



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

June 2024
Vol. 105 No. 33
'OUTREACH'

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Solving Problems

by Mike O'Brochta

It is with considerable pride that I display a sign in my home office that reads, "Engineers – Solving Problems You Didn't Know You Had In Ways You Can't Understand." My wife gave me that sign; not sure how she meant it, but I took it as a compliment.

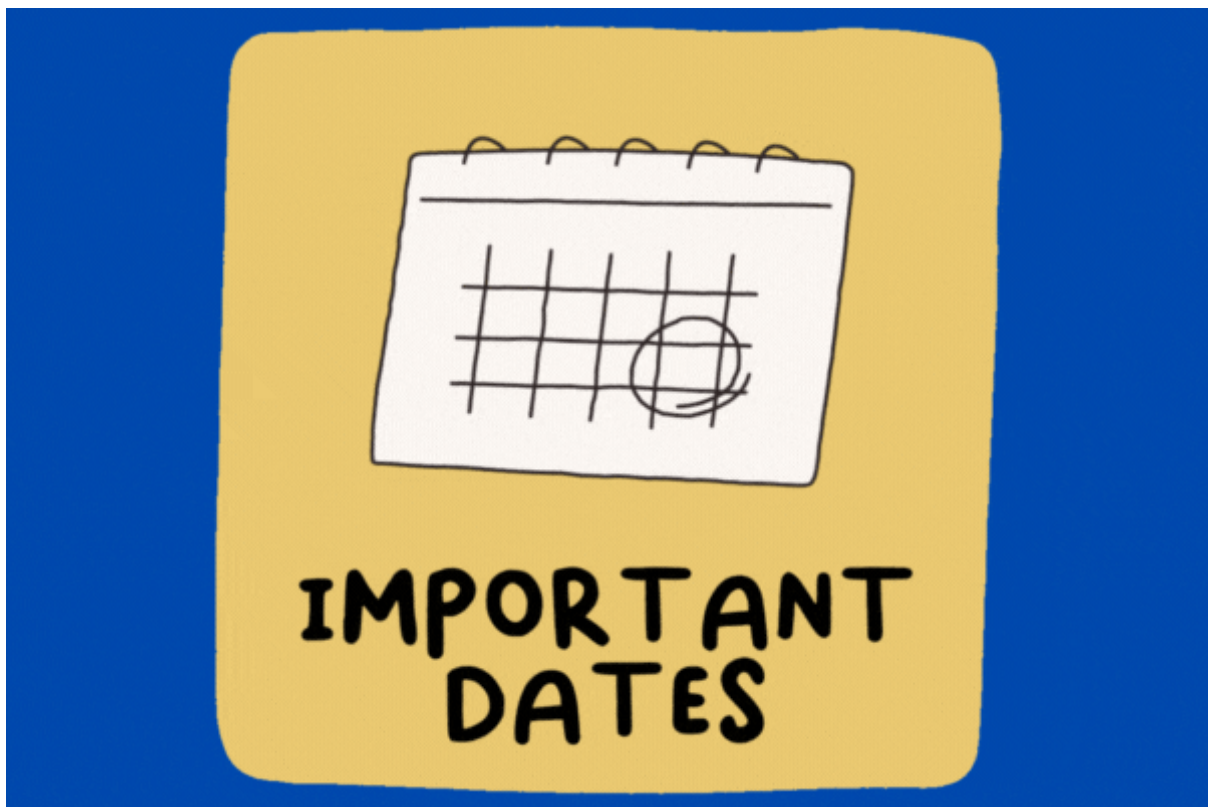
Yes, as an engineer, I have spent my entire life solving problems. After all, by definition, my profession and the engineers in it would not be necessary unless there were problems that needed solving. Mind you, I said "needed" solving. Human nature being what it is means that not all people are aware of all problems and that all problems do not need solving. That is where engineers with especially well developed analytical skills come into play. I derive a large amount of personal satisfaction by looking at a situation, most any situation, and quickly seeing opportunities for improvement. I can not stand in a buffet line without rearranging the set up, in my mind, to be more efficient. I can not spend time in an organization without noting the opportunities to raise the level of organizational performance. Mozart is said

to have had the ability to actually see music; same for me and solutions to problems. I actually see them in my head. Virtually everything, as far as I am concerned, can be improved upon.

Obviously, not all problems, not all situations, not all opportunities for improvement, should be, or need to be, acted upon. That is where judgment comes in. And, for the problems that do get acted upon, let's not neglect the challenges of undergoing change. So, it is likely safe to assume that when I do or don't do something, especially while serving as Club President, it is because I see a problem or opportunity that can be improved upon, sometimes when others don't; please ask me about it.

Let's act on our theme – Outreach!





June 19 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting , Dwayne D'Ardenne, Roanoke City Transportation

June 20 - (7:45 - 8:45 am) Membership Committee Meeting

June 25 - (6 pm) Pop-up Pizza Party at Mellow Mushroom

June 26 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Andrea Garland and Tori Williams, Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

July 24 - (6:30 pm) Book Club

July 27 - (1 pm) Social Event at Stoney Brook Vineyards

You can always stay up-to-date by checking out the calendar on our [website here](#).

June 19 - Club Meeting, Dwayne D'Ardenne, Roanoke City Transportation

The City of Roanoke has received funding to support a project to re-envision Williamson Road. Envision Williamson will build consensus and a vision for,

and address safety improvements along Williamson Road. The project will include 1. Community engagement around a vision and perceived challenges and opportunities for Williamson Road. 2. Technical support to review safety and mobility challenges and recommend transportation improvements for Williamson Road. 3. Guidance on funding opportunities for implementing the recommended improvements for Williamson Road.



June 26 - Club Meeting, Andrea Garland & Tori Williams, Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission

Andrea Garland & Tori Williams with Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission will be presenting an Overview of Transportation Priority in the Roanoke Valley.

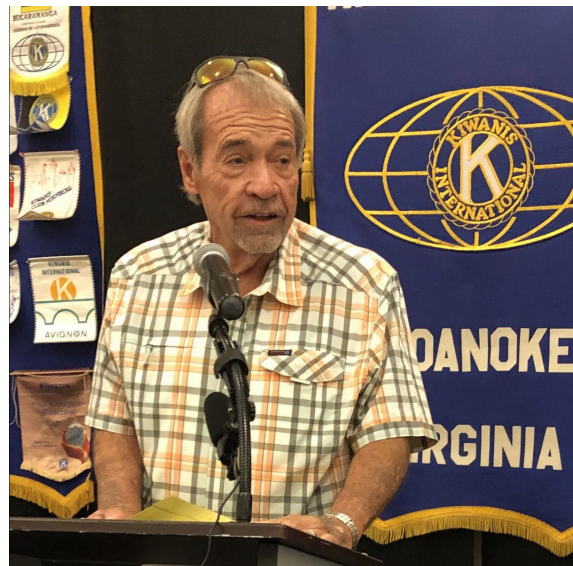
Tori Williams is the Director of Transportation Planning. Mr. Williams has extensive experience in the region and with regional organizations. Mostly recently with Virginia Tech as a Policy Planning Manager, he has also spent

time as a planner with Roanoke County and the VP of Public Policy with the Roanoke Regional Chamber.

Andrea Garland is the Director of RIDE Solution. Garland, a native of Bogota, Colombia, relied on public transit, biking and walking as she grew up, inspiring her interest in the field of transportation. A 2007 Virginia Tech graduate with a master's degree in civil engineering, she serves as director of RIDE solutions, the transportation demand management program for Southwest Virginia.



Highlights from our last meeting



President Mike asks Kiwanians to choose “low cost orange juice” in order to invest in the future



Bert Boyd introduces the technical education program presented by Eric Lear

Hi Nicely presents his autobiography



Speaker Eric Lear receives honorarium from President Mike



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Happenings

FUN Committee has two events planned:

Pop-up Pizza Party

Mellow Mushroom Patio, 6:00, June 25

Just show up and order from menu.

Stoney Brook Vineyards

July 27

1:00 catered BBQ lunch, vegan food truck available

2:00 music of Mark Folks

Purchase wine

YOC (bring your own chair)

Signups coming

More info/questions: See Andréé or Lois

Fun Day

All who helped FunDay 2024 to achieve its goals of strengthening

commUNITY will be applauded for their efforts at our July 10th club meeting. Club members can get a copy of our beautiful Larry the Logperch book at this meeting. Please join us at this regular club meeting to celebrate our role in bringing about 40 organizations together to celebrate our common commitment to our Roanoke families.

A wrap up debriefing for FunDay 2024 is planned for June 28th at 8 am via Zoom. All who helped with the June 1st event are invited to join us to provide your feedback. Cheri and Joe want to hear your ideas on how to improve our CommUNITY FunDay for 2025. Be on the lookout for the meeting Zoom link..

Book Club

Thank you to all who could join us tonight for our Kiwanis Club's Book Review "romp." We certainly got a wonderful tour of a wide range of books. Welcome to Jeff Vick and his wife, Barbara Vick - such fun to benefit from your wealth of knowledge and fascinating books.

1. "An Unfinished Love" by Doris Kearns Goodwin and Richard Goodwin -- nonfiction
2. "The Tyranny of the Minority" by Stephen Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt -- nonfiction
3. "The Demon of Unrest" by Eric Larson -- nonfiction
4. "Night Watching" by Tracy Sierra -- fiction
5. "This Mortal Coil: A History of Death" by Andrew Doig -- nonfiction
6. "The Family Game" by Catherine Steadman -- fiction
7. "Generation" by Jean Twenge -- nonfiction
8. "Jesus and John Wayne: How White evangelicals Corrupted Faith and Fractured a Nation" by Kristin Kobes Du Mez - nonfiction
9. "Killing England: the Brutal Struggle for American Independence"" by Martin Dugard and Bill O'Reilly
10. "The Gift of Rain" by Tan Twan Eng - fiction

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting at 6:30 to 7:30 pm on the 24th of July -- at South County Library.

Happy reading! Hope you can join us on July 24th - note the later start at 6:30 pm - remember you get to read a book of YOUR choice to review for us.

Questions? Call David at 540-798-7985. (Sorry to those who cannot make this date!)

Nature Park

Wetlands Watch team discuss collaboration with the city and Kiwanis at the Nature Park.



Outreach Awards (initiative and follow through):

- Greg Lionberger
- Cheri Hartman
- Bart Wilner
- Harry Zulauf
- Bill Bestpitch
- Keith Hartman*2
- Bob Habermann
- Eric Sichau
- Sam Lionberger III
- David Points
- Jeanne Bollendorf



Meeting Recordings

Note that club meeting recordings can be found on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Club Meeting Zoom Info

Here is the [zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 817 8581 5453

Passcode: 102906

Please email any potential happenings to Alex at abarge11@gmail.com.

Please consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

Kiwanian Birthdays

Dan Karnes June 2

Ben Spiker June 3

Joe Gaither	June 4
Steve McGraw	June 7
Mike Bell	June 8
Reif Kessler	June 11
Dan Chitwood	June 13
Jill Sluss	June 14
Sherman Holland	June 15
Greg Lionberger	June 16
Steve Willis	June 16
Bart Wilner	June 20
Phil Shiner	June 22
Milton Hardy	June 25
Dave Hartman	June 25
Peg McGuire	June 28
Ray Sarver	June 28
Jeff Leatherwood	June 30
Sam Rasoul	June 30



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2023-24

Officers:

- Mike O'Brochta, President
- Jeanne Bollendorf, President-Elect
- Joyce Montgomery, Vice President
- John Montgomery, Secretary-Treasurer
- Ben Spiker, Past President

Directors:

- Lee Osborne, President, Kiwanis Foundation of Roanoke
- Kevin Reeder, 2024
- Stephanie Moon Reynolds, 2024
- David Hartman, 2024
- Bob Habermann, 2025
- Sheila Umberger, 2025
- Harry Zulauf, 2025
- Bill Bestpitch, 2026
- Greg Lionberger, 2026
- Alex Barge, 2026



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