Members of our Major Beneficiary, Sunshine Squad, and their families remind us why we do what we do.
Hello everyone!
Let me begin by saying, it has been an honor to serve as your president; I have sincerely enjoyed every moment. One objective that I had as president was to have the club heavily involved in community service projects. Taking part in projects such as Bright Futures Food Packing and Stuff the Bus campaigns builds relationships between the members while giving us the opportunity to develop partnerships in the community. We did not stop with Bright Futures.

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October Birthdays

Happy Birthday To Our Members!

Chris Rathel
Earl Zook
Tom Gromling
Barry Swears
Ernie Lightfoot
Jeff Smelser
Ann DeLorme
Johnny Coontz
David Sunter
George Johnson
Brawner Cates
Craig Organ
Doug Green

(for birthday errors & omissions, please email editor@winchesterkiwanis.org)

Calendar

Oct 2: Business Meeting
Oct 9: David Downs, Virginia Beer Museum
Oct 15: Social, Piccadilly Pub, 5:30pm
Oct 16: Bill Rapp, Retired CIA & WH Briefer
See Lennie Wolf for signup sheet
Oct 22: Interclub @ Charlestown, WV; See Robin Doss for details and signup
Oct 22: Deadline for newsletter articles
Oct 23: Joe Ripple, Scares that Care Charity
Oct 30: Pancake Day Prep Discussion
Oct 31: Board Meeting, Airport Conference
Our New President: John Hess

Wow, it is my turn already to tell you we are starting a new year and I am now responsible for this section of our newsletter. I want to let Big Al and his board know what a great job they did over the last year in leading our club to a very successful year and, of course, we couldn’t have done it without every member’s help.

I would like to see more member participation from all of our members this next year. The board and I will be going over the surveys that were done in August and making sure everyone is assigned to at least one committee of their choice.

In setting some goals for the next year I hope to increase membership. The Membership Committee is going to start a letter campaign to area businesses, set up tables at various public events, and organize a satellite club.

I also would like to increase our public recognition in the Winchester area. If we are better noticed, we can increase funding and membership. We are a service organization so let’s increase service to our community by giving three or four hours per month per member.

Also, be reminded our Community Pancake Day is on Saturday November 2nd. I am happy to report that our major beneficiary, “Sunshine Squad”, has already sold over 200 tickets and has picked up more.

Now, let’s sell lots of Pancake Day tickets and work as many hours as you can on Friday, November 1 and on Saturday, November 2.

- John

REMEMBER!
THE KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER WILL BE DOING TRASH PICKUP ON ROUTE 50, EAST OF WINCHESTER OCTOBER 19TH, FROM 8AM TO 10AM MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK! DO YOUR PART TO HELP! SEE LENNIE WOLFE OR TIM ANDERSON TO SIGN UP NOW!
October’s Featured Kiwanian is: MITZI CHURCHEY

Birthplace: Welch, WV

Favorite Movies: “Gone With the Wind” & “Avatar”

The day Mitzi walked into a Kiwanis meeting and decided to join was a blessed day. Mitzi is an incredibly multi-talented individual, who wakes up every morning trying to be a better person. Her nurturing nature led her to a career in nursing, and a life of community service.

Mitzi was born in Welch, WV, raised in Shepherdstown, and went to Kings Daughters Hospital School of Nursing in Martinsburg. Her nursing career was mainly spent in ICU, but then spent the last 12 years in the Operating Room (OR), which turned out to be the love of her life. If you imagine an OR nurse just stands next to the doctor and assists, you are incorrect. The OR nurse orchestrates the surgery by bringing in and preparing all equipment, making sure the environment is sterile and all individuals are gowned and ready. If an insect would get in the room while the room was being prepped, everything had to be removed and Mitzi would have to start all over. The last five years of Mitzi’s nursing career was spent as a travel nurse. She would temporarily move to another state/city and take over for another nurse that was on extended leave. Her favorite assignment was in Columbia, SC. The hospital Mitzi worked in was so welcoming and treated her like family.

When Mitzi retired after 41 years of nursing, she moved in with her daughter and son-in-law in order to take care of her two grandsons and newborn granddaughter Amelia – who has visited Kiwanis several times. Being retired does not mean Mitzi is taking life easy. In addition to taking care of her grandchildren, she does a multitude of service projects for church, Forever Angels of Virginia, and family members.

For Grace Downtown church, Mitzi makes homemade salsa and sells it, with all proceeds going to the church. Mitzi is an extremely talented volunteer seamstress with Forever Angels making gowns for infants who do not survive after birth (see picture at right). She collects donated wedding dresses, takes the gowns apart, and refashions the material into stunning angelic gowns. These incredibly detailed and beautiful gowns are donated to hospitals and families all along the east coast. As if that isn’t enough, Mitzi is a brilliant carpenter. She loves to take reclaimed materials and create a variety of items, such as stools, tables, and bench seats. Last summer, Mitzi remodeled her cousin’s house in California, which included replacing dated popcorn ceilings, renovating the bathrooms by replacing tile and fixtures, and laying carpet. Mitzi does not call in contractors to do this work, she does it all on
Club Pics

Our Ginny Grant from the Kiwanis Club of Winchester and Linda Butler from the Kiwanis Club of Old Town led the Kiwanis Key Clubbers from John Handley High School on a beginning of the month clean up of the Children Events Center grounds in the Winchester Jim Barnett Park. Key Clubbers participating were Lucas Hustick, Julia Imgham, Eunice Mejia-den, Mary McKay, Andy Polston, Ally Corrillo, Levi Schindle. Items picked up were either recycled or placed in trash bags for city collection.

(SPOILIGHT from page 4)

her own!

Mitzi stays so busy with her commitments, but when asked why she chose to join Ki-wanis she stated that her charity work (sewing, woodworking, and cooking) can be isolat-ing. She wanted to meet people just as interested in giving back and to expand her friend-ships and world in a more social environment.

Have a seat next to Mitzi at one of the next luncheons, she is a fascinating person with a big heart and you will enjoy getting to know her.

*Kiwanis Club of Winchester is successful because of its many volunteer members who give so freely of their time and effort.*

**THANKS FOR BECOMING A MEMBER OF KIWANIS CLUB, MITZI!**
Some years ago our Kiwanis Club sponsored the planting of a number of Red Maple Trees in our Kiwanis Area in Jim Barnett City Park. The trees have grown beautifully but are now needing fertilizing and mulching. The Park Improvement Committee will be taking soil tests around the trees to see what the Frederick County Agent might recommend in the way of fertilizer and mulch. When results come in, we will be inviting any of our members who would like to help to scatter the fertilizer and mulch. This is planned for a Saturday morning event in the next couple of months.

Our Kiwanis Area is fenced in with a low railing wooden fence. Over time some of the posts have been lost and a number of the railings are down or gone. This is one project that the members of our Kiwanis Club can do in replacing and lining up the posts that will add to the appearance of our Kiwanis Area. This will be a Saturday morning task and anyone that can help with this project will be appreciated.

The Maple trees we have planted in the Kiwanis Area of the Park have the normal growing of sprouts from the trunks of the trees that take away from the beauty of the tree and also rob the tree of needed plant food. The city Arborist, when consulted, recommended the removal of these sprouts and our membership will be invited to consider helping with this task. This removal process will enhance the appearance of our Maple trees and can easily be done. Please consider assisting with this project.

(continued on next page)
DECORATED VETERAN SPEAKS

Dr. John “Rob” Marsh, medical doctor and former US Army Delta Force Medical Officer (who was critically wounded at Mogadishu in 1993), recounts his military experiences to the Kiwanis Club of Winchester at our September 25th meeting. The Battle of Mogadishu was the basis for the movie, “Black Hawk Down”.

KIWANIS CLUB OF WINCHESTER at BARNETT PARK (continued)

The Kiwanis Park Area will be improved this October with 10 Kwanzan Cherry Trees similar to the one shown that was planted by Kiwanis K-Kids at Virginia Avenue Elementary School. The Board and Membership approved the funds needed for this improvement to the Kiwanis Park Area. Additional trees will be needed in the future to replace dying trees now in the area.

The Winchester Parks and Rec. Department reports that our Kiwanis Shelter No. 1 is one of the best rental revenue items in the Park. Constructed by our Kiwanis Club for $3,000.00 in 1955, it received a new roof through a coop effort between the Park and our Kiwanis Club in 2018. The Park reports also that a number of events are held there each summer such as wedding receptions, family reunions, children summer camp and, of course, our Kiwanis Family Picnic. Reservations can be made with the Park to use the shelter.
The Kiwanis Club meets monthly at Piccadilly’s Public House & Restaurant, located at 125 East Piccadilly Street in downtown Winchester, VA.

Next Social: Oct 15, 2019; 5:30pm

Rob Jones, Marine veteran, was our guest speaker on September 11th. Rob shared his military experiences with us with emphasis on how he lost his legs in a landmine explosion, and how he has been able to adjust to a new way of life since then. (Pictured above: Rob Jones and John Hess)
PREPPING FOR PANCAKE DAY

Pancake Day is fast approaching but there’s still much to be done. YOUR participation as a Kiwanian is key to making it a success. If you haven’t done it already, sign up NOW to work a shift on November 1st (for sausage cutting and room prep) or, on November 2nd (for performing your part in providing service on Pancake Day). Slots are available for the grills, the kitchen, working the dining area, making tea, mixing batter, taking the trash out, AND most importantly, clean up and storage after the event is over.

THIS IS OUR SIGNATURE EVENT.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS EXPECTED.

YOU KNEW THIS WHEN YOU JOINED THE CLUB.

PLAN ON BEING THERE.

THE ONLY EXCUSE FOR BEING ABSENT IS CALLING IN DEAD, BUT WE WILL NEED A DOCTOR’S NOTE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING COOPERATION IN DOING YOUR PART AND NOT PILING ALL THE WORK ON A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE.

IF YOU DON’T VOLUNTEER, THE PCD COMMITTEE HAS A PARTICULAR SET OF SKILLS. THEY WILL HUNT YOU DOWN. THEY WILL FIND YOU. AND THEY WILL ASSIGN YOU A TASK TO PERFORM.
How about Honor Flight? Members of this club opened their hearts and wallets to send an entire busload of veterans to Washington DC to see their memorials. Not only did we send an entire busload, we showed up in force welcoming them back home, a truly wonderful and heartwarming show of support. Then there was AMBUCS, which provides special needs children custom made bicycles to ride. What better way for Kiwanians to devote their time than to help children that have never been able to ride a bike. Camp Fantastic, The Children's Christmas Party, road clean-up, blood drives, Habitat for Humanity, WATTS, club socials, interclubs, our student scholarship program, Salvation Army bell ringing, and of course, our Pancake Days. There are many ways that this club supports our community. It is not the club's actions that define it, its the members that do. People do not join this club to wear cool blue vests or eat at the Clarion once a week. They join this club because of their desire to serve our community and its children. Our members are what put Kiwanis above all the rest. Another objective was to make sure that our members knew that they are appreciated by the club. Our members are engaged and devoted to making our community better. It is very humbling to me to be a part of this club and to be friends with each of you. Thank you for all you do.

God Speed to John, Tj, Lynnette, Jeff, Dennis and the 2019-2020 Board, and may God Bless each and every one of you.

Sincerely, Big Al

Mathew 23:11