



Kiwaniis Club of Raleigh

August 2022

Newsletter

Vol. 71 - No. 9

Programs

Kiwaniis meetings are now being held in person at **Highland United Methodist Church** and via Zoom. Registration is no longer required. Come and bring guests. Members will receive an e-mail from Secretary **Courtney Allen** with the details.

Aug 5: The Writing of One Hundred and Twenty-six Days: The Unthinkable Journey, Holly Richard, Author

Aug 12: No Meeting – Join us for the ballgame

Aug 19: Inflation, Recission or Both – Dr. Michael L Waldron, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor and Extension Economist

Aug 26: Sports Changes at the N&O -Luke DeCock, Sports Writer, Raleigh News and Observer.

Board Meeting July 14, 2022



The July board meeting was held via Zoom on Thursday, July 14, 2022. The resignations of **Don Fowler, Tim Gasper, Chet Barksdale, Gregg Thomas,** and **Charles Meeker** were accepted with regrets.

Our current membership is 189 (159 active and 30 senior).

For the fiscal year through June 30, 2022, Treasurer **John Collar** reported operating income of \$57,284.77, operating expenses of \$67,826.06, service income of \$21,850, service expenses of \$7,866.12, net assets of \$94,863.08 and accounts receivable of \$6,679.

The board received an update from the technology committee with a request to upgrade and purchase new tech equipment to improve the ZOOM and presentation experience during Friday meetings. The board approved up to \$6,000. This will help to market the club. Of course, we encourage members to attend meetings in person, if able. It was reported that the Food Drive has brought in around \$11,000 which is just under our \$12,000 goal. THANK YOU for your support!

The pancake breakfast is creating a brochure targeting sponsors. The baseball game tickets are being reserved online and in-person at the meeting with sign-up sheets.

The board approved a \$200 contribution to assist with the District's annual service project during the annual meeting in North Charleston in August. This will go to purchase school supplies for a local non-profit that distributes to local schools in need. Various clubs in North and South Carolina contributed to this project. The club will send delegates to the annual convention in North Charleston.

We are looking at holding a membership drive and are encouraging members to bring guests.

The next board meeting will be held on August 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar



Saturday, October 22, 2022: Pancake Breakfast.

August 11 - Let's go out to the ball game!! – Durham Bulls Stadium

October 20 – Milburnie Night

Gov. Christopher L. White Change the Future

July 2022	\$139.82
Oct 2021 – July 2022	\$1,678.52
Campaign to date:\$31,659.43

Congratulations to:

Past President **John Nunnally**, who has been appointed to a two-year term on the Campbell Law School Board of Visitors.

Past President **Phil Kirk** for his appointment to the Board of Visitors for East Carolina University.

History will judge us by the difference we make in the everyday lives of children.

Nelson Mandela



August Birthdays!

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Kevin Benedict | 11 David Donald |
| 2 Harry Walker III | 12 Laura Bromhal |
| 5 Sid Eagles | 13 Sam Carothers |
| 7 Josh Hargens | 14 Howard Hadley |
| 7 Stuart Phoenix | 18 Travis Leager |
| 7 Dan Suchy | 21 Mike Uhland |
| 10 Jan Mickels | 23 Cricker Harrell |
| 10 Harold Panel | 29 Hugh Stevens |

Don't forget your contribution to Change the Future.

All members are asked to make a donation equal to the number of years they are celebrating for this year's birthday!

Please make your check payable to the

Raleigh Kiwanis Foundation, Inc

and drop it in the ***Change the Future*** jar at a monthly meeting.

The Technology Committee Needs a Few Good Kiwanians

The Technology Committee was asked to assess the hybrid/live meeting system and recommend any changes needed to improve the quality of our meetings. With support from the Board the Committee concluded we need:

1. To make the Zoom alternative permanent in order to rebuild overall attendance and participation post-pandemic.
2. Better equipment to ensure quality for desirable programs for members and prospective members onsite and watching from a distance;
3. To invest in more reliable laptops, cameras, mics, cables and a mixer (no, not Mixmaster)

We were quoted around \$25,000.00 to buy the stuff and pay operators, with substantial annual cost thereafter. Agreed we can't take that much away from the kids. Pleased to share that the Committee is on track to get it done for \$4,000 – 6,000.

4. NEED FROM SOME OF YOU!

Hugh Grist, Frances Bobbie, Chuck Wheless, and Joy Ruhmann have stepped up! But we need about four more non-expert but trainable folks ;

Nobody should have to run it more than about one meeting in alternate months.

When the equipment arrives, we'll have a training session with a pro and get it going.

4. If not you, then who? If you can help, please email **Frank Manson, Nick Fountain, Sandra or Stacy**

Kiwanis Club of Raleigh

PO Box 12
Raleigh NC 27602
919-749-9675

Meetings

Fridays 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Highland United Methodist Church
1901 Ridge Road
Raleigh NC 27607

Newsletter

Editor.....Joy Ruhmann

Club Officers and Directors 2021-2022

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| President | Sandra Birkhead |
| President-Elect | Stacy Askew |
| Secretary | Courtney Allen |
| Treasurer | John Collar |
| Immediate Past President ... | L Poole |
| Directors 2019-2022..... | Frank Manson
Robert
Ruiz Andy
Wood |
| Directors 2020-2023 | Randy Hartley
Leslie Jones
Stuart Phoenix |
| Directors 2021-2024 | Ashleigh Dunston
Hugh Grist
Buck Lattimore |

Foundation Officers and Directors 2022

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| President..... | John McClain |
| Vice President..... | June Small |
| Secretary | Amy Funderburk |
| Directors 2020-2022..... | John McClain
Winston Page
Harry Walker III |
| Directors 2021-2023..... | Cricket Harrell
George Ramsay
June Small |
| Directors 2022-2024... | Amy Funderburk
Michael Moore
Chip Winstead |

www.raleighkiwanis.org

F IS FOR FROG

As noted in the article above, author and **Past President KC Ramsay** spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh on July 22, on his inspiration and process for the 2020 publication of his children's art/alphabet book, **F is for Frog**.

Proceeds from book sales have benefitted **Kidznotes**, a nonprofit whose mission statement reads, "Kidznotes catalyzes social change by providing comprehensive music education, leadership opportunities, and character-building experiences to children with the fewest resources and the greatest need." KC is a past board chair of **Kidznotes**. Check out the spotlight on **Kidznotes** found on page 5 of this newsletter.

If you are interested in purchasing the book, please contact KC at kc@kcramsay.com Please enjoy these fun photos from the day.



A Kiwanis Story

On Friday, July 22, when **KC Ramsey** spoke to our Club, we learned that 163 aggregated years of Ramsay family involvement in the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh brought us to his presentation.

KC is a Past-President of our club, and current chair of the Education Committee for the Carolinas District of Kiwanis International.

His work on behalf of kids in our community culminated in his book published by LuLu, "**F is for Frog**"

We also learned that B can be for baseball bat OR



Announcing our New Raleigh Kiwanis Corporate Membership

We are pleased to welcome our first Corporate Member, **First Citizens Bank**. **Keith Teegarden** is their Corporate Representative. If he cannot attend, he can send his associates, **Lee Parker, III**, son of long-time member **Lee Parker**, or **Pat Dixon**, grandson of longtime member, **Wright Dixon**.

Let's all work on bringing new Corporate Members into our club. Please ask anyone you do business with if they would like to attend a lunch meeting. We would love to introduce them to the Kiwanis Family and our goals to help children. The Initiation Fee is \$300 and the dues are the same as individual memberships.

You will find a new corporate membership brochure attached to the e-mail sent with this newsletter.

Prepping for the Pancake Breakfast

The Pancake Breakfast Raffle subcommittee is working to gather prizes for the Raffle and Sealed Bid Auction.



Do you know a business that could make a prize available for our raffle or do you have a second home that you would be willing to make a weekend available for the sealed bid auction?

We appreciate your help and if you would like to discuss a potential prize, contact any raffle subcommittee member: **Lesley Lombard, Hugh Grist, Cricket Harrell** or **Bill Whitley**.

Learning Together Need Our Help!

Learning Together is currently in need of volunteers to help them get ready to open their new classrooms at Edenton Street for the 2022-23 school year. If you have not already heard, the Crosby-Garfield building on Lenoir Street, where Learning Together has been located since 1988, experienced an explosion and fire resulting in their losing access to their classrooms there.

They are working hard to expand their services at a new location on Edenton Street. This new location will now be their temporary home, while they work to re-establish our primary campus and classrooms.

They need volunteers to help prepare 6 classrooms for the new school year. Volunteers will be helping to clean furniture and toys and move furniture into classrooms.

Below are the days/times available to volunteer. If you can help, please sign up through Activate Good using this link: <https://x.gldn.io/e/oioAHmqwNrb>

Monday - Friday, August 8 - 12, 10am - 1pm
Monday - Friday, August 15 - 19, 10am - 2pm

Thanks! Please share this volunteer opportunity with anyone that may be interested.

Kiwanis of Raleigh Wraps Up a Highly Impactful Centennial Project!!

Panels reflecting Kiwanis service to kids and projects over a century are now hanging on the walls of the nearly new building at Kiwanis Park. The crossword puzzle translated as "Kiwanis Works for Kids in Need" hangs, front and center, over the entry hall near the plaque honoring the dozens of major contributors.

This display and recognition of our Club is the last task of the 2015-2020 Centennial Committee. Take a moment to review the timeline below of a nine-year Project which produced lasting change for our City and thousands of kids throughout our community.

November 2013 The first meeting of the Centennial Committee created by then President **Chris White** took place. The initial members were **John Brantley, Alice Garland, Andy Leager, Bill Pappas, Bob Brooks, Clay Taylor, Gary Pendleton, Harold Panel, Mike Dodd, Robert Wyatt, Sid Eagles, Chris White, KC Ramsay** and **Nick Fountain**.

December 2013: A membership survey was conducted led by **Clay Taylor**. The Results clearly told us that any major project to recognize our Centennial should be local, should benefit kids, should have a hands-on component, and should elevate the profile of the Club and enhance recruitment and retention of members.

February 2014: The strategic plan subcommittee of the Centennial Committee met to review project ideas to be carried out by the 2015 Centennial of Kiwanis and other ideas to recognize the Raleigh Club's centennial in 2020". They did research into possible golf tournaments, other sports events and raffles for vehicles to raise funds. By the end of the year, a working venture had been negotiated by Nick Fountain with the City of Raleigh aimed at both 2015 and 2020.

January 2015: The Kiwanis Sassafrass All Childrens Playground project was presented to the Club Board and approved, clearing the way for a lead gift of \$100,000.00 to create a world class playground accessible to all children on part of the Laurel Hills Park Campus. A sassafrass tree has more than one kind of leaf, but together the varied leaves produce a tree. Kiwanis does the same with all children!!

April 2015: Fundraising began with five-year pledges from virtually all Past-Presidents.

May 2015: Fundraising by the entire membership began with a goal to raise an unheard of amount of \$200,000. The Committee decided to forego fancy cocktail parties and glamor shots in Walter Magazine in favor of minimal fundraising costs and maximum benefits for kids.

September 2015: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Club and City of Raleigh, guaranteeing limited funds while planning for huge gift.

February 2016: The first check was presented to the City at a Club meeting.

May 2016: Volunteers gathered for a workday at Kiwanis Sassafrass All Childrens Playground complete with babysitters and souvenir T-shirts. Hundreds of bags of cement were "busted" and posts for playground equipment set in cement – the team worked hard and had a great time!!

November 2016: The ribbon-cutting and dedication of Kiwanis Sassafrass All Childrens Playground was held. Parents of special needs children who had worked for eight years were there to celebrate with Kiwanis and the City.

April 2017: The club meets at Kiwanis Park to see the eroded ballfield, the dilapidated Pizza Hut style building and the practical absence of a playground in contrast with a complete neighborhood makeover that was unway.

June 2018: The bid opening for a new Kiwanis Park Building, young children's playground, basketball courts, picnic shelter and dog park was held. The bids were too high so horse trading began as the Club held its ground on included items.

August 2018: A ceremonial check for \$318,000.00 is presented to Raleigh City Council.

January 2019: Planning began for an April 2020 Centennial Gala with the President of Kiwanis International.

February 2019: Planning for 2020 Museum Exhibition began d by **June Small**.

February 2019: Planning began for Centennial Miracle League ballgame led by **Alice Garland**.

February 2019: Souvenir sets of glasses were presented to donors by **KC Ramsay**.

November 2019: The dedication and ribbon-cutting at Kiwanis Park toke place

December 2019: The final parks check, in the amount of \$418,000 is presented to the City of Raleigh.

March 2020: The pandemic hit, derailing the Gala, the Miracle League game, and the Museum Exhibit!

October 2020: The Raleigh Kiwanis Park Project was nominated for the Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Community Impact

Spring 2021: The Museum Centennial Exhibition finally opened.

April 2022: That Miracle League Ballgame was held late and everyone had a wonderful time.

May 2022: Charter Night and Centennial finally happened!!

July 2022: Museum Exhibit is moved and installed at Kiwanis Park!!

Many, many thanks to dozens and dozens of members and donors who wrote checks, gave of their time and talents and got their hands dirty proving that this Club is a worthy successor to those of the 1920's 1950's, 1980's and 2000's.

Bring on the next challenge! The kids and community still need us!



Kiwanis of Raleigh Grant Recipient Spotlight

Hope Reins

Hope Reins is one of the country's leading faith-based equine mentorship programs. They serve kids, aged 5-18, experiencing life-threatening trauma at the 38-acre ranch. These children are paired with a trusted mentor and a rescued horse for a series of 90-minute sessions over a 3-year period.

This journey leads to resilience and coping skills that can last a lifetime. All services are offered at no cost to kids and their families. For more information, please visit hopereins.org.



Kidznotes

Supported by grants from the Raleigh Kiwanis Foundation, **Kidznotes** is a music for social change program based on the [El Sistema model](#) of youth orchestras, which started in Venezuela and has now spread worldwide



Classes are taught by Teaching Artists who are committed to teaching young students. The program operates 12 hours per week, and 30+ weeks a year, with intensives throughout the summer.

Their vision is to be a catalyst for change that uses music to build a thriving network of children, families and partners in which the passion for music unleashes the human potential to transform lives and communities. The foundation of their vision is a commitment to embrace and value diversity, excellence and collaboration in our daily lives.

Studies repeatedly find that music training is positively associated with more complex brain development, higher school achievement (e.g., math, reading, SAT scores, graduation rates, etc.) and a host of other gauges of long-term social, economic and emotional well-being.

Research also suggests that the earlier children are introduced to music, the greater the impact or benefit.

Kidznote serves students K-12, utilizing community-based facilities to provide intensive instruction to children in years crucial to their brain and behavioral development.

For more information, please visit <https://kidznotes.org/>

Urban Ministries

Urban Ministries Hunger and Nutrition program is working hard to continue serve those in need through a curbside model to provide at least 50% fresh produce to recipients.

In the past 11 months, from July 2021 – May 2022, we've served over 10,000 families.



Outside the pantry's perimeter, the program also serves those in the community stricken by financial hardship and hunger. One example of this is a new initiative they call Project Pivot. Project Pivot consists of partnerships with organizations such as SouthLight Healthcare, Families Together, Wake County Human Services, Resiliency Collaborative, and Passage Home to extend the reach throughout Wake County.

More details about **Urban Ministries** efforts to work together to end hunger are available in their latest blog post found at <https://urbanmin.org/working-together-to-end-hunger/>



Fundraising: Pancakes, Raffles and More!

Introduction

In submarine operations, "boats" are either diving or surfacing all the time. There is no perfect buoyancy. Much the same in business, companies are either growing or dying. There is no perfect equilibrium in a dynamic social system and the competitive nature of the business community within it.

It is so with the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh. We grow or we die. It is our decision.

Money is the lifeblood of our club's community service projects and new sponsors are the source of funding for that growing demand. We need to step up to our dream of an excellent club, step up to our strategic intent, step up to our desire to help the Raleigh community and the thousands of children needing our help. But how? What is the chief issue we face? Is there a viable solution? Are there tangible benefits that we can expect from moving on this solution? What must we do individually in this collective club effort?

Let's briefly explore these.

The Issue

We need an expanded source of funding. As I said last month, as with many things in life, real change takes money! We need additional funding for the anticipated work we have before us. We can expect a strategic expansion in 2023. Of course, we need to be ready for this expansion and such "readiness" includes a sound and reliable process of soliciting needed funding.

But we cannot grow to our potential, to use an old and tired phrase, on the backs of the members. We all recognize that our members have been exceptionally generous over the years. As we heard K.C. Ramsey say in our July 22nd meeting, our past major projects were successful because of the generosity and hard work of our club members. Now, as then, we need our members to step up. But it is not our money we need for strategic growth and a new higher level of sustained community service; it is your help we need in soliciting the support of the Raleigh area business community.

The Solution Overview

What is the solution? We need reliable non-member sources of funding based in the philanthropic generosity of the Raleigh area business community. We need to approach and show local businesses that their corporate citizen mission is well-served by their support of our Kiwanis community service!

So, how? How might we do this?

Quite simply, we need to grow our sponsor rolls. This can be accomplished in three ways:

1. You can volunteer to help on the fundraising *Sponsor Development Subcommittee*. This team will "cold call" some of the untouched businesses in the area.
2. You can provide contact information for high-potential sponsor companies (those in which you are familiar). The *Sponsor Development Subcommittee* will follow-up.
3. You can ask! Individually solicit sponsorship of those you are routinely engaged (e.g., doctors, restaurants, and stores)

The Benefits

With this plan, we can and will change the relationship of our strategy and fundraising effort. From a funding-constrained strategy position, we can move to a strategy-dictated funding effort. Our strategic objectives will dictate the level of fundraising effort. Our club strategy will not be constrained by available funds, but rather our aggressive strategy, and aggressive path forward can be mapped knowing that the fundraising will meet the demand. With the "muscle memory" we have developed from this initial sponsor development exercise we can move from an episodic pancake breakfast fundraising event and consider, instead, a standing committee for fundraising activity throughout the year that is in line with and responsive to the strategic plan.

The Call to Action

How can you help? How, as an individual member of the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh, can you help grow our sponsor rolls? You can:

1. **Volunteer:** Will you volunteer to work on the *Sponsor Development Subcommittee*? Will you volunteer to work on a team, contacting 3-5 local companies for new sponsorship of our club community service projects?
2. **Supply Contacts:** Will you commit to providing contact information for companies in which you are familiar? Will you provide names of companies, and hopefully specific contact information, that are owned, led, or managed by your friends, relatives, industry and business colleagues, members of other associations in which you are engaged (professional, trade, or social)?
3. **Individually Act:** As a general member of the club, will you commit to introducing our sponsorship opportunities (monetary or in-kind donation) to those companies in which you have routine interaction (carrying with you a couple of our new trifold sponsor flyers with you).

If you are interested in helping the Kiwanis Club of Raleigh in the effort to revitalize and grow, please contact Rick McElroy (919-522-5448, RLMcElroyPhD@gmail.com) for more information on how to help secure additional corporate sponsors!