

May 2024



# Kiwanis

Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch

[www.kcrobsonranch.org](http://www.kcrobsonranch.org)

## Spring is Slipping Away!

### Upcoming Meeting Speakers

- June 7<sup>th</sup> - Taffy Olszewski, Director of Community Engagement from Big Brothers Big Sisters
- June 21<sup>st</sup> - Keri Caruthers, Executive Director of Interfaith Ministries
- July 5<sup>th</sup> - Jeff Frick, Robson Ranch Club member will speak
- July 19<sup>th</sup> - Andrea Jones from Ranch Hands Rescue
- August 2<sup>nd</sup> - Jennifer Jenkinson from Cumberland Youth and Family Services



### Bingo was a Blast!

Our Kiwanis Club brought Bingo back to the Robson Ranch Ballroom after being absent for several years due to Covid and the loss of the vendor. We obtained our own license from the State of Texas and obtained the Bingo Card stock from a licensed dealer. We were fortunate to find equipment to run the Bingo at minimal cost. There were 131 residents at the event. Thanks to the great help from our members! We are scheduled for the next Bingo to be on September 29th of this year.

### We're excited to welcome New Members!

Greg Laffey, Membership Chair, introduced Pam Hitch at the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and Angie and Adrian Graber at the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.





## Great Speakers at May Meetings

The Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch enjoyed a presentation from Helen Kendall, District Director for the Boy Scouts, Longhorn Scouting Council, Frontier Trails District.

Helen provided an overview of the Boy Scouts. She pointed out common ground between our Kiwanis mission and that of the Boy Scouts, which is to prepare youth and address their needs to improve their lives.

She highlighted the components of “Boy Scouts,” which include Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturing, Exploring, and Sea Scouts, and how each functions.

Helen provided many statistics about the Longhorn Council and the 12 districts located in North Texas, primarily west of Fort Worth and up to Gainesville. Over 8,000 youth are currently involved, and over 4,500 adult volunteers support the youth activities.

There are several ways members can volunteer. Members could volunteer to work on the District Committee on activities such as Eagle Scout Boards and others. Being a merit badge counselor is also a good way to use our life experiences to help scouts with their projects.

Helen encouraged members to support the scouts in their local fundraising activities and Eagle Scout fundraisers. Members can also participate in fundraising functions and a general giving program.

For more information, see their website at — <https://www.frontiertrails.org/>







## Great Speakers at May Meetings

Barbara Leurig, President, welcomed Bill Wright, a Kiwanis Club member and Lora Blakeslee Atkinson from Habitat for Humanity Denton. Bill is a Board Member and Lora is the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity Denton.

Bill introduced Lora and they provided a question and answer presentation about Habitat for Humanity. Some highlights –

Habitat for Humanity Denton was established in 1994 by Ruth's Room. From this small start, Habitat was able to purchase property on W. University in Denton. This site accommodates the offices for the staff and the "Barn" which is the ReStore Shop.

Habitat has a Christian based mission that states – "Everyone should have a decent place to live."

Habitat Denton is affiliated with Habitat for Humanity International.

They are working on the 108th house to be built in Denton or surrounding towns. Habitat struggles to find lots at reasonable prices to build new homes

The average house is approximately 1,300 sq. feet with a value of \$160,000. Most are 3 or 4 bedroom depending on family size.

Applicants for homes are evaluated by need and income levels. If selected, they must be working to pay for a mortgage (30 year at 0% and low tax rates), help build (300 hours), and sign a promissory note for 10 years to not sell the house.

Habitat is very excited about a new project called Habitat Village. This will include up to 35 homes with 16 in the first phase of construction. Current outlook is for work to start early 2025 in the Southeast Denton location. Habitat raised \$1.2 million so far and needs another \$650,000 for the project.

Habitat Denton is always in need of volunteers, donations, and support for the ReStore Shop from the community.

Please see their website at - <http://habitatdentoncounty.org>





## Volunteering Thoughts from John Derry

### The Value of Volunteering

Being involved with Kiwanis has many benefits, such as making new friendships and learning more about the local and global community. Club meetings provide an opportunity to gather with people who share a concern for the future through helping children grow up to become productive and successful citizens.

Kiwanians are also eager to volunteer in ways that directly impact the lives of others whether that be through coordinating clothing drives, assisting in local school classrooms, serving meals to the homeless, or raising funds that can be donated to special projects. Money raised is strategically allocated so every dollar makes a difference.

Collectively, the Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch logs many hours of volunteer service that is greatly appreciated by local organizations. *The NonProfit Times*, a publication that has been in existence for thirty-seven years, annually calculates the value of an hour of volunteer time. The most recent research revealed that in Texas, every hour of service has a monetary value to the organization of almost \$32.00. Obviously, the reason Kiwanians serve is not to accrue an impressive total, but it is important to recognize the value of volunteering from all perspectives.



Everyone has 168 hours in a week to use at their discretion. How we invest that time is a matter of setting priorities and hopefully, being a volunteer in an area of your interest is one way that truly counts.



## Upcoming Events—Mark your Calendars

Kiwanis Board Meeting – Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm at the Clubhouse

General Membership Meeting – Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am (8:30 social time) in the Bandera-Medina Room at the Clubhouse.

Volunteering at Our Daily Bread - June 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>

General Membership Meeting – Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am (8:30 social time) in the Bandera-Medina Room at the Clubhouse

Comfort Dolls on Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 12:00 in the Bluebonnet Room at the CATC

**Bring Hygiene products for the June 21st meeting when a representative from Interfaith Ministries will be speaking.**

**Kiwanis Int'l Link—<https://www.kiwanis.org/>**

## TX-OK District News Links

The District Governor for 2023-2024 is Dr. Kathy Culbertson. Please see the link below to the April post for her message to the District Clubs.

[https://pub.marq.com/KINotes\\_April2024/#\\_0](https://pub.marq.com/KINotes_April2024/#_0)

Our Division is Kiwanis Texas-Oklahoma District Division 8.

<https://www.facebook.com/kiwanistxokd8>

The Noon Kiwanis Club of Denton, Texas meets every Tuesday at noon at Rudy's BBQ, 520 I-35 Frontage Rd, Denton, TX 76205

[www.dentonkiwanis.org](http://www.dentonkiwanis.org)



## Robson Ranch Club Meeting Information

- Our meetings are held on the First and Third Friday of every month.
- The meetings are held in the Medina-Bandera Room at the Robson Ranch Club House
- The meeting has a social time at 8:30 AM and the meeting begins at 9:00 AM for an hour
- We try to have speakers at the meetings from organizations that we support or from individuals in our community with interesting topics.
- Board meetings are held on the First Wednesday of each month.
- The Kiwanis Club of Robson Ranch Facebook page is - <https://www.facebook.com/kcrobsonranch>

## The 2023-2024 Officers and Directors

We always encourage members or guests to contact one of the Officers or Board Members if you have questions or comments about our Club.

Barbara Leurig	<a href="mailto:barbara@leurig.com">barbara@leurig.com</a>	940-262-0241	President
Bill Wilson	<a href="mailto:Wilson1724@yahoo.com">Wilson1724@yahoo.com</a>	580-471-7294	President - Elect
John Derry	<a href="mailto:jderry50@sbcglobal.net">jderry50@sbcglobal.net</a>	714-747-7300	Past President
Greg Laffey	<a href="mailto:glaffey75@gmail.com">glaffey75@gmail.com</a>	617-529-9997	Vice President
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