

The Abingdon Kiwanian

Tue, Aug 16, 2011 • Vol 3, No 45

<http://www.abingdonkiwanis.org/>
We meet at noon at Greenway Haven

New Member

Bolling is former teacher and Key Clubber



K. D. Bolling grew up in Bristol Tenn. and was a Key Club member at Tenn. High. After graduating from ETSU, he taught in Russell County, grades 4 through 12. Now retired, he lives in Abingdon next door to Bob Craig,

who invited him to become a Kiwanian. With no past service club experience except in Key Club, K. D. says he is ready to work for our club. His wife Michelle is the long-time auditor for the Bank of Marion.

A weekly publication of news, information and images from the Kiwanis Club of Abingdon, Virginia



This Week's Program

Alpha Natural Resources

EDDIE NEELY of Alpha will give us a two-part program:

First, he will present checks from his company on behalf of our Kiwanis Club to these organizations:

\$3,000 - Children's Advocacy Center (Kathi Roark, Executive Director)

\$1,500 - Feeding America (Edward Roberts, Major Gifts)



Neely

The checks represent sums Alpha pledged as this year's major sponsor of Plumb Alley Day. Our club chose the recipients.

Then, Neely will talk to us about Alpha, its recent growth and acquisition of Massey Energy. And he will answer questions about Alpha.

Delegate Johnson slams group that redrew local district "A blind man could have done better"

By Jack White

JOE JOHNSON, last week's speaker, has represented Abingdon and Washington County in our state House of Delegates for a quarter-century.

For the past decade, his House District 4 included Abingdon, most of Washington County, the City of Bristol and part of Smyth County.

But, Johnson said, Southwest Virginia gained no residents in the past decade, while Northern Virginia continued its population explosion.

So, to meet the one-man-one-vote mandate of the U.S. Constitution, the state redistricting panel moved one Southwest Virginia House district (District 2 from the coalfields) to Northern Virginia's Fairfax County.

Interestingly, Fairfax County is slightly smaller in land area than Washington County and, prior to WWII, had fewer people. However, last year's census found that Washington County has not quite 55,000 people and Fairfax has 1.1 million.

With Southwest Virginia now in four House districts, where five had existed, the redistricting panel shuffled the remaining districts – and our District 4 took on a radically different form. It now includes the northern parts of Abingdon and Washington County and – from the coalfields – most of Russell County, a part of Wise County and all of Dickenson.

South Abingdon and the southern part of our county were lumped with Bristol in District 5 that extends east beyond Whitetop Mountain.

Johnson's son Sage, our General District Court Judge, lives in south Abingdon and no longer is eligible to vote for his father.

In his talk to our club, Johnson the father chastised the redistricting panel for ignoring geography and communities of interest. The coalfield counties and ours, he said, are very different in their cultures, economies, and people.



Del. Joe Johnson

"A blind man could have done better," he proclaimed.

Yet Johnson, an active 79-year-old cancer survivor, is a candidate for reelection in the redrawn District 4 – and he now has no competition.

Otherwise, Johnson said Virginia's finances remain sound, despite the problems in Washington. He touted new developments in and around Abingdon, many of them financed by the Virginia Tobacco Commission.

He said this area remains a wonderful place to live. "We have been blessed," he concluded.

Last Week

(Clockwise) **Charles Seaver** introduces his guest **Martha Keys** as a prospective member; **French** and **Carl** solve the world's problems; and **Dennis** chooses his picnic meat.



See attached Picnic Photo Page





We outgrew this park ...

2011 Abingdon-Bristol Kiwanis Picnic



... and moved the picnic here



Steaks on the grill



Dessert good



Alice, picnic chair, talks to J.W.



The Rife Family

Former club president Anne Rife was there with husband Brian and their two children. Here Carol and Anne watch the youngest.



Lawn chair brigade



President Fred & GERALYN



Dennis



Division 8 Lt. Gov. Jon Rife plays with his grandson Bryant, held by son Brian.

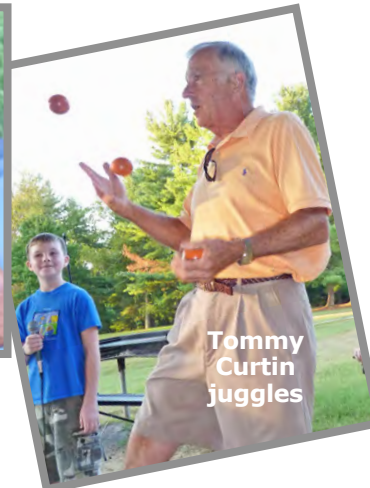


Our plates overflowed



David's duet

Photos by Jack White & Kampton Clay



Tommy Curtin juggles



Marge McNeer & Barbara Morton