

**PROCLAMATION
FOR THE
CENTENARY
OF
THE KIWANIS CLUB OF LYNCHBURG,
VIRGINIA**



WHEREAS, The Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg, with 28 members¹ was chartered as the 196th club of Kiwanis International on 29 January 1920, accepted the six Objects of Kiwanis², the motto “We Build,” and beat the Lynchburg Rotary Club at baseball two games to one in June 1920, and

WHEREAS, the Club during the 1920s sponsored new clubs at Winchester, Charlottesville, Danville, and Bedford; in 1922 started its longest lasting committee, the Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg Educational and Benevolent Fund (E&B)³; erected a huge \$600 Kiwanis sign on the bluff across the James River; presented The Kiwanis Review at the Academy of Music⁴; planted over 400 double flowering Japanese cherry trees in Riverside Park; paid for children to attend live in, day, and special Summer camps, for medical care for the underprivileged, for needy, worthy children to further their education, for tickets for 300 kids to attend the John Robinson Circus; sponsored a Marine Band Concert for the city; all this time meeting at the Virginian Hotel one day each week for lunch, throughout the decade, and

WHEREAS, through the decade of the 1930s the Club hosted the 1933 Capital District Conference at the Virginian Hotel; continued the good works of the Educational and Benevolent Fund⁵; sponsored donkey baseball as a fundraiser; served food at Salvation Army picnics,⁶ sponsored the Fort Hill Club; provided money for the local Ice Fund for the city’s needy⁷; planted a memorial oak tree in Riverside Park to celebrate U. S. Senator Carter Glass’ 79th birthday⁸; held occasional joint meetings with Rotary and Lions⁹; became interested and helped rural and farm youth¹⁰; while still attending weekly meetings at the Virginian Hotel, and

WHEREAS, in the 1940s the Club supported the World War II war effort¹¹; raised \$2,250 to purchase equipment for a Community Cannery to preserve food grown In Victory Gardens; convinced Kiwanis International that meeting every other week would save money and food during war time shortages¹²; had W. Carey Wheatley elected Governor of the Capital District; staged musical reviews “Anchors Aweigh” (1941) and “Now and Then” (1946) for city entertainment and

fund raising; sponsored the playoff of four City league football teams; reconstructed and reconditioned a house on the corner of Memorial and Langhorne to serve as a community center for the area (1947)¹³; continued supporting individual youth and youth organizations by sponsoring camp attendance and supplying money for education and training both by E&B loans and gifts; while still meeting, now every two weeks, at the Virginian Hotel; and

WHEREAS, the 1950s decade started with the Korean conflict; the Club continued to carry on its work under the E&B Fund¹⁴; took an active part in promoting and securing donors for local Blood Drives; in 1956 sponsored a Mozart bicentennial concert at E. C. Glass auditorium¹⁵; planned religious programs at Easter and Christmas; introduced the Windoes' Travel and Adventure series (Travelogue) to the Club in 1958¹⁶; sponsored Career Night" for the juniors and seniors at Brookville High School; built a new infirmary for the YMCA Camp at Bugg's Island¹⁷; brought Metropolitan Opera stars and 40 members of the Danville Barber Shop Chorus¹⁸ to Lynchburg for the Festival of Harmony in 1958; provided awards at the Lynchburg Farm Show; played an 11-game baseball schedule in the City League¹⁹; continued to support youth sports in the city²⁰; and other projects for the benefit of young people; while still meeting at the Virginian Hotel for its every two week luncheon; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s, a time of social upheaval, the Club started its first Circle K Club at Lynchburg College; built permanent, cement block "Health Lodges" at YMCA Camp Rochichi, YWCA Camp Ruthers, Boy Scout Camp Monacan and Girl Scout Camp Sacajawea²¹; worked with other civic clubs at the annual carnivals for patients at Lynchburg Training School and Hospital²²; stopped E&B benevolence to become just the educational (loan) arm of the Club²³; went from using the Calendar year to the Fiscal year for administrative purposes; in 1965 looked for a new meeting venue because the Virginian Hotel was struggling financially²⁴; all the while meeting at noon every two weeks at various local hotel/motel restaurants; and

WHEREAS, in the decade of the 1970s, the Club presented the City with \$10,000 seed money to start the Blackwater Creek bike path²⁵; conducted annual Career Counseling nights for Brookville and other high schools in the Lynchburg area; sponsored its first Key Club at Brookville High School (1976) and its second at E. C. Glass High School (1979); helped develop the Robert D. Morrison Garden²⁶; built a game-field fitness circuit sponsored by Wells Fargo at Riverside Park²⁷; sponsored Lynchburg Timberlake and Amherst County Kiwanis clubs²⁸; E&B continued loaning money to worthy students for their higher education; while seeming to find a permanent meeting venue at the Holiday Inn on Odd Fellows Road; and

WHEREAS, during the 1980s, the E&B Trustees started the scholarship program with money gifted to the Fund by the estate of Odie Mayhew²⁹; landscaped the triangle across from the entrance of Lynchburg College with the help of students from Lynchburg College Circle K³⁰; helped Fred Terrell become Governor of the Capital District in 1987/88; to help the Health Department, called parents of infants to remind them to get the required babyhood immunizations; sponsored Key Clubs at Liberty Christian Academy, Virginia Episcopal School, and Holy Cross Regional Catholic School, and a Circle K Club at Liberty University³¹; worked with the City and other civic groups on the city program “Plant-a-Tree”³²; started a Super-Interclub program³³; became a coed club July 1987 at the behest of Kiwanis International; built a mobile informational kiosk in and for the City’s farmer market; sang Christmas carols at various halfway houses and nursing homes; built a storage shed for Camp Kum-ba-yah; started the Oscar Anderson Teddy Bear Parade³⁴; and

WHEREAS, in the 1990s: the Club built Habitat for Humanity houses on Tyree Street and on BrightStar Court³⁵; produced three annual “Faith in Christmas” shows featuring either Faith Prince, Carl Anderson or the Lynchburg Symphony; built a bateau³⁶; taught a course in anger management to 5th graders at Dunbar high school; with help from the neighborhood built a wooden Daniels’ Hill playground³⁷; worked with Lynch’s Landing at the first few Friday Cheers held at the City’s Farmer’s Market³⁸; supported Kiwanis International’s effort to eliminate iodine deficiency disorders from the world³⁹; repaired the Boys & Girls Club’s walkway; worked to improve Elizabeth’s Early Learning Center, the Hutcherson Early Learning Center and Miriam’s House; cooked pancake breakfasts for several bateau races; assisted in the early modification of the railway trestle to a foot bridge to Percival’s island and helped clean up the rail-bed walkway; cancelled the Travelogue Series⁴⁰; developed a local (Lynchburg City) Monopoly game as a fund raiser⁴¹; and

WHEREAS, during the decade starting with 2000; the Club started the Terrific Kids program at T.C. Miller and Wm. M. Bass Elementary Schools⁴²; sponsored two CKI clubs at Hampden-Sidney College and Longwood College; hosted the 2002 Capital District Conference at the Holiday Inn Select, Lynchburg; joined other organizations bell ringing for the Salvation Army’s annual fund raiser; developed a local logo for the Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg; changed the Club meeting to twice a month, noon on the 1st and 3rd Friday⁴³; started annual, one day a year, live lobster sale with direct delivery from Maine; following up later with annual, one day a year, fresh, a day out of the Atlantic, shrimp sale; cooked for the Amazement Square annual pancake day; cooked supper for Kids Haven; helped City Parks and Recreation Department and the Tree Stewards of Lynchburg clean up and landscape Riverside Park; joined the City’s Adopt a Street Program;

removed the dying original Carter Glass memorial oak tree and planted a replacement; started the Riverside Park train rehabilitation⁴⁴; and

WHEREAS, during the decade preceding its 100th birthday, the Club hosted the 2010 District Conference⁴⁵; became sponsor of Liberty High School (Bedford) Key Club by default⁴⁶; helped David Heppner become elected Governor of the Capital District (2015/16); started our third and fourth Terrific Kid's program⁴⁷; supported Kiwanis International's partnership with UNICEF to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus⁴⁸; cleaned up the Old City Cemetery of its Christmas decorations; started a Satellite committee of the Club⁴⁹; helped with Human Kind's annual five kilometer run/walk (the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot); prepared and served spectacular pancake breakfasts at the Christmas Festival at Amazement Square; repaired the roof on a building at Camp Sacajawea; introduced the annual Shrimp-fest and BBQ and the Kiwanis Golf tournament as the latest fund raisers; started two Service Leadership Programs (SLP), a Builder's Club at Brookville Middle School and an Aktion Club at LACIL⁵⁰; stopped the E&B loan program; developed a three-fold informational brochure about the Club; changed meeting venue twice; all the while adjusting from the 95 year old motto "We Build" to the new motto "Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time."; and

WHEREAS, all this activity was done with membership that fluctuated between almost 200 members to a number less than 50; while moving to different meeting venues since the Virginian Hotel closed; while switching from a "men's" to a coed club; while going through ten decades which included a major depression, an horrific World War, the Korean conflict, the Vietnamese disaster, civil unrest at home, an extended armed conflict in the Middle East; from horseless carriages to rockets into outer space; and increased average life span to over 80 years.

THEREFORE, I, James M. Minear, the 100th president of the Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg, Virginia, with the backing and support of the previous 99 presidents, do hereby

PROCLAIM, that the aforesaid Club has successfully completed its first 100 years with honor and has accomplished that which it intended in January 1920, and therefore deserves all honors and accolades bestowed upon it by its peers and the community it has supported.

James M. Minear
100th President
Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg

End Notes for

CENTENARY

OF

THE KIWANIS CLUB OF LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

¹ The following is a list of the Charter members of the Club, their offices and vocations.

Acree, L. C. Jr.	Lynch Building	Fire Insurance
Adams, H. C.	306 12th Street	Laundry
Bowman, Wm. L.	819 Main Street	Retail Shoes
Cosby, P. G. Jr.	Peoples Building	Life Insurance
Diuguid, W. D.	615 Main Street	Undertaker
Easley, Charles B.	Geo. DeWitt Shoe Co.	Wholesale Shoes
Graves, Adrian W.	Box 56	Knit Goods
Hughes, John P. Jr.	800 Commerce Street	Retail Automobiles
James, John W.	Southland Factory	Supt. Shoe Factory
Jennings, Clyde	208 Orange Street	Grain Broker
Knight, Floyd L.	Krise Building	Capitalist
Massie, Dr. Dave H..	People Building	Dental Bridge Spec.
Massie, Edgar F.	727 Main Street	Retail Men's Furnishings
Miller, Giles H.	Lynchburg National Bank	Nat. Bank Cashier
Mullan, R. Henry Jr.	Peoples Building	Wholesale Lumber
Myers, Lloyd A.	Myers Motor Co.	Wholesale Motor Trucks
McCausland, H. Glenn	Box 271	Railroad General Agent
McVeigh, Frank K.	Glamorgan Works	Foundry Mfgr.
Owen, John D.	First National Bank	Nat. Bank Cashier
Owen, John T.	Owen & Barker	Grain Broker
Patterson, John R.	1120 Main Street	Retail Drugs
Plunkett, Dr. F. O.	1019 Church Street	General Physician
Sale, Daniel W.	Jefferson Street	Merchandise Broker
Spearman, Roy J.	1011 Church Street	Investments
Spurlock, J. A.	800 Main Street	Mgr. Telegraph Office
Walters, Dr. James W.	1016 Church Street	Ear, Eye, Throat Specialist
Wilson, Fred L.	601 Main Street	Retail Automobiles
Wood, Ernest M.	12 9th Street	Pres. Savings Bank

² Object 1: To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.

Object 2: To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.

Object 3: To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business and professional standards.

Object 4: To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.

Object 5: To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.

Object 6: To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will.

NOTE: "Objects" were actually approved by Kiwanis International in 1924.

³ to assist worthy students in securing education loans and to give relief to worthy charity cases; In 1929 the Club filed a deed designed to perpetuate the fund as a Trust making it a semi-autonomous unit under the auspices of the Club.

⁴ to entertain the town folks and raise funds for E&B. All of the performers in the cast were local amateurs.

⁵ supporting the educational endeavors of City youth by providing low interest loans and supporting the various youth activities with needed cash.

⁶ Salvation Army picnics started in '30s and continued into the 50's.

⁷ The Ice Fund was a country wide project by volunteer organizations to supply milk and ice to the needy during the depression. The ice was used to preserve perishable food stuffs. (Info from Google.).

⁸ Carter Glass was an American newspaper publisher and Democratic politician from Lynchburg, Virginia, who represented Virginia in both houses of Congress and served as the United States Secretary of the Treasury under President Woodrow Wilson. He played a major role in the establishment of the U.S. financial regulatory system, helping to establish the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. (Wikipedia).His son, Carter Glass, III, was a member of Club.

⁹ including golf matches with local civic clubs and other Kiwanis clubs in the district, and the City's Summer Civic Clubs Softball League.

¹⁰ Helped with the the Future Farmers of America and established and sponsored the 4-H annual County Farm Shows held at the City Armory including supplying some winner's trophies.

¹¹ Partnered with the City and other civic organizations with war bond drives, civil defense, war relief, scrap metal and grease drives, and growing Victory Gardens.

¹² The change was approved and from then on the Club met 26 times per year rather than 52.

¹³ The Club referred to this as the Dearington Project since the property was owned by Charles Dearing of the City. The “Fisher Center” seems to have been another name for it. (Both were at near the North East corner of Langhorne Road and 5th Street.) We furnished a play-ground coach and some medical services and continued to maintain the Dearington/Fisher Centre’s club house and playground between 1948 and 1953. The Chamber of Commerce building was erected there in the mid ‘50s..

¹⁴ Monies obtained from voluntary contributions by Club members, and some fund raisers. Made loans to worthy boys and girls; provided a coach and necessary equipment for local sports teams; took children to the circus; gave Christmas parties with presents, and fruit for every child.

¹⁵ Nineteen commercial busses brought glee clubs of 10 colleges and universities, combining 540 voices, plus four guest soloists and the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra, of 86 musicians.

¹⁶ This became the most effective fundraiser for the next 30 years.

¹⁷ Some 50 members of the club went to Bugg's Island and built the infirmary.

¹⁸ Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America: SPEBSQSA

¹⁹ Played teams from the Rotary Club, Madison Heights Jaycees, Elks Club, and the Lynchburg National Bank.

²⁰ *Abstract of a talk to the Club in 1955:*

“Football is a great sport but, in some ways, isn't quite what it used to be.“ Gus Welch, famous football player and former coach at American University in Washington, told members of the Kiwanis Club at their luncheon meeting at the Virginian Hotel. The Chippewa Indian who starred with the Carlisle Indians along with Jim Thorpe said such tactics as punting out of bounds and the two platoon system have taken away from the game.

He said he was pleased to see that the two-platoon has been ruled out and stated 'if a player knows that he might have to play for 60 minutes he will be in a lot better condition than if he only on offense or defense.

The greatest thrill in a game comes from a good broken-field return of a punt, and now most of teams are kicking for the side lines, he said.

'They used to kick them inside and there were 22 men on there toes instead of 22 men standing around flat-footed.’”

Another thing which he said he missed in college football is the field goal. He recalled the day when the Carlisle Indians were playing Harvard and Jim Thorpe converted four field goals.

These were drop kicks not place kicks!

Throughout his talk he used examples of football games of the past to compare play of today. He told of blocking and tackling assignments when he played and explained some of the great plays of the past.

Things have changed in football and then changed back.

²¹ using Travelogue money for materials and membership manpower,

²² **From the brochure printed for the Kiwanis Club of Lynchburg's bicentennial celebration in 1970** - “While activities change, the Kiwanis program maintains its healthy balance of diversity in its projects. One that has become an annual assignment is the annual carnival for patients at Lynchburg Training School and Hospital. *The name was changed to Central Virginia Training Center (CVTC) and ceased to exist as of 2018.* Volunteer Services at the institution turned to Kiwanis for support in constructing and manning carnival booths and activities. This was in the late 1950s and each year Kiwanians are back on the job, with the help of other civic clubs and community-minded groups.”

²³ **From the April 5 1963 minutes of the E&B Fund Trustees:** “The (E&B) Trustees instructed the Secretary to write a letter to Robert Dirom, Jr., President, expressing the feeling of the Trustees that the E&B Fund was particularly well organized to serve educational loan applications. Request for Benevolent contributions should be referred to the Kiwanis Projects Committee as the Projects Fund now has the Kiwanis Travelogue as a source of funds. This source was not available in former days when E&B was established. Because sufficient funds are not available to take care of all of the worthy educational requests, the Trustees believe that all E&B Funds should generally be reserved for Educational loans.”

²⁴ **From severely edited Google, & Ed McCann** The Virginian Lynchburg, Curio Collection by Hilton first opened as The Virginian in April 1913. There were two additions to the hotel, in 1927 the sixth floor and in 1929 the six-story north wing. During its years of popularity and prosperity, the hotel hosted glamorous public and private events. Downtown Lynchburg and the hotel struggled in the 1960s, with the hotel ultimately closing. It was auctioned off in 1969 and converted to the Stewart Arms Hotel. In 1972 Liberty Baptist College, bought the hotel and transformed it into their first dormitory. It was a part of the university until 1981. In 1983, the upper floors of the building were renovated into low income housing financed by the Housing Authority using funds generated from a tax-exempt bond issue, The renovations resulted in the elegant first floor being enclosed and used for storage.

²⁵ on an unused sidetrack of the Norfolk and Western railway.

²⁶ with the City Parks and Recreation Department and the local garden club.

The garden is the triangle piece of real-estate between the divided Rivermont Avenue and Fifth Street.

²⁷ in conjunction with the Wells Fargo Bank Nat.Assoc. and the VA Comm. of Outdoor Rec.

²⁸ neither of which are in existence in 2020.

²⁹ He was the first recipient of a loan of \$165 in 1922. This essentially brought back the benevolent aspect of the Fund since the recipients were gifted the scholarships.

³⁰ This was the area across the street from the college entrance between Old Forest Road and Lakeside Drive. We even planted a Circle K of yellow daffodils.

³¹ Key Clubs at Liberty Christian Academy, and Virginia Episcopal School did not prosper and have folded.

³² With other service/civic organizations, the program was designed to “train” citizens to separate their trash for recycling, glass from plastic, from cardboard, from paper. Dumpsters were setup at various places in the city where citizens could deposit their trash. Members of the civic organizations would man the sites and help with the disposition of the trash. Profit from selling this separated trash was used by the city to beautify the city streets.

³³ The get together of club members of two or more countries either there and here mostly for fun and adventure. The initial contacts were with clubs from Augsburg, Germany and Bourges, France.

³⁴ The annual teddy bear parade was a one day affair for children, (and their teddybears) up to fifth grade from Lynchburg and surrounding area schools. It included various children’s games, face painting, the judging of various category of bears, local costumed personalities, and a short parade often including high school cheer-leaders, and bands

³⁵ The second house was built partnering with Lynchburg College and the Rotary club.

³⁶ to give rides and teach local river history but really because the entire club thought it would be fun; they just wanted to.

³⁷ The wood construction was later condemned by the City as potentially dangerous. and was replaced with a modern plastic playground.

³⁸ Lynch's Ferry Authority and Downtown Lynchburg merged to form Lynch's Landing, a non-profit dedicated to the improvement of downtown. Friday Cheer's participants were to be 501(c)(3) organizations with downtown ties. We were a 501(c)(4) but worked anyway. Ultimately, we moved from downtown and were not eligible to participate.

³⁹ *Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) From Google*

Kiwanis members and clubs contributed more than \$105 million dollars toward the global elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD), the leading preventable cause of mental and developmental disabilities in the world. Kiwanis International entered into a partnership with UNICEF to eliminate iodine deficiency disorders (IDD). UNICEF indicated that more than eight million children were being saved from mental retardation each year and heralded the effort as one of the most successful health initiatives ever. Today, Kiwanis International works for the sustained elimination of IDD through the Iodine Global Network — a coalition of public, private, international and civic organizations working to create a world where all people attain optimal iodine nutrition.

⁴⁰ The Travelogue Series finally ran out of steam. Times change! TV arrived. Travel became easier, more comfortable and relatively less expensive. The World could actually be seen in person and not just through the lenses of photographer adventurers. As this occurred the number of our filled Travelogue seats became dramatically smaller. The venue for the series moved to the Fine Art Center on Thomson Drive across from the General Hospital. (It is now a parking lot for the hospital.) The Club cancelled the series when the attendance did not cover expenses.

⁴¹ It didn't sell well.

⁴² to teach pre-Kindergarten to 5th graders how to set goals and reach them.

⁴³ thus reducing annual number of meetings from 26 to 24 (2013/14);

⁴⁴ It took 10 years to complete.

⁴⁵ at Lynchburg's Holiday Inn Select.

⁴⁶ We took over sponsorship from the Bedford Kiwanis Club which surrendered its Club Charter. (2012).

⁴⁷ at Linkhorne and R.S. Payne Elementary Schools.

⁴⁸ In 2010, the Kiwanis family partnered with UNICEF to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT) by vaccination through a joint effort called The Eliminate Project. As of July 30, 2018, The Eliminate Project has raised more than US \$82 million to save and protect mothers and babies. Now every year, 24,000 more babies are born unaffected by tetanus. because millions of mothers have been vaccinated.

⁴⁹ to support members who could not attend the regular Club meetings.

⁵⁰ Lynchburg Area Center for Independent Living.