae Smith Service Award – was awarded to our club in recognition of the exceptional number of service hours per member during the 2021-2022 Kiwanis Year. As all our members know, our secretary is relentless in reminding members each month to record their service hours and then tabulates those numbers for the Carolinas District.

John Ertlschweiger accepted this award on behalf of the Club.

The Governor Tom Currier Eagle Membership Award – was awarded to our club in recognition of our growth in membership during the 2021-2022 Kiwanis year. We really have had a banner year of new members and we are so grateful for their commitment to Kiwanis. Many of our new members are actively participating in our community events and are dedicating many hours to our service projects. Each is adding new hearts and hands into our community. **Beverly Ertlschweiger**, as Chairperson of the Membership Committee, was presented with this award.



The Newsletter Award – was awarded to our club in recognition of our exemplary newsletter to the 2021-2022 Kiwanis year. As our members well know, our Newsletter is a truly wonderful communication device that is published monthly and is loaded with stories, articles and pictures of our members and their service to the community. **Patty Voigt**, as Editor of the Club's Newsletter, accepted this award.



Additionally, the Kiwanian of the Year Award was presented to a member of our Club who has demonstrated outstanding service to both the Club and to the Community. This award is selected and presented to the individual member that has best fulfilled the criteria of service and dedication to the Mission of Kiwanis. This year's **Kiwanian of the Year** is someone who has touched every aspect of our



club. A member since 2018, she is a steady force at all club meetings attending both morning and evening meetings. She is the "Jiminy Cricket" to our current Club Secretary and the behind-the-scenes orchestrator of many of our club's administrative functions. She makes sure that we have a well-staffed Welcome Table with both current and new members, thereby, giving the new members an opportunity to get to know other members. She ensures a club presence at various activities such as the Speaker Series, Big Toy Day, Spring Festival and many more. She has organized a new member meet-and-greet as another opportunity for our newest members to acclimate to our club.

She is the current Chairperson of our Membership Committee, who willingly stepped into this role when the position was at risk of being vacant. The Membership Committee continued to grow and develop under her leadership and has added over a dozen new members in the past year with another ½ dozen in our pipeline. She helps to welcome each new member to our club and ensures each member is presented with opportunities to be of service to the community. Congratulations to **Beverly Ertlschweiger** on this prestigious award.





KIWANIS GOLF OUTING SATURDAY *JUNE 24, 2023*

GET YOUR FOURSOMES TOGETHER AND PUT(T) IT ON YOUR CALENDAR!!!

It is time to play golf for the kids!

Our 2023 Annual Kiwanis Golf Outing has been scheduled for Saturday June 24, again at Lockwood Folly Golf Course in Shallotte. After golf we will be in the upstairs Banquet Hall for lunch, a Silent Auction and Awards. Please spread the word to other potential golfers, arrange your foursome and get this date on your calendar. We are limited to 128 golfers this year, so if you want to guarantee your spot, sign up early! **Detailed Information and Registration is ONLINE.**

Go to The Kiwanis website: [CLICK HERE](#) (then click on golf tournament registration) or go directly to: <http://www.so-kiwanisgolf.com>

Kiwanis Giving Garden



Members who support the Kiwanis Club of Southport-Oak Island Giving Garden are beginning to harvest the fruits of their labors. Already over 100lbs of carrots have been picked and donated to local food banks. Broccoli continues to grow and should be ready for harvest in the next few weeks. If you love to garden and would like to help out in the Giving Garden, please contact Steve Corbett, Rich Holt, or Elaine O'Donnell.





Uncorked by the Sea Evening Meetings



The Kiwanis Club of Southport-Oak Island hosted an evening meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at Uncorked by the Sea. The speaker was Ms. Roxie Smith, from the Live Oak Society,

who spoke about the importance of the Live Oak tree to Southport. The tree, a symbol of safety, strength and resilience, is protected by a Southport ordinance. Aesthetically, the nurturing of these trees and tree canopy provides for a pleasant and beautiful community in which both residents and visitors alike benefit. Economically, a robust tree canopy provides a consistent cooling effect on our community and on individual properties that can significantly reduce cooling costs for homeowners and businesses alike. Additionally, one large tree can lift up to 100 gallons of water out of the ground and discharge it into the air in a day, helping to filter the air that we breathe and control storm water. In our coastal location, Southport's tree canopy protects our community and helps mitigate the damage caused by wind during tropical storms and hurricanes.



Next Scheduled Evening Meeting - June 21, 2023 @ 5:30

<https://www.soikiwanis.com/>

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, June 1st @ 8:00 AM

**Kathleen Bradcovich
Changes to Club By-Laws**

Thursday, June 8th @ 8:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting (all members are invited)

Thursday, June 15th @ 8:00 AM

TBD



At the May 18, 2023 membership meeting, the Kiwanis Club of Southport-Oak Island welcomed two (2) new members to our Club - Tom and Pat Scarantino, who were sponsored by Steve Corbett. The induction ceremony was presided over by Pat Boyce, former Kiwanis Club President. Tom and Pat attended the Kiwanis Open House in February of this year and thought our organization was the friendliest of all the service organizations they had thus far encountered. Pat worked in the medical field and in education and Tom in law enforcement and both saw their past experiences benefiting the Kiwanis Club. Their goals for community service fit perfectly with the Kiwanis mission statement. Welcome Tom and Pat!

KIWANIANS ARE LEADERS, DOERS, AND ADVOCATES

Celebrating Our *ROYAL READERS*

Royal Readers is a program that promotes reading and comprehension skills for first graders by having them read to another person and reach a goal of a specified number of books within the school year. The students receive a jewel to place on their “crown” for every 25 books that they read. They are rewarded for their hard work at the end of the school year with an Ice Cream Social which is hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Southport-Oak Island. See below for all the happy faces at this year’s Ice Cream Socials at Southport Elementary, Bolivia Elementary, and Virginia Williamson Elementary.



Southport Elementary





Bolivia Elementary





Virginia Williamson Elementary



A world of thanks to all of our Kiwanis Royal Readers





Remember that Helenea Grace is the Club's Sunshine Lady. If you are or know one of our club members who is ill, have had surgery, or is experiencing a lengthy health issue, please let Helenea know. She would welcome the opportunity to send out a Kiwanis greeting card to let you/them know that the Club is thinking of you/them. Likewise, if you are celebrating a momentous occasion — like a significant birthday or anniversary, Kiwanis would like to help you celebrate by mailing you a card.

Helenea Grace heleneagrace18@gmail.com 910-599-6902

Important Dates and INFORMATION

June 7, 2023 Aktion Club Car Wash at BC Community College 10am-1pm

June 21, 2023 Evening Meeting at Uncorked by the Sea; 5:30pm

June 24, 2023 Golf Tournament at Lockwood Folly

November 14, 2023 **Rescheduled Special Events/Scholarship Endowment Program**

Tickets for the 2023 Special Events Series (aka Speaker Series) are on sale now for \$50 each presentation. Go www.soikiwanis.com to get your tickets.



June Birthdays:

Lisa Both, Ray George, Cindy Lively, Chad Mitchell, Jim Nelson, Elaine O'Donnell, Bob Richmond, and Larry Trainor.



Laury Dowd

This month the Kiwanis Club of Southport-Oak Island would like to “spotlight” Laury Dowd. Laury has been a member of Kiwanis since June of 2020. You can find her at just about any fundraising event lending a helping hand as needed. She is always involved with Big Toy Day and Spring Festival and can be found digging in the dirt in the Giving Garden. Enjoy reading about Laury and particularly, her love of travel and puppies!

What do you enjoy most about Kiwanis?

The chance to meet and work with selfless and caring people who are trying to make the world a better place. I’ve always been impressed and inspired by their selflessness.

What is your current profession or what was your profession before retiring?

I was a town attorney on the East End of Long Island, NY. I enjoyed working with the town board and zoning board to make the best decisions for the community in light of a constantly changing environment. We tackled tough issues like climate change, water quality, McMansions and Airbnbs.

How did you come to live in Southport? Why?

Growing up, I lived in Southold and Greenport on the East End, enjoying the beaches and countryside. It became too expensive (and cold) to stay, so I looked up and down the coast for a more affordable area that offered a similar feel. Southport seemed a perfect match.



What’s your proudest accomplishment?

I’ve been a puppy raiser for Canine Companions who provide service dogs to people with disabilities. You take in a 2 month old puppy and raise them to 16 months old when they are mature enough to get advanced training and are placed with the perfect person. I’ve raised 8 puppies, some of whom have gone to disabled children, adults and become facility dogs at hospitals. It’s rewarding to see and hear how these dogs improve their lives, and it’s taught me a lot about life. I’m now doing short term puppy fosters for Canines for Service who provide assistance dogs for vets.

What is a hobby of yours?

I love to travel and see the world. I’ve been to all the continents, but there’s always so much more to see and learn. This past winter I saw South America and Antarctica and I’m planning a trip to Türkiye.

Southport-Oak Island Kiwanis
Golf Outing and Fundraiser
Saturday June 24, 2023
Lockwood Folly Golf Club



The kids of Brunswick County need your support!

Format: Captains Choice Scramble with Men's, Ladies, or Mixed Teams
(Mixed team must include at least 2 women).

Includes: Greens Fees, Cart, Breakfast, Lunch, Refreshments, Silent Auction, Awards, Fun and Fellowship

Detailed Information and Registration is ONLINE

Go directly to: <http://www.so-kiwanisgolf.com>

Fees: Entry Fee is \$100/player
Mulligan Package (\$20/player)
A 50/50 drawing will also be held the day of the tournament



Prizes: There will be prizes for 1st place in each flight.

Proceeds from this tournament help us support programs in Brunswick County, including:

Tutoring and Mentoring	Scholarships for Deserving Students	Teen Court
Key Club	First Tee	Reading Programs
New Hope Clinic	Career Guidance	Peer Court
Builders Club	Meals on Wheels	Boys and Girls Homes of NC
Youth Leadership Development	Early Childhood Development	Listening Post
Terrific Kids	Food Pantry	

Questions? Contact Don Halbert- 224-475-5744 or s.o.kiwanis@gmail.com



May Meeting Notes

by Jim Blackburn

May 4, 2023

NO MEETING

May 18, 2023

Guest Speakers: Jill Leach, Founder and Vice President of Birthday Wishes Ministry

Jill has a heart for single mothers with children, as she was once such a mother.

Jill realized that everyone helps provide Christmas gifts, but very few help provide birthday gifts. Her ministries' purpose is to bring joy to children and share the love of Christ by supporting families, who are financially challenged, with a viable birthday gift program. Her ministry leverages the Matthew Ministry Backpack Program by placing an age-appropriate educational gift in with the child's backpack the week of their birthday.

In their first year of 2021-2022, they had 75 children in the program. For the 2022-2023 school year, the program will serve over 550 children!

They have recently received 4 grants to help fund the ministry. They also do a lot of programs to raise funds with ladies' teas and thrift sales. They have even opened a small booth at a local gift shop on Oak Island (Crossroads).

Each gift is hand wrapped and a handmade birthday card is included with a card that says "Jesus Loves You".

Donations can be made at www.birthdaywishesministry.org

Questions can be sent to birthdaywishesministry@yahoo.com