

August 19, 2026

"Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time."

Today's Program

Linda Ramsey discussing conventions
far and wide

Last Week's Program



GRASSROOTS SOYBEAN FESTIVAL—John Sellers (center) outlined the development of the Grassroots Soybean Festival when he gave a presentation for Kiwanis on August 12. The festival, a community-organized event, is scheduled for Sept. 8-12 and will celebrate local artists, food, music, small businesses, families, and the town's agricultural heritage. After members of the planning committee for the traditional City of Martin Soybean Festival recommended pausing the festival for this year, members of the community, including Sellers, organized this new and renamed Grassroots Soybean Festival.

From John's FB post: "I had the pleasure of speaking to the Martin Kiwanis Club about Martin's Grassroots Soybean Festival and everything that has gone into bringing this community tradition together. I was incredibly encouraged to be surrounded by community-minded people who recognize the importance of preserving traditions like this and creating opportunities for people throughout Martin to gather, connect, and celebrate our community. It was also a great opportunity to share more about how the festival has come together, what we have planned, and the incredible amount of work being done by volunteers, local organizations, businesses, and community members."

Martin Kiwanis Calendar

Aug. 13 — Board meeting, MPL, 12 noon
Aug. 26 — Rochelle Alexander — Back Yard Birding
Sept. 8 - 12 Grassroots Soybean Festival
Sept. 10 Board Meeting, MPL, 12 noon
Oct. 3 — Martoberfest, Courtyard at 115 Neal St.

Dear Kiwanis Friends, Following John Sellers' recent presentation on the Martin Grassroots Soybean Festival, I am reaching out to see if any Kiwanis members would be interested in volunteering. We have a couple of areas where we need help right now on Friday, 9/11 & Saturday 9/12:

Floater— 3-hour shifts Floaters help keep the festival grounds running smoothly by walking throughout the park, **checking on the Petting Zoo and Jump Park, picking up any trash they see, and emptying trash cans when they become full.**

Clean-Up Crew – End of Day the Clean-Up Crew helps restore the park at the end of the festival day by picking up trash and helping leave the grounds clean and ready for the next day.

The other area available to serve is the **Information Booth**. As of last week, we have filled the volunteer needs for Vendor, Music & Production areas.

*All festival volunteers will receive a **Grassroots Soybean Festival T-shirt** to wear during their shift after attending a brief volunteer training session. In addition, gloves and trash bags will be provided.*

If you would like to help, please click this link to view the available volunteer opportunities/shifts and **sign up by Wednesday, August 26th: [Volunteer Interest Form for Martin GSF](#)**

Long Time Coming — Birthdays and anniversaries!

August Birthdays

Clinton Smith, August 4
Otha Britton, August 6
Linda Luther, August 18
Katie Parr, August 22
Jamie Summers, August 22

August Anniversaries

Anna Clark, August 4
Jim Clark, August 4
Earl Wright, August 22

Active Members

Anita Airee
Richa Airee
Bill Austin
Mary Elizabeth Bell
Hannah Bilger
Otha Britton
Anna Clark
Jim Clark
Kayla Colvin
Beverly Claybrooks
Courtney Echols
Danelle Fabianich
Olivia Fernandez
Ann Gathers
Bettye Giles
Vickie Hazlewood
Jessica Hightower
Steve Lemond
Linda Luther
Jennifer Medford
Alexis Millsaps
Mary Morgan
Katie Parr
Jayne Parrish
Robert Peacock
Vincent Politte
Linda Ramsey
Sara Sieber
Clinton Smith
David Sudberry
Jamie Summers
Laura Taylor
Earl Wright

