



## Plant Sale = HUGE SUCCESS!!!

Thanks to Larry Trainor and the entire Southport Oak Island Kiwanis team that helped to make the 17 April Kiwanis Plant Sale such a huge suc-

cess. The Club raised over \$9000 during this event. Below is an article about the Plant Sale reprinted with compliments of the South Brunswick Magazine. Definitely a fund raiser we can all be proud of!



## Planting with Purpose: Growing a Better Community

By Beth A. Kalahari

Story reprinted with compliments of South Brunswick Magazine and can be found on [LifeinBrunswickCounty.com](http://LifeinBrunswickCounty.com).

Ah, the sights and sounds of Spring-time! And with that comes the task of revitalizing gardens and planting fresh shrubs and flowers! But what if spring planting could benefit a higher purpose?



On April 17, 2021 Kiwanis of Southport and Oak Island hosted its 19th annual plant sale at the St. James Community Center. The sale featured twice-a-year blooming encore azaleas in addition to landscape bushes, flowers and herbs. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the children of Brunswick County.

The plant sale had humble beginnings. In 2002, Tom Pezanowski of Southport received a call from a Kiwanis member asking for

May 2021

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### Membership Meetings

All on ZOOM

May 6 @ 8 AM:

**Orthopedic Doctor and**

**President Doshier**

May 20 @ 8 AM

**Our State Magazine**

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ZOOM Board Meeting

May 13th @ 8:00 AM



help to organize a plant sale fundraiser. Pezanowksi was perfect for the job - a North Carolina State Extension Master Gardener of Brunswick County with a heart for volunteerism. He had volunteered with Boy Scouts, participated in town clean up events and worked with troubled teens. Pezanowski immediately took charge of the plant sale, contacted a nursery in Alabama, informed the community about the sale and took pre-orders. And then he displayed 280 encore azaleas in his own driveway in St. James Plantation. The result was a surprising \$2242 in proceeds.

The sale has come a long way since then. It now includes Southport, Oak Island and a presence at the Southport Spring Festival as well as the addition of shrubs, herbs and flowers. Since 2002, the plant sale has generated \$95,283 in proceeds.

Larry Trainor of Southport became involved in the plant sale in 2016 and took over responsibility from Pezanowski in 2018 after training with him for two years.

“I took over to give Tom a break. Even though he’s older than me, he has more energy than me,” Trainor says laughing.



Seems they both have a lot of

energy. Trainor dedicates nearly 250 hours of his time per year and Pezanowski tops 300 which includes time raising plants at home for the sale. Together they are a model of teamwork and camaraderie.

“In addition to the plant sale, my regular volunteer Kiwanis activities are Meals on Wheels, Royal Readers, Listening Post and Peer Court,” further explains Trainor. “I’m retired and have time to give back. I didn’t volunteer that much while working. It’s so much fun working with the kids and Brunswick County children have so many needs. Kiwanis is the perfect way to help kids.”



The volunteer work of the members of Kiwanis has broad reach. Chartered in 1993, the 85 men and women volunteers of Kiwanis of Southport and Oak Island serve the communities of Southport, Oak Island, Boiling Spring Lakes, St. James, Bolivia, and Supply through service, education, guidance, and leadership. The scope of outreach is extensive: Teen Court and Peer Court, Terrific Kids, Royal Readers, Listening Post, First Tee, New Hope Clinic, Matthews’ Ministry, Interfaith Food Pantry, Computers for Kids, Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina, Brunswick Family Assistance and Meals on Wheels. Kiwanis also supplies books to the Kiwanis Lending Library located on Howe Street in Southport, provides fresh produce to local underserved families from its volunteer-cultivated Giving Garden in Bolivia, and offers \$20,000 annually in scholarships.

The chapter was proud to be recognized as a Powerful Partner in 2017 by Brunswick County Schools. In 2020 the group received the American Legion of North Carolina Children and Youth

Services award, and for the 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Kiwanis International Distinguished Club award. Volunteer hours average 10,000 annually.



Trainor is quick to point out that the plant sale would not be successful without the support of the four nurseries, Flowerwood Nursery, Tinga Nursery, Carolina Greenery and Shelton Herb Farm, who sell to Kiwanis at wholesale. The plant sale is open for customers from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the rear parking lot of the St. James Community Center at 4136 Southport-Supply Road SE.

Trainor says, “During these difficult times, the need is greater than ever. Come out and support us. The money we raise goes directly to the children we serve. 100%. And you can get our plants for the same price or less than at local nurseries. Plus, you don’t have to travel far at all. It’s a win-win for everyone!”

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Morning Meetings are on ZOOM

**Thursday, May 6th @ 8:00 AM**

**Dr. Eric Lescault; Orthopedic of EmergeOrtho and  
Lynda Stanley; President of Doshier**

**Thursday, May 13th @ 8:00 AM**

**Board of Directors Meeting (all members are invited)**

**Thursday, May 20th @ 8:00 AM**

**Bernie Mann  
Editor of Our State Magazine**





# President's Message

## Charter Picnic May 26 @ 5:00 PM

By Steve Corbett

By now, you should have received the invitation for our hybrid social affair that combines the Annual Charter Dinner, normally held in January, with our annual member picnic, usually scheduled at the end of August. **George** called it a '*Charter Picnic*' and the name is apropos! With safety precautions at the top of their priorities, the Board of Directors agreed to the Charter Picnic to be held at the Woodlands Park Pavilion in St. James. For our members and guests that are not residents of St. James, please include that in your email response to George so we can alert security as to your attendance without any delays. **Greg and Peg McDonald** will arrange for the buffet BBQ food of beef and pork from Smokehouse as they have done for many years. We will need a few volunteers to assist with setup and to distribute the food to our members, spouses and guests. Doing this, we will limit multiple contact with utensils. As our families play a large role in our ability to serve the children of Brunswick County, your spouse or special someone is welcome to join us. Please include their names on the email you return to George. We have invited the scholarship winners to join us this year and it will give our members an opportunity to meet these special young men and women. Your support for the club's activities and fundraising helps our club provide up to \$20,000 in scholarships annually!

### ***The most successful plant sale ever!***

Many hours of hard work and planning resulted in a very successful plant sale on April 17. **Larry Trainor**, our plant sale director, organized our volunteers very effectively and working with **Tom Pezanowski**, they combined large orders of shrubs, perennials and annuals that met the needs of the residents of the county. The biggest surprise was the number of preorders which were delivered directly to the buyers' homes by Larry, Tom and a few other volunteers. The success of the plant sale was a true club affair as many members volunteered to help set up, sell plants, answer questions, serve as cashiers, fill up the cars and then clean up. Thanks to all of you who contributed your time and talents to the plant sale.

### ***Virtual Golf Tournament under way***

During the first two weeks of May, our annual golf tournament will be held and this time it will still be virtual and not just because of the COVID restrictions. Several participants last year indicated their foursomes liked the format and enjoyed setting up groups anytime in a two-week period. The tournament also pays for a scholarship and if we work harder on recruiting friends and neighbors, can raise even more funds. Please reach out to **Don Halbert** or **Darryl DeSerio** for information.

## **Annual Meeting & Elections May 20**

Please join us on Zoom for our Annual Meeting on May 20th which will include the elections for club officers and board of directors as announced by the nominating committee. The candidates are:

George Bayless	President
Kathleen Bradcovich	President-elect
Ray George	Vice president, Fundraising
Peg McDonald	Treasurer
Don Halbert	Board of Directors, 3-Year Term
Larry Trainor	Board of Directors, 3-Year Term

## **On the Calendar**

The **Chamber of Commerce** is hosting the **Coastal Home & Lifestyle Showcase** at Middleton Park on Oak Island this coming Saturday, May 8th. Our club will be handing out information and showing what we do as a club at a booth. Come one down and take a look.

The **EEA Chapter 939** is presenting a **CLASSIC MEMORIES** day on Saturday, May 29 at Cape Fear Regional Airport. From 8:30-11 AM, a Pancake Breakfast can be yours for \$6 with hot dogs and hamburgers served from 11:30-1:30. WWII aircraft and memorabilia will be on display and classic cars will also be there. From 1-3 PM, the Brunswick Big Band will be playing some great tunes.

Thank you for all you do for our community and the children of our county.

**Steve**



You are cordially invited to the  
**Kiwanis Charter Picnic**  
**Wednesday, May 26**  
**5:00 PM at the St. James Woodlands Park Pavilion**

**BBQ \* Awards \* Scholarship Winners**

The Board of Directors decided that as society starts to reopen, it is a perfect time to celebrate. The BBQ Picnic is to our members and spouse (or special someone). Food service will begin at 5:45. To provide the caterer with an accurate count, we request that you RSVP to George Bayless ([gbayless3@gmail.com](mailto:gbayless3@gmail.com)) ASAP when you receive an email form later today. The pavilion is large enough for social distancing but please bring a mask for the buffet line.

**Please join us and let's get ready for the new school year!**



## The Children of Brunswick County

### Need Our Help More Than Ever!

Our first VIRTUAL Golf Tournament was such a HUGE success, we have decided to hold:

## OUR SECOND ANNUAL VIRTUAL GOLF EVENT!

The format again allows you to play where you want, when you want and with whom you want. Entry fees are very reasonable and you are supporting kids of Brunswick County through the programs of Kiwanis.

**Where:** You can play your round at any regulation course. Then drop off or submit your scorecard electronically.

**When:** Play anytime between May 1 – May 16. We suggest you play an early date to avoid any weather problems.

**Who:** Pick your foursome – Men's, Ladies, and Mixed (must be at least 2 women). As long as you pay separately for each registration, you can play in as many foursomes as you want!

**What:** The format will be a Captain's Choice scramble. Rules are provided when you register. Groups will be flighted based on submitted scores and prizes will be awarded for the winners of each flight.

**Registration:** All registrations will be on-line. Use the link on the Southport-Oak Island Kiwanis homepage at [southport-oakisland-kiwanis.org](http://southport-oakisland-kiwanis.org) or go to [so-kiwanisgolf.com](http://so-kiwanisgolf.com). If you have any difficulty getting to the Registration page, please send us an email or call the number below.

**Entry fee:** Entry is \$25/player. Additionally, you can buy a Mulligan Package for \$20/player. We'll also have a 50/50 drawing with 3 winners (last year each winner got \$200). Tickets are \$10 each. Signups for Mulligans and 50/50 are on the electronic registration page also.

**Contact:** Don Halbert (224) 475-5744, or email [s.o.kiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:s.o.kiwanis@gmail.com) for more information, or to report any problems.





## SHOW OUR COLORS

### Join us in honoring our Country while helping Brunswick County Kids

Subscribe today to enjoy two 12"x18" lawn flags set in a unique white base with the Kiwanis logo affixed. For each of 5 national holidays (July 4, Labor Day, Veterans Day, Presidents Day and Memorial Day) Kiwanis will place the Flag Unit in your front yard 3 days before each holiday and remove it 4 days afterwards. While you show your patriotism, take pride in knowing your donation helps support the children of Brunswick County through our Club's many service programs, such as our in-class reading programs, leadership training, Terrific Kids, Key Clubs and scholarships, to name a few.

Please consider subscribing to our Flag Program by retuning this form with your annual \$50.00 tax deductible donation payable to **Kiwanis Club of Southport-Oak Island** to: Peggy McDonald at Kiwanis, PO Box 11487, Southport, NC 28461. Questions? Call Peggy at 910-368-7979 or email at [pegngreg48@gmail.com](mailto:pegngreg48@gmail.com).

Thank you for supporting our Patriotic Flag Program. The initial placement will be for July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address1 \_\_\_\_\_

Address2 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_







The Southport Oak Island Kiwanis Club participated in the annual Kiwanis One Day service project on Saturday, April 21st. It was held at the Boys and Girls Homes in Lake Waccamaw and involved the laying of pine straw, raking and collecting twigs, pressure washing, weeding and more. Kiwanis sponsors one of the cottages which currently houses teenage girls that often have had no support at home. Our volunteers were instrumental in providing landscaping around the Kiwanis Cottage and all the cottages in the quad area and the chapel.



## Award for Excellence in Community Service



The Kiwanis Club of Southport - Oak Island presented its Award for Excellence in Community Service to Brunswick County Principal of the Year for 2020 - Beverly Eury, Principal of Bolivia Elementary School. Beverly was recognized for her vision and selfless service to enhance the education of the children of our community. Congratulations Beverly! Pictured with Beverly are from left to right - Jeff Mount, Club President Steve Corbett, and Club Secretary John Ertlschweiger.



## Update and Final on the 5K Run



The Brunswick Wellness Coalition's (BWC) Virtual 5K/1m Spring Into Health Run was a huge success thanks to the 5k committee, sponsors, swag donors, and registrants! There were 406 registrants, ages 3-82, some of whom were registered for last year's canceled run. Outcomes included male and female 5K fastest runners were in the 50+ age group, the Brunswick Senior Resources Inc.-Leland center team is starting

a walking group and one youth is beginning track at his school! There were many inspiration stories. One of these came about from the Brunswick Senior Resources Inc.-Shallotte center team. A co-worker who had been hospitalized in the ICU from COVID-19 and who had returned to work with oxygen wanted to participate in the run so they rallied around her walking with her to demonstrate their support!



As in previous years, Cape Fear Fitness and Tropical Smoothie sponsored the run. Ongoing relationships like these have allowed Spring Into Health to continue since its' inception in 2018. With many races being canceled, partnering with the Southport Oak Island Kiwanis Club was a good fit as they are one of BWC's partners and has received support of the Kiwanis Giving Garden at Horseplay Farms. Through donations and profits, BWC will re-invest funds to support the Club's health initiatives and scholarships.

Comprised of a united group of individuals who are health-minded with the mission to improve the health of the Brunswick community, and the vision of becoming the healthiest county in North Carolina, BWC is one of 10 coalitions in North Carolina made possible by Healthy People, Healthy Carolinas, an initiative of The Duke Endow-men



Team Kiwanis ended up with 50 individuals registering for the Spring Into Health 5K or 1 mile run/walk event, which was a good level of participation from the club. That number included Kiwanians and family and friends of Kiwanians. We had asked people to donate at least \$10 when they signed up because our focus was on fund raising, and as a result, we raised almost \$800 in donations. We had two friends of Kiwanis who wanted to show their support for the club by each donating \$100. While we have

not yet gotten a final number from the Brunswick Wellness Coalition for the total amount our club will receive in addition to the donations, the event will for sure end up being a successful fund raiser. Hopefully next year we will be able to have an in person event but also have the option of a "virtual" run or walk for folks who prefer to do their distance on their own or with their own small group.



A big thank you to all the Team Kiwanis members !



## Don Halbert

Welcome to Don Halbert, the newest Board Member for the Southport Oak Island Kiwanis Club. Don has been an active member of the Southport Oak Island Kiwanis Club since he joined in September 2014. He is most widely known for his excellent service as the Committee Chair for the annual/semi-annual Club Golf Tournaments. Below you will find some “fun facts” about Don. Congratulations Don on your selection as a new Board Member for the Club!

### What do you enjoy most about Kiwanis?

Seeing and experiencing first-hand the dedication and commitment of the members to providing critical services and programs to children in Brunswick County.



### How did you come to live in Southport? Why?

We vacationed here with friends in 1999. Both families bought lots the first day and continued to vacation here until retirement in 2013 when we decided to build a house and move here from Chicago. The other couple moved here as well. It is the perfect combination of beach, golf, weather and people.

### What's your proudest accomplishment?

Forty two years of an almost perfect marriage to my wonderful wife Liz, three fantastic, happy and successful children and 2 (to date) incredible grandchildren.

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

Started as a Research Scientist in the Pharmaceutical Industry, finished as a Sr. Executive managing a Research Facility in the same industry.

### What is a hobby of yours?

I enjoy “flying” all over the world in my computer flight simulator.

**P.S. Don't forget to sign up for the upcoming Virtual Golf Tournament from 1-16 May. See page 6 for all the information!**



## Kiwanis Membership Committee

Your Kiwanis Membership Committee has been busy over the last couple of months! We are excited to be installing 3 new members to our club at the 6 May meeting – Lynn Reece, Sarah Ward and Jacob Ward. Please remember to welcome them to our club at the next Zoom meeting! In addition, we hosted a Membership Table at the recent (and very successful!) Plant Sale. Many thanks to Bev Ertlschweiger and Donna Healy-Dean for staffing the table. We also plan to be at the 8 May Home and Garden Show on Oak Island to distribute information about our club. With the expectation of some lessen pandemic restrictions, we plan to host an in-person **Kiwanis Open House on Thursday, 10 June from 6-8pm at the St. James Community Center.** Please SAVE THE DATE and pledge to bring one prospective member to the event! We look forward to sharing our story and highlighting many of our club’s programs during the evening. If you are a Program Lead, please know we’ll be reaching out to you to come and showcase your program. Look for more information over the course of the next few weeks. And don’t forget to invite a friend to join us! Our club is strongest when we work together for our community!

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## *Kiwanians of the Month*

### Larry Trainor & Tom Pezanowski

In a year when much of our society and club have been compromised from our normal activities, the Plant Sale held on April 17 played an outsized role for our club’s fundraising goals. We are so fortunate to have Larry Trainor (above left) serve as our Plant Sale Director for the past three years and also be assisted by master gardener and previous Plant Sale director, Tom Pezanowski. At the

opening bell, many shoppers came to see what plants and flowers we had available and within 75 minutes, all the azaleas were sold out, followed by the roses and many other shrubs.



Larry offered personal service and delivered preorders directly to the residents with many more plants sold in advance compared to other years. Tom continued his tradition of growing plants at his home on Irwin Drive in St. James and selling them for pure profit. The list included elephant ears, agave, and others, which were sold out by the end of the day. Tom still has some elephant ears in the ground at home that he can dig out at a low price if interested. Once planted, they take little effort from year to year for them to grow.

A big thank you to Larry and Tom for their exceptional efforts and for being selected as Kiwanians of the Month. A sincere thank you to the members of the club who spent Friday and Saturday setting up the rear lot at the Community Center and to member’s spouses who volunteered, particularly, Cindy Trainor.



# April Meeting Notes

By Anne Hager

## April 1, 2021

President Elect **George Bayless** was happy to present **Carol Brolley**, President of the Board of Friends of the Library Southport Oak Island (FOLSOI) to our members this morning. There are five branches of the library in Brunswick County — the Harper Library in Southport, the Barbee Library on Oak Island along with branches in Leland, Shallotte, and Carolina Shores. Each branch is supported by a Friends of the Library helping to raise money to support the gap between the county library funding and the needs of the library. FOLSOI supports both the Southport and Oak Island branches by adding books and periodicals, purchasing equipment, improving technology, adding furniture and taking care of general office supplies. One of their biggest challenges is providing a well-run, well financed library that is good for the community and attractive to all ages. Of course, none of this can be done without donations. You can go to [www.folsoi.org](http://www.folsoi.org) to learn more about their monthly books sales at Southport Realty or to learn how you can become a friend of the library.

## April 15, 2021

Our club welcomed **Abigail Linville**, Director of Collections and Exhibitions of The Andy Griffith Museum in Mount Airy, NC. Many of us grew up learning wonderful life lessons while watching the characters on the Andy Griffith show solve their problems. The museum houses the largest collection of Andy Griffith memorabilia beginning with What It Was, Football a comedy monologue which made Andy famous. The museum also features hundreds of items from Andy's life and his career in theater, film, and music. It was interesting to learn Andy intended to be a minister then changed his mind to focus on music. The characters in the show were drawn in by their musical talents. When they weren't filming shows they toured the country with their musical acts. What especially helped the show was the fabulous group of writers revolving in and out. This helps account for the fact the show has never been off the air. You can learn more about the museum and location by visiting, <http://www.andygriffithmuseum.com>.



Reminder that Kiwanis e-mails all of its members an E-Card Birthday wish on the occasion of the member's birthday. The e-mail will come from Elaine O'Donnell. It is safe to open the link.

## May Birthdays:

**Jack Addicks, Joe Bonczkowski, Steve Corbett, Jeff Johnston, Teresa Margin, Nick Mastorides, Byron Price, and Tom Schultz**