

Columbia Kiwanis Club -- FACT SHEET



The Columbia Kiwanis Club was chartered on March 15, 1920 with 58 charter members. Its first President was Frank E. Broadnax, and the meetings were held every other Tuesday at lunchtime at the Wade Hampton Hotel on Main Street in Columbia. The governing board met on the Tuesday in between regular meetings closest to the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Over the years, many distinguished state and local leaders, businessmen, attorneys, university professors and staff, ministers and medical doctors have been members. Among current members, Jim Holmes was welcomed into the club in 1946.

The bi-weekly meetings continued regularly at the Wade Hampton Hotel until March 21, 1978 when the hotel was sold and torn down. The club moved to Seawells at the Fairgrounds on April 4, 1978 and held its meetings there consistently, with only occasional luncheons or annual socials elsewhere. We returned to our original site when we moved our lunch meetings to the Capital City Club atop the Capital Center Building (across from the state house), the tallest building in Columbia, and the former location of the Wade Hampton Hotel.

Our club sponsors three **Key Clubs**. The first charter was presented to **Columbia High School** in 1949. **Dreher High School** was chartered in 1953, and **A. C. Flora High School** in 1967. We also sponsor and chartered the **University of South Carolina Circle-K Club**.

Our Kiwanis Club supports a number of youth organizations in the Greater Columbia Area with financial contributions, member time, or a combination of these. We have adopted a cottage at **Carolina Children's Home** and help the 9 to 14 year olds who reside there by providing them with school supplies, gifts on their birthdays, and at Christmas. We also support the **Heartworks Ministry at Crescent Hill**, an alternative schooling program for disadvantaged children.

Our major fund raiser is our **annual golf tournament**. Proceeds from this fund raiser support all our sponsored youth programs.

One of the most satisfying member activities is participation in the **Terrific Kids** program. Members go to area elementary schools to talk to and encourage children identified by their teachers as "terrific kids." They give them a pat on the back and small gift rewards, usually during the school's awards assembly.

Members of our club are also very involved in the Richland School District One **mentoring and lunch buddy programs**. Each member is screened and trained by the school district and assigned a student nominated by their teachers. They spend about one hour per week either mentoring the child or simply eating lunch with them and being a "buddy" and role model. This program offers each member with a great sense of accomplishment as they see the child grow and mature as a direct result of their involvement in their lives.

Our bi-weekly luncheon meetings feature a guest speaker from the local community to address issues of interest to all our members. These entertaining and informative speakers combined with the outstanding buffet lunch offered by the Capital City Club make for enjoyable meetings and a great opportunity to network with community leaders in business and government.

As you can see we are a very active club with a rich history. We encourage you to consider joining us. As our club motto states, **"We Build."** Visit our website for more information: www.columbiakiwanis.org

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Requirements of membership

Attendance at meetings

Members are required to have at least 60% attendance at club meetings over a Kiwanis fiscal year (October – September). Meetings are held twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, or 22 meetings per year (no meetings Thanksgiving or Christmas). Therefore, members must attend a minimum of 13 meetings each fiscal year. Missed meetings can be easily made up by attending board meetings (3rd Tuesdays), or the regular meetings of any other Kiwanis Club. Pursuant to our club by-laws, members failing to meet attendance requirements are no longer considered “in good standing” and are subject to termination of their membership.

Financial requirements

Initiation Fee = **\$50.00** (include with application – made out to “Columbia Kiwanis Club”)
Annual Dues = **\$384.00 (\$96.00 payable quarterly** – amount subject to change)
No Pin Penalty = **\$1.00** (payable when you fail to wear your Kiwanis pin to meetings)

Fund Raising and Committee participation

All club members are expected to serve on one of the club committees and give a reasonable amount of their time. New members are initially assigned to one of the more active committees such as Sponsored Youth or one of the fund raising committees where they can get to know other members quickly.

Every member is expected to participate in fund raising events. These events are how we raise money for our sponsored youth programs, and are critical to the success of our club. Moreover, these events are an important way club members get to socialize with other members while having a good time.

Acknowledgement

In order for a candidate for membership in the Columbia Kiwanis Club to be approved by its board, he/she and his/her sponsor (or one endorser) must sign below to indicate their understanding of the above requirements of membership and their intention and ability to comply.

Candidate: _____

Sponsor (or Endorser): _____ Date: _____